

Oldham Borough Council



Council Meeting
Wednesday 28 March 2018

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 20 March 2018

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 28 March 2018 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, for the following purposes:

- 1 Civic Appreciation Award

Open Council

- 2 Questions to Cabinet Members from the public and Councillors on ward or district issues

(15 minutes for public questions and 25 minutes for Councillor questions)

Formal Council

- 3 To receive apologies for absence
- 4 To order that the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 13th December 2017 and 28th February 2018 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 52)
- 5 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 6 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 7 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 8 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council (Pages 53 - 54)
- 9 Outstanding Business from the previous meeting

(time limit 20 minutes)

(time limit 15 minutes).
Councillor Roberts to MOVE and Councillor Chadderton to SECOND:

This Council notes that Oldham, together with thousands more, will celebrate International Women's day on the 8th March 2018. Oldham Council has already agreed to mark the centenary of the Women's Suffrage Act by supporting the Suffrage to Citizenship Campaign throughout 2018 and this will include marking the actual anniversary in November. Working with the Youth Council and local organisations, activities will focus on ways of encouraging young women (and men) to be more actively involved in the local community, an aim that fits well with our ethos as a Co-operative Council.

Oldham Council has previously affirmed its commitment to women's equality; acknowledged the unequal impact of austerity on women and supported the aims of the WASPI campaign for fair access to pensions.

Oldham Council further notes that the Government continues to put forward proposals which threaten vital services for women, this time the funding of refuges for women escaping domestic violence. The Government consultation paper 'Funding Supported Housing' includes proposals to remove the payment of Housing Benefit to women living in refuges, which provides over 50% of their funding, and replace this with a ring fenced grant to local authorities which will also have to pay for short-term supported housing for older people, homeless people, people with mental illnesses and drug addicts.

This council is extremely concerned that this threatens the sustainability of refuges, which by their nature often provide a service to women out of the borough, and which are already unable to meet demand.

This council resolves

1. To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Local Government and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Family Support, Housing and Child Maintenance to express our concern and to ask for continuation of the existing system of paying Housing Benefit to women living in refuges
2. To ask the Borough's three MPs to press for the continuation of the current system and to seek more secure funding for refuges
3. To ask our representatives at the LGA to urge for the LGA to lobby against this proposed change

10 Youth Council

(time limit 20 minutes)

Vaping or the use of e-cigarettes is becoming a more and more common sight. More and more people can be seen using these products. I'm sure we all know someone who vapes, and I'm sure most of us saw someone vaping today.

Some people welcome vaping as a 'safer' alternative to smoking tobacco product but let's be honest the jury is out on that one. We do not know how safe these products are Cancer research UK have published reports calling for further research into the effects of vaping on health and to increase our knowledge on how 'safe'; these products are.

We at Oldham Youth council have concerns that vaping is becoming an attractive activity for young people. We know anecdotally of young people who began vaping without ever having been a smoker. These are not just alternatives to tobacco but are becoming a nicotine addictive habit for non-smokers too.

We strongly believe this is in a large part due to the advertising and promotion of e cigarettes and vaping.

We believe that E cigarette companies and the tobacco industry are targeting young people:

They present their marketing in such a way that it uses attractiveness, coolness, colours and innovative packaging – with a wide range of 'fun' flavours that is particularly aimed at a youth market. With flavours like candy apple and tutti fruity with bright packaging that looks like confectionary how can this not be aimed at the youth market?

They use social media and celebrity inspired styling and endorsements

They sponsor big sports events

And they portray their products as socially attractive
All this is particularly appealing to a younger audience and to non-smokers!
Over recent years we have seen the regulation of tobacco promotion with the introduction of smoke free public spaces, advertising bans, age restricted sales, a de-normalisation of Smoking industries, plain packaging and point of sale restrictions. Vaping products however are not controlled in this way! And this great work at reducing the likelihood of young people (and older people) from smoking) is being undermined by this.

These control policies were introduced to prevent people from taking up smoking and rightly so. But if we don't want people to smoke and we certainly don't want young people to take up smoking would we want them to start vaping!

In November 2017 Committees for Advertising Practice have introduced some new rules that will prevent e cigarette advertising from targeting non-smokers including children and young people, these restrictions will also prevent TV advertising attempting to tap into youth culture. We are particularly pleased to see that an emphasis has been placed on protecting young people and we welcome these new rules but they don't go far enough!

A study by Moreon et al found that flavoured e cigarette liquids such as fruits and alcohol flavours are most frequently used by young people! And studies in the US have found that young people who vape are far more likely to smoke. Studies like these and the fact that the 'safety' of vaping is yet to be truly determined causes us great concern.

We want to prevent young people from these potentially harmful practices and we feel more needs to be done to prevent vaping from being seen as fun, acceptable and a 'cool' thing to do.

We would like to see the same controls on vaping as there are on tobacco products. We would like to see advertising banned, we would like to see plain packaging controls in place and we would like to point of sale restrictions. We believe these restrictions on the promotion of vaping will further reduce the likelihood of people taking up vaping and in turn smoking.

The Youth Council ask Council to resolve:

That the Chief Executive writes to the minister of Health and asks for these restrictions to be put in place for vaping products.

11 Leader and Cabinet Question Time

(time limit 30 minutes – maximum of 2 minutes per question and 2 minutes per response)

- 12 To note the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on the undermentioned dates, including the attached list of urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting of the Council, and to receive any questions or observations on any items within the Minutes from Members of the Council who are not Members of the Cabinet, and receive responses from Cabinet Members (Pages 55 - 76)

(time limit 20 minutes):-

- a) 20th November 2017
- b) 11th December 2017
- c) 18th December 2017
- d) 22nd January 2018

13 Notice of Administration Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1 – Modern Slavery

Councillor Moores to MOVE and Councillor Haque to SECOND:

This Council notes:

- Though slavery was abolished in 1833, there are more slaves today than ever before in human history. Figures from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) suggest that there are more than 40 million people in modern slavery across the world, with nearly 25 million held in forced labour.
- There were 3805 victims of modern slavery identified in the UK in 2016. A rising number but still well below the 10,000 and 13,000 potential victims estimated by the Home Office.
- Modern Slavery is happening nationwide. Traffickers and slave masters use whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. This can include sexual and criminal exploitation.

This Council believes

1. That actions need to be taken to raise awareness of modern slavery and the fact that it is happening all over the UK.
2. That the current support for victims is not sufficient and needs to go beyond the 45 days they are currently given by the government.
3. That councils have an important role to play in ensuring their contracts and supplies don't contribute to modern day slavery and exploitation.

This Council resolves

To adopt the Co-operative Party's Charter against Modern Slavery to ensure our procurement practices don't support slavery:

Oldham Council will:

1. Train its corporate procurement team to understand modern slavery through the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's (CIPS) online course on Ethical Procurement and Supply.
2. Require its contractors to comply fully with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, wherever it applies with contract termination as a potential sanction for non-compliance.
3. Challenge any abnormally low-cost tenders to ensure they do not rely upon the potential contractor practising modern slavery.
4. Highlight to its suppliers that contracted workers are free to join a trade union and are not to be treated unfairly for belonging to one.
5. Publicise its whistle-blowing system for staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
6. Require its tendered contractors to adopt a whistle-blowing policy which enables their staff to blow the whistle on any suspected examples of modern slavery.
7. Review its contractual spending regularly to identify any potential issues with modern slavery.
8. Highlight for its suppliers any risks identified concerning modern slavery and refer them to the relevant agencies to be addressed.
9. Refer for investigation via the National Crime Agency's national referral mechanism any of its contractors identified as a cause for concern regarding modern slavery.
10. Report publicly on the implementation of this policy annually.

Motion 2 - Housing Strategy

Councillor Brownridge to MOVE and Councillor Chauhan to SECOND:

This Council notes that whilst the government's recognition that the housing market is broken is welcome there is grave concern about the concentration on increased numbers alone. It is essential that policy supports the creation of good quality homes that meet the needs of local communities. In Oldham the existing supply is unbalanced with a heavy preponderance of properties in the lowest council tax bands and at the same time a lack of actual affordability with almost half the population only being able to afford social rents. The numbers on the housing waiting list are growing as are the numbers of people who are homeless and who are rough sleepers

Current Government policy promotes continued growth in house prices to support continued consumer spending and this does not address the accommodation issues in areas of lower property values. This is exacerbated by the fact that social housing supply is at its lowest level since the 1930s and owner occupation is decreasing.

Due to the increase in prices the measure of need based on income may no longer be appropriate both because the levels of income need to be higher to be eligible for a mortgage but also because many jobs are no longer secure.

This Council believes that the current strategy to increase numbers is not appropriate for areas like Oldham with low property and land values and Government's proposals to amend the planning system undermines our desire to improve the quality of accommodation and the local environment. Government also proposes penalties against Local Authorities if housing numbers are not delivered, failing to recognize that while Councils determine planning applications, private companies are largely responsible for building houses.

Council therefore resolves to

- Continue to lobby through the borough's MPs and the LGA for a formal recognition that new housing must meet the needs of the local community by including a wide range of tenures and to resist the attempt of Government to impose inappropriate penalties on local authorities
- Support the GMCA's efforts to secure financial assistance for the remediation of previously developed land which is often not financially viable in areas of low value without this subsidy
- Urge the government to recognise that the planning system has an important role to play in protecting the quality of new housing and of the wider environment but new homes cannot be delivered by the planning system alone.

Motion 3 – The TUC

Councillor Fielding to MOVE and Councillor Hewitt to SECOND:

The Council notes that the 150th anniversary of the TUC is in June 2018.

Council also notes that the history of the TUC is intertwined with that of Greater Manchester, with the first meeting of the TUC taking place in 1868 at the Mechanics Institute on Princess Street in the City Centre.

Council recognises the improvements to the quality of life of working people in Oldham and across the United Kingdom that have been delivered by Trade Union campaigning, particularly on pay, conditions and safety at work.

Council resolves to:

- Write to the General Secretary of the TUC, Frances O'Grady, reaffirming this Council's commitment to Trade Unionism.

- Offer a venue and support to the North West TUC who themselves are organising a programme of events across the region to ensure that the anniversary is marked in Oldham.

14 Notice of Opposition Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1 – Making Oldham a ‘Single Use Plastic-Free’ Local Authority

Councillor Murphy to MOVE and Councillor Harkness to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- The introduction of the 5p bag charge has already seen use of single-use plastic bags drop by 85%.
- However, most families still throw away about 40kg of plastic per year, which could otherwise be recycled.
- The amount of plastic waste generated annually in the UK is estimated to be nearly 5 million tonnes, which has a catastrophic effect on our environment, particularly our marine environment

Council welcomes the commitment of some major businesses to reduce their use of plastic packaging and encourages all local businesses to respond positively to the Government’s recent call for evidence on reducing plastic waste.

However, Council recognises that it is only in eliminating single-use plastic materials that we can achieve a significant reduction in plastic waste.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Cabinet to:

- Develop a robust strategy to make Oldham a ‘single-use plastic-free’ authority by the end of 2018 and encourage the Borough’s institutions, businesses and citizens to adopt similar measures:
- End the sale and provision of single use plastic products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council buildings, or council supported venues, wherever possible; promoting the use of non-plastic recyclable alternatives e.g. paper straws to ensure our venues remain accessible to those with additional needs.
- Encourage traders across the Borough to sell re-usable containers and invite customers to bring their own.
- Consider the merits and practicalities of introducing a ‘window sticker’ scheme to accredit local businesses that are committed to reducing plastic waste through, for example, offering free water bottle refills.
- Investigate the possibility of requiring pop-up food and drink vendors at council supported events to avoid single use plastics as a condition of their contract; with a view to phasing out all single use plastics at markets and events in the Borough by the end of 2018.
- Work with tenants in commercial properties owned by Oldham Council to encourage them to phase out single use plastic cups, bottles, cutlery and straws.

Motion 2 – Land Value Taxation

Councillor McCann to MOVE and Councillor Gloster to SECOND:

This Council believes that Land Value Taxation (LVT) offers a credible means for local authorities to raise public revenue to fund local public services by making an annual charge upon landowners, based on the rental value of their land. This is typically

levied against the unimproved value of that land, not taking into account any buildings, services or on-site infrastructure.

Council notes that:

- LVT could be revenue-neutral; that is the revenue raised could replace taxation levied through Council Tax and Business Rates. This would lift some of the burden of meeting the cost of Council services from our Borough's low-income households and small businesses;
- LVT would encourage owners of vacant sites, particularly brown-field sites, to develop them for businesses or residential use more quickly, where planning permission has been granted, so as to generate an income rather than pay an annual charge on the unused land;
- This would discourage developers from land-banking and lead to more house building and the creation of more businesses and jobs, meaning a more vibrant Borough and less pressure to build new homes on our irreplaceable green belt;
- LVT is cheap to collect and very difficult to evade.

Council further notes that:

- Some form of LVT is already successfully in operation in over 30 countries (including Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and several US states);
- The International Monetary Fund, the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development have all come out in favour of the tax;
- A Private Members Bill was introduced in Parliament by Caroline Lucas MP supporting LVT, and the proposal has cross-party support in principle;
- The Scottish and Welsh Governments are currently investigating the options for implementing such a tax;
- The Parliamentary Communities and Local Government Committee have just conducted an enquiry into the efficacy of various taxation methods to 'capture' increases in land value;
- The Government has appointed a panel of experts, chaired by Sir Oliver Letwin, charged with carrying out a review to 'explain the gap between the number of planning permissions being granted (for houses) against those built in areas of high demand'

This Council, recognising the merits of introducing Land Value Taxation, resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to:

- Sir Oliver Letwin as Chair of the Review outlining the Council's position and asking the panel to give serious consideration to recommending to Government that LVT be introduced as a means to discouraging land-banking and accelerating housing development.
- Our three local Members of Parliament asking for their support for this position.

Motion 3 – Restricting New Hot Food Takeaways near Schools

Councillor Williamson to MOVE and Councillor Turner to SECOND:

This Council notes that:

- Childhood obesity has risen to epic proportions. In October 2017, the medical journal, The Lancet, reported one in every ten young people, aged 5 to 19, in the UK are classed as obese;
- In Oldham, sadly the situation is even worse. The Public Health England profile for the Borough, published July 2017, reported that 21.9% of children at Year 6 (660 in

- total) were classed as obese;
- Obese children are more likely to become obese adults, putting them at risk of developing serious health conditions (such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and certain types of cancer);
 - Takeaway food, where it is unhealthy, so called junk food, is undoubtedly a contributing factor in the increase;
 - Although the Oldham School Meals Service is a Gold standard provider, regrettably some pupils chose to eat at or from takeaways;
 - In June 2016, the Royal Society for Public Health called for a ban on the delivery of takeaway meals to school gates. A survey conducted by the RSPH amongst young people found half had ordered takeaways on their smart phones and a quarter had paid for fast food to be delivered to the school gates;
 - At least 22 local authorities have adopted Supplementary Planning Documents and Local Plans that include a prohibition on new fast food takeaways within 400 metres of local schools (a buffer zone);
 - In July 2012, Oldham Council adopted a Supplementary Planning Document which placed restrictions on the density of hot food takeaways, but which did not include any restriction on new takeaways within a specified buffer zone.

Council resolves to ask the Planning Committee to investigate the desirability and practicality of:

- Introducing a prohibition on new takeaways within a 400 metre buffer zone as part of the Local Plan;

Council shall also contact all schools within the Borough to seek reassurances they:

- Enforce a 'stay-on-site' policy at lunchtimes;
 - Ban the delivery of takeaways to the school gates for collection by pupils;
- And to ask them to do so; if they do not.

- 15 To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant a spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 77 - 112)

(time limit 7 minutes)

Health and Wellbeing Board	19 September 2017 12 December 2017
Unity Partnership Board	12 September 2017 6 December 2017
Oldham Leadership Board	24 January 2018
MioCare Board	20 November 2017

- 15 To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant b spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 113 - 244)

(time limit 8 minutes):-

National Peak Park Authority	1 December 2017 2 February 2018
Police and Crime Panel	12 December 2017 18 January 2018
Fire Committee	9 February 2018

Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership Board	13 October 2017 19 January 2018
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA)	19 October 2017 21 December 2017 18 January 2018 8 February 2018
Transport for Greater Manchester	12 January 2018
Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)	24 November 2017 15 December 2017 26 January 2018
Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA)	24 November 2017

16 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 245 - 354)

17 Political Balance Review

Report to follow.

NOTE: The meeting of the Council will conclude 4 hours after the commencement of the meeting.



**Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive**

PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS
NO AMENDMENT

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE



MOTION – Secunder of the Motion to SECOND – May reserve right to speak



DEBATE ON THE MOTION: Include Timings



MOVER of Motion – Right of Reply



VOTE – For/Against/Abstain



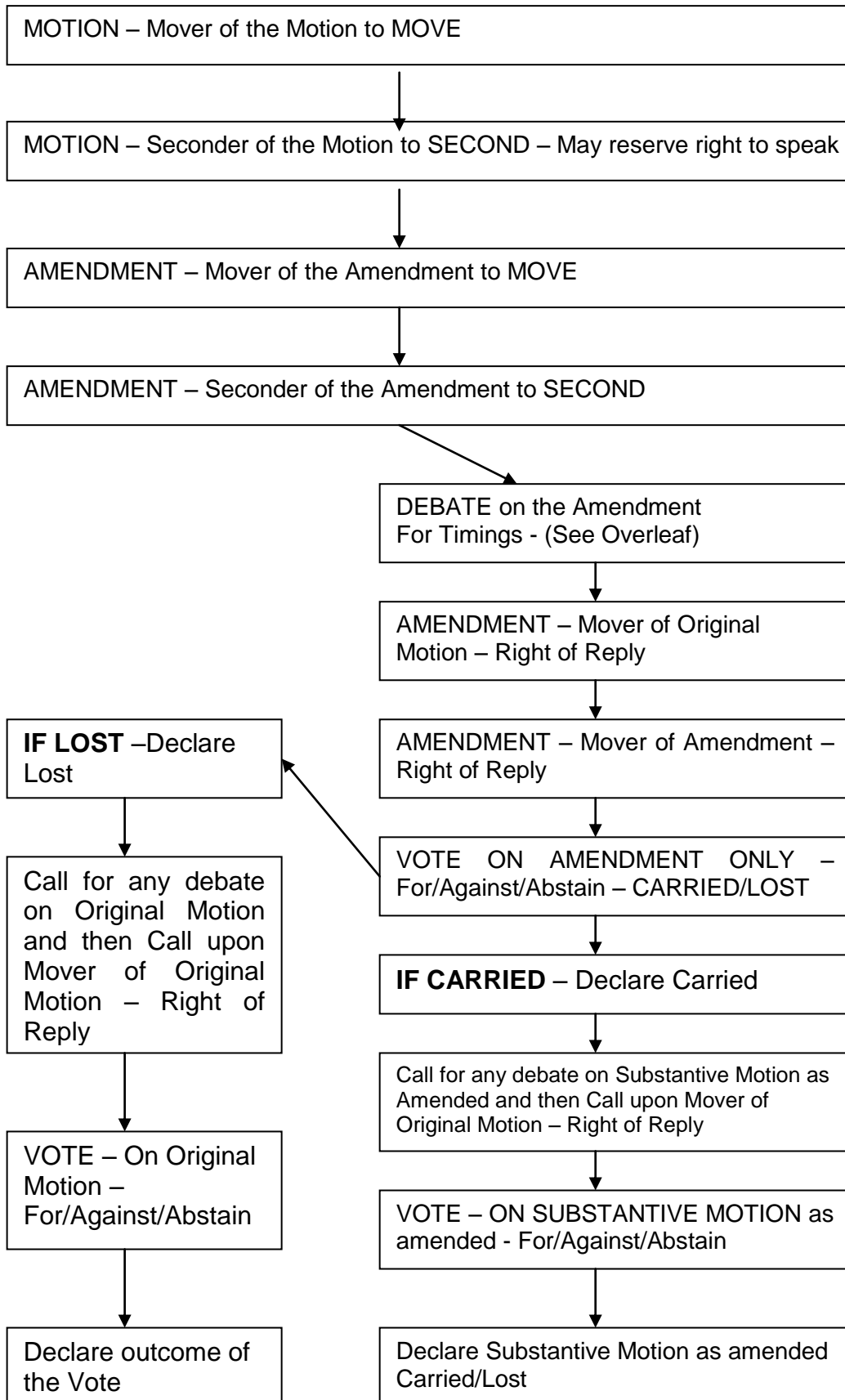
Declare outcome of the VOTE

RULE ON TIMINGS

(a) No Member shall speak longer than four 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 30 seconds shall be allowed.

(b) A Member replying to more than question will have up to six minutes to reply to each question with an extension of 30 seconds

WITH AMENDMENT





COUNCIL
13/12/2017 at 6.00 pm

Present: The Mayor – Councillor Qumer (Chair)

Councillors Ahmad, Akhtar, A. Alexander, G. Alexander, Ali, Azad, Ball, M Bashforth, S Bashforth, Bates, Briggs, Brock, Brownridge, Chadderton, Chauhan, Cosgrove, Dean, Gloster, Goodwin, Haque, Harkness, Harrison, Heffernan, Hewitt, F Hussain, Iqbal, Jabbar, Jacques, J Larkin, Malik, McCann, McLaren, Moores, Murphy, Mushtaq, Phythian, Price, Rehman, Roberts, Salamat, Sheldon, Stretton, Sykes, Toor, Turner, Ur-Rehman, Williamson, Williams and Wrigglesworth

1 **QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS FROM THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS ON WARD OR DISTRICT ISSUES**

The Mayor advised the meeting that the first item on the agenda in Open Council was Public Question Time. The questions had been received from members of the public and would be taken in the order in which they had been received. Council was advised that if the questioner was not present, then the question would appear on the screens in the Council Chamber.

The following questions had been submitted:

1. Question received from Syed Maruf Ali via email:

“What duties do Oldham authorities have to children and young people with SEN/Disabilities? I would like to know how many EHC needs assessments have been carried out by the Oldham Authority? How many young people in Oldham has been referred for EHC plan but the panel decided not to assess for EHC plan? How many has been successful in getting a EHC plan? What percentage of young people in west oldham area are on EHC plan compared to other wards? Can you please break this down by age, gender and ethnicity. Once special educational provision has been specified in an EHC plan, the LA has a legal duty to provide it. This cannot be overruled by the LA’s SEN funding policy or internal funding arrangements including banding, matrixes, or notional SEN spending levels such as £6,000 or £10,000. Can you please share with the public the amount of resources/monies spent/used in west oldham compared with other wards in Oldham?”

Councillor Chadderton, Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years responded that under Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014, legal duties were placed on Local Authorities (LAs) to identify and assess the special education needs (SEN) of children and young people for whom they were responsible. This, together with the Special Educational Needs and Disability

Regulations 2014 provided the legal framework for Oldham Council and partners in respect of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). Since September 2014, 716 assessments had been carried out, 151 had been referred for EHC plan which were not progressed and 705 had been successful in getting an EHC plan. The local authority did not currently collect data in a way that would allow comparisons between wards on EHCP data, resources or monies. The matter would be kept under review and reconsidered in the light of efficient use of resources and usefulness of the comparator data.

2. Question received from Paul Turner via email:

“I was shopping late last week in Shaw when the temperature was below zero and noticed a poor soul sleeping in a doorway on Market St. After buying food for him asked if he could not find shelter he told me he didn't know anywhere. Does OMBC have shelters & are they advertised?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that the Council did not have any specific shelters within the borough but did have cold weather provision in place for people who were sleeping rough in Oldham. During periods of very cold weather, short term accommodation would be provided to people who were at risk of sleeping rough. Threshold and Depaul UK, who were the supported accommodation providers in Oldham, were part of these arrangements. The commitment included the provision of somewhere to sleep along with food, warm drinks and access to washing and laundry facilities. Where people could not be placed into supported accommodation due to risk or any other issues, they would be placed by the Oldham Housing and Advice Service into bed and breakfast accommodation. The Oldham Housing and Advice Service, which included the Council's Homelessness Services, was delivered by First Choice Homes Oldham in the centre of Oldham and anyone who was homeless or at risk of homelessness was encouraged to contact this service. The service was open Monday to Friday between 10.00 am and 5.00 p.m. and could be contacted on 0161 393 7117 and there was also an emergency 24-hour telephone line on 0800 988 7061 for households to access homelessness services which included temporary accommodation outside of office hours.

Government guidance advised that Severe Weather Emergency Provision arrangements were triggered when the night time temperature was predicted to be zero degrees or below for three consecutive nights. In Oldham, Cold Weather Provision arrangements had always been slightly more generous and were based on

any night that the temperature in Oldham was anticipated to drop to zero degrees or below.



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3. Question received from Ann Coggan via Twitter:

“Those huge fireworks caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage to my car. Could have been worse! Organised displays only? Can those big rockets be banned?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that the Council encouraged everyone to enjoy Bonfire Night and attend organised events and displays only. Over the past few years the Council had organised its own large bonfire and fire work display and this had been very well attended. The Council was not in a position to ban the sale of fireworks.

4. Question received from Gareth Evans via email:

“Could you please ask the following on behalf of Hollinwood FC and Oldham Girls Football League Regarding Chapel Road at the next full meeting. We were originally told back in August Chapel Road was to shut and we expressed an interest in taking over the management of the site as a community club and football league. We were originally told that the tender process would be put out with the criterion to be agreed by Mid October and we would be informed by the council by email or phone call of the criterion. The deadline passed and after chasing up Mr Consterdine at the council we were informed that the criterion still hadn't been agreed but would be out early November. We have chased it up again in the middle of November and still no Criterion. We are now in December nearly 2 months past the original deadline and was wondering if the full council could please give us any idea when this criterion will be agreed. We are conscious that time is passing another season will soon be passed and the venue not manned could fall into disrepair with Vandalism etc. We are constantly be asked if you can hire the facility it which further proves it is a viable site.”

Councillor Moores, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing responded that the release of the Chapel Road synthetic pitch to the market had taken longer than originally anticipated and the Council was working through a number of issues which included the use by a local school. The Council would like to ensure that all of the issues were worked through beforehand in order not to delay the process longer term. The Council was keeping all those who had expressed an informal interest in the site up to date of the situation. The use of the pitch at the weekend including Hollinwood FC and the Girls league would continue and the site would continue to be maintained. A new timetable would be developed in

January and be communicated to those who had expressed an interest.

5. Mr. Peter Brown asked the following question:

“What should a member of the public expect from Oldham Council and its Councillors, and what should Oldham Council and Councillors give back to the members of the public?”

The meeting was adjourned at 18.17 and reconvened at 18.32.

Councillor Bates was given a warning as to his conduct.

Councillor Stretton, Leader of the Council, responded to the question as submitted. The roles and functions of elected members were set out in Article 2 of the Constitution which was available online. Section 2.3 set out the roles and functions. Key roles included that all councillors collectively be the ultimate policy makers, carry out strategic and corporate management functions, represent their communities and bring their views into the Council’s decision making process, contributed to the good governance of the area and actively encourage citizen involvement in decision making, deal with individual casework and act as an advocate for constituents and effectively represent the interests of their ward and of individual constituents.

6. Question received from Susie McConnell via Twitter:

“Do those of us not having our steep lanes not gritted this winter (as advised by highways) receive a rate reduction? When will OMBC start recycling a wider variety of plastic? Plastic is killing our planet.”

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services responded that it was not possible to treat every road on the network, however, the Council did have six primary gritting routes that covered over a third of the total highway network. These routes comprised the most heavily trafficked roads in the Borough. In general, they included classified “A” roads, the most important “B” roads, key bus routes and important local roads which served local communities. The Council had treated country lanes where possible over the last seven days and if Ms. McConnell could forward the location of the lane to which she was referring officers could be asked to advise specifically. However, the Council was not in a position to offer any rate reduction.

In response to Plastic recycling, there were really good reasons why only plastic bottles could be recycled in Greater Manchester. Manufacturers that make new products demanded high grade plastics. Plastics like yoghurt pots, margarine tubs and plastic trays were low grade plastics and manufacturers did not want these.

The sorting machines could not sort between plastic pots, tubs and trays and plastic bottles and the low grade plastic contaminated the high grade plastic bottles. During the recycling process the plastic was melted. A plastic pot, tub and trays melted at different temperatures which mean the pots, tubs and trays contaminated the bottles and the batch could not be used to make new products. Other areas may collect plastic pots, tubs and trays, but currently very little was being recycled with most of it being turned into green energy. The low grade plastic pots, tubs and trays did not go to waste. Residents were asked to put them in their general rubbish bin and they were turned into green electricity.

7. Question received from Andy Hunter Rossall via email:
- “Every year over 9 million tons of plastic is dumped in our oceans. By 2050 there will be more plastic in our oceans than fish. Much of this plastic is only used by humans for a few minutes before being binned or littered. Once in our oceans, plastic waste can injure and kill fish, seabirds and marine mammals, and some of the chemical additives can enter the food chain, ultimately ending up on our plates. What is the council doing to reduce the use of unnecessary Single Use Plastics (SUPs) in Oldham? Will the council commit to phasing out the use of unnecessary SUPs in its buildings and supply chains? Will the council write to the Environment Secretary, Michael Gove MP, and ask that he sets up a national plastic bottle deposit scheme? Will the council commit to supporting local businesses and individuals to reduce their use of SUPs?

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives referred to the response to the previous question. The Council was also in constant negotiation with supermarkets and manufacturers with regard to single use plastics and talk about the general reduction of all sorts of packaging. There was no reason why a letter could not be sent to the Environment Secretary about a deposit recycling scheme as he had said recently that it seemed a good idea. No scheme had yet been introduced as it had not stacked up financially. If the Government got behind the scheme the Council would be happy to participate. The Council was doing what it could for the reduction of packaging within its gift and keep its own to a minimum.

The Mayor reminded Members that the Council had previously agreed that questions would be taken in an order which reflected the political balance of the Council. The following questions were submitted by Councillors on Ward or District Matters.

1. Councillor Mushtaq asked the following question:

“The Gemini short breaks service in Netherhay Street is a service delivered jointly with Rochdale Council, can the relevant Cabinet Member outline the progress of this venture?”



Councillor Harrison, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Safeguarding responded that Gemini house was a short term respite provision for children and young people with disabilities and complex needs. In December 2015, the service had become a joint venture between Oldham and Rochdale Councils with a number of staff joining from Rochdale to provide a service for Oldham and Rochdale families. The service was Ofsted regulated and had a judgement of 'Good' in January 2016, however, over the summer period issues had arose regarding the amalgamation of the two teams which impacted directly on the delivery of the service. In October 2016, Ofsted inspected Gemini House and downgraded the judgement. Oldham Council immediately put an action plan in place that ultimately resulted in a change in management and staffing. It was necessary for the service to close to families for a period of 4 weeks to allow the manager and the staff to work together as a team for the issues highlighted by Ofsted to be resolved. The staff were committed to making the improvement for the children and families and as a result of the implementation of the plans, Ofsted revisited in January 2017 and graded the service as 'Good' in every judgement category. The service and staff team continued to strengthen the quality and care provided and were far more engaging of parents in the service. More recently Ofsted had revisited and the service continued to be judged as 'Good'.

2. Councillor Iqbal asked the following question:

“Fly tipping in Werneth has increased recently, in particular in the Coppice neighbourhood, including 20 black bin bags dumped in the alleyway behind the mosque on Stuart St. Could the relevant Cabinet Member please give an update on the roll out of mobile cameras that have been piloted in some wards across the Borough to tackle this issue?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that the incident was investigated the same day and evidence was discovered in the black bags which resulted in a fixed penalty notice being issued to the culprit. Where flytipping happened regularly, officers gave consideration to the installation of deployable cameras, however, this was on a case-by-case basis and depended on the infrastructure being available in the neighbourhood. The Council had also introduced an online reporting service for flytipping which enabled the public to report an incident online and receive email updates that detailed the progress and when the flytipping had been removed.



3. Councillor McLaren asked the following question:

“On Broadway in Chadderton, close to The Henry Newman College there is a pedestrian crossing. I have received many complaints regarding this crossing, firstly that there is no audible signal when it is safe to cross and this is obviously an issue for those who have a visual impairment. It was also brought to my attention that this type of crossing (PUFFIN) utilises a system that senses when a pedestrian is waiting to cross, residents have raised the issue that on one side of the crossing the system is not picking up pedestrians unless they are stood very close to the carriageway. Could the cabinet member responsible for highways please address the concerns of residents using this very busy crossing?”

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, responded that traffic signal installations were the responsibility of Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) who had confirmed that audible signals could only be introduced at signal installations where pedestrians cross on an all red phase. If audible signals were introduced at installations where crossing was permitted at different times on different arms they could become confusing to pedestrians if they heard a signal for a different arm of the junction. Rotating cones had been provided for the blind/partially sighted which indicated when that particular arm of the junction could be crossed. With regards to the pedestrian detectors, TfGM had suggested that there was a problem with the kerbside pedestrian detectors for the crossing across Broadway. The matter had been reported to TfGM’s contractor who would check the operation and area of detection.

4. Councillor Murphy asked the following question:

“Drainage on Grampian Way has proven to be hydraulically inadequate the issue of raw sewage on especially rainy days has been ongoing for a number of years, in fact the road collapsed just a little way down due to a collapse in the drainage system. In the last 14 months or so United Utilities have met with Oldham Council Officers - could the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services please update Crompton ward as to the outcome of this meeting?”

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services responded that the Council had been leading the investigation and responsibilities lied between United Utilities (UU) and/or the private Riparian owner. UU were instructed to investigate the integrity of their assets at this location and they had confirmed that their assets had not defects. As such, it was concluded that surface water flooding was primarily a private issue and the responsible owner was advised to investigate and maintain their

assets. The foul sewer flooding on Cotswold Way was a separate UU issue which occurred during a severe weather event. Unity would take up the issue with UU since the 'continuing' flooding had now been brought to the Council's attention, however, again it was primarily a private issue between UU and the land owner.

5. Councillor Roberts asked the following question:

"Environmental Services have recently begun enforcement action against unauthorised signs on council and highway land outside Thornham Mill, however, it is proving difficult to proceed against signs on the mill itself as departments have differing views about who is responsible for taking action. Please could the relevant Cabinet Member sort out which council department has the responsibility to get these unauthorised signs removed? This lengthy saga highlights a wider issue about the proliferation of advertising signs across the borough and I wonder if it is possible to make business owners more aware of their responsibilities regarding this?"

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services responded that planning enforcement action had been taken recently following a complaint regarding advertising boards as a number of businesses had erected signs on the public green space at the junction of Oozewood Road and Rochdale Road in Royton without planning permission. The wider issues regarding unauthorised advertising were recognised, however, the enforcement officer responsible had recently left the Council and recruitment of his replacement was currently underway. When the team was fully staffed, further work to make business owners more aware of their responsibilities on this point could be undertaken as suggested. More specifically, where reports of advertising boards were affecting the use of pavements, i.e. the public highway, were received, then control would fall to the Licensing team.

6. Councillor Larkin asked the following question:

"Royton North is badly served by public transport and I welcome the decision of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to instruct TfGM to prepare an assessment of a Bus Franchising scheme and compare it to other options which include creating partnerships with operators. The assessment will enable the elected Mayor to make an informed decision on future reform of the bus market and whether to opt for a franchising scheme. Could the relevant Cabinet member assure me that the assessment will include criteria which will improve bus services for Royton residents such as integration of different modes of transport (so that Royton

residents can get to the tram), direct services between Royton and Oldham Town centre, and value for money?”



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Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services responded that the Bus Services Act 2017 granted the mayoral combined authority new options to improve bus services for passengers. On behalf of GMCA, TfGM was currently exploring new options to improve bus services and the creation of an integrated network, with a simplified fares system, offering great customer experience and value for money for the city region. This included the preparation of an assessment for a franchising scheme for Greater Manchester, and working with Greater Manchester’s bus operators to explore partnership options. The assessment of the franchising scheme currently being developed aimed to improve bus services by better meeting local demand to travel, whilst ensuring good access to town centres and local amenities such as housing, education, jobs and shopping. Better integration between bus services and other modes of travel such as the Metrolink and local train services was a key consideration. Work was also underway to develop a simpler fares and ticketing system. Greater Manchester’s proposals would be independently audited and subject to review by GMCA. Any future changes to the way the bus market in Greater Manchester was managed would be subject to a wide-ranging public consultation where passengers, residents, businesses and stakeholders would be asked to share their views on the proposals before the Mayor made a decision on how to proceed.

7. Councillor McCann asked the following question:

“I am delighted to see that the Police will once more have a zero tolerance campaign with regard to illegal, obstructive or dangerous parking in Uppermill this December. I can say that all of the Ward Councillors support this. Could the Cabinet Member confirm that as private hire cars continue to cause problems by parking on the High Street, including occupying disabled parking spots on occasion, that the Licensing Authority will support the Police initiative by taking action against offending drivers and notifying other local authorities, such as Tameside, where taxi drivers that are registered there cause problems here in Saddleworth?”

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services confirmed that Licensing Officers from the Council were supporting the Police and had recently been working in the Saddleworth area to address these issues. This work would continue during December and where offenders were found, the relevant action would be taken. Other neighbouring local authorities had also been notified of the ongoing work.

8. Councillor Goodwin asked the following question:

“Because of the Rose Mill Development in Chadderton South, the development of two high quality playing fields has begun nearby off Granby Street. This was to compensate for the loss of the lower quality playing field which was incorporated as part of the housing development. Can I ask when the new high quality fields will be completed and brought into use and when the changing facilities will also be completed?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that work to lay the new pitches was completed in September 2017. However, the pitches playing surface now needed to be bed-in. As such, they would be ready for use in September 2018. The changing facilities were to be tendered in January 2018. Only once this process was completed, would a timetable for their use be established.

9. Councillor Moores asked the following question:

“A new DPD Express Courier depot is currently under construction on the former BAE Systems site in Chadderton Central Ward. Could the relevant Cabinet Member please update us on progress so far and tell us when the facility will be open for business, how many people will be employed there and how many new jobs will be created?”

Councillor Stretton, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise responded that the site would be operational late Spring 2018. The development would initially create over 230 jobs (34 jobs based at the site with more than 200 drivers – with an expectation of rising to 64 site based workers by 2026). It was believed most were new jobs. The Get Oldham Working team would be meeting DPD in late January to develop a recruitment plan.

10. Councillor Malik asked the following question:

“Retiro Street in Oldham Town Centre is a one-way street running from Union Street to Yorkshire Street. Yorkshire Street is a one-way street running east from its junction with Saint Marys Way, and it is not permitted to turn left from Retiro Street onto Yorkshire Street. Unfortunately, many drivers are ignoring the ‘no left turn’ signs on Retiro Street to take a shortcut to Saint Marys Way. The actions of these inconsiderate drivers are inexcusable, and we are very fortunate that there has not been a serious accident. Could the Cabinet Member responsible for highways please tell us what action is being taken to protect pedestrians and innocent drivers?”

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services responded that the Council was aware of the contravention problems currently being experienced at Retiro Street and consequently a scheme had been designed which would see the reversal of the one way working along Retiro Street and Queen Street to stop the contravention of the one way order along Yorkshire Street. As part of the one way reversal, Retiro Street was to be refurbished which had given the Highways Team an opportunity to redesign the footways along the street. The redesign would result in a wider carriageway width which meant larger vehicles would no longer need to mount the footway to gain access along the street. There were some formalities to be approved with Transport for Greater Manchester and the Police, but all being well the scheme would be implemented early in the New Year.

11. Councillor Sheldon asked a question related to the Saddleworth Sports Facility in Uppermill. Two large recycling bins had been removed that were located on the sports centre car park which had originally been located at the museum. Would the bins be replaced?

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that she would find out and let Councillor Sheldon know.

12. Councillor Chauhan asked the following question:

“Recent weather has caused significant problems for travellers and several Alexandra Ward residents have raised concerns about gritting. Could the relevant cabinet member explain the criteria used to decide priority routes?”

Councillor F. Hussain, Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, responded that he was not aware of any significant disruption to travel in the Oldham area during the recent cold weather. It was not possible to treat every road on the network, however, the Council did have six primary gritting routes that covered over a third of the total highway network. These routes comprised the most heavily trafficked roads in the Borough. In general they included the classified “A” roads, the most important “B” roads, key bus routes and important local roads serving local communities. The gritting teams had worked continuously since Thursday of the previous week and had received a significant number of positive comments from both the public and elected members. Councillor Hussain congratulated the team for the hard work being done in dangerous conditions.

13. Councillor McLaren asked the following question:

“The Ancora car park adjacent to the Crossley playing fields, is heavily used by local football teams on match

days. Unfortunately not all of our residents appreciate this facility, the car park is constantly subject to fly tipping and ASB and this is a grave concern for local residents. Could the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, please tell us what if any action is being taken to prevent fly tipping and ASB in this area?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that a partnership meeting had been held on 28th November to discuss the issues occurring upon the car park, which was Council owned. A number of environmental measures were now being considered to secure the area. This included fencing of the area of concern and a lockable gate. It was proposed that the gate would be locked during the week and only opened at weekends for defined periods of time to allow access for those engaged in football activity. The installation of knee high fencing on the grassed area was also being considered to prevent vehicular access and associated damage being caused.

14. Councillor Dean asked the following question:

“Could the Cabinet member responsible for Education , update me on the governance arrangements for Clarksfield School, and any changes envisaged in the near future.”

Councillor Chadderton, Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years responded that Clarksfield Primary School was placed in Special Measures in May 2017. The Governing Body was deemed to be ineffective and an Interim Executive Board (IEB) had been put in place in order to enable the school to improve as quickly as possible. As the school was placed in Special Measures, it was a statutory requirement that Clarksfield became a sponsored academy. Discussions were ongoing with the Oasis Academy Trust with a view to Clarksfield to joining that trust in 2018. No exact timescale had yet been set for the date of the conversion. At the point of conversion, it was for the academy trust to determine any governance arrangements.

15. Councillor Gloster asked the following question:

“Will the Cabinet Member join me in condemning the apparent new craze in Shaw of truck surfing, whereby young people are jumping onto the rear of articulated goods vehicles in Shaw Town Centre and riding along until the vehicle comes to a halt again. This practice is highly dangerous not only to the young people involved but also to other road users who may have to react to avoid a collision. Can I ask the Cabinet Member if he is willing to engage with the police, youth service and local

haulage companies to explore what outreach work can be done to nip this in the bud before a tragedy occurs?"



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Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives likewise condemned the new craze and responded that road safety bulletins were being undertaken with both primary and secondary schools by the Casualty Reduction Team. She also responded that the Detached Youth Team had been asked to include road safety within their work and to reinforce the message about the dangers. Officers from the Council would continue to work with Greater Manchester Police and action would be taken as appropriate against any person identified as being involved. It was recognised that the opportunity for young people to jump onto the trucks had arisen due to the level of traffic congestion at peak times in the area. A longer term response to the congestion issue was being considered with ongoing dialogue occurring between officers from the Highways Team and Elected Members.

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor advised that the time limit for this item had expired.

RESOLVED that the questions and the responses received be noted.

2 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Ames, Dearden, Fielding, Garry, Hudson, Kirkham, Klonowski and Shuttleworth.

3 **TO ORDER THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8TH NOVEMBER 2017 BE SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th November 2017 be approved as a correct record.

4 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER TO BE DETERMINED AT THE MEETING**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, elected members declared the following interests:

Councillor G. Alexander declared a personal interest in Item 14b by virtue of her appointment to the MioCare Board.

Councillor Harrison declared a personal interest in Item 14b by virtue of her appointment to the MioCare Board.

Councillor Chauhan declared a personal interest in Item 14b by virtue of his appointment to the MioCare Board.

Councillor McCann declared a personal interest in Item 14b by virtue of his appointment to the MioCare Board.

Councillor Gloster declared a pecuniary interest by virtue of his employment by Greater Manchester Police in Item 8 and at Item 14a, Police and Crime Panel Minutes. Councillor Gloster left the room during Item 8 and did not vote or take part in the discussion thereon.

5 **TO DEAL WITH MATTERS WHICH THE MAYOR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT BUSINESS**

There were two items of urgent business.

As a result of the adjournment earlier in the Council meeting, the Council meeting guillotine would be extended by 15 minutes. On being put to the vote, this was AGREED.

Following the resignation of Rod Blyth, a political review had taken place. The report would be considered at Item 24 of the agenda.

6 **TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

There were no communications related to the business of the Council.

7 **TO RECEIVE AND NOTE PETITIONS RECEIVED RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

There were no petitions to be noted.

8 **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Mayor informed the meeting that there was one item of outstanding business from the previous meeting:

Motion 1

Councillor Ali MOVED and Councillor Jacques SECONDED the following motion:

“This Council notes with great concern that Greater Manchester Police’s budget has been reduced by £180m since 2010, reducing nearly a quarter of its front-line officers and 1,000 support staff as government austerity budgets sought to reduce the cost of Britain’s public services.

With 6,200 officers reduced from 8,000 a decade ago, GMP is so stretched that officers from specialist divisions are being drafted in to help with community policing. Officers are being directed away from the Serious Crime Unit, which usually deals with robbery, kidnapping, and drug dealers.

In Oldham, 4,839 more crimes were reported per annum in 2017 than in 2011, an increase of 27%. This reflects the regional picture, with crime up across Greater Manchester by 13% in the same period. Oldham performs worse in 11 of the 17 categories identified by official police and crime statistics which include huge rises in violence (131%), shoplifting (75%) and public order offences (244%).

The Government has not protected police budgets as promised. Home Office Figures in England and Wales between September 2010 and September 2016 record that the number of police

officers fell by 18,991, or 13%. The problem is compounded by sickness absence rates. Nearly 2,500 officers – about 2% of the workforce – were classified as being on long term sick leave, an 11.5% increase on 2015. Overall police budgets, excluding counter-terrorism grants, fell by 20% between 2010 and 2015 which is completely unsustainable.

The Council condemns these cuts in policing in the strongest possible terms threatening as they do the excellent policing we have in Oldham and putting at risk the safety and security of our local diverse community.”

Councillor Mushtaq spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Haque spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Bates spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Ali exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the vote, the MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Chief Executive be instructed to convey this Motion and the Council’s strong concerns about these matters to the Mayor of Greater Manchester and the Home Secretary.
2. The Chief Executive be instructed to write to the Home Secretary asking her to increase Police numbers in order to safeguard our residents and communities.

9 **YOUTH COUNCIL**

There were no items submitted by the Youth Council.

10 **LEADER AND CABINET QUESTION TIME**

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Sykes, raised the following two questions:

Question 1:

“For my first question tonight I would like to refer the Leader to an initiative launched in connection with the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) by the Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham on the 17th of last month.

Mayor Burnham announced that he wanted to move away from the ‘developer-led, green belt approach of the past’.

This is an announcement that both I and my ward colleagues in Shaw and Crompton, as well as thousands of our constituents, will welcome, as in the original GMSF proposals Shaw and Crompton stood to be swamped by almost 3,000 new homes, other tracts of land were designated for industrial development, and our green belt and green spaces would be decimated.

After his election, the Oldham Liberal Democrats wrote to Andy Burnham to ask for the (and I quote) ‘opportunity to work with you to establish a revised plan that is acceptable to local ward

members and our constituents, which mirrors our aspirations for housing and economic development in Greater Manchester'. It has always been our view that there is no justification for the construction of a large number of properties (or indeed any properties) on Green Belt or Other Protected Open Land (OPOL) before new homes are first built on Brownfield sites, on sites where planning permission for housing development has already been granted and upon many derelict and the unloved site in our town centres and districts.

We also believe that every empty mill and factory should be converted and use for housing and that the large number of empty homes across Greater Manchester should be brought back into use.

Mayor Burnham has now invited all ten Leaders of the Greater Manchester authorities to nominate a town for inclusion in his Town Centre Challenge.

The Mayor is proposing to work with each council to bring together housing providers, public and private landowners, developers, community groups and other key stakeholders in a concerted effort to unlock the potential in these town centres, particularly to deliver 'viable housing markets and sustainable communities.'

At his launch event, Mayor Burnham promised to use new planning powers and Mayoral grants 'to build a new future for those towns through higher density mixed and affordable housing, with local retail and leisure facilities and supported by transport and digital connectivity.'

This sounds like potentially heady stuff, for we are not 'Luddites', Mr. Mayor, we recognise we need to release more land for more homes for more people.

What we do not believe in is concreting over the green bits! His plan appears to hold that promise – with an emphasis seemingly placed upon Brownfield development in towns, rather than the 'death of Green Belt by concrete' approach we saw previously.

Mayor Burnham has asked Oldham to bring forward a town centre of its choice to be his development partner so Mr Mayor I would like to ask the Leader tonight whether Oldham will be nominating a town or district for the Town Centre Challenge? If we will do make a nomination, how elected members and the public can become involved in the selection?

Will we have a say on the selection and when do we have to make our nomination by?"

Councillor Stretton, Leader of the Council responded that whilst every district could nominate here in Oldham the Town Centre Master Plan for the centre of Oldham was a priority. Additional powers that the Mayor could bring, looking at Compulsory Purchase Orders, were not needed for the Town Centre Challenge in Oldham. If CPOs were required, the individual district would have to bring forward the money. The principle of brownfield sites to be supported before greenfield sites was supported. The ambition to turn every mill and factory into housing was not realistic. The mill would have to be available. A number of mills and had been identified in Oldham as empty or derelict and the Council would want to do what had been in

Hollinwood. If the owner of the mill did not want to sell or bring forward the building for development that could not be enforced as there were no viable powers. The higher density development was clear in the Town Centre Master Plan. The Council wanted the right kind of development and the right kind of housing appropriate for the people of Oldham. The GMSF consultation would be reconvened next June and members would have the opportunity to contribute. Work was ongoing to respond to the consultation and revise in some cases some proposals going forward.

Question 2:

“I would now like to return to another very important issue that has again been raised in recent motions proposed by both sides in this chamber recently – the desperate plight of the homeless. It is an issue that is particularly topical and poignant at this time of the year with the onset of winter.

I would like to make a practical suggestion that I feel could make a big difference in this Borough.

I am referring to the Big Change Scheme, a charitable programme that operates in Rochdale, Manchester, Bradford and Leeds where donors are asked to make donations to a central fund which is used to help all homeless people rather than putting money in a hat or cup on the street.

Evidence suggests that unfortunately some on-the-street donations to people who are begging helps fund drug and alcohol dependency, and can discourage them from accessing services that can help them turn their lives around.

The Big Change scheme recognises that people who are homeless often face practical barriers which need to be overcome for them to become active, independent members of their community and avoid sleeping rough.

It provides homeless people with practical items which support a longer term change. This might include paying for a deposit for a home, a training course to help improve job prospects and clothes for a job interview. Or it could involve furnishing a new flat, including purchasing crockery, pots, pans and bed linen, as well as funding travel costs to their new home.

In the scheme run by our neighbours in Rochdale, the fund is administered by Just Giving and Forever Manchester, and applications for grants are considered by a panel which includes a former rough sleeper and representatives from charities working with the homeless.

I would therefore like to ask the Leader tonight if she will ask the Homelessness Forum to look into the practicalities of bringing Big Change to Oldham?”

Councillor Jean Stretton, Leader of the Council responded that homelessness levels were at a level never seen before and the Mayor of Greater Manchester had put the issue near the top of his agenda. The problem was complex whereby some rough sleepers did not want to engage due to lifestyle reasons, but this did not mean they should not be supported. Some people on the street did not have to spend the night on the street as they had homes to go to but chose not to go there. The Leader was

not aware of the Big Change but any programme able to help the local authority was worth a look. The Homelessness Forum would be asked to look at the programme and if it enhanced what the authority already offered, a way would be found to do it.

Question from the Leader of the Conservative Group:

Councillor Sheldon asked about the staffing levels in the Planning Section. He had received several complaints from residents that access to planning was difficult. He asked for assurance that the vacant positions would be filled or filled shortly. He also asked if Councillors could be informed of departures of staff and informed of new staff who were contacted frequently.

Councillor Stretton, Leader of the Council, responded that with regard to staffing in planning, a restructure was currently taking place which would address the vacancies. The Leader requested details of those residents who were trying to contact Planning. The Leader also advised that it was not feasible to inform of departures of staff, District Team officers should be able to advise.

The Mayor reminded the meeting that Council had agreed that, following the Leaders' allocated questions, questions would be taken in an order which reflected the political balance of the Council.

1. Councillor S. Bashforth asked the following question:

“The government has recently published a consultation paper ‘Planning for homes in the right places’ which contains a proposed standard method for calculating local authorities’ housing need and sets out a number of proposals to reform the planning system to increase the supply of new homes and increase local authority capacity to manage growth. Can the Cabinet Member advise us of the implications for Oldham of these proposals and outline the Council’s response to this consultation?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded that Oldham was required to produce 716 dwellings per year according to the paper. Since this was roughly in line with Oldham’s requirement set out in the recent GMSF consultation (685 dwellings), Oldham Council would continue to seek sites which allowed the Council to meet its legislative requirements to meet housing needs. The Council supported the GM view that the Council’s aspirations for inclusive growth across the city region were jeopardised by the divide between established home owners and those unable to find a place on the property ladder or access to a safe, secure affordable home to rent. Concerns have been raised about the

impact of tying payments from the New Homes Bonus to Housing Delivery Tests for individual local authorities since that approach would penalise local authorities who failed to deliver their agreed housing numbers by withholding bonus payments and would therefore discourage local authorities from increasing their own housing requirements in order to meet a housing need from elsewhere. Furthermore it was pointed out that the major barrier to housing delivery in Greater Manchester and Oldham was rooted in relatively low values and fundamentally these were issues of financial viability and not actual planning policy.

2. Councillor M. Bashforth asked the following question:

“Over the last couple of months, the unemployment rate in Oldham has increased from being the third highest in Greater Manchester to be the highest. Could the relevant cabinet member explain the reasons behind this increase as I’ve not been informed of any major job losses across Oldham.”

Councillor Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Employment and Skills responded that until August, Oldham had seen a sharp increase in the Employment Rate which had coincided with a reduction in employment. However, there had been an increase in the claimant count over the last two months which presented a 21.8% increase between November 2016 and 2017. The increase was because of the roll out of Universal Credit. According to the House of Commons Research Briefing Paper, “Universal Credit and the claimant count in April 2017”, on average the claimant count would increase by 50% after six months of full service. In Oldham, Full Service rolled out on 26th April 2017. Oldham should have seen an increase from 4,000 to 6,000 claimants by this point, but it currently stood at 5,995. There were two main reasons:

1. Universal Credit required a wider range of people to look for work than was the case. For example, the partners of claimants were now required to seek work. Previously, if someone was in employment and claiming tax credits, for example, but their partner was not in work (and not claiming Jobseeker’s allowance), there was no requirement for their partner to look for work. This was no longer the case (subject to certain exceptions).
2. New claimants who were awaiting or appealing Work Capability Assessments were required to look for work, e.g. citizens claiming Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) were initially subject to all work related requirements upon starting a new claim to Universal Credit, pending their assessment. A backlog in assessments meant more citizens would be subjected to full conditionality for an extended period which could

be very stressful if their health condition was limiting their ability in the first place. A new baseline would need to be created which would expect a claimant count increase from 4,000 to 6,000. Comparisons across GM would be able to be made until early 2019. The Council was working with Local Housing Associations, Job Centre Plus, Welfare Rights team, Get Oldham Working team and Citizen's Advice Bureau to support citizens to access the support needed.

3. Councillor McLaren asked the following question:

“In Oldham we have approximately 500 children and young people in care, and around 30 – 40 children are placed for adoption each year. Some of these children who were placed for adoption would for genuine reasons have been separated from other members of their siblings group. Children who are placed for adoption do receive counselling to help them deal with separation from their birth families. Many of the young people who remain in Local Authority care after their sibling have been adopted, would previously have had a caring role for their younger siblings and they will find the separation caused by adoption to be traumatic. Could the relevant Cabinet Member please tell us what arrangements are in place to help children who remain in the care system when their siblings are adopted?”

Councillor Harrison, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Safeguarding responded that the Children Act 1989 and the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 informed that wherever possible siblings should be placed together, unfortunately a placement together may not always be in the best interests for individual children due to neglectful experiences they may have experienced. Oldham Social Workers completed sibling assessments which was a thorough and in depth assessment, included observations of the siblings and input from professionals and foster-carers prior to any decisions about long-term placements being made. The assessment analysed the computability of each of the siblings needs, the level of parenting intensity needed in the sibling group and the nature of their attachment together. Any recommendations to separate siblings and plan how this would be achieved was not taken lightly. The recommendation was considered by the Agency Decision Maker at Final Care Planning Meetings who made the decision and considered what other support was needed. Support included ongoing direct work with children by the Social Worker, life story work books and memory boxes for children being completed and consultation and sessions needed by Healthy Young Minds if necessary. There were also different levels of contact including face to face contact and exchange of letters for siblings. Oldham had a letterbox system in place which was managed by a Co-

ordinator who acted as a third party between adopters and families, agreements could be made to maintain links for birth family and siblings through this system. Children in care remained supported via their social worker, foster carer or residential support worker.

4. Councillor Harkness asked the following question:

“A recent report released from Ofsted and the Quality Care Commission has condemned Oldham Council for failures in its provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and disabilities. Although the inspectors found some good practice and some motivated staff, it is clear from this report that there is a serious disconnect between what should be happening to meet the accepted standards of good practice and what is all-too-often happening on the ground and in our classrooms in Oldham. I know how important it is to provide the right support to these youngsters. It is my belief that all our children or young people has just as much right to expect an excellent education as any other pupil. The inspection team found that the revelation that Oldham is one of the worst-achieving areas nationally for educational achievement with these children and young people waiting too long for their needs to be identified. The poor achievement is exacerbated by high levels of fixed-term exclusions, persistent absences and failures of the school transport.

Mr. Mayor, this is simply unacceptable. We are leaving these children behind, abandoning them educationally. By not properly accessing the needs of these children, and the support that they need, at an early enough stage - sometimes not until they move from primary to secondary school - we are making it more likely that they will underperform at school. By excluding them and tolerating poor attendance, we are exacerbating this problem, and by having a school transport system that is not up to the challenge we make it harder to encourage parents to send their children to school in the first place. The report called for a Written Statement of Action to be produced because of ‘significant areas of weakness in the local area’s practice’. Can the Cabinet Member please tell me tonight what action this Administration is proposing to address the failings highlighted in this report and when?”

Councillor Chadderton, Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years agreed that the report was not acceptable and the reports embarrassed and shamed the Council and the Health Sector in Oldham. It was right that the Authority apologised for the failings in the report. It could be seen as a weakness if the authority did not accept responsibility. It would take 18 months to rectify. Since the meeting held on 6 October 2017, the following immediate actions had taken place:

- Establishment of an SEND Transformation Assurance Board and associated supporting mechanisms chaired by the Executive Director for Economy and Skills with senior representation from Oldham CCG to manage the immediate concerns;
- Revised Governance structure developed and agreed by the SEND Transformation Board, new SEND Board would be chaired by Councillor Chadderton;
- Interim management arrangements in place for the post of Head of Access and Inclusion following the previous postholder leaving the Council's employment;
- Clarification was being sought on all 'illegal' practice issues;
- Additional SEN EHC Plan writing capacity be brought in to address the shortfall in conversions of all remaining Statements of Education Needs into EHC Plans by the due date of 31 March 2018;
- Revised quality assurance processes put in place;
- Transport policy and decisions reviewed;
- Workload analysis undertaken on SEN Assessment Service;
- Additional capacity had been sourced by the CCG to support the implementation of the SEND reforms within the local NHS; and
- Quarterly Joint Monitoring and Support meetings held with DfE and NHS England officials 5 December 2017, at the meeting a report was provided which identified actions already taken since the Inspection against the 5 areas identified as the key themes for the WSOA.

The Authority had 100 days to respond with an action plan which was due at the beginning of March and this would be shared with all members. Whilst the Council took a lot of responsibility as elected members who put themselves forward, however the Council was not the only body criticised in the report and it was interesting to see how partners hid behind the Council. Exclusions were predominantly a school issue with five secondary schools accounted for 90%. Once a child was excluded it became a Council issue. Schools could not keep hiding behind the Council and it was hoped governors would ask challenging questions of schools about the impact of exclusions. Assurances were given that everything was fixable, but it would take time and resources. What could be done when the Government did not care about the most vulnerable and the authority had to save another £20 million in challenging times.

At this point in the meeting, the Mayor advised the time limit for this item had expired.

RESOLVED that the questions and responses given be noted.

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

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23rd October 2017 were submitted.

Members raised the following questions:

Councillor Gloster, Cabinet Minutes, 23rd October 2017, Item 8 – Homelessness Pressures – Councillor Gloster asked that if there was an increase in Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs), would stringent planning requirements in order to facilitate good living conditions still be applied.

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives responded – “Yes”.

Councillor Williamson, Cabinet Minutes, 23rd October 2017, Item 13 – Homelessness Pressures – Councillor Williamson asked about the establishment of the Bond Scheme Officer and fund established and asked if the scheme set up in 2009 had been abolished?

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives, responded that she was not sure but would find out and respond to the question.

Members raised the following observations:

Councillor Dean, Cabinet Minutes, 23rd October 2017, Item 8 – Homelessness Pressures - Councillor Dean made the observation that the legislation around Homelessness had put another burden on the Council with no additional funding at a time of financial constraint due to austerity and lack of housing plans over the last couple of years which had caused distress. There were a lot of families in and out of homelessness and suffering in many ways.

Councillor Harkness, Cabinet Minutes, 23rd October 2017, Item 8 – Homelessness Pressures made the observation the issues related to Universal Credit sanctions with a deliberate attempt to put people in hardship. If sanctioned, applicants could lose housing benefits. Councillor Harkness asked for assurance that universal credit sanctions were looked at in Oldham.

Councillor Jabbar, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and HR responded that this was a serious issue. There had been motions to Council, the Leader had

written to ministers and Overview and Scrutiny Board had addressed the issue. The agencies did not address the issues put to them. The Council would be doing something about it. As Cabinet Member he looked at the issues every week and there seemed to be an issue in Oldham where Job Centre staff penalised claimants. Councillor Akhtar was also monitoring the situation. Councillor Jabbar offered to provide an update on the issue.

Councillor Bates, Cabinet Minutes, 23rd October 2017, Item 8 – Homelessness Pressures. Councillor Bates thanked the Council for caring for the homeless and congratulated Councillor Brock on providing a party for lonely people in Failsworth.

Councillor Mushtaq, Cabinet Minutes, 23rd October 2017, Item 8 – Homelessness Pressures. Councillor Mushtaq made the observation of aligning work ongoing within portfolios, groups and voluntary initiatives.

RESOLVED that:

1. The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23rd October 2017 be noted.
2. The questions and responses provided be noted.
3. The observations and responses provided be noted.

12

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS

Motion 1

Councillor Akhtar MOVED and Councillor Jacques SECONDED the following MOTION:

“Council notes that:

- Research conducted in 2015 by New Economy found that labour productivity as in Gross Value Added (GVA) per employment in Greater Manchester was lower than the national average in 14 of our 15 market sectors.
- National productivity has only grown by an average of 0.2% per annum, far below the ONS prediction of 1.6% per annum.
- It is estimated that the downgrading of national forecasts will cost the Treasury around £18 billion by 2021.
- The United Kingdom spends 0.5% of GDP on labour market programmes compared to Denmark and Ireland who spend over 3% and who productivity levels have risen over the last 5 years.

Council further notes that:

- The Oldham Strategic Investment Framework, Local Economic Assessment and Work and Skills Strategy all demonstrate the need to develop a skilled, education and dynamic workforce. The Skills deficit for citizens at Level 3 and/or 4 is 10 percentage points between Oldham and England Average.
- Consequently, Oldham residents earn £5k a year less than the England average (£23K vs £28K)

- The GM Economy will see double digit growth in Professional and Technical occupations with 50% of future jobs growth being office based.
- Re-skilling the workforce is a vital step to tackling these skills shortages across the city region.

Council is concerned that:

- The latest Government report into the impact of Further Education Reforms shows that there are 6.6% fewer learners entering further education per year since 2010, with nearly 9% reduction in the over 25s
- Since the introduction of Advanced Learning Loans, overall learner volumes in the years that loans were introduced, between 2012/13 and 2013/14, fell by -7.7%. Further, the fall in the number of learners aged 25 or older was steep at -10.4%
- 58% of Further Education loans funding, amounting to almost £1billion, has not been spent since 2013.
- That the advanced learner loan system, without improved marketing and wraparound support, is not fit for purpose.
- That without changes to the system, the UK and Oldham's productivity levels will suffer."

Councillor Harkness spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Haque spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Akhtar exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the VOTE, the MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive be asked to write to the Rt. Hon. Anne Milton, Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills, outlining the Council's request to reshape how Advanced Learner Loans operated, informing the Minister of our Careers Advancement Service as an example as to how citizens needed support to access skills funding, with a more flexible approach to the loan fund account management. Oldham Council also believed that employers should be able to take the lead in designing new mechanisms for employees to widen the choice to include non-apprenticeship pathways and flexible part-time qualification to suit employer and sector needs.

Motion 2

Councillor Moores MOVED and Councillor Hewitt SECONDED the following MOTION:

"At present the performance of the Royal Oldham Hospital is deemed to be failing by the Greater Manchester Health and Care Social Care Partnership on the basis that the local economy is not consistently meeting the four-hour target at the front door of A&E.

In terms of delayed discharges from Hospital, Oldham is one of the best performing localities in GM and this is largely as consequence of the benefits of an integrated team combined with a robust service offer and significant financial investment.

In September 2017, Oldham had the second lowest number of delayed days both in terms of overall numbers and delays attributable to social care and the lowest delayed days attributable to the NHS.

At present the patient flow across the hospital is measured in several ways. All are interconnected and poor performance in one area will impact on another. The Royal Oldham has a comparatively high number of presentations to A & E. Royal Oldham hospital on average exceeds 300 presentations per day and on many days in the last three months has exceeded 350 people per day.

The Royal Oldham hospital currently has 166 beds, plus 27 beds on the discharge lounge which is referred to as G1. This is a total of 193 beds in the medicine division. Whilst the aim across GM is to reduce the number of acute beds in favour of supporting people as close to home as possible, the number of base beds at the Royal Oldham hospital is lower per head of population than other hospitals.

There is a great deal of pressure on the health and social care system, this is a direct result of high demand combined with a lack of adequate resources due to inadequate Central Government funding and the Government's cap on public sector pay.

In Oldham, the Council, the CCG and its partners are working with the GM Health and Social Care Partnership to address these issues and the recent £21.3 million Transformation Fund investment into Oldham is welcome.

But the transformation funding will not fully address issues such as recruitment and retention, particularly in specialist areas such as Paediatrics and Emergency Care. The Budget also failed to address the underlying problems such as poverty, poor housing and unemployment that impact on the health and wellbeing of our residents. The Chancellor did have an opportunity to address some of these issues in his recent budget, but sadly failed to do so.

This Council notes:

1. The £21.3 million GM Transformation Funding investment in Oldham's health economy.
2. The fact that Oldham is one of the best performing localities with regards to delayed discharges from hospital.
3. The concern around waiting times at A&E.
4. Its disappointment that in his Budget announcement the Chancellor failed to meaningfully address the issue of public sector pay.
5. That the Budget fails to address issues such as poverty, poor housing and unemployment.
6. This Council thanks all those involved in the health and social care sector for their commitment and hard work.

This Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Health, asking them to ensure there is an urgent review of pay for NHS staff so that NHS organisations can recruit and retain staff with the right levels of skill to ensure that patients receive a safe, high quality and efficient service.

AMENDMENT

Councillor Harkness MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:



“In paragraph one, line 2 after Partnership replace the words ‘on the basis that the local economy is not consistently meeting the four-hour target at the front door of A & E’ with ‘because the four-hour A & E target is not being consistently met.’

Amended motion to read as follows:

“At present the performance of the Royal Oldham Hospital is deemed to be failing by the Greater Manchester Health and Care Social Care Partnership because the four-hour A & E target is not being consistently met.

In terms of delayed discharges from Hospital, Oldham is one of the best performing localities in GM and this is largely as consequence of the benefits of an integrated team combined with a robust service offer and significant financial investment. In September 2017, Oldham had the second lowest number of delayed days both in terms of overall numbers and delays attributable to social care and the lowest delayed days attributable to the NHS.

At present the patient flow across the hospital is measured in several ways. All are interconnected and poor performance in one area will impact on another. The Royal Oldham has a comparatively high number of presentations to A & E. Royal Oldham hospital on average exceeds 300 presentations per day and on many days in the last three months has exceeded 350 people per day.

The Royal Oldham hospital currently has 166 beds, plus 27 beds on the discharge lounge which his referred to as G1. This is a total of 193 beds in the medicine division. Whilst the aim across GM is to reduce the number of acute beds in favour of supporting people as close to home as possible, the number of base beds at the Royal Oldham hospital is lower per head of population than other hospitals.

There is a great deal of pressure on the health and social care system, this is a direct result of high demand combined with a lack of adequate resources due to inadequate Central Government funding and the Government’s cap on public sector pay.

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But the transformation funding will not fully address issues such as recruitment and retention, particularly in specialist areas such as Paediatrics and Emergency Care. The Budget also failed to address the underlying problems such as poverty, poor housing and unemployment that impact on the health and wellbeing of our residents. The Chancellor did have an opportunity to address some of these issues in his recent budget, but sadly failed to do so.

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This Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Health, asking them to ensure there is an urgent review of pay for NHS staff so that NHS organisations can recruit and retain staff with the right levels of skill to ensure that patients receive a safe, high quality and efficient service."

Councillor Moores exercised his right of reply. Councillor Moores ACCEPTED the AMENDMENT.

A vote was then taken on the AMENDMENT.

On being put to the vote, the AMENDMENT was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Chauhan spoke in support of the Substantive Motion.
Councillor Ahmad spoke in support of the Substantive Motion.
Councillor Harkness spoke in support of the Substantive Motion.

Councillor Moores exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the vote, the SUBSTANTIVE MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive be asked to write to the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Health, asking them to ensure that there is a urgent review of pay for NHS Staff so that NHS organisations can recruit and retain staff with the right levels of skill to ensure that patients receive a safe, high quality and efficient service.

Motion 3

The Mayor informed the meeting that the time limit for this item had expired. Councillor Chadderton as **SECONDER** of the MOTION requested the Council permit the following motion be rolled over for discussion at the next Council meeting.

"This Council notes that Oldham, together with thousands more, will celebrate International Women's day on the 8th March 2018. Oldham Council has already agreed to mark the centenary of the Women's Suffrage Act by supporting the Suffrage to Citizenship Campaign throughout 2018 and this will include

marking the actual anniversary in November. Working with the Youth Council and local organisations, activities will focus on ways of encouraging young women (and men) to be more actively involved in the local community, an aim that fits well with our ethos as a Co-operative Council.

Oldham Council has previously affirmed its commitment to women's equality; acknowledged the unequal impact of austerity on women and supported the aims of the WASPI campaign for fair access to pensions.

Oldham Council further notes that the Government continues to put forward proposals which threaten vital services for women, this time the funding of refuges for women escaping domestic violence. The Government consultation paper 'Funding Supported Housing' includes proposals to remove the payment of Housing Benefit to women living in refuges, which provides over 50% of their funding, and replace this with a ring fenced grant to local authorities which will also have to pay the short-term supported housing for older people, homeless people, people with mental illnesses and drug addicts.

This council is extremely concerned that this threatens the sustainability of refuges, which are already unable to meet demand."

RESOLVED that the Motion be rolled over to the Council meeting to be held on 28th March 2018.

NOTE: Councillors Roberts, Heffernan and Sheldon left the meeting during this item.

13

NOTICE OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS

Motion 1

Councillor McCann MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED the following motion:

"Council notes that planning officers do not notify Ward Members when the conditions attached to planning approvals are satisfactorily discharged by the applicant.

In order to establish greater transparency in the planning process and to keep Ward Members better informed and engaged, Council resolves that best practice be created by requiring planning officers to give such notification and that opportunities be provided for Ward Members to engage with members of the public on planning matters in the spirit of co-operation.

Councillor McCann did not exercise his right of reply.

On being put to the vote, the MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that the Chief Executive as Head of Paid Service be asked to liaise with the Head of Planning and Infrastructure to ensure that planning officers were made aware of these requirements and ensured that they happened.



Motion 2

Councillor Turner MOVED and Councillor Gloster SECONDED the following MOTION:

“This Council notes that:

- An amendment (New Clause 30) to the EU Withdrawal Bill, proposed by Caroline Lucas MP, was recently defeated by the Government in Parliament. This amendment sought to transfer the EU Protocol on animal sentience set out in Article 13 of Title II of the Lisbon Treaty into UK Law, so that animals continue to be recognised as sentient being under domestic law.
- Widespread concern has been expressed by animal welfare groups, members of parliament and the public that the defeat of this clause will lead to a weakening of the laws protecting animals.
- Gudrun Ravetz, Senior Vice-President of British Veterinary Association the professional body for practicing veterinarians in the UK, stated: ‘Enshrining animal sentience in UK law would have acknowledged that we consider animals as being capable of feelings such as pain and contentment and, so, deserving of consideration and respect. It is a founding principle of animal welfare science, and for the way that we should treat all animals. There is now an urgent need for clarity from Government on how the provisions in Article 13 will be enshrined in UK law to ensure we do not fall short of the high standards we expect as a national of animal lovers.’
- In recognition of this concern, the Environment Secretary Michael Gove said in a ministerial statement that: ‘This Government is committed to the very highest standards of animal welfare. As the Prime Minister set out, we will make the United Kingdom a world leader in the care and protection of animals.’ In his statement, the Minister promises to increase the jail sentence for humans who abuse animals to five years, improve CCTV monitoring in slaughterhouses, and strengthen the ban on the ivory trade and ban microbeads in products.

This Council:

- Recognises that animals are sentient beings and deserving of the highest standards of legal protection.
- Shares the widespread public concern that the defeat of New Clause 30 may represent a threat to the legal protection of animals.
- Wishes to see this Government live up to its promise to ‘make the United Kingdom a world leader in the care and protection of animals’ by enacting the measures promised by the Environment Secretary as soon as possible.”

Councillor Jabbar moved the MOTION to the VOTE.

Councillor Turner did not exercise her right of reply.

On being put to the vote, the MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Chief Executive be asked to write to the Environment Secretary to express our concern at the defeat of New Clause 30 and to seek reassurance and clarification from the Minister as to when and how the Government intends to honour its promise to be a “world leader” in this field by enacting the alternative and enhancing animal welfare legislation outlined in his Ministerial Statement.
2. The Chief Executive be asked to write to our three Members of Parliament to seek their support for the Council’s position.

Motion 3

The Mayor had been given notification that Councillor McCann had to leave the meeting and unable to second the motion and notice had been given that Councillor Sykes would second the motion in his absence which was AGREED.

Councillor Williamson MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED the following MOTION:

“This Council notes:

- There are an estimated 7.5 million street lights in the UK
- In 2014, the Green Investment Bank reported that only 10% of these are LED
- It is estimated that switching all street lights to LED would:
 - Save Councils over £200 million per year, paying for half a million children to have free school meals each year or for an extra 12 million hours of social care
 - Prevent over 600,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide from being emitted into the atmosphere every year, the equivalent of taking 400,000 cars off the road
 - Take 0.5 GW off peak electricity demand, the equivalent of a coal fired power station
 - Reduce light pollution as they are more directional and can employ sensors which determine when they are most needed and when they are not
- Further cost reductions can be provided through the use of LED lighting within Council buildings
- Affordable financing is available to Councils to make the change to LED street lights through the Public Works Loan Board, the Salix Energy Efficiency Loans Scheme and the Green Investment Group amongst others.
- That the change is possible even in a situation where the street lighting service is provided via a Private Finance Initiative model

- That the 10:10 climate change climate group is asking Council to sign up to the Lighten Up pledge and make a commitment to going fully LED within 5 years

As a local authority committed to reducing its carbon footprint and providing residents with value-for-money services, Council recognises that a change to LED has merit, is worth investigating, and that a proposal to so was approved by Performance and Value For Money sub-committee when it was presented as part of the alternate budget proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group in 2017.”

Councillor Williamson did not exercise her right of reply.

On being put to the vote, the MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that the Performance and Value For Money Sub-Committee examine:

- The practicality and affordability of replacing street lights and lighting in Council buildings with LEDs in whole or in part; and
- The possibility of the Council making a commitment to replace all street lights with LEDS within five years and to making the Pledge as a signatory to the Lighten Up campaign.

NOTE: Councillors McCann, Wigglesworth, A. Alexander, G. Alexander, Harkness, Hewitt and Ur-Rehman left the meeting during this item.

- 14a To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant spokespersons to respond to questions from Members

The minutes of the Joint Authorities were submitted as follows:

Transport for Greater Manchester	10 th November 2017
Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)	27 th October 2017
Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA)	27 th October 2017
National Peak Park Authority	6 th October 2017
Police and Crime Panel	31 st October 2017
Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership Board	28 th July 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Joint Authority meetings as detailed in the report be noted.

- 14b To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant spokespersons to respond to questions from Members

The minutes of the Partnership meetings were submitted as follows:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Partnership meetings as detailed in the report be noted.

15 **UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM COUNCIL**

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Legal Services which informed members of actions that had been taken following previous Council meetings and provided feedback on other issues raised at the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Update on Actions from Council be noted.

16 **CIVIC APPRECIATION NOMINATION**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive which sought approval for the nomination of Reverend Jean Hurlston to receive the Civic Appreciation Award.

The nomination was in recognition of Reverend Hurlston's significant voluntary contribution and dedication to the community and borough of Oldham.

RESOLVED that:

1. The nomination for Reverend Jean Hurlston to receive the Civic Appreciation Award 2018 be agreed.
2. The ceremony for the award would take place at the Council meeting to be held on 28th March 2018.

17 **CONSIDERATION OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER WASTE DISPOSAL LEVY ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY AND APPROVAL OF A REVISED LEVY ALLOCATION MODEL AGREEMENT**

Council gave consideration to the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Levy Allocation Methodology and approval of a revised Levy Allocation Model Agreement.

Following the decision to terminate the Recycling and Waste Management PFI Contract arrangements it was necessary for all constituent Districts to agree a new Levy which would replace the existing Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) with a revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) that reflected the revised financial arrangements to apply fully from the 2019/20 financial year onwards with a year of transitional arrangements for the financial year 2018/19.

The current arrangements for the disposal of household waste in Greater Manchester (save for Wigan) were established in 2009 with the signing of the Recycling and Waste Management (PFI) Contract (the PFI Contract) with Viridor Laing (Greater

Manchester) Limited (VLGM). The Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA) acquired VLGM (for £1) in October 2017. This allowed existing arrangements to be formally terminated so as to address issues that had arisen with the operation of the Contract and to enable significant efficiency savings to be released. The current IAA, which was signed by all Districts in 2009, fell away with the termination of the PFI Contract and it was, therefore, necessary to reconsider the Levy apportionment within GM and for all Districts to approve and enter into a revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) which reflected the new arrangements. That Agreement was designed for an application of 10 years and would be applied in full for the 2019/20 financial year onwards, with transitional arrangements being proposed for the financial year 2018/19.

The issue had been presented to Cabinet on 11 December 2017 and commended to Council to approve the proposed Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement.

RESOLVED that:

1. Having considered the proposed revised methodology, the revised Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement be approved and be applied in full from 2019/20 with transitional arrangements in place during 2018/19.
2. Authority be delegated to the Director of Legal Services or his nominee to approve and/or make any minor amendments to the final Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement, a current draft of which was appended to the report and to enter into and finalise the Agreement, the transitional arrangements and any associated documentation related thereto.

18

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY HALF YEAR REVIEW 2017/18

Council gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which provided details of the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the first half of 2017/18 and provided a comparison of performance against the 2017/18 Treasury Management Strategy and prudential indicators. The Council was required to consider the performance of the Treasury Management function in order to comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Revised Code of Practice. The report set out key Treasury Management Issues and outlined:

- An economic update for the first six months of 2017/18;
- A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
- The Council's capital expenditure (prudential indicators);
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2017/18;
- A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2017/18;

- Why there had been no debt rescheduling undertaken during 2017/18; and
- A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2017/18.

The Treasury Management Half-Year Review 2017/18 report had been presented to and approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 20 November 2017 and commended the report to Council.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Treasury Management activity for the first half of the financial year 2017/18 and the projected outturn position be approved.
2. Amendments to both Authorised and Operational Boundary for external debt as set out in the table at Section 2.4.5 of the report be approved.
3. Amendments to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as set out at Section 2.4.4 of the report and in the table at Section 2.4.5 of the report be approved.

19

2018/19 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

Council gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2018/19. There was a requirement to have a Council Tax Reduction Scheme to support residents who qualified for assistance in the payment of Council tax. The Local Government Finance Act 2012 placed a requirement that each year a Billing Authority must give consideration as to whether to revise its Council Tax Reduction (CTR) Scheme or replace it with another scheme. Any changes to the 2018/19 scheme must be agreed by full Council no later than 31 January 2018.

The Council's CTR Scheme had been largely un-amended since April 2015 when the Council introduced the scheme that limited CTR to a maximum of 85% of a Band A Property and removed second adult rebate for those of working age.

The following options/alternatives were set out for consideration within the report:

Option 1: Maintain the present level of support i.e. limiting the level of support at 85% of a Band A Property as the maximum amount available.

Option 2: Limit the maximum level of support from 2018/19 to 82.5% of a Band A Property

Option 3: Align the Council Tax Reduction Scheme to reflect some or all of the changes made to Housing Benefit since April 2016

Option 4: Change the method of assessment for Universal Credit Council Tax Reduction cases

Option 5: Introduce a minimum income floor for self-employed Council Tax Reduction claimants.

After evaluation of the proposed options, it was recommended that no change be made to the current CTR scheme. This

recommendation had been presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 20th November 2017 where Cabinet commended approval of this recommendation to Council.

RESOLVED that the continuation of the current Council Tax Reduction (CTR) Scheme for 2018/19 be approved and that the 2018/19 scheme was therefore the same as that operating in 2017/18.

20

BREXIT UPDATE

Council gave consideration to an update on the potential implications of the “leave” result for Oldham and Greater Manchester. The update set out a summary of implications of leaving the European Union (EU). Scenario planning and impact modelling had been undertaken by leading organisations which included the London School of Economics and Oxford Economics. The report looked at the anticipated impact of leaving the EU and what Greater Manchester and Oldham could do to mitigate against the likely economic shock of leaving.

RESOLVED that the update on the Impact on Oldham and Greater Manchester of the European Union Referendum be noted.

21

AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES - WRITE OFF AUTHORISATION LIMITS

Council gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval to the authorisation limits for write-offs in the Financial Procedure Rules of the Council’s Constitution.

RESOLVED that the write-off approval limits be amended as follows for debts which included Council Tax, Business Rates, Sundry Deb and Housing Benefit Overpayments:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| a) | Individual debts up to £60 | Unity Partnership Ltd. |
| b) | Individual debts up to £2,500 | Head of Service |
| c) | Individual debts up to £5,000 | Director of Finance |
| d) | Individual debts over £5,000 | Cabinet |

22

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS ON THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND INDEPENDENT PERSONS ON THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Council gave consideration to a report of the Director of Legal Services regarding the appointment of independent members on the Independent Remuneration Panel and independent persons on the Standards Committee. The current independent persons had agreed to continue beyond their existing term and it was requested that appointments be reconfirmed to ensure consistency and continuity. There was a vacancy on both the Independent Remuneration Panel and the Standards Committee and it was proposed to advertise the posts.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Independent Members on the Independent Remuneration Panel and on the Standards Committee be reappointed for three years.
2. A recruitment process be commenced to fill the vacancies as detailed in the report with a report to Full Council to make the appointment.

23

MUNICIPAL CALENDAR 2018/19

Council gave consideration to a report of the Director of Legal Services which sought approval of the draft Calendar of Meetings for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Council's Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2018/19 as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report be approved.
2. Approval of any outstanding dates be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with Group Leaders.

24

POLITICAL BALANCE REVIEW

Council gave consideration to an urgent report of the Director of Legal Services which detailed a Political Balance Review following the resignation of Rod Blyth as a Councillor. A review of the allocation of seats to political groups was required at, or as soon as practicable when notice was received of a change in the composition of a political group and changes to committee membership related to political groups.

RESOLVED that:

1. The review of political balance and committees as detailed within the report be agreed.
2. The composition of the political groups as outlined in the report and that Councillor Gloster filled the Liberal Democrat Group vacant position on the Planning Committee with Councillor Murphy as second substitute and that Councillor Harkness filled the Liberal Democrat Vacant position on the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee be agreed.
3. The appointment to the Labour Group Vacancy on the Audit Committee be delegated to the Chief Executive and three Group Leaders.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 9.11 pm

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Present: The Mayor – Councillor Qumer (Chair)

Councillors Ahmad, Akhtar, Ali, Ball, M Bashforth, S Bashforth, Bates, Briggs, Brock, Brownridge, Chadderton, Chauhan, Dean, Fielding, Garry, Gloster, Goodwin, Haque, Harkness, Hewitt, A Hussain, F Hussain, Iqbal, Jabbar, Jacques, Malik, McCann, McLaren, Moores, Murphy, Mushtaq, Phythian, Price, Rehman, Salamat, Shuttleworth, Stretton, Sykes, Toor, Ur-Rehman, Williamson and Williams

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Alexander, G. Alexander, Ames, Azad, Cosgrove, Harrison, Heffernan, Hudson, Kirkham, Klonowski, Larkin, Roberts, Sheldon, Turner and Wrigglesworth.

2 TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor referred with sadness to the recent death of Councillor Susan Dearden. Council held a minute's silence.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor informed the meeting that the Standards Committee had granted a dispensation to allow members who had an interest arising from ownership or occupation of property in Oldham, to participate and vote on the setting of the Council tax and matters directly related to such decisions including the budget calculations. All members declared a pecuniary interest in Item 4 – Budget Proposals, but the dispensation was applicable allowing Members to participate and vote on Item 4.

There were no other declarations of interest.

4 TO NOTE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BUDGET CABINET MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH FEBRUARY 2018 AND TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET IN RELATION TO THE BUDGET FOR 2018/19 FURTHER TO THE FOLLOWING ATTACHED REPORTS:

The Mayor requested and it was RESOLVED that Council Procedure 10.7 (Rules of Debate) be suspended to enable the Deputy Leader of the Council to exceed the time limit for his contribution in moving the Administration Budget to 15 minutes with a 30 second extension and the Leader of the Main Opposition Group in moving the Main Opposition Budget, a time limit of 10 minutes with a 30 second extension. All other speakers would be limited to 4 minutes with a 30 second extension.

The Mayor informed the Council that regulations had been implemented which required recorded votes on specific decisions at the Budget meeting. Members would be advised when a recorded vote was required.

Prior to the consideration of the Budget Proposals, the Mayor asked the Council to note the draft minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19th February 2018.

On a vote being taken, the recommendation was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19th February 2018 be noted.

a) Housing Revenue Account Estimates for 2018/19 to 2021/22 and Proposed Outturn for 2017/18

Councillor Brownridge MOVED and Councillor Jabbar SECONDED a joint report which set out the latest Housing Revenue Account (HRA) estimate for 2017/18, the detailed budget for 2018/19 and strategic estimates for the three years 2019/20 through to 2021/22. The Report also set out the recommended dwelling and non-dwelling rents and service charge increases to be applied from April 2018.

The projected financial position for 2017/18 was estimated to be a £1.785m positive variance when compared to the original budget forecast for 2017/18 approved at the March 2017 budget meeting. The majority of the variance could be attributed to the re-profiling of HRA funded capital schemes into later years due to revisions to planning spending profiles.

The financial position for 2018/19 showed an estimated closing balance of £18.870m which was considered to sufficient to meet future operational commitments and the potential financial pressures identified in the risk assessment. The 2018/19 position had been presented after allowing for an increase in rent of 4%. It was noted that the Government had already advised that PFI properties were exempt from Central Government's 1% Social Rent Reduction Programme. As all Oldham housing stock was contained within two PFI schemes the 2018/19 would follow historic rent setting guidance of CPI plus 1%, which resulted in an increase of 4% (CPI was taken as at September 2017).

No member spoke on this item.

RESOLVED that:

1. The forecast HRA outturn for 2017/18, as outlined at Appendix A of the report, be approved.
2. The proposed HRA budget for 2018/19, as outlined at Appendix B of the report, be approved.
3. The strategic estimates for 2019/20 to 2021/22, as outlined at Appendix D of the report, be approved.
4. The proposed increase to dwelling rents for all properties for 4% be approved.

5. The proposed increase to non-dwelling rents as per individual contracts be approved.
6. The proposed increase to PFI 2 service charges to continue on previously approved transitional arrangements but without an inflationary uplift be approved.
7. The proposed no inflationary increase to PFI 4 service charges be approved.

b) Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2021/22

Councillor Jabbar MOVED and Councillor Stretton SECONDED a report of the Director of Finance which set out the Capital Strategy for 2018/19 to 2021/22 and thereby the proposed 2018/19 capital programme which included identified capital investment priorities, together with the indicative capital programme for 2019/20 to 2021/22, having regard to the resources available over the life of the programme. The overall capital programme position would be kept under review and any new funding allocations would be presented to Members in future reports.

No member spoke on this item.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Capital Strategy for 2018/19 to 2021/22 as outlined at Appendix 1 and summarised at Section 2.1 of the report be approved.
2. The capital programme for 2018/19 and indicative programmes for 2019/20 to 2021/22 at Annex of Appendix 1 and summarised at Section 2.2 of this report be approved.

c) Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2018/19

Councillor Jabbar MOVED and Councillor Stretton SECONDED a report of the Director of Finance which presented the strategy for 2018/19 Treasury Management activities which included the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement, the Annual Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators. The Strategy for 2018/19 covered two main area of Capital Issues and Treasury Management Issues. The report outlined the implications and key factors related to each of Capital and Treasury Management Issues and made recommendations with regard to the Treasury Management Strategy for 2018/19.

The Treasury Management Strategy was based on the current guidance at the time of writing. The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) released revised and updated versions of the Prudential Code and the Treasury Management Code in early January 2018. It had not yet released guidance notes to

these two Codes which would provide clarity in interpreting new requirements. This was important as these Codes heavily influenced the context of the Treasury Management Strategy.

No member spoke on this item.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Capital Expenditure Estimates as per paragraph 2.1.2 of the report be approved.
 2. The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (MRP) and method of calculation as per Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
 3. The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) Projections as per paragraph 2.2.4 of the report be approved.
 4. The projected treasury position as at 31st March 2018 as per paragraph 2.3.3 of the report be approved.
 5. The Treasury Limits as per Section 2.4 of the report be approved.
 6. The Borrowing Strategy for 2018/19 as per Section 2.6 of the report be approved.
 7. The Annual Investment Strategy as per Section 2.10 of the report including non-treasury investments and the creditworthiness policy at Section 2.11 of the report be approved.
 8. The levels of investment in specified, non-specified and non-treasury investments detailed at Appendix 4 of the report be approved.
- d. Statement of the Chief Financial Officer on Reserves, Robustness of Estimates and Affordability and Prudence of Capital Investments

Councillor Jabbar MOVED and Councillor Stretton SECONDED a report of the Director of Finance which sought agreement to the level of balances necessary to support the 2018/19 budget underpinned by the agreed policy on Earmarked Reserves, setting a properly balanced budget which included the financing of capital investments within the present investment proposals. The report was prepared in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 which required the Authority's Chief Financial Officer (the Director of Finance) to report on the robustness of the estimates made for the purpose of the budget calculations and the adequacy of the proposed reserves. The information enabled a longer-term view of the overall financial resilience of the Council to be taken.

No member spoke on this item.

RESOLVED that:

1. The General Balances currently calculated for 2018/19 at £13.991m be approved. Any excess funding in general

- balances at the financial year-end was to be transferred to the fiscal mitigation reserve to support future budgets.
2. The initial estimate of General Balances to support the 2019/20 and 2020/21 budgets were amounts of £13.832m and £13.123m which reflected the budgetary challenges for these financial years be noted.
 3. The intended report to the Audit Committee on Reserves which ensured the areas was subject to appropriate scrutiny.
 4. The actions necessary to secure a properly balanced budget as presented in paragraph 3.5 of the report be agreed.
 5. The actions necessary to ensure the prudence of the capital investments as noted in paragraph 4.4 of the report be agreed.
- e) Revenue Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018/29 to 2021/22

Councillor Jabbar MOVED and Councillor Stretton SECONDED a report of the Director of Finance which set out the proposals for the Council's Revenue Budget for 2018/19 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2018/19 to 2021/22. The report outlined key financial challenges and issues which would be faced by the Council over the forecast period and presented the Administration's revenue budget proposals for 2018/19 together with updated budget gap estimates for the period 2019/20 to 2021/22. The report also presented the national and regional policy landscape within which the Council operated and summarised the UK's economic outlook published alongside the Chancellor's Autumn Budget Statement, key aspects of the Local Government finance system including developments surrounding the Government's Fair Funding review and Business rates retention which included the Greater Manchester 100% Rates Retention Pilot Scheme and the pooling of Business Rates for 2018/19, national and regional policies affecting Local Government which included the National Living Wage, Health and Social Care Devolution, Better Care Fund, the forthcoming Social Care Green Paper Opportunity Area Funding, Adult Education Funding and the GM Spatial Framework and Local strategies and policies relevant to the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The report also highlighted policy announcements and implications which arose from the Chancellor's Autumn Budget Statement delivered on 22nd November 2017, the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement published on 19th December 2017 and the Final Local Government Finance Settlement published on 6th February 2018.

In moving the budget Councillor Jabbar thanked the Chief Executive, Executive Management Team, the Director of Finance and her team in bringing forward the balanced budget.

AMENDMENT

Councillor McCann MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED the amendment to the budget as circulated and detailed in the Council Summons.

No member spoke on the AMENDMENT.

Councillor Jabbar exercised his right of reply.

Councillor McCann did not exercise his right of reply.

A recorded vote, in line with the regulations was then taken on the AMENDMENT as follows:

Councillor		Councillor	
Ahmad	AGAINST	Hussain, F.	AGAINST
Akhtar	AGAINST	Iqbal	AGAINST
Alexander, A.	ABSENT	Jabbar	AGAINST
Alexander, G.	ABSENT	Jacques	AGAINST
Ali	AGAINST	Kirkham	ABSENT
Ames	ABSENT	Klonowski	ABSENT
Azad	ABSENT	Larkin	ABSENT
Ball	AGAINST	Malik	AGAINST
Bashforth, M.	AGAINST	McCann	FOR
Bashforth, S.	AGAINST	McLaren	AGAINST
Bates	ABSTENTION	Moores	AGAINST
Briggs	AGAINST	Murphy	FOR
Brock	AGAINST	Mushtaq	AGAINST
Brownridge	AGAINST	Phythian	AGAINST
Chadderton	AGAINST	Price	AGAINST
Chauhan	AGAINST	Rehman	AGAINST
Cosgrove	ABSENT	Roberts	ABSENT
Dean	AGAINST	Salamat	AGAINST
Fielding	AGAINST	Sheldon	ABSENT
Garry	AGAINST	Shuttleworth	AGAINST
Gloster	FOR	Stretton	AGAINST
Goodwin	AGAINST	Sykes	FOR
Haque	AGAINST	Toor	AGAINST
Harkness	FOR	Turner	ABSENT
Harrison	ABSENT	Ur-Rehman	AGAINST
Heffernan	ABSENT	Williams	AGAINST
Hewitt	AGAINST	Williamson	FOR
Hudson	ABSENT	Wrigglesworth	ABSENT
Hussain, A.	AGAINST	Qumer	AGAINST

On a recorded VOTE being taken SIX VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT with THIRTY-SIX VOTES cast AGAINST with 1 ABSTENTION. The AMENDMENT was therefore LOST.

The following Councillors then spoke on the ORIGINAL MOTION.

Councillor Bates spoke on the Original Motion.

Councillor Jabbar exercised his right of reply.

A recorded vote, in line with the regulations, was then taken on the Original Motion as follows:

Councillor		Councillor	
Ahmad	FOR	Hussain, F.	FOR
Akhtar	FOR	Iqbal	FOR
Alexander, A.	ABSENT	Jabbar	FOR
Alexander, G.	ABSENT	Jacques	FOR
Ali	FOR	Kirkham	ABSENT
Ames	ABSENT	Klonowski	ABSENT
Azad	ABSENT	Larkin	ABSENT
Ball	FOR	Malik	FOR
Bashforth, M.	FOR	McCann	ABSTENTION
Bashforth, S.	FOR	McLaren	FOR
Bates	ABSTENTION	Moore	FOR
Briggs	FOR	Murphy	ABSTENTION
Brock	FOR	Mushtaq	FOR
Brownridge	FOR	Phythian	FOR
Chadderton	FOR	Price	FOR
Chauhan	FOR	Rehman	FOR
Cosgrove	ABSENT	Roberts	ABSENT
Dean	FOR	Salamat	FOR
Fielding	FOR	Sheldon	ABSENT
Garry	FOR	Shuttleworth	FOR
Gloster	ABSTENTION	Stretton	FOR
Goodwin	FOR	Sykes	ABSTENTION
Haque	FOR	Toor	FOR
Harkness	ABSTENTION	Turner	ABSENT
Harrison	ABSENT	Ur-Rehman	FOR
Heffernan	ABSENT	Williams	FOR
Hewitt	FOR	Williamson	ABSTENTION
Hudson	ABSENT	Wrigglesworth	ABSENT
Hussain, A.	FOR	Qumer	FOR

On a recorded vote being taken, THIRTY-SIX VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the ORIGINAL MOTION with 0 VOTES cast AGAINST and SEVEN ABSTENTIONS. The ORIGINAL MOTION was therefore CARRIED.

RESOLVED that:

1. The national and regional policy landscape determining the context in which the Council set its revenue budget for 2018/19 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2021/22 be approved.

2. The impact of Oldham Council Policies and Strategies on the Council's budget setting process and the development of its Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved.
3. The financial forecasts for 2018/19 to 2021/22 having regard to the Local Government Finance Settlement and associated funding announcements.
4. The 2018/19 Budget Reduction Proposals at a value of £6.686m be approved.
5. The proposed use of £7.264m of reserves to balance the 2018/19 budget be approved.
6. The fees and charges schedule included at Appendix 4 to the report be approved.
7. The Pay Policy Statement included at Appendix 5 to the report be approved.
8. A Council Tax increase of 3.99% for Oldham Council services resulting in the charges as set out in Appendix 8 to the report be approved.
9. The draw on the Collection Fund for major preceptors of £100.439m for Borough wide services of which £86.953m for Council services be approved.
10. The proposed net revenue expenditure budget for 2018/19 for the Council set at £216.921m be approved.
11. The revised budget reduction targets of £17.986m for 2019/20, £7.817m for 2020/21 and £7.7470m for 2021/22 be approved.

The Mayor then asked Council if they agreed to the resolutions as detailed in the Summons and, in accordance with the regulations, a recorded vote was taken on resolutions 1, 2, 3 and 5 as follows:

Resolutions 1 and 2 related to the Council Tax Base for the Financial Year 2018/19 as approved by the Cabinet on 18th December 2017 and the Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2018/19

No member spoke on this item.

A recorded vote, in line with the regulations, was then taken on the RESOLUTION as follows:

Councillor		Councillor	
Ahmad	FOR	Hussain, F.	FOR
Akhtar	FOR	Iqbal	FOR
Alexander, A.	ABSENT	Jabbar	FOR
Alexander, G.	ABSENT	Jacques	FOR
Ali	FOR	Kirkham	ABSENT
Ames	ABSENT	Klonowski	ABSENT
Azad	ABSENT	Larkin	ABSENT
Ball	FOR	Malik	FOR
Bashforth, M.	FOR	McCann	FOR
Bashforth, S.	FOR	McLaren	FOR
Bates	ABSTENTION	Moore	FOR
Briggs	FOR	Murphy	FOR

Brock	FOR	Mushtaq	FOR
Brownridge	FOR	Phythian	FOR
Chadderton	FOR	Price	FOR
Chauhan	FOR	Rehman	FOR
Cosgrove	ABSENT	Roberts	ABSENT
Dean	FOR	Salamat	FOR
Fielding	FOR	Sheldon	ABSENT
Garry	FOR	Shuttleworth	FOR
Gloster	FOR	Stretton	FOR
Goodwin	FOR	Sykes	FOR
Haque	FOR	Toor	FOR
Harkness	FOR	Turner	ABSENT
Harrison	ABSENT	Ur-Rehman	FOR
Heffernan	ABSENT	Williams	FOR
Hewitt	FOR	Williamson	FOR
Hudson	ABSENT	Wrigglesworth	ABSENT
Hussain, A.	FOR	Qumer	FOR

On a recorded VOTE being taken FORTY-TWO VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the RESOLUTION with 0 VOTES cast AGAINST with ONE ABSTENTION. The RESOLUTION was therefore CARRIED.

RESOLVED that:

1. It be noted that on 18 December 2017, the following amounts were approved by the Cabinet as the Council's Council Tax Base for the financial year 2018/19:
 - a) 55,666 for the whole Council area [Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")]
 - b) 8,529 for dwellings in the Saddleworth Parish area to which a Parish precept related.
 - c) 5,363 for dwellings in the Shaw and Crompton Parish area to which a Parish precept related.
2. The Council tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for the 2018/19 (excluding Parish precepts) as being £86,952,519 be approved.

Resolution 3 related to the amounts calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31A to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

No member spoke on this item.

A recorded vote, in line with the regulations, was then taken on the RESOLUTION as follows:

Councillor		Councillor	
Ahmad	FOR	Hussain, F.	FOR
Akhtar	FOR	Iqbal	FOR
Alexander, A.	ABSENT	Jabbar	FOR
Alexander, G.	ABSENT	Jacques	FOR
Ali	FOR	Kirkham	ABSENT
Ames	ABSENT	Klonowski	ABSENT

Azad	ABSENT	Larkin	ABSENT
Ball	FOR	Malik	FOR
Bashforth, M.	FOR	McCann	FOR
Bashforth, S.	FOR	McLaren	FOR
Bates	ABSTENTION	Moores	FOR
Briggs	FOR	Murphy	FOR
Brock	FOR	Mushtaq	FOR
Brownridge	FOR	Phythian	FOR
Chadderton	FOR	Price	FOR
Chauhan	FOR	Rehman	FOR
Cosgrove	ABSENT	Roberts	ABSENT
Dean	FOR	Salamat	FOR
Fielding	FOR	Sheldon	ABSENT
Garry	FOR	Shuttleworth	FOR
Gloster	FOR	Stretton	FOR
Goodwin	FOR	Sykes	FOR
Haque	FOR	Toor	FOR
Harkness	FOR	Turner	ABSENT
Harrison	ABSENT	Ur-Rehman	FOR
Heffernan	ABSENT	Williams	FOR
Hewitt	FOR	Williamson	FOR
Hudson	ABSENT	Wrigglesworth	ABSENT
Hussain, A.	FOR	Qumer	FOR

On a recorded VOTE being taken FORTY-TWO VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the RESOLUTION with 0 VOTES cast AGAINST with ONE ABSTENTION. The RESOLUTION was therefore CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Sections 31A to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

a)	£586,730,470	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account any Precepts for the Saddleworth and Shaw & Crompton Parish areas
b)	£499,513,955	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
c)	£87,216,515	Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
d)	£1,566.78	Being the amount at 3(c) above, all

		divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
e)	£263,996	Being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts).
f)	£1,562.04	Being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by the amount by Item T (1(a) 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 related.
g)	£1,582.80	Saddleworth Parish area Being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special item or items related to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned at 3(e) above divided by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items related.
h)	£1,578.25	Shaw and Crompton Parish area Being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(f) above the amounts of the special item or items related to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned at 3(e) above divided by the amount at 1(c) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items related.

Resolution 4 – Relating to the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and the Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)

No member spoke on this item.

RESOLVED that it be noted that for the year 2018/19 the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and the Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services) for Greater Manchester had been issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the summons.



Resolution 5 – Relating to the Setting of the Council Tax for 2018/19

No member spoke on this item.

A recorded vote, in line with the regulations, was then taken on the RESOLUTION as follows:

Councillor		Councillor	
Ahmad	FOR	Hussain, F.	FOR
Akhtar	FOR	Iqbal	FOR
Alexander, A.	ABSENT	Jabbar	FOR
Alexander, G.	ABSENT	Jacques	FOR
Ali	FOR	Kirkham	ABSENT
Ames	ABSENT	Klonowski	ABSENT
Azad	ABSENT	Larkin	ABSENT
Ball	FOR	Malik	FOR
Bashforth, M.	FOR	McCann	FOR
Bashforth, S.	FOR	McLaren	FOR
Bates	ABSTAIN	Moore	FOR
Briggs	FOR	Murphy	FOR
Brock	FOR	Mushtaq	FOR
Brownridge	FOR	Phythian	FOR
Chadderton	FOR	Price	FOR
Chauhan	FOR	Rehman	FOR
Cosgrove	ABSENT	Roberts	ABSENT
Dean	FOR	Salamat	FOR
Fielding	FOR	Sheldon	ABSENT
Garry	FOR	Shuttleworth	FOR
Gloster	FOR	Stretton	FOR
Goodwin	FOR	Sykes	FOR
Haque	FOR	Toor	FOR
Harkness	FOR	Turner	ABSENT
Harrison	ABSENT	Ur-Rehman	FOR
Heffernan	ABSENT	Williams	FOR
Hewitt	FOR	Williamson	FOR
Hudson	ABSENT	Wrigglesworth	ABSENT
Hussain, A.	FOR	Qumer	FOR

On a recorded VOTE being taken FORTY-TWO VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the RESOLUTION with 0 VOTES cast AGAINST with ONE ABSTENTION. The RESOLUTION was therefore CARRIED.

RESOLVED that the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the

aggregate amounts shown in the tables below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2018/19 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.



Oldham
Council

Authority/ Parish	Council Tax Bands (£)							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Oldham Council	1,041.36	1,214.92	1,388.48	1,562.04	1,909.16	2,256.28	2,603.40	3,124.08
Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept	116.20	135.57	154.93	174.30	213.03	251.77	290.50	348.60
Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)	45.29	52.84	60.39	67.95	83.05	98.15	113.24	135.90
Saddleworth Parish Precept	13.84	16.14	18.45	20.76	25.37	29.98	34.60	41.52
Shaw and Crompton Parish Precept	10.80	12.60	14.40	16.21	19.81	23.41	27.01	32.42

AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS

Authority/ Parish	Council Tax Bands (£)							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Saddleworth Parish Area	1,216.69	1,419.47	1,622.25	1,825.05	2,230.61	2,636.18	3,041.74	3,650.10
Shaw & Crompton Parish Area	1,213.65	1,415.93	1,618.20	1,820.50	2,225.05	2,629.61	3,034.15	3,641.00
All other parts of the Council's area	1,202.85	1,403.33	1,603.80	1,804.29	2,205.24	2,606.20	3,007.14	3,608.58

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.05 pm

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COUNCIL

Petitions

Portfolio Holder: Various

Officer Contact: Various

Report Author: Elizabeth Droган, Head of Constitutional Services
Ext. 4705

28th March 2018

Reason for Decision

The decision is for Elected Members to note the petitions received by Council in accordance with the Petitions Protocol.

Petitions Received

Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods

Petition related to Persimmons Homes and the Adoption of Northgate Lane (St. James Ward) received on 29 January 2018 with 60 signatures (Ref: 2018-01)

Petition related to Objections to Yew Tree Primary School Planning Application (Chadderton South Ward) received on 7 February 2018 with 203 signatures (Ref: 2018-02)

Petition related to the Sale of Land at Nimble Nook (Chadderton Central Ward) received on 21 February 2018 with 752 signatures (Ref: 2018-03)

Recommendations

It is recommended that Council note the petitions received.

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Present: Councillor Stretton (Chair)
Councillors Brownridge, Chadderton, Harrison, F Hussain,
Jabbar and Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Akhtar.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 23RD
OCTOBER 2017**

RESOLVED – That minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23rd
October be approved as a correct record.

6 **GREATER MANCHESTER STRATEGY**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Chief Executive which provided Members with an update on the refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) and the development of a new Greater Manchester Strategy Implementation Plan.

The refreshed strategy was approved by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) at its meeting on 28th July 2017 and launched at an event at the Lowry Theatre on 29th October 2017.

The report provided an overview of the GMS, the priorities within it and the detailed implementation plan that accompanied it.

A copy of the full GMS was set out at appendix 1 to the report.

Options/Alternatives

Members were asked to note the report.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The launch of the new Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) be noted.
2. The publication of the Greater Manchester Strategy Implementation Plan be noted and the 6-monthly update and progress monitored against a performance dashboard be noted.
3. The receipt regular updates on the GMS Implementation Plan, given the Council's key role in delivering the actions set out in this document be agreed.

7

CLOSURE OF S.48 AGMA GRANT SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to close the current Section 48 AGMA grant scheme.

Following consultation over Summer 2017, and the recommendation of the Joint GMCA/AGMA Board on the 27th October 2017, Cabinet were asked alongside the other Greater Manchester Local Authorities, to close the Section 48 scheme in conjunction with the establishment of a new programme of culture under the GMCA in 2018/19 after year 3 of the current funding cycle closed in 2017/18.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – To approve closure of the S.48 AGMA grants scheme to be replaced with a similar GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund from April 2018.

Option 2 – Not to approve the closure of the scheme.

RESOLVED – That the closure of the current Section 48 AGMA grant scheme be approved and the establishment of a new programme for culture under the GMCA in 2018/19 be noted.

8

GREEN DIVIDEND

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Economy Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval for the continuation of Green Dividend projects by allocating funding for a further two years, to allow for project planning, implementation and delivery.

The Green Dividend was an initiative that enabled Oldham residents to improve and create Green spaces in their communities and had provided many opportunities for community engagement and co-operative working to help to build stronger and healthier communities.

Options/alternatives

Option 1 – To extend the project for two years at with an estimated cost of £280,300.

Option 2 – To extend the project for one year with an estimated cost of £140,200.

Option 3 – To end the project within the initial project cost and timeframe.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The green Dividend programme to be continued for a further two years.
2. The amount of £200k be allocated for Green Dividend projects over the next 2 years (2017 – 2019), together with a total of £80,400 over the two years for staffing costs.

9

CARRIAGEWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods, which sought approval of the initial spend Carriageway Improvement Programme for the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19 totalling an estimated £6.2m.

The Carriageway Improvement programme Year 1 was detailed at appendix A to the report.

Options/Alternatives

Option 1 – Strategy 1 – Reactive Programme. The roads improved in this option would be an equal split of roads across the network and would be actual resurfacing schemes with a few carriageway treatment schemes.

Option 2 – Strategy 2 – Preventative Maintenance. Would not address the most deteriorated area of the network.

Option 3 – Strategy 3 – Capital/Revenue Balance Programme. This programme provided a balance and would priorities the most cost effective parts of all categories of the programme. Should option 3 be approved there would be a call on capital resource of approximately £6.4m. The profiling of year 1 spend was estimated to be across financial years.

RESOLVED – That the programme of works as detailed at appendix 1 to the report, 2017/18-2018/19 Highways Capital Investment Programme be approved and the associated investment of £6m be agreed.

10

THE 2018/19 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2018/19 and to recommend the scheme to Council for approval.

It was reported that it was a requirement each year that a billing authority must formally consider revising its Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS).

To accord with the legislative timetable it was necessary for Full Council to agree the scheme before the 31st January 2018.

The report provided details of the current scheme:

- Limited the level of support at 85% of a Band A property as the maximum amount available; and removed second adult rebate for those of working age.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 - Maintain the present level of support ie. Limiting the level of support at 85% of a Band A property as the maximum amount available.

Option 2 - Align the Council Tax Reduction scheme to reflect some or all of the changes made to Housing Benefits since April 2016.

Option 3 - Limit the maximum level of support from 2018/19 to 82.5% of Band A property.

Option 4 - Change the method of assessment for Universal Credit Council Tax Reduction cases.

Option 5 – Introduce a minimum income floor for self-employed Council Tax Reduction claimants.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The 2017/18 Council Tax Reduction scheme was to remain the same as the scheme in operation for 2017/18 with no changes.
2. The 2017/18 Council Tax Reduction scheme be commended to Full Council for approval so that it was not changed from that operating in 2017/18.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEAR REVIEW 2017/18

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which provided the Cabinet with details of the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the first half of 2017/18 and provided a comparison of performance against the 2017/18 Treasury Management Strategy and prudential indicators.

The Council was required to consider the performance of the Treasury Management function in order to comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Revised Code of Practice.

The report set out:

- An economic update for the first six months of 2017/18;
- A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
- The Council's capital expenditure (prudential indicators);
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2017/18;
- A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2017/18;
- Why there has been no debt rescheduling undertaken during 2017/18;
- A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2017/18.

Options/Alternatives

In order that the Council complied with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management the Council had no option other to consider and approve the contents of the report.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Treasury Management activity for the first half of the financial year 2017/18 and the projected outturn position be approved.
2. The amendments to both Authorised and Operational Boundary for external debt as set out in the table at Section 2.4.5 of the report be approved.
3. The amendments to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as set out in table at section 2.4.5 of the report be approved.
4. The report be commended to Council for approval.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval for the Council to provide a shareholder loan to the Manchester Airport Group (MAG) along with other Greater Manchester Authority shareholders.

The loan would allow the Manchester Airport Group to support the transformation projects which would allow the business to continue to grow and enable future anticipated dividends to be paid.

The report set out investment proposals for MAG companies and the requirement for a shareholder loan which would secure

future business plan growth and the longer term sustainability of the business.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Not to agree the funding package.

Option 2 – To agree the funding package.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information contained at Item 16 of the agenda before making a decision.

13

**CHALLENGE FUND: A62 OLDHAM WAY - A669
MIDDLETON ROAD BRIDGE STRENGTHENING – TENDER
ACCEPTANCE REPORT**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval for the award of a civil engineering contract in excess of £400,000 to the contractor of choice for the A62 Oldham Way- A669 Middleton Road Bridge strengthening following a tender selection process.

The report provided details of the scheme, cost and tendering process.

Option /Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Agree to appoint the contractor of choice and enable a purchase order for the works value to be raised.

Option 2 - Do not appoint the contractor of choice. This would mean the funding available for Middleton Road Bridge strengthening scheme could not be utilised in the timescales the Department for Transport had set out.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information at Item 17 of the agenda before making a decision.

14

**DISPOSAL OF LAND AT FORMER BYRON STREET
SCHOOL AND FORMER POLICE STATION, CARDIGAN
STREET, ROYTON**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Economy and Skills which sought approval to accept an offer for the Land at former Byron Street School and former Police Station, Cardigan Street Royton following an 8 week tender exercise.

Options/Alternatives

Option 1 – Do Nothing.

Option 2 – Accept any of the offers submitted.

Option 3 – Accept the most economically advantageous offer.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information at Item 18 of the agenda before making a decision.

15

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs

3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.



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STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 12 – Strategic Investment.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The proposals set out in the report, and in particular the recommendations for financial support to the Manchester and Stanstead transformation and Stanstead transformation programme through the form of further shareholder loans;
2. The Transformation Programme outlined in the report is fully aligned to the strategic, economic and regeneration objectives for the City region be noted.
3. The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Legal Services be authorised to negotiate and finalise the detailed arrangements in respect of the shareholder loan and to progress the financial and legal work associated with it.
4. The increase in capital expenditure to finance the shareholder loan be approved and the Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and HR be authorised to finalise the financing arrangements at the time the local transaction is undertaken.
5. All other recommendations as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

17

CHALLENGE FUND: A62 OLDHAM WAY - A669 MIDDLETON ROAD BRIDGE STRENGTHENING – TENDER ACCEPTANCE REPORT

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 17 – Challenge Fund: A62 Oldham Way – A669 Middleton Road Bridge Strengthening – Tender Acceptance report.

RESOLVED – That the contract for the A62 Oldham Way – A669 Middleton Road Bridge Strengthening works, following the tender selection process, be awarded to the preferred bidder as detailed within the commercially sensitive report.

18

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT FORMER BYRON STREET SCHOOL AND FORMER POLICE STATION, CARDIGAN STREET, ROYTON

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 14 - Disposal of land at former Byron Street School and former Police Station, Cardigan Street, Royton.

RESOLVED – That the resolution as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.15pm



Present: Councillor Stretton (Chair)
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, Harrison, F Hussain and
Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors
Chadderton and Jabbar.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **GREATER MANCHESTER WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY
(GMWDA) LEVY ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY
AGREEMENT**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of
Economy and Skills which sought approval of a revised Levy
Apportionment Methodology in relation to Greater Manchester
Waste Disposal Authority.

The current arrangements for the disposal of household waste in
Greater Manchester (save for Wigan) were established in 2009
with the signing of the Recycling and Waste Management (PFI)
Contract (the PFI Contract) with Viridor Laing (Greater
Manchester) Limited (VLGM).

The Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA)
acquired VLGM (for £1) in October 2017. This would allow
existing arrangements to be formally terminated so as to
address issues that had arisen within the operation of the
Contract and to enable significant efficiency savings to be
released. The current IAA, which was signed by all Districts in
2009, would fall away with the termination of the PFI Contract
and it is therefore necessary to reconsider the Levy
apportionment within GM and for all Districts to approve and
enter into a revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement
(LAMA) which reflect the new arrangements. That Agreement
was designed to apply for 10 years, and would be applied in full
for the 2019/20 financial year onwards, with transitional
arrangements being proposed for the financial year 2018/19.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 - To approve the proposed revised LAMA and the
recommendations set out earlier in the report.

Option 2 - Not to approve the proposed revised IAA and request
some alternative arrangement be developed which would have
to be approved by all constituent districts.

Option 3 - Do nothing, in which case the statutory default scheme will take effect.



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RESOLVED – That:

1. Having considered the proposed revised methodology, the revised Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement be approved, being applied in full from 2019/20 with transitional arrangements in place during 2018/19.
2. Authority be delegated to the Director of Legal Services or his nominee to approve and/ or make any minor amendments to the final Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement, a current draft of which is appended, and to enter into and finalise the Agreement, the transitional arrangements, and any associated documentation relating thereto.
3. The report be commended to Council.

The meeting started at 5.00pm and finished at 5.03pm



Present: Councillor Jabbar (Chair)
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, Chadderton, Harrison,
F Hussain and Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stretton.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 20TH
NOVEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th
November 2017 be approved as a correct record.

6 **ROYTON DISTRICT CENTRE MASTER PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Economy
and Skills which sought support of the Royton Master Plan as a
visionary document to guide possible future investments in
Royton.

The report provided details of the preparation of the master plan
and the development of potential options for improvements and
investment in Royton District Centre.

The masterplan was detailed at appendix 1 to the report.

Options/alternatives

Option 1 – Not to endorse the masterplan and any future
investment in Royton would be on an ad-hoc basis.

Option2 – Approve the master plan as a visionary document to
provide guidance on potential future investment and
improvements.

RESOLVED – That the Royton Master Plan as detailed at
appendix 1 to the report ne endorsed as guidance on potential
future investment and improvements.

7 **BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT REVIEW**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Economy
and Skills which sought approval of the strengthening of the
Strategic Investment Team to improve business engagement
and create a competitive business support offer, to maximize
business growth and investment in the Borough.

The report provided details of a business investment review
undertaken in 2016 by Amion and the findings were used to
form the basis of the report and improve the Council's
understanding of how the local economy and business base
performed.

The review was carried out in line with local Greater Manchester policy context and developed within the context of the Oldham Strategic Investment Framework. The Amion report was attached at appendix 2 to the report. And the SIF was attached at appendix 3 to the report.

Options/alternatives

Option 1 - Do nothing – continue delivering the service through existing mechanisms at zero cost. Under this option it was likely that only 6% business support targets would be achieved resulting in 274 businesses being assisted and 256 new jobs being created over the next 2 years.

Option 2 - Restructure existing teams within the council and add capacity to the Strategic Investment Team through the transfer of expertise from other service areas. The cost of this was approx. £100,000. Under this option it was likely that only 10% business support targets will be achieved resulting in 402 businesses being assisted and 380 new jobs being created over the next 2 years.

Option 3 - Strengthen the function of the Strategic Investment Team through the recruitment of new staff and additional resources to improve engagement and strengthen the business support offer. This option required a one-off revenue investment and provision for a one-off capital allocation of £100,000 for a new grant programme (subject to business cases). Additionally, the requirement for a fixed term 2 year contract for the recruitment of an additional Investment Officer would be absorbed from vacancy savings identified in the current departmental restructure. Under this option it was projected that 16% business support targets would be achieved through an uplift in enquiries to 2,800 pa resulting in 593 businesses being assisted and 566 new jobs being created over the next 2 years which would have a greater impact on the economic impacts that we are looking to achieve.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The function of the Strategic Investment Team be strengthened through the recruitment of new staff and additional resources to improve engagement and strengthen the business support offer.
2. The total additional costs of £280,000 comprising of a one off capital allocation of £100,000 and the balance of revenue costs be approved.

8

OLDHAM OPPORTUNITY AREA

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Education and Early Years which sought approval for the receipt of section 31 grant funding to resource the Opportunity Area Programme, to agree that the grant payments would be ring-fenced locally to the Opportunity Area Programme and to note and endorse the recommended spending priorities identified in the Opportunity Area Plan.

Oldham, as one of twelve areas receiving a share of £72 million to boost opportunities for young people in the Borough and improving social mobility, was likely to receive in excess of £6.5 million of the funding.

In addition to this, as an Opportunity Area, Oldham would also receive a share of £22 million through a new Essential Life Skills Programme, which would be targeted toward helping disadvantaged young people to develop life skills such as resilience and employability. Oldham's share of this investment was likely to be in excess of £2.5 million.

Options/alternatives considered

Option 1 – Not to approve the recommendations within the report.

Option 2 – To approve the recommendations within the report.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The attached report be approved, the spending priorities be endorsed and targets identified in the Opportunity Area Plan be noted.
2. Authority to make all spending decisions relating to the Opportunity Area (including key decisions) be delegated to the Director of Education and Early Years, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education.
3. Authority to the Director of Education and Early years to award contracts stemming from a compliant procurement process and authority to the Director of Legal Services to sign/seal such contracts and any necessary incidental and/or ancillary documents.
4. Formal update reports be provided quarterly to the Cabinet Member for Education and that an annual report on progress and spending be provided to Cabinet and the Department of Education confirming the activity has taken place or has been funded.

9

SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA FOR 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval of a recommended approach to how the funding to schools and academies should be distributed for 2018/19.

The report provided a breakdown of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2018/19 and information about the National Funding Formula for schools and the key issues relating to the High Needs block for Oldham.

It also presented options including the preferred option for the distribution of DSG to schools and academies from 2018/19.

The DSG would be made up of 4 funding blocks from 2018/19:

- Schools
- High needs
- Early Years
- Central Schools Services (new block)

Each of the four blocks was determined by a separate National Funding Formula which calculated the funding that was due to Local Authorities.

The Schools block was ring-fenced for 2018/19 but Local Authorities would have had the ability to transfer up to 0.5% of Schools Block funding to another block following consultation will all maintained schools and academies and the approval of the Schools Forum.

It was proposed that Oldham utilised this option because of the pressures on High Needs budgets and the increase in the overall DSG budget and this had been agreed overwhelmingly by the Schools Forum.

An approach would be made to the Secretary of State for Education for approval to move another 0.5% of funding to the Higher Needs block as the current financial position of the DSG was forecast to be at significant deficit position at the end of 2017/18 and this was largely due to pressures on the Higher Needs block.

This, if agreed by the Secretary of State would result in 1% funding from the Schools Block to the Higher Needs block.

Options/alternatives considered

Option 1 – Passport the Schools National Funding Formula allocations calculated by the Education, Skills and Funding Agency using the national formula factors and rates.

Option 2 – Continue to use Oldham’s current formula with a minimum funding guarantee of 0 per cent and a cap on gains.

Option 3 – Continue to use Oldham’s formula and to move part way to the proposed national formula with a minimum funding guarantee of 0 per cent and a cap on gains.

Option 4 – Continue to use Oldham’s formula and move part way to the proposed national formula with a minimum funding guarantee of 0.5% and a cap on gains.

RESOLVED – That the distribution of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2018/19 would continue to use Oldham’s formula and to move part way to the proposed national formula with a minimum funding guarantee of 0 per cent and a cap on gains with a 0.5% voluntary transfer between the Schools and High Needs block and a further 0.5% transfer between the Schools and High Needs block subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for Education.

10

COUNCIL TAX BASE AND NON-DOMESTIC RATES TAX BASE FORECAST 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance which presented the Cabinet with the Council Tax and provisional Non-Domestic (NDR) Tax Bases for 2018/19 for use in budget deliberations and sought delegated authority in determining the final Non-Domestic Rates (Business Rate) tax base figures.

It was reported that after applying adjustments for the Local Council Tax Support scheme and to reflect charges to empty properties and an anticipated increase in the number of properties to be included in the valuation list over the year, the number of band D equivalent properties reduced to 57,387.6.

The final Council Tax base after the application of the anticipated collection rate of 97% was 55,666 which was an increase of 761 over the Council Tax base for 2017/18. The 2018/19 Tax bases for Saddleworth Parish Council of 8,529 and for Shaw and Crompton Parish Council of 5,363 had been calculated on the same basis.

It was further reported that under the current government finance system, local billing authorities were required to prepare and submit to the Department of Communities and Local

Government (DCLG) a locally determined and approved Business Rates forecast through the National Non-Domestic Rates 1 return by January 31 each year. This forecast was to be used to determine the 2018/19 “demand” and payment schedule for Business Rates between the Oldham Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. Being a participant in Greater Manchester 100% Rates Retention Pilot scheme meant the Council no longer payed a share of Business Rates to Central Government. Instead the Council retained 99% of the income with 1% being paid to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority for Fire and Rescue Services.

The estimated rating income for 2018/19 attributable to Oldham Council was £51.698m. Delegation was being sought from Cabinet to enable the business rate forecast to be updated to take account of the Local Government Finance Settlement and up to date Non-Domestic Rates information to be submitted to Central Government by 31st January 2018 via the annual NNDR 1 return.

The report also requested approval (subject to the notification of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement) for the continuation of the pooled Business Rates revenues with the other Greater Manchester Districts.

Options/Alternatives

The Council had little discretion in the calculation of the number of properties incorporated into the Council Tax base given the legislative framework. There is however some discretion over estimating the number of new properties that could be included on the Council Tax register during 2018/19. A prudent view had been taken in this regard. The main area for an alternative approach was over the level of assumed collection rate. An increase in the collection rate would boost anticipated Council Tax income and a decrease in the rate would decrease income. The Council has chosen to increase its collection rates by 0.11% to 97%.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Council Tax Base for 2018/19 at 55,666 Band D equivalent properties be approved.
2. The latest estimated Business Rates revenue that was attributable to Oldham Council as being £51.689m be approved.
3. The decision to vary the final Business Rates forecast and hence the Business Rates Tax Base, if required, be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Finance and HR in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate and Commercial Services and the Director of Finance.
4. The Tax Bases for Saddleworth and Shaw and Crompton Parish Councils of 8,529 and 5,363 respectively be noted.
5. The final decision of the Council’s membership of the proposed Greater Manchester, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester Council’s Business Rates Pool for 2018/19 (subject to information contained in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement) be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Finance and HR in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate and Commercial Services and the Director of Finance.

REVENUE MONITOR AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2017/18 QUARTER 2 - SEPTEMBER 2017

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance which provided Cabinet with an update on the Council's 2017/18 forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the Capital Programme as at 30th September 2017, together with the revised capital programme of 2017/21, as outlined in section 2 of the report at Annex 2.

The current forecast outturn position for 2017/18 was a projected favourable variance of £0.149m after allowing for approved and pending transfers to and from reserves.

The key issues to note were that two portfolios which presented the most significant areas of concern, Health and Wellbeing and Economy and Skills and Neighbourhoods and an update on the issues driving those projections were detailed within the report at Annex 1.

The original Capital Programme for 2017/18 totalled £69.783m, the revised capital programme as at quarter 2 taking into account approved carry forwards, approved new schemes and variations and proposed variations gave projected revised expenditure of £41.00m.

It was noted that the forecast position would change significantly before the years end with additional re-profiling to future years.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – To approve forecast revenue and capital positions presented in the report including proposed changes.

Options 2 – To approve some of the forecasts and changes included within the report

Options 3 – Not to approve any of the forecasts and changes included in the report.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The forecast revenue outturn for 2017/18 at Quarter 1 being a £0.149m under spend.
2. The forecast positions for both the HRA and Collection Fund be approved.
3. The use of reserves as detailed in Appendix 1 to Annex 1 of the report be approved.
4. The revised capital programme for 2017/2021 as at Quarter 1 be approved.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND FUND

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval of a Commercial Property Investment Strategy (CPIS) and the establishment of a fund to facilitate development in a robust property portfolio in order to generate a sustainable future income stream to support the Council's mainstream service delivery.

The report provided details of the proposal to develop a CPIS and the subsequent investment fund that would present an opportunity to reduce the budget pressure by increasing the revenue income stream to the Council by way of rental income from new property assets. The return from investments would contribute to the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy in

that income from revenue streams would be reinvested into supporting the economy of the Borough and the provision of Council services.

Options/alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do not agree the strategy. This would not maximize the potential of additional revenue generation for the Council.

Options 2 – Agree the strategy and the establishment of a fund.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information contained at Item 17 of the agenda before making a decision.

13

APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR DELIVERY OF OLDHAM'S INTEGRATED SUPPORT SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to extend the contract for delivery of Oldham's Integrated Support Services for young people

The proposed extension was for one year, 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 at a reduced contract value in line with agreed proposed budget savings.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Extend the current commissioning arrangements.

Option 2 – End the current contract with no replacement or arrangements beyond 1st April 2017.

Option 3 – Re-tender exercise. This option would be untenable as there was insufficient time to carry out a complete and fair procurement process.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information detailed at Item 18 of the agenda before making a decision.

14

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ACRE LANE, DERKER

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Economy and Skills which sought approval to disposal of a long leasehold interest in an area of land at Acre Lane Derker to First Choice Homes Oldham on the basis of a direct disposal.

First Choice Homes planned to develop a total of 51 homes for 'Rent to Buy' that would be for working families who could not afford a deposit and to give the opportunity to rent the home at 80% of the market rent, enabling the family to save for a deposit to purchase their home.

Options/alternatives

Option 1 – Dispose of land along with the other vacant sites in Derker.

Option 1 – Dispose of land on the open market.

Option 3 – Dispose of the land to First Choice Homes to enable the delivery of 51 homes.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information at Item 19 of the agenda before making a decision.

15

COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT SEPTEMBER 2017

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Head of Business Intelligence which provided a review of Council performance for September 2017.

The report provided the Cabinet with an overview of the Council's performance against priorities outlined within the Corporate Plan, which had been monitored in the period July to September 2017.

It was reported that of the rated measures detailed within the report 64% had met the target and 88% of the Corporate Plan Actions for this month were on track or had been met.

Options/Alternatives considered

To note the Council performance July to September 2017.

RESOLVED – That the Council Performance Report September 2017 be noted.

16 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

17 **COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND FUND**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in to Item 12 – Commercial Property Investment Strategy and Fund.

RESOLVED – That recommendations 1-9 as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

18 **APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE CONTRACT FOR DELIVERY OF OLDHAM'S INTEGRATED SUPPORT SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in to Item 13 – Approval to extend the contract for delivery of Oldham's Integrated Support Services for Young People.

RESOLVED – That:

1. That approval be given to extend the contract for the delivery of Targeted Youth Services for Oldham's young people with the current provider for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.
2. Authority be given to the Director of Legal Services seal the deed of variation to the existing contract.

19 **DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ACRE LANE**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in to Item 14 – Disposal of Land at Acre Lane.

RESOLVED – That the recommendations as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.27pm



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Present: Councillor Stretton (Chair)
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, F Hussain, Jabbar and Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chadderton and Harrison.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 18TH DECEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 18th December 2017 be approved.

6 **KINGFISHER SCHOOL EXPANSION OF PAN AND HYDRO POOL REPLACEMENT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Education and Early Years which sought approval of a proposed classroom expansion and new hydro pool provision at Kingfisher Academy. It was reported that Kingfisher academy had provided outstanding provision for children with special educational needs for many years and there continued to be an increase in demand for places in the special school sector.

Kingfisher was now over the planned commissioned numbers of 160 with 177 pupils on roll, all with complex and severe needs. The pool at the school was over 40 years old and had significant limitations and was often out of action due to maintenance issues.

The Council had already committed £750,000 to a new hydro pool and this had been match funded by a local donor. The school had also managed to raise £100,000 towards the project. This left a shortfall of £250,000. A further contribution of £750,000 would enable both the provision of a new pool and the provision of two extra classrooms.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do nothing – This will mean that valuable access to additional provision and new enhanced hydrotherapy would be lost.

Option 2 - Approve the funding of £750,000 from the Basic Need Grant to enable the expansion of Kingfisher and the provision of a new Hydro pool.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The proposed classroom expansion and the new hydro pool provision be agreed.
2. The £500,000 cost of the additional classrooms and £250,000 cost of the hydro pool via the Basic Need Grant be approved.
3. In accordance with the agreed schools expansion programme, authority be delegated to the Director of Education and Early Years in conjunction with the Director of Legal Services, to procure and arrange the necessary works and subsequent contracts and documentation required for the additional classrooms and replacement Hydro Pool project.

7

HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval for all tender award decisions, including those of value over £400,000, in the Highways Improvement Programme to be delegated to the Cabinet for Environmental Services and the Executive Director Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods. The Highways Improvement Programme was agreed at Cabinet in November 2017 with a value of £6.428m. The report and approved list of schemes was appended to this report. In order to meet delivery timescales on the programme, approval was sought for all tender award decisions including those with a value of £400,000, be delegated to the relevant Cabinet Member and Executive Director.

Options/ Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Members agree that all tender award decisions, including those with a value of over £400,000, in the Highways Improvement Programme be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and the Executive Director for Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods. This would shorten delivery timescales and allow the improvement programme to be delivered within agreed timescales.

Option 2 – Members do not agree to the delegation and all tender awards are submitted to Cabinet, possibly causing delay.

RESOLVED – That:

1. An exemption to the Council's Contract Procedure rule 14 be agreed to enable to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and the Executive Director for Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods to award tender decisions with a value of £400,000 and above in relation to the Highways improvement Programme 2017/18, 2018/19.
2. Authority be given to the Director of Legal Services to execute all contracts and any incidental and ancillary documentation in relation to the Highways Improvement Programme/schemes.

8

EARLY HELP POSITIVE STEPS CONTRACT EXTENSION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to extend the

contract with Positive Steps for Early Help, for one year at a cost of £1.9m ending on 31st March 2019.

The Early Help service was established nearly three years ago and was a service which grew out of the Council's involvement with national Troubled Families programme.

The service was formed from a range of 20 existing services and was tasked with engaging residents in resolving their own issues, supporting them to understand the root cause of their issues, supporting them to resolve those issues and helping residents to learn strategies which would help prevent the reoccurrence of issues.

During 2016/17 Early Help worked with 4932 households, across a wide range of ages and achieved positive outcomes across a range of issues as detailed within the report.

In order to maintain service continuity and to undertake a piece of work to look at the long term future of Early Help, Cabinet were asked to extend the contract for a year.

Options/Alternatives

Option 1 – Extend the Positive Steps contract for a further 12 months at the existing price of £1.9m.

Option 2 – Re tender the external contract.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 11 of the agenda.

9

CONTRACT EXTENSION REQUEST: PROVISION OF STAIRLIFTS, CEILING TRACK HOISTS AND VERTICAL AND STEP LIFTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to extend a contract for the provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts to domestic properties for residents with disabilities.

The original contract was awarded following a tender process in 2014 led by Oldham Council to provide provision for Oldham and Tameside Boroughs. The contract commenced on 2nd February 2015 and was due to expire on 1st February 2018. The contract provided an option for a final year extension and approval was sought from Cabinet to utilise the option to extend the contract.

It was reported that if the contract extension was approved, the intention would be to review the specification and to jointly procure with Tameside again during the final year of the contract, possibly with additional Greater Manchester authorities' involvement.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Allow the contract to expire at the current end date. This was not the preferred option as the Council had a statutory duty to approve eligible application and the provision must therefore be available.

Option 2 – Re-tender the service. This was not the preferred option as the current provision had achieved efficiency savings and delivered social value benefits, met the required quality

standards and key performance indicators and for the final year would be more efficient in some areas of work.

Option 3 - That the contract for the provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts be extended for a further year until 1st February 2019. That rates be uplifted by 3.2% during the extension period. This was the preferred option as:

- this would enable service continuity whilst both authorities collaborate to procure a new contract to be in place at the end of the 12 month extension;
- the three suppliers had indicated that they would be willing to continue for a further 12 months with the application of a 3.2% uplift during the extension period.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information detailed at Item 12 of the agenda.

10 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

11 **EARLY HELP POSITIVE STEPS CONTRACT EXTENSION**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 8 of the agenda – Early Help Positive Steps Contract Extension.

RESOLVED – That the extension to the Positive steps contract for Early Help for one year to 31st March 2019 be approved at a cost of £1.9m.

12 **CONTRACT EXTENSION REQUEST: PROVISION OF STAIRLIFTS, CEILING TRACK HOISTS AND VERTICAL AND STEP LIFTS**

Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 9 – Contract Extension Request: provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts.

RESOLVED – That the contract for the provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts be extended for a further year until 1st February 2019 including a rate uplift of 3.2% during the extension period.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.06pm



HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD
19/09/2017 at 2.00 pm

Present: Councillor
Councillors Harrison, Moores and Price

Dr Zuber Ahmed	Oldham CCG
Jon Aspinall	Manchester Fire
Michelle Bradshaw	Bridgewater Trust
Julie Daines	CCG
Neil Evans	Chief Superintendent, Greater Manchester Police
Kirsty Fisher	Healthwatch Oldham
Alan Higgins	Director of Public Health
Maggie Kufeldt	Executive Director - Health and Wellbeing
Mark Warren	Director, Adult Social Care
Liz Windsor-Welsh	Voluntary Action Oldham

Also in Attendance:
Oliver Collins Principal Policy Officer
Lori Hughes Constitutional Services

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dearden, Councillor Chauhan, Ian Wilkinson, Stuart Lockwood, Keith Jeffery, Karen Slade, Teresa McDermid, Cath Green, Daniel Lythgoe and Dennis Gizzi.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, Dr. Zuber Ahmed was elected Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Dr. Zuber Ahmed declared a personal and prejudicial interest at Item 14 and did not participate in the discussion of the item thereon.

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following public question was received from Mr. J. Allen:

“After looking at NHS England news on the 6th September 2017, two items caught my attention, one on ‘We couldn’t see a NHS dentist so we pulled our own teeth’ (BBC News) and ‘Patients having to pull out their own teeth because of NHS dentist (Independent).

Could the Health and Wellbeing Board check into the validity of these two items and also, I would like to ask:

1. What are the NHS Dentists position on this matter and what is being done to rectify this serious point of patients pulling out their own teeth because they could not see an NHS Dentist.

2. How can patients be advised on how dangerous that may be.
3. What are the CCG's views on this, for patients who cannot get on the books of a regular dentist and need to use an NHS Dentist.
4. What about low income families etc. who cannot afford to see a dentist due to the cost that occurs, also they have to use NHS Dentists.

I would like this to be looked into and the four points I have raised will be fetched up at the September Health and Wellbeing Board meeting.”

The following responses were provided:

“1 & 2. Access to NHS Dentists in Oldham compares favourably with access across the rest of Greater Manchester and the national benchmark.

	Oldham	Greater Manchester	England
GPPS: Successful in getting an appointment	93.5%	93.7%	94.7%
GPPS: Successful in getting an appointment when new to a practice	74.0%	73.7%	76.4%
GPPS: % Positive Experience	85.1%	85.4%	85.3%
Patient seen as % of population	62.0%	61.6%	55.4%
% change Annual in patient seen	0.52%	-0.77%	0.54%

As with all aspects of healthcare, we would advise seeing an appropriate healthcare professional.

Specifically for dental problems, if a patient is unable to access NHS dental services, there is an NHS Urgent and Unscheduled Dental care service. They will offer advice and if deemed suitable an appointment to see a dentist. The Oldham Emergency Dental Service provides urgent treatment to people who are unable to access a dentist. These services are available for both in-hours and out-of-hours.

This is not a drop-in service. The service operates through an appointment system but will always try to be flexible and where possible accommodate requests outside of the booking process. Appointments are allocated on a daily basis. Patients are advised to contact their local centre at the earliest opportunity on the day they require treatment.

Treatment is for urgent complaints only and is provided under NHS Regulations.

Address: Integrated Care Centre, Dental Department
New Radcliffe Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

In Hours (Mon-Fri 9am–5 pm) Tel: 0161 621 3613

Out of Hours (Mon-Fri 6pm-10pm and Sat/Sun 10am-10pm)

Tel: 0161 336 3252

A3. The arrangements presented above are in place to support any patient requiring NHS dental care to be able to access services.

A4. You do not have to pay for NHS dental treatment if, when your treatment starts, you are:

- Under 18

- Under 19 and in full-time education
- Pregnant or you've had a baby within the 12 months before treatment starts
- Staying in an NHS and the hospital dentist carries out your treatment
- An NHS Hospital Dental Service outpatient (although you may have to pay for your dentures or bridges)

You can also get free NHS dental treatment if, when the treatment starts or when you are asked to pay:

- You are included in an award of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Pension Credit guarantee credit or Universal Credit (check entitlement after October 31, 2015)
- You are named on, or entitled to, a valid NHS tax credit exemption certificate
- You are named on a valid HC2 certificate.

If you are named on a valid HC3 certificate, you may not have to pay for all your NHS dental treatment. HC2 and HC3 certificates are issued under the NHS Low Income Scheme.

If you receive any of the following benefits you will not be exempt from paying for NHS dental treatment unless you also fall under one of the categories listed above:

- Incapacity Benefit
- Contribution-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Pension Credit Savings Credit

NHS Low Income Scheme

The NHS Low Income Scheme provides financial help to people not exempt from charges, but who may be entitled to full or partial help with healthcare costs if they have a low income. Anyone can apply as long as they don't have savings or investments over the capital limit. In England, the capital limit is £16,000 (or £23,250 if you live permanently in a care home). Help is based on a comparison between your weekly income and assessed requirements at the time the claim is made. Entitlement broadly follows Income Support rules to decide how much, if anything, you have to pay towards your healthcare costs, including dental treatment.

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) website has more information about the NHS Low Income Scheme, including how to apply.

RESOLVED that the question and response be noted.

5 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 27th June 2017 be approved as a correct record.

6 **MINUTES OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the minutes from the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on 28th March 2017 be noted.

7

JSNA MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) Sub-Group meeting held on 29th August 2017 be noted.

8

ACTION LOG

The Dementia Angels Scheme and ongoing discussions on the roll out of the scheme was outlined to the Board.

The Board were informed that an evaluation report on the MH:2K would be brought back to a future meeting. The pilot scheme for young people in Oldham had been successful. The scheme had been recognised as being successful and was being rolled out in other areas.

RESOLVED that the Action Log from the meeting held on 27th June 2017 be noted.

9

MEETING OVERVIEW

RESOLVED that the meeting overview for the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 19th September 2017 be noted.

10

GM HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP

The Board gave consideration to a report which provided an update on items which had been discussed at the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership. The items were GM Transformation Fund update, Population Health Plan and the Partnership's decision on Oldham's Transformation Fund bid.

The report provided an update on recent developments of the Transformation Fund as well as the findings and recommendations of the evaluation of the proposals from Healthier Together and Oldham. The proposals had been considered by the Transformation Fund Oversight Group (TFOG) and the Strategic Partnership Board Executive. Oldham's proposals was a central part of their plans to increase the pace and scale of delivery of the Locality Plan which would close the forecasted financial gap. The proposal supported people to be more in control of their lives, a system geared towards wellbeing and prevention of ill health, provided access to health services at home and in the community and provided social care that worked with health and voluntary services which supported people to look after themselves and each other.

The Board were informed that an investment agreement had been signed for the total of £21.5m which was to be spent on priority projects. The bid from Oldham had been very well received and recognised the work, aspirations and ambition from Oldham along with the confidence and assurance to delivery. It was expected that the funding would be released with a formal signing to be scheduled.

The Board were informed of projects within the Population Health Plan and its own submission to the Transformation Fund, which included oral health which was a big issue in Oldham. The Board would be kept updated at future meetings.

The Chair and Board Members thanked officers for their hard work on behalf of Oldham and congratulated them on the success of the bid.

RESOLVED that:

1. The update on the GM Health and Social Care Partnership which included the GM Transformation Fund Update, Population Health Plan and the decision on Oldham's Transformation Fund bid be noted.
2. The implications and actions as outlined in the GM Health and Social Care Partnership report be noted.
3. The thanks of the Chairman and members to officers for the hard work on the Transformation Fund bid be recorded.

11

A&E PRIMARY CARE STREAMING AND ASSOCIATED CHANGES TO URGENT PRIMARY CARE

The Board gave consideration to a report which outlined the joint approach of the Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Oldham Council and partners' approach on the development of Primary Care Urgent Treatment Services in Oldham. The report also outlined the approach, model and service specification.

The aim of the approach was to:

1. Improve the health of the people of Oldham
2. Improve the care they receive and their experience of it
3. Deliver the best value for money by using our resources effectively

The report detailed the vision for primary care led urgent care, proposed changes, issues and the relationship with the Oldham Locality Plan.

Oldham was facing increased levels of accident and emergency attendances and increased non-elective admissions. This presented rising pressures in the system. Proposed changes to primary care provision would be made up of:

- Urgent Treatment Service Primary Care Cluster Hubs;
- A&E Front End Primary Care Streaming
- Ambulatory Care Unit

The change required a potential shift in services currently provided at the Walk In Service. The CCG had entered into a pre-consultation exercise on the proposed changes. Options were being developed and consultation was scheduled to commence in October. This was a positive change to the

provision of urgent care. A service specification had been drafted in line with national principles and standards.



The current system could not sustain the pressures within urgent care. Patients were not receiving the right care in the right place at the right time. The proposed changes made the best use of NHS resources whilst maintaining access to A&E for the most critically ill patients. The proposed changes required public consultation and provider engagement to ensure the right model was in place for Oldham.

The Urgent Treatment Service linked with the Oldham Locality Plan as it:

- Supported people to be more in control of their lives;
- Contributed towards a health and social care system that was geared towards wellbeing and the prevention of ill health;
- Provided access to health services at home and in the community;
- Provided social care that worked with health and voluntary services to support people to look after themselves and each other.

The Board were informed of the current and future provision, work towards co-ordinated access and a seamless approach. The Board were informed of the pressures of the A&E Unit.

The members were informed of the statutory duty to consult on service changes. Consultation would start on 9 October 2017 and finish on 5 December 2017 and would include street surveying and presentations to a wide range of community groups. The Board were informed on inputs from the Citizens' Jury and a public survey. A concern was raised related to the quality of advice.

The Board sought and received clarification on a standardised offer across Oldham. The Board were informed that GP clusters had been part of the development. The clusters were not all in place and at different stages.

The Board asked about the prevention of individuals going to A&E and encouragement to access services closer to home. This was still open to debate with the clusters on managing demand in the safest way.

The Board emphasised that standard service across the hubs was important and changes would need to be publicised. The Board asked if a communications plan was being developed. The Board were informed that a requirement for communications would be picked up and would evolve from the consultation.

The Board commented on the timeline and were informed of the discussions which were ongoing.

The outcomes of the consultation would be brought back to a future meeting. This was an integrated approach between the CCG and the Council.

RESOLVED that:

1. The changes to Urgent Care in Oldham and work in partnership to implement the changes to urgent care be approved.
2. The outcome of the public consultation be brought back to a future meeting.

12

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MOTION

The Board gave consideration to a report which outlined a motion agreed at the Full Council meeting in July 2017 related to Domestic Abuse. The Health and Wellbeing Board and the Domestic Violence Partnership were asked to contact local GPs to ask them to make a commitment not to charge victims for letters until such time as this requirement is scrapped.

The Board were informed of changes to legal aid funding and charges which had been levied. The Board were informed that at Greater Manchester level the campaign to scrap the process rather than scrap the fee was being supported and being taken forward by the Greater Manchester Mayor's office. There was no power to enforce the scrap of fees, this was down to individual practices.

The Board sought and received clarification the Safeguarding Boards were in support. The Board discussed the resolution of the motion and the further point of scrapping the process. It was agreed to write to GPs as resolved in the motion and have a further discussion on scrapping the process at a future meeting as well as scrapping of other fees GPs may charge.

RESOLVED that:

1. Local GPs be written to and be asked to make a commitment not to charge for letters for victims of domestic violence until such time as the requirement was scrapped.
2. A report be brought back to a future meeting on the scrapping the process campaign.

13

IMPROVED BETTER CARE FUND

The Board gave consideration to a report which outlined the background, context and rationale for the changes to the Better Care Funds that were being proposed in Oldham. The report also outlined the approach to be taken to detailed the approach taken to deliver the change, provided an overview of the proposals for the planned use of the moneys and how this related to the introduction of integrated services in the five geographic clusters and provided an outline of the proposed new ways commissioners and providers would operate within

the borough and how it was proposed the money would be used to support the conditions.



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The Spring Budget of 2017 announced £2 billion would be made available to Adult Social Care over a three year period. In Oldham, this equated to the availability of £9.82m over a three year period. The report outlined two separate but linked budget streams that required both CCG and Oldham Council joint agreement for use. The funding came with conditions and approvals as set out by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). The conditions for use needed to be evidenced as outlined in the report.

The report outlined the proposed investments which were as follows:

- Any 2016/17 over spending not supported by available 2017/18 resources (not required based on the 2016/17 outturn) be addressed.
- A commitment be made for permanent Social Care resources currently funded via the Non Recurrent BCF 3 programme and to be reinforced with a revised staffing structure which required a commitment of approximately £1.8 million per year.
- The increased cost of funding for short term care directly from Hospital and in the region of £950K per annum be supported.
- Commission support to the health and social care market of approximately £500K in 2017/18 increasing to £600K in 2018/19 and 2019/20.
- Commission support to the NHS of approximately £1.637m across all three years. This was particularly aimed to support timely discharges from the hospital.

The funding provided an opportunity for Adult Social Care in Oldham to strengthen the fragile infrastructure and provided a strong springboard from which to launch Adult Social Care within the new integrated structure.

The Board were informed of national conditions linked to the funding which had to be evidenced and returned to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) every 12 weeks by the Council's S.151 Officer who was the Director of Finance. The Board were informed that one formal return had been made which set out the proposals for expenditure.

The Board sought clarification on broader partners being involved in the design and any opportunity for alternative views. The Board were informed that providers had been consulted earlier in the year and asked how the funding should be spent. The main issue was paying providers quickly. Providers not getting paid was having an impact. The remainder of iBCF funding would be allocated to relevant schemes through agreement with NHS colleagues.

Options/Alternatives Considered

Option 1 – To use the Spring Budget without linking to the original iBCF allocation.

Option 2 – Use both elements of the improved Better Care Fund together.



RESOLVED that:

1. The spending plans for the improved Better Care Fund as outlined at Option 2 of the report be approved for the three year period up to 31st March 2020.
2. The Section 151 Officer be empowered to review and amend the spend to adapt to changing circumstances through the period within the conditions of spend set out by the DCLG.
3. Allocation of uncommitted monies be enabled taking into account shortfalls in budget allocations and in agreement with the Oldham NHS CCG within the conditions of spend set out by the DCLG.
4. The start of a consultation with Adult Social Care practitioners in order to reconfigure the service be approved.

14

PHARMACY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Board gave consideration to a report which outlined the responsibilities of the Health and Wellbeing Board related to the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). The Health and Wellbeing Board had a statutory responsibility to publish and update a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services for the population in its area. The PNA aimed to identify whether current pharmaceutical service met the needs of the population and whether there were any gaps to service delivery.

The PNA may be used by the Clinical Commission Group and the Council on the current provision and by NHS England in its determination of approval of applications to join the pharmaceutical list.

In respect of the PNA, the Health and Wellbeing Board must:

- Produce an updated PNA which complied with the regulatory requirements;
- Publish a second PNA by 1st April 2018;
- Publish subsequent PNA on a three yearly basis;
- Publish a subsequent PNA sooner when it identified changes to the need for pharmaceutical services which were of a significant extent; unless there would be a disproportionate response to those changes; and
- Produce supplementary statements in certain circumstances.

The scope of the PNA was outlined in the report which included the minimum requirements for the PNA Schedule 1 of the NHS 2013 Regulations.



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The PNA described the needs of the population across the six districts in the Health and Wellbeing areas. Consideration had been given to the location, number, distribution and choice of pharmacies across each district. Based on the information available at the time of the development of the PNA:

- No current gaps in the need for the provision of essential services during normal working hours had been identified.
- No current gaps in the provision of essential services outside normal working hours had been identified.
- No current gaps in the provision of advanced and enhanced services had been identified.
- No gaps in the need for pharmaceutical services in specified future circumstances had been identified.
- No gaps had been identified in essential services that if provided either now or in the future would secure improvements or better access to, essential services.
- No gaps had been identified in the need for advanced services that if provided either now or in the future, would secure improvements or better access to, advanced services.
- No gaps in respect of securing improvements, or better access, to other NHS services either now or in specified future circumstances had been identified.

The Board sought and received clarification that each Health and Wellbeing Board were doing their own consultation. It was confirmed that each board went through a similar process and was not specific to Oldham.

RESOLVED that the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2018 – 2021 Pre-Consultation Draft be agreed.

15

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the date and time of the next Health and Wellbeing Board would be a development session to be held on 24th October 2017 at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.53 pm

HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD
12/12/2017 at 2.00 pm



Present: Councillors Harrison, Moores and Price

Also in Attendance:

Oliver Collins	Principal Policy Officer, Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council, OMBC
Jon Aspinall	Manchester Fire and Rescue Services
Chief Supt. Neil Evans	Greater Manchester Police
Dan Lythgoe	Pennine Care Foundation Trust
Dave Smith	First Choice Homes Oldham
Alan Higgins	Director of Public Health, OMBC
Dr. Keith Jeffery	Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
Stuart Lockwood	Oldham Community Leisure
Noreen Dowd	Oldham CCG
Dr. Ian Wilkinson	Oldham CCG
Liz Windsor-Welsh	Voluntary Action Oldham
Julie Daines	Oldham CCG
Donna McLaughlin	Oldham Care Organisation
Nicola Firth	Oldham Care Organisation
Fabiola Fuschi	Constitutional Services Officer, OMBC

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chauhan and Dearden, Maggie Kufeldt, Jill Beaumont, Carolyn Wilkins, Becky Sutcliffe, Mark Warren.

In the absence of Councillor Dearden, Dr. Ian Wilkinson chaired the meeting.

The Board Members were informed of the retirement of Cath Green, Chief Executive for First Choice Homes Oldham. Cath sent her thanks to the Health and Wellbeing Board for its support throughout the years and praised its work and achievements. Members of the Board asked for their thanks and best wishes to be passed to Cath.

2 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions received.

5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held on 19th September 2017 be approved as a correct record.



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6 **MINUTES OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee meetings held on 4th July 2017 and 26th September 2017 be noted.

7 **JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA) SUB-GROUP MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessments sub-group meeting held on 23rd November 2017 be noted.

8 **ACTION LOG**

RESOLVED that the Action Log for the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting held in September 2017 be noted.

9 **MEETING OVERVIEW**

RESOLVED that the meeting overview be noted.

10 **PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT**

Consideration was given to the Public Health Annual report written by the Director of Public Health who attended the meeting to present the information and address the enquiries of the Committee.

The report offered a picture of Oldham's population, where they lived and what they did in terms of employment. The information had been gathered from available statistics mainly published by Oldham Council in the last five years. It included a breakdown of the population by age, ethnicity, information about what residents thought about living in Oldham, about volunteering, about the major employers, transport and housing. The report looked at the health and wellbeing profile of Oldham as product of the interaction of these wide range of factors.

Members sought and received clarification / commented on the following points:

- Partnership work and continuity of focus and action following the publication of the report – Reassurance was given on the fact that the imminent changes in Public Health leadership would not affect the work undertaken with Council's partners to improve the health and wellbeing of Oldham's residents.

The Board commended the report and congratulated its author and the rest of the team who worked on it. It was acknowledged that the user friendly language of the document made it not just a statutory requirement, but a working tool which residents and professionals could continue to refer to when engaging in discussions and actions about health and wellbeing in Oldham.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Health and Wellbeing Board receive the Public Health Annual report;
2. The recommendations of the report be incorporated into all future work programmes.

11

MH:2K & SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN OLDHAM

Consideration was given to a presentation on the MH:2K programme and the wider Mental Health service offer for children in school at Oldham.

The Youth Services Manager, the Public Health Specialist and the representative of the MH:2K young people reference group attended the meeting to present the information and address the enquiries of the Board Members.

It was explained that MH:2K was a pilot project that had been delivered in Oldham from September 2016 until June 2017 to enable young people to explore mental health issues and influence decision-making in their local area.

Twenty young people had been recruited to become the first MH:2K Citizen Researchers. Five key priorities had been selected to be addressed through the pilot: Self-harm, Stigma, Professional Practice, Family and Relationships, the Environment and Culture and Education.

The team had delivered roadshow events to schools, colleges and community groups across Oldham. The findings had been compiled in a report with clear recommendations. Following publication of the report, the Children and Young People Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Partnership had led on a mapping exercise to collate what work had already been undertaken in Oldham that contributed to the recommendations as well as capturing any emerging actions as a direct result of the MH:2K work. The information had been collated into a developing action plan.

The Board was informed of the key actions carried out by the young people who took part in the pilot; this included involvement with the National MH:2K advisory panel in supporting other authorities in developing MH:2K in their areas.

The Challenges and the opportunities associated to the outcome of the pilot were outlined. Amongst these, the prospect to link the implementation of the action plan with the developing work concerning the Government Green Paper – Transforming Children and Young People’s Mental Health Provision – that set out the ambition that children and young people who need help with their mental health would be able to get it when they need it. Oldham was one of the Opportunity Areas Programme to help local children get the best start in life and access high quality education and to promote social mobility.

The Board was also informed of The Whole School and College Approach to Emotional Health and Mental Wellbeing. This scheme was part of the Opportunity Areas Programme to support schools to tackle mental health issues as soon as they became evident. Several schools and organisations in Oldham were involved with this project.

Members sought and received clarification / commented on the following points:

- Risk factors associated with the programme – reassurance was given that a risk analysis had been carried out and measures would be put in place to maintain a safe environment for children and young people.
- The combined projects represented an opportunity for the Mental Health Strategy to reach outside the social care system.

RESOLVED that:

1. The recommendations from the MH:2K developing action plan and the support implementation of these, as outlined in the report, be noted;
2. The ongoing work to support schools and colleges to implement the emotional health and mental wellbeing framework be noted.

12

ROYAL OLDHAM HOSPITAL

Consideration was given to a presentation of the Oldham Care Organisation Management Team on the work of the Northern Care Alliance. The presentation included the outline of the action plan for the Pennine Acute Hospitals, following the results of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in 2016.

The Oldham Care Organisation Management Team was in attendance to present the information and address the enquiries of the Board.

It was explained that the Northern Care Alliance was the largest healthcare organisation across Greater Manchester and the North West, with 17,000 members of staff operating across five hospitals and serving a population of 1 million people.

The benefits of the group were outlined such as delivering services that were:

- Evidence based and of the highest quality;
- Highly reliable – high quality whatever the day of the week or hour of the day;
- At scale - creating benefits for people through standardisation of best practice;
- Trusted - providing safe, effective and compassionate services;
- Connected – delivering what matters most to people and communities.

The Board was informed of the Alliance's priorities. These were:

- Pursue Quality Improvement to assure safe, reliable and compassionate care;
- Deliver mandatory standards;
- Support staff to deliver high performance and improvement;
- Improve care and services through integration and collaboration;
- Deliver financial plan to assure sustainability;
- Implement enabling strategies.

With regards to the Pennine Improvement Plan, it was explained that an investment of £17.5m had been put in place to support the improvement journey. The main components of the Clinical Services Strategy were outlined; they aimed to improve quality of care, address the CQC findings, support the wider Greater Manchester devolution agenda, meet future population needs, deliver seven day services standards and provision, deliver the Healthier Together standards and support the creation of a Single Hospital Service for the city of Manchester. The Board was also informed of the distribution of services across Royal Oldham, North Manchester, Fairfield General and Rochdale Infirmary.

Members sought and received clarification / commented on the following points:

- Meaning of “Northern” alliance – it was explained that the term referred to a large care organisation comprising of Salford Royal Hospital and the Pennine Acute Hospitals. A Group “Committees in Common” was in place to operate the new alliance. The two hospital trusts remained statutory bodies. However, the “Committee in Common” effectively managed the two trusts.
- Significant changes and connection with local communities – it was explained that a framework was in place for the development of key services. Commissioners and providers worked together as a sector in order to deliver what was necessary for the local population.
- Need to connect with the primary community and use of wider consultation and engagement.

RESOLVED that the content of the presentation on the Northern Care Alliance and the Pennine Improvement Plan be noted.

13

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board take place on 23rd January 2018 at 2 pm.

The chair wished to put on record the Board’s thanks and best wishes to Alan Higgins, Director of Public health, who is leaving Oldham after 15 years.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.00 pm

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Minutes

UNITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

12 September 2017

Members' Meeting Room - Civic Centre, Oldham, OL1 1NL

5.30 pm

Present: Councillors Dean, McCann and Ur-Rehman

Lori Hughes
Ian Meredith
Simon Miller
Tony Muir
Pam Siddall

Constitutional Services
Kier
Unity Partnership
Kier
Revenue and Benefits Service
Delivery Manager - Unity Partnership

1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stretton, Councillor Jabbar, Councillor Sykes and Emma Alexander.

The Board were informed that Emma Alexander had left Kier.

The Board asked that a letter of thanks be written to Emma Alexander on their behalf.

2 Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the Unity Partnership Board meeting held on 27th June 2017 were approved as a correct record.

There were no matters arising.

3 Management Update Report (Standing Item)

Consideration was given to a progress report of the Unity Management Team on the performance of the services delivered by the Partnership. An outstanding contractual obligation had been delivered related to unit pricing and discussions were ongoing for agreement on the final outcome.

The Service Delivery Director presented the report and addressed the enquiries from the Board Members.

Highways



The Board were informed of changes in staffing which had led to prioritisation of delivery of capital projects. The service continued to deliver through its KPIs and development of its relationship with the Council. There were regular operational based meetings and included work on the strategic project delivery and reactive sides of the Lead Local Flood Authority's (LLFA's) duties and general highways drainage management.

Property

The Board were informed that the service was operating against the 2017/18 work programme. Good feedback continued to be received from users and savings had been identified by the Energy Team. The school capital programme was being progressed. A number of projects related to mechanical and electrical systems within the Civic Centre were being carried out that would lead to improved conditions for members, staff and the public as well as energy efficiency savings.

Issues had been identified on the volume of work required by the Council. The long term intention remained to revise the overall provision of Property Services to provide a more strategic property offer to the Council.

Board members sought and received clarification on the property programme going forward and the development of the strategy.

Revenues

Revenue Services had been working with the Council for the introduction of new technology which allowed customer credits to be refunded by BACS. The service was now live and aligned with the Council's aim on the reduction of cheques. The service continued to work closely on the Resident First Programme that would allow transactions with the council tax service online. The introduction of the Universal Credit was expected to have a detrimental impact on 2017-18 collection performance. The service was working with the DWP in supporting customers and the job centre. Work was ongoing to understand if anything could be done to help mitigate the risk.

Benefit Service and Access Oldham

The service had supported customers and the Job Centre to ensure that the residents of Oldham were not unduly affected by the change. Online digital support was provided within Access Oldham and it had been agreed that the Job Centre could signpost 'overspill' customers due to the increased volume of support requests. Staff were actively identifying claims that no longer met the criteria for claiming Housing Benefit and directing them to apply for Universal Credit. As part of the Resident First Programme the service was extending its online functionality with the introduction of Benefit e-notification letters.

Board members asked about the impact on the system and were advised that the DWP recognised the effect and provided funding which assisted in extra help for the do-it-online team assistance with claims and working with the job centre. Notifications had been sent out and work was going well. Unity also provided personal budgeting support. Board members thanked staff for their assistance on addressing the changes.

Transactional Finance

A recovery service continued to be provided of overpaid Housing Benefit owed in respect of First Choice Homes (FCHO) tenancies.

Contact Centre

The aspirational target across all four KPIs had been achieved in Quarter 1 of 2017/18. The number of staff had been increased who had been trained to handle election enquiries to help cope with additional enquiries. A number of services had also been added to the Council's self-serve product. "My Account" and the Contact Centre played a key role to transactions online. The service was expected to trial a new form of fly-tipping report that would be integrated onto FLARE. Work was also ongoing to absorb lower complexity calls from the in-year school transfer team.

HR

The Agresso implementation had not delivered the reports required to support monthly payroll reconciliation of third party payments. Unity continued to work with both the Council and A1 programme, however, challenges continued to be the stabilisation of the A1 system, the transition of work activities and continued impact of the service delivery. System issues had been reduced however issues of compliance remained a problem.

IT

The service continued to perform well with all KPI's met and customer satisfaction levels remaining high. The IT Strategy had been approved and a number of technical transformation projects had been initiated. A number of significant upgrades to both infrastructure and core services for the Council had been undertaken and were ongoing included Windows 10. The Board were informed that Unity had also be asked to support central library.

Current activity in supporting transformation was outlined and future transformation activity. An update was also provided on the transformation days available to the Council and those allocated to date.

Support for Get Oldham Working was outlined and included adding to the team of apprenticeships and staff volunteering. Three services had experienced difficulties in the recruitment of staff. The ethos of apprenticeships had been very successful.

The Board noted the KPI Performance from May to July 2017. Reporting issues were being reviewed with a focus on service delivery.

The Board were informed that Unity had exhibited at the recent CIPFA conference and had received 10 expressions of interest which were being followed up. Future exhibitions were planned.

The Board noted the Management Report Update

4 Housing Benefit Position - quarterly update

The Board gave consideration to an update on the performance against “Right Time Indicator” (RTI) on the combined average number of days taken to process new claims and changes in circumstances. The monthly performance achieved was above the project targets. If the trend of out-performing the projections continued as expected, the annual target would be achieved.

The Board were informed of the challenges presented with the disruption caused during the building works and relocation of Access Oldham. The backlog had been cleared and it was noted the performance was outperforming projections.

The Board were informed that this report had been requested for a period of time and it was requested that this report be the final closing report. The Board members agreed.

The Board:

1. Noted the Housing Benefit Position quarterly update.
2. Agreed that further separate quarterly updated on the Housing Benefits position were not required.

5 AOB

There were no items of any other business.

6 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Board noted the date and time of the next meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 14th November 2017 at 5.30 p.m. It was requested by the Service Delivery Director that the date of the next meeting be changed due to his unavailability.

The meeting started at 5.30 pm and ended at 6.32 pm



Minutes

UNITY PARTNERSHIP BOARD

6 December 2017

Members' Meeting Room - Civic Centre, Oldham, OL1 1NL

4.00 pm

Present: Councillors Dean, Jabbar and McCann

Also in Attendance

Sian Walter-Browne

Fran Lautman

Simon Miller

Tony Muir

Constitutional Services

Customer Development Manager, Oldham Council

Service Delivery Director, Unity Partnership

Operations Director, Kier

1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stretton, Councillor Ur-Rehman, Councillor Sykes and Ian Meredith.

2 Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the Unity Partnership Board meeting held on 12th September 2017 were approved as a correct record.

There were no matters arising.

3 Management Update Report (Standing Item)

Consideration was given to a progress report of the Unity Management Team on the performance of the services delivered by the Partnership. The Board were informed that the main focus was around ensuring delivery.

The Service Delivery Director presented the report and addressed the enquiries from the Board Members.

Highways

The Board were informed that the Highways Service had continued with its recruitment drive following significant staff turnover that had occurred this year and the team had almost returned to full compliment. The Service had been constantly reviewing priorities in order to mitigate non-delivery of Council capital schemes despite the resource issue being experienced. The service continued to deliver through its KPIs and development of its relationship with the Council.

Property

The Service was continuing to operate the 16/17 Work Plan in the current financial year and this would continue to protect the level of service provided by Unity to the Council until the end of March 2018. The Council's School Capital Programme was successfully designed and project managed which resulted in successful re-opening at the start of the new term. Significant work has also been completed successfully in relation to the University Technical College and Oldham Council's Civic building.

The Board was informed that the long term intention was to revise the overall provision of Property Services to provide a more strategic property offer to the Council and Unity had continued to work closely with the Council to progress the Strategic Property Programme (formerly known as 'Option 4'). This had the potential to provide the following benefits to the Council:

- Reduction in Council operating costs of operational buildings; potentially around circa £2m per annum;
- Increase of net income for the Council for their investment property portfolio by circa £3m per annum.

Revenues

The Board noted that seven new online discount application forms had been introduced, including single person discount. The debt recovery system, One Step, was being upgraded to the online version 7 which would allow better reporting options and improved case loading and payment uploading.

Benefits

The Benefits teams continued to work on and support the successful implementation of e-notifications for benefit and Council Tax Reduction claims. In addition, all new Business Rate changes at short notice had been implemented with good application responses so far.

The team were currently on track and meeting KPIs; supporting residents in their applications and providing advice and guidance for those needing to claim Universal Credit.

Looking ahead, the team were working with the Council's Resident First team to ensure the effective and successful go-live of e-notifications for benefit and Council Tax Reduction claims, meaning that residents could receive the outcome of their claims more quickly and efficiently.

Transactional Finance (Accounts Payable and Receivable)

A recovery service continued to be provided of overpaid Housing Benefit owed in respect of First Choice Homes (FCHO) tenancies.

Contact Centre

The Contact Centre achieved the aspirational target across all four KPIs in Q2 of 2017/18. In October, further in-year school transfer enquiries were successfully taken on by the Contact Centre.

HR (Advisory and Payroll)

Within the Payroll area, the Service was going through a transformation programme to ensure readiness for the closure of the A1 programme and transition to business as usual.

There were a number of change programmes being to drive efficiencies and stabilisation, to ensure delivery of an excellent customer experience to the Council on a legally compliant platform.

IT

A prioritised list of projects had been agreed with the Council to ensure a joint focus on delivery is maintained. Detail of these was set out in the report.

Current activity in supporting transformation was outlined and future transformation activity. An update was also provided on the transformation days available to the Council and those allocated to date.

Get Oldham Working and Volunteering

Support for Get Oldham Working was outlined and included adding to the team of apprenticeships and staff volunteering.

KPI Performance

The Board noted the KPI Performance from August to September 2017. Reporting issues were being reviewed with a focus on service delivery.

Growing the Partnership

The Board were informed that Unity had exhibited at Highways UK in early November. Positive discussions were underway with London Borough Hammersmith and Fulham, and the Boundary School based in Blackpool regarding the provision of Unity services

The Board **NOTED** the Management Report Update.

4 Annual Review 2015/16

The Board gave consideration to a report on the Annual Review 2015/16.

The Board was informed that, across the year there were 168 instances where the KPI's had been reported on (on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis). The Services had met or surpassed the Minor Threshold on 150 instances, which equated to 89% of the total KPI's and, in 124 instances, had achieved the Aspirational Target (74% of the total).

The Board noted that in 8 instances the Services were below the Minor Threshold, 5% of the total. Of these, 3 were granted an Excusing Event, 4 were in a Verification (testing) Period, therefore no Service Credit Deduction was levied, and in 1 instance a Service Credit Deduction was charged.

The Board were informed of an additional 10 instances where an exception was reported.

The report provided a summary of performance against each service area, with full results in the '2015-16 Unity KPI Workbook'.



The Board noted the provision of a number of Transformation Days available to the Council in each year of the contract. These were available to support the transformation of services retained by the Council. The number of Transformation Days available to the Council in 2015/16 was 720 of which 749 were used.

The Council and Unity were also able to agree the use of additional 'match funded' transformation days to explore further opportunities for change (i.e. the Council and Unity each provide a day, up to a maximum of 150 provided by each party). The use of these days would be considered on a case-by-case basis, and the aim of these matched days was to:

- identify opportunities to strategic business case stage;
- develop a roadmap of strategic change;
- capture the expertise of Unity/ Kier;
- implement opportunities on a "risk/reward" basis; and
- promote and trade services to enhance the success of the public sector.

During 2015/16, 54 match funded days were used. 26 of these days were used on a Highways Transformation project. This provided a Client Transformation Project Manager for the implementation of the Highways system to replace EXOR. 28 of these days were used on a Revenues & Benefits End-to-End project which provided resource to manage the review.

The Board noted that the Diamond Programme had been delivered and signed off and that the key priority moving forward was unit pricing.

The Board **NOTED** the Annual Review 2015/16.

5 AOB

There were no items of any other business.

6 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Board noted the date and time of the next meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 20th February 2018 at 5.30 p.m.

The meeting started at 4.00 pm and ended at 4.30 pm

Minutes

Oldham Leadership Board

24 January 2018, 10 am until 12 noon

Crompton Suite, Civic Centre Oldham


Present:

<p>Cllr Jean Stretton Dr Carolyn Wilkins, OBE Vinny Roche Julie Daines Noreen Dowd Stuart Lockwood Alun Francis ACC Rebekah Sutcliffe Helen Lockwood Cllr John McCann CS Neil Evans Maggie Kufeldt Jeremy Broadbent Katrina Stephenson Jason Rain Neil McInroy Matthew Dodd Jackie Wilson</p>	<p>Leader, Oldham Council (Chair) Chief Executive, Oldham Council First Choice Homes Oldham CCG Oldham CCG Oldham Community Leisure Oldham College Greater Manchester Police and Place lead Economy & Neighbourhoods, Oldham Council Liberal Democrats, Oldham Council Greater Manchester Police Health & Wellbeing, Oldham Council Business Leader Public Health, Oldham Council Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service Centre for Local Economic Strategies Centre for Local Economic Strategies Strategy, Partnerships and Policy, Oldham Council</p>
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Apologies:

<p>Cllr Abdul Jabbar Jayne Clarke Jonathan Yates Dave Benstead Ray Ward Donna McLoughlin Jon Aspinall Cllr Barbara Brownridge Cllr Sue Dearden</p>	<p>Deputy Leader, Oldham Council Oldham Sixth Form College Citizens Advice and VCFP Chair of the Economy and Skills Partnership and Oldham Business Leadership Group Corporate and Commercial, Oldham Council Pennine Acute Hospital Trust Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service Co-ops and Neighbourhoods, Oldham Council Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board</p>
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1	<p>Minutes and matters arising from meeting on 2 November 2017 and updates/good news</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on the 2 November 2017 were approved as a correct record of proceedings. It was noted that Jeremy Broadbent had provided apologies to the meeting on the 2 November and it was agreed that his apologies be added to the Minutes.</p> <p>It was also agreed that an update on progress against the Oldham Plan 2017-22 be provided for the March meeting of the Board.</p> <p>Good news and updates</p> <p></p> <p>Item 1b GM Strategic Self Assessment Inter</p> <p>The GM Strategic Self-Assessment on reform and integration The interim report on the GM Strategic Self-Assessment was presented to the Board. Members were asked to submit further comments on the draft assessment and it agreed that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further work was required with partners to develop the Action Plan• That the Oldham Leadership Board sign off the final version of the assessment and action plan at the meeting on the 14 March 2018 <p>The GM Place Leaders programme Feedback was given on the first session of the GM Place Leaders programme. It was noted that further work was needed to develop place leaders at a tactical level, for example, with neighbourhoods Sgts and CCG clusters leads and a programme aimed at this group needed to be developed long term under our co-operative workforce plans.</p> <p>Next site for Place Based Integration Progress was reported on the set up of the new PBI site in North Chadderton and Westwood. Meetings with partners were still taking place to negotiate the make-up of the team and premises were being explored. Further updates will be provided for future meetings.</p> <p>AGREED/ACTION:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For an update report on the Oldham Plan 2017-22 be included on the 14 March agenda of the Board2. For Board members to submit any further comments on the GM Strategic Self-Assessment to Rebekah Sutcliffe3. For the Board to sign off the final action plan on the GM Strategic Self-Assessment at the 14 March Board4. For the GM Place Leaders programme to consider a tactical leaders programme for place leadership.
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2 Oldham Anchors and Social Value



Item 2 Anchors.ppt



Neil McInroy and Mathew Dodd from the Centre for Local Economic Strategies presented the key findings from the anchors and social value work.

The key points from the discussion were:

- That there is an estimated £36 million of spend in Oldham that we can influence as a Council which amounts to about 80 contracts
- Encouraging local supply is just one element, there is also further work that can be done to encourage more social value from non-local supply chains e.g through the Living Wage, apprenticeships etc and by ensuring as much plurality as possible within the local economy
- That other GM authorities were also considering their influencable spend and the GM Mayor was considering a piece of work on GM anchors
- That supplier forums could be considered to maximise existing supply chains
- That Oldham needed to consider how it can grow the Oldham market in areas where there are gaps and that this 'market making' aspect would give us the biggest dividends
- That the development of co-operatives and social enterprise needed to be considered as part of this market making
- That the social value weighting needs to be considered in the awarding of contracts alongside the training and development of staff in procurement and commissioning roles.
- That the social value work also looked at workforce and that some of Oldham's communities were under-represented within the Council and potentially other public services. This could also be part of the focus for the next PBI site
- Other new partners including GMP showed interest in being part of any further work

AGREED/ACTION

- 1. That partners not already engaged in the anchors and social value work and wish to do so contact Neil/Matthew**
- 2. That a focused meeting on anchors and social value be held with partners to develop this further within the framework of the Oldham Plan**

<p>3</p>	<p>Oldham Opportunity Area</p>  <p>Item 3 Oldham Area Opportunity.pptx</p> <p>Tim Bowman, Oldham Opportunity Area lead and Helen Lockwood, Executive Director, Oldham Council, presented on the Opportunity Area programme in partnership with the Department for Education that will bring extra resources into Oldham over the next three years to help tackle issues of social mobility.</p> <p>The key points from the discussion were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That the 'meaningful contact with work' had been an area highlighted by young people in Oldham for some-time and the Board welcomed this focus as part of the programme - That the 'cold spot' areas identified for early years also matched with the focus area for the new PBI site and that this provided us with an opportunity to engage schools, the community and parents - That the health system needed to be considered in any governance arrangements alongside the wider determinants of social mobility <p>AGREED/ACTION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Board members explore how their work can link into the Oldham Opportunity Area and get in contact with Tim Bowman/Helen Lockwood
<p>4</p>	<p>Communications and the Oldham Prospectus</p>  <p>Item 4 Communications.ppt</p> <p>Carl Marsden, Head of Communications at Oldham Council outlined proposals to establish a cross partner communications group to maximise our collective communications resource.</p> <p>Board members welcomed the suggestions to establish the group and align communications, using the #ourbit #yourbit #result.</p> <p>Carl also presented the Oldham Prospectus to the Board including the on-line e-book. Board members welcomed the Prospectus and could see the use for this within their own organisations and how it could be used as an effective place marketing tool for the borough.</p> <p>AGREED/ACTION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For Board members to nominate appropriate Communications lead to form a cross partner communications group

	<p>2. For Board members to provide content on the Prospectus to Carl as appropriate</p> <p>3. For Carl to share the link to the on-line Prospectus with partners</p>
5	<p>Date and time for next meeting</p> <p>14 March 2018 10:00 - 12:00 Crompton Suite, Civic Centre</p>

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MioCare Group
[Oldham Care and Support Ltd: MioCare Services Ltd]
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
20th November 2017
Public Minutes

Present:	Board members Peter White – Deputy Chair, Non-Executive Board Member (Chair) Cllr Jenny Harrison (CllrJH) Cllr John F McCann (CllrJMc) Cllr Ginny Alexander (CllrGA) Karl Dean – Managing Director (KD)	In attendance Mark Warren – Director Adult Social Care (MW) June Rainford – Associate Director OPS & COoH (JR) Valerie Perrins – Associate Director QPC (VP) Sarah Southern – Senior PA Cllr. Chauhan (Minutes)
Apologies:	Cllr Zahid Chauhan	Maggie Kufeldt – OMBC Exec Director acting as shareholder’s advisor to the Board (MK) Diane Taylor – Associate Director LD &MH (DT)

No	Agenda Item	Action
1	In Confidence – Board Member Only There were no items discussed.	
2	Welcome, Introduction, attendees and apologies The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.	
3	Declaration of Interest CllrJMc is a member of the Unity Partnership – JVCo Board and Unity Partnership Ltd - Partnership Board.	
For Information		
4	Minutes of Last Meeting a) The confidential minutes of the last Board Meeting held on 18 th September	

	<p>2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>b) The public minutes of the last Board Meeting held on 18th September 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>c) The board action list was discussed and updated accordingly.</p>	
5	<p>Governance Action Plan</p> <p>The Governance action plan was discussed and updated accordingly.</p>	
6	<p>Reablement and Helpline and Response Redesign</p> <p>KD explained that this item is for information only. There are no financial implications involved with the redesign and no staff members will be at risk. The redesign is a realignment of the current services. The Response element will be managed alongside Reablement which will create a more fluid and flexible staffing resource. It will also improve consistency and safety for service users.</p> <p>NOTED: All Board members present noted the paper.</p>	
For Discussion		
7	<p>Integrated Care Organisation</p> <p>KD gave an update on the latest position and developments with the Integrated Care Organisation (ICO).</p> <p>MW gave an overview of the ICO from a commissioning perspective.</p> <p>KD explained that MioCare have been recognised as a core provider in the ICO.</p> <p>KD offered that MioCare has been progressing what a single blended community provider might look like in partnership with OMBC Adult Social Care and Pennine Care.</p> <p>MW stated that Greater Manchester team is now starting to gather momentum and that they are beginning to set out each locality's responsibilities.</p>	
8	<p>MD update</p> <p>KD gave an update on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff members within OCS have been written to regarding the changes to the contract as agreed as part of the pay and reward review and to date there has been good take up. - Recently held 2 'Getting in the Know' events at Chadderton Town Hall and both sessions were well attended with over 150 staff attending. The staff were given an update on the business and the staff awards and the new staff benefit scheme and staff survey were both launched. Positive feedback has been received from staff regarding the events. - The staff survey deadline is December 2017 and in a separate exercise, 10 key stakeholders have been asked to provide feedback on MioCare. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paul Whitehead will leave the MioCare Group on 31st December 2017. - Karen Wilson has been recruited as the new Business Support Manager. - The management team are currently looking at translating the strategic objectives for the company and the business plan into service plans for each service we deliver. Workshops are currently being held with the Service Managers. Once agreed, the service plans will be reviewed at the Operations Committee. - Work is progressing with the Supported Housing for Adults with a Learning Disability (SHALD) scheme. - The Shared Lives team have successfully recruited 10 prospective carers. They have completed the mandatory training which was provided, for the first time, by an external provider and the carers have now progressed to panel for approval. - The bed base at Medlock Court is currently under review and MioCare are working with commissioners to increase the number of Reablement beds. - Recently MioCare put forward a bid to provide a night team within Extra Care Housing. The bid was successful and the service will commence on the December 2017. The service will cover all 6 Extra Care Housing schemes across Oldham. <p>The following items were then discussed in more detail:</p> <p>There have been some changes recently regarding social care compliance and the issue of sleep ins. KD explained that MioCare’s exposure is minimal.</p> <p>The consultation related to the Supported Living management redesign has now been completed.</p> <p>CQC have requested provider information for 2 of our services, Hunt Lane and Medlock Court.</p> <p>Chair formally thanked Paul Whitehead for his work at MioCare, especially around the work he carried out recently on the risk register.</p> <p>Chair asked that when the service plans are presented to the Operations Committee that they are linked where possible to KPI’s.</p> <p>ACTION: KD to ensure that Service Plans are presented at next Operations Committee.</p> <p>Chair also thanked KD for what was a very thorough and informative paper.</p>	
9	<p>Board Away Day</p> <p>KD confirmed that the Board away day will be held on Tuesday 19th December 2017, 2 – 6pm @ Ena Hughes.</p>	
10	<p>Management Accounts Period 10</p> <p>KD gave an update on the management accounts as they stand at period 10 and it was pleasing that all three companies had positive variances and across the group an</p>	

	operating surplus of £131k with a year-end forecast of a £36k surplus having delivered £275k of in year efficiencies / additional income.	
11	<p>Risk Management Framework</p> <p>KD provided members with an update on the risk register and explained that the register has been reworked around the 3 strategic objectives.</p> <p>KD stated that the risk register is managed by SLT however Service Managers are being asked to look at the risks associated with their service areas and it is hoped that this will filter down through the workforce.</p> <p>MW noted that the risks associated with integration and a change in the operating model has not been captured.</p> <p>KD replied that his will be discussed at the board away day and agreed that this needs adding to the register</p> <p>ACTION: KD to add risks involved with integration / change to operating model to risk register</p>	
For Decision		
12	<p>Pay and Reward Phase 1 Final Report</p> <p>KD explained that at September's Board meeting he reported on the pay and reward review outcomes for Oldham Care and Support.</p> <p>This report covers the activity that has been undertaken across the whole of the MioCare Group.</p> <p>AGREED: All Board members present agreed to support the recommendations presented in the report.</p>	
13	<p>Financial Directions</p> <p>KD explained that this is a revised version of what was previously agreed in April 2015. The changes are just cosmetic changes and include the change of name, becoming a CIC and that there is current no Finance Director in post.</p> <p>Chair stated that for future reference it would be useful if any changes were highlighted in red so they could be easily identified.</p> <p>APPROVED: All Board members present approved the revised financial directions and scheme of delegation</p>	
14	<p>New Board Member Recommendation</p> <p>KD informed Board members about the recruitment of a Non-Executive Director, Jeff Jones.</p> <p>AGREED: All Board members present agreed for Jeff Jones to be appointed from 1st</p>	

	<p>December 2017.</p> <p>KD also confirmed that Mick Ord has now left the MioCare Board, effective from 1st November 2017.</p>	
15	<p>Board and Committee Dates 2018</p> <p>KD has circulated Board dates for 2018 and explained that the Committee dates will be agreed in the new year.</p> <p>Agreed: The dates for the Board meetings were agreed by members.</p>	
16	<p>AOB</p> <p>There were no items raised.</p>	
	<p>Date and Time of next meeting:</p> <p>Monday 15th January 2018, 9.30 – 11.30am at Ena Hughes Resource Centre, Failsworth</p>	

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Peak District National Park Authority

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Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire. DE45 1AE



MINUTES

- Meeting: **National Park Authority**
- Date: Friday 1 December 2017 at 10.00 am
- Venue: The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell
- Chair: Cllr Mrs L C Roberts
- Present: Cllr D Chapman, Mr P Ancell, Mrs P Anderson, Cllr J Atkin, Mrs F Beatty, Mr J W Berresford, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr P Brady, Cllr C Furness, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr A Hart, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Cllr H Laws, Cllr Mrs C Howe, Cllr A McCloy, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr Mrs N Turner and Cllr B Woods
- Apologies for absence: Cllr C Carr, Cllr A R Favell, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr A Law, Cllr J Macrae, Cllr J Perkins, Cllr Mrs J A Twigg and Cllr F J Walton.

50/17 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was noted that Cllr Judith Twigg was recovering at home following a recent admission to hospital and the Members requested that a get well card be sent to her on their behalf.

The Chair reported that the Authority was looking at succession planning for staff, as the current highly skilled and knowledgeable workforce had an ageing population. Only 5% of employees were under age 30 and only one employee was under age 20. Heads of Service had been asked to look at workforce planning for their teams and a recent Member workshop had considered this an important issue for the Authority. So with this in mind the Chair had invited some recently appointed employees to join the Members for lunch today for them to meet and find out about their hopes and aspirations at the start of their career working for the Authority.

It was noted that the Authority had recently been working with Derbyshire County Council to liaise with representatives of Anhui Province in the People's Republic of China, in particular with Huangshan National Park which resides within the province, to support the visitor economy in Derbyshire and the Peak District. The Chair reported that the Authority has signed a letter to support the development of friendly co-operation between the two National Parks to exchange and share information on the care of the special qualities of the National Parks, approaches to promote the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities and to help foster the social and economic well being of communities living in the National Parks.

The Chair then invited Chris Dean, Head of Programme Delivery – Moors for the Future Partnership, and Sarah Proctor, Community Science Project Manager, to talk to Members about the Campaign for National Parks 'Park Protector' award 2017 that the Community Science Project recently won and gained a £2000 grant. Chris and Sarah

explained the background to the project and how it works with many community groups, schools, universities and national organisations. Cllr David Chapman, Chair of the Moors for the Future Partnership Group, congratulated all who had been involved in the Project on their achievement. He then urged the local authority appointed Members to go back to their authorities and ask them to help with extra funding for the Project to cover core purposes, such as staffing costs that are not covered by external funding grants, to enable the Project to continue. He also drew attention to the Project's annual review, copies of which were available to the Members at the meeting.

Cllr Mrs G Heath joined the meeting at 10.10am.

Members requested that an email be sent to constituent authorities giving details of the Community Science Project and how authorities could assist to keep the Project going on into the future. This was agreed. The Chair stated that other bodies were also being asked to help fund the Project further and added her congratulations to those involved.

Mr Zahid Hamid reported that the Peak District Mosaic collective had recently won the annual Group Award at the National Parks UK Volunteer Awards 2017. Peak District Mosaic is made up of individuals from BME (black and minority ethnic) communities from around the Peak District National Park. Members of the group give their time to mentor, increase confidence and encourage people from BME communities and those who have challenging social and community issues to access the Park.

51/17 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Item 8

Cllr A Hart declared a personal interest as a member of Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire.

Mr J Berresford declared a personal interest as a Director of Pinelog Ltd, who were a member of Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire.

52/17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes of the last meeting of the Authority held on 6 October 2017 were approved as a correct record.

53/17 REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

Members considered the proposals to appoint an Independent Person to carry out a review of the existing Members' Allowances Scheme.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To commence a review of the current Members' Allowances Scheme to be carried out by an Independent Person.**
- 2. To authorise the Monitoring Officer to appoint an Independent Person and make sure they have the information and resources needed to carry out a review.**

54/17 MARKETING PEAK DISTRICT & DERBYSHIRE - GOVERNANCE & MEMBER REPRESENTATION

Members considered a report on changes to the governance structure of the Peak District and Derbyshire Destination Management Partnership Board, to which the Authority appointed both a Member and an officer representatives to as an outside body at the July 2017 AGM. The report sought approval for the future proposed member representation within the new governance structure.

Some Members were concerned that the proposed changes to the body were too complicated and unnecessary, and what the impact would be on smaller businesses.

In response to Members' queries the Director of Commercial Development and Outreach stated that the body was an independent organisation with representatives from both the public and private sectors. The Authority paid an annual amount to the body, currently £12,000, but that this was reviewed each year. He confirmed that Cllr Judith Twigg had stated that she still wished to be the Authority's Member representative on the newly arranged body.

It was proposed to add an extra recommendation to the report to request that a letter be sent to the body, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, expressing the Members' concerns with the new governance arrangement. This was moved and seconded. Cllr Mrs J A Twigg and Mr C Furness were moved and seconded as the Member representative and Deputy Member representative.

The recommendation as amended was then voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To note the changes to the governance structure of Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire (MPD&D).**
- 2. To appoint Cllr Mrs J A Twigg as the Member representative and Cllr C Furness as the Deputy Member representative to the MPD&D Local Authority Investor Group and confirm that attendance at meetings of the Group is an approved duty for the purposes of claims for travel and subsistence.**
- 3. That the Director of Commercial Development and Outreach sends a letter, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, to Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire expressing Members' concerns regarding the new governance arrangement.**

The meeting ended at 10.45 am

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MINUTES

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: Friday 2 February 2018 at 10.00 am

Venue: The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

Chair: Cllr Mrs L C Roberts

Present: Cllr D Chapman, Mrs P Anderson, Cllr J Atkin, Mrs F Beatty, Mr J W Berresford, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr P Brady, Cllr A R Favell, Cllr C Furness, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr Mrs C Howe, Cllr J Macrae, Cllr A McCloy, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr J Perkins, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr Mrs N Turner, Cllr Mrs J A Twigg and Cllr F J Walton

Apologies for absence: Mr P Ancell, Cllr C Carr, Cllr A Hart, Cllr A Law, Cllr H Laws and Cllr B Woods.

1/18 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair confirmed that as a result of recent correspondence received from HMRC regarding the taxation of travel and subsistence payments made to Members the issue has been discussed at a recent meeting of National Parks England. At that meeting representatives of Defra had agreed to look into the matter and that officers in all National Parks in England and Wales were preparing a joint response to the HMRC letter. Further information would be circulated to Members as it becomes available.

The Chair advised Members that the Moors for the Future Bogtastic Van had been parked in the Aldern House car park for Members to visit at the end of the meeting.

It was noted that Mam Tor near Castleton had been voted 10th in a television survey of the top 100 best walks in the United Kingdom.

The Chair invited the Director of Commercial Development and Outreach to show Members a film commissioned by the Authority aimed at promoting the Peak District National Park and encouraging supporters. Members welcomed the film and asked how they could share it more widely to their network. The film was available to stream and download on the internet and a link and copies would be given to Members.

2/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 1 DECEMBER 2017

The minutes of the last meeting of the Authority held on 1 December 2017 were approved as a correct record.

3/18 URGENT BUSINESS

In accordance with paragraph 1.9(e) in Part 1 of Standing Orders the Chair confirmed that, following consultation with the Director of Corporate Strategy and Development, she had approved a request from the Chief Executive for the Authority to consider an urgent item not included on the published agenda. The urgent item related to the recruitment process for a new Director of Commercial Development and Outreach following the current post holder's decision to leave the Authority.

The reason given for the urgency was that, although the formal notice that this post would become vacant was made in late December 2017, since returning from leave the Chief Executive had taken time to consider and consult with senior staff and Members on how to respond to the resignation and the options available for moving forward. This process had not been completed in sufficient time to prepare a formal report or add an item to the Agenda before publication. As the post would become vacant on 31 March 2018 the recruitment process needed to commence immediately and could not wait until after the next scheduled meeting of the Authority.

The Chief Executive proposed that a Member Panel be established to support the process for recruiting to the post suggesting that the Panel should consist of the Chair of the Authority, the Deputy Chair of the Authority and the Chair of Audit Resources and Performance Committee. The notice and request to approve any appointment would be presented to a meeting of the Authority in accordance with Standing Orders.

The proposal was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority and the Chair of the Audit Resources and Performance Committee to a Member Panel established to support the process for recruiting and selecting to the post of Director of Commercial Development and Outreach.**
- 2. To confirm that attendance at meetings of the Panel are an approved duty for the purposes of travel and subsistence claims.**

4/18 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

5/18 PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN: APPROVAL FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Members considered a report including a revised version of the National Park Management Plan updated to reflect feedback received following previous consultation. The Authority was asked to approve the latest version and commence further consultation. It was proposed that the consultation would last for 6 weeks from approximately 23 February to 6 April 2018 with the aim of the Authority adopting the final Management Plan on 25 May 2018.

During discussion of the Management Plan Members suggested minor changes and asked the Chief Executive to consider them under her delegation. The Chief Executive confirmed that she had already received comments via email and where practicable they would be taken on board.

In discussion the following issues were raised:

- Suggestions that objectives relating to climate change were not strong enough
- Greater emphasis should be placed on the impacts of tourism and the visitor economy.
- The Partnership approach should make reference to a wider range of organisations both in the public and private sector
- More transparency on cultural heritage assets
- Revisiting the use of the words “What we want to do” in the context of the delivery plan

It was noted that in December 2017 the Chief Executive had made contact with a number of partners regarding their contribution to the Delivery Plan and already a number had written back confirming their commitment.

Officers were thanked for developing a clear plan and for their engagement with members throughout the process. The Chair thanked all Members for their significant input in the development of the Management Plan.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To undertake a final public consultation on the draft Peak District National Park Management Plan 2018-23 provided at appendix 1 of the report.**
- 2. To authorise the Chief Executive to make amendments to the draft management plan to address issues arising from discussions at the meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned from 11:05am to 11:10am following consideration of this item.

6/18 BUDGET 2018/19 (A137/PN)

The Authority were asked to approve the 2018/19 Budget. It was noted that the budget had been prepared in accordance with the approach to investing in delivery of the Authority’s Corporate Strategy presented to Members on 27 May 2016, and subsequent workshops during 2016 and 2017.

It was noted that the 2018/19 financial year was the 3rd year of the 4 year settlement from Defra and that £75,000 more a year had been included to accommodate a 2% pay award.

In discussing the report Members sought and received assurances on reserve levels, welcomed the information on how corporate costs had been allocated and received an update from the Chief Executive on the proposal in the Government’s 25 year Environment Plan of a 21st Century “Hobhouse” Review of National Parks. Members also received further information about the budget for cultural heritage and a forthcoming discussion at the Resources Management Meeting on staffing resources.

Officers were thanked for a clear budget report and for taking on Member comments on the inclusion of comparative data.

RESOLVED:

1. **To approve the base budget for the 2018/19 financial year shown in Appendix 1 and 2 of the report which incorporate the investment allocations delegated to the Leadership Team, working with the Chief Finance Officer (Authority Minute 20/16 refers) as set out in paragraph 9 of the report.**
2. **To note the financial position of the Authority in the period up to March 2020 as explained in paragraph 11 of the report.**

The meeting ended at 11.20 am

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER, 2017 AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

Members Present-

<u>BURY COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Tamoor Tariq (Chair for part of proceedings)
<u>GMCA</u>	Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime) Beverley Hughes
<u>ROCHDALE COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Janet Emsley
<u>SALFORD CC</u>	Councillor David Lancaster
<u>STOCKPORT MBC</u>	Councillor Wendy Wild
<u>TRAFFORD COUNCIL</u>	Councillor Laura Evans
<u>WIGAN COUNCIL</u>	Councillor - Nazia Rehman
<u>INDEPENDENT MEMBER</u>	Maqsood Ahmed
<u>INDEPENDENT MEMBER</u>	Diane Curry

Also in attendance –

Ian Hopkins	GMP
Gwynne Williams	GMCA
Clare Monaghan	GMCA
Jayne Stephenson	GMCA
Claire Millett	GMCA
Paul Argyle	Civil Contingencies & Resilience Unit, GMCA
Holly Rae	Stockport Council
Jeanette Staley	Salford City Council & GM Police & Crime Policy Lead
Steve Annette	Governance and Scrutiny Officer, GMCA

PCP/17/17 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED/-

That Maqsood Ahmad, Independent Member be appointed interim Chair until the arrival of Councillor Tariq Tamoor, Chair of the Police and Crime Panel.

PCP/17/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Sultan Ali, Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Councillor Derek Burrows, Councillor Nigel Murphy, Councillor Joe Kitchen, Eamonn

Boylan, GMCA, Pat Jones - Greenhalgh, Bury Council, Steven Pleasant, Tameside Council and Steve Rumbelow, Rochdale Council.

PCP/17/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

**PCP/17/20 MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING –
31 OCTOBER, 2017**

The minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 31 October 2017 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 31 October 2017 as an accurate record.

PCP/17/21 LORD KERSLAKE REVIEW

Paul Argyle, Multi Agency Strategic Lead, GMCA introduced a report in this regard. He reported that the Greater Manchester Mayor, in the exercise of his Police and Crime Commissioner functions, has commissioned a non-statutory Independent Review into the preparedness for and response to the Manchester Arena Terrorist Attack which took place on the 22nd May 2017. The review would be a comprehensive, staged review to take account of the complexities surrounding the incident and recognising both the ongoing criminal investigation and Coronial investigation, and with a focus on independence and transparency with interim findings published in early January 2018 and final recommendations published in March 2018. It would also look at those aspects of the preparedness and response that were effective and those that may inform good practice, together with, where necessary and appropriate, to advise on what steps might be taken to address any areas that may be strengthened or improved and what learning could also be shared with other cities.

He added that the review had clear Terms of Reference and placed people involved and affected at the heart of the review and clarified what was and what was not in-scope. The Panel was advised of the resources and other Panel members supporting the review. He then described how public engagement and information gathering would be conducted. The Panel noted that the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) were engaged as the key conduit and support mechanism for listening to people and receiving information about people's views and experiences.

The report described that the Independent Review was tasked with identifying the elements of the preparation and response that had worked well, as well as quickly identifying where improvements could be made and this would help responders be better prepared in the future and protect the lives of Greater Manchester's residents and visitors in the months and years to come. Wider sharing of this learning will be important for similar reasons. The Review will be part of an ongoing process and any recommendations that are made will be followed up so that any lessons identified are not lost.

The Deputy Mayor added that she was very comfortable with the way the review was proceeding, in a very thorough and orderly way. She added that Lord Kerlake met with her every two to three weeks to discuss any issues that may need to be resolved and for her to receive progress on a frequent basis.

RESOLVED/-

To note the report and support the progress of the Independent Review.

PCP/17/22 PREVENTING HATEFUL EXTREMISM AND PROMOTING SOCIAL COHESION

Laura Mercer, GMCA presented a report in relation to progress that had been made to establish the Greater Manchester Tackling Hateful Extremism and Promoting Social Cohesion Commission to tackle hateful extremism and promote social cohesion, this to be led by Councillor Rishi Shori in his capacity as the Mayor's lead for social cohesion and young people.

The Panel noted the Commission's Terms of Reference had been developed with Greater Manchester partners and in dialogue with communities, to ensure that the objectives of the Commission were aligned to both existing local work programmes and community concerns, and the Commission's four distinct areas of focus -

- To consider how Prevent operates in Greater Manchester.
- To look at the broader determinants of social exclusion and how we can work collectively to address these.
- To engage in dialogue with our communities and the business sector to consider the development of a Greater Manchester Charter: a set of shared values and commitments which could be used as the foundations upon which the Greater Manchester Strategy work is built (not just principles that are called into action when something goes wrong).
- To develop a distinctive community led GM approach to challenging hateful radicalisation of all kinds and from wherever it comes.

Laura described the membership, officer resources, and added that a provisional budget of £50,000 had been provided, some of which would be allocated to resource community engagement activity. She added that it was important when carrying out the community engagement that we tap into existing community networks to avoid duplication. She added that at a recent commission meeting, GMF&RS, GMP and the ten districts had been asked to provide local community engagement plans, based on the Commission's engagement framework by 18 December, 2017.

This local engagement would complement other engagement activity that is being undertaken with other partners such as housing providers and mental health practitioners. The Panel noted that the Mayor was also keen to include public evidence sessions as well as a commitment to an online engagement tool. A letter has also been sent to all GM Chief Executive's, Leaders, MP's and Police and Crime Portfolio Leads outlining engagement activity.

Following a general discussion the following comments/ observations were made:

- It was important to give due consideration to engaging with women and young people.
- It was suggested that consideration should be given to having representation and or consultation with the Prison Service regarding their knowledge on how to combat or to approach perceptions of hateful extremism within a custodial environment.
- An overarching presentation would be provided containing approximately fifty questions that can be used to help aid discussion as well as a report template to return findings.

RESOLVED/-

To note the intention for this Commission to look more broadly at what excludes people, why people feel isolated and vulnerable and how the Greater Manchester approach can help to address these issues, and that key to the success of the work will be engagement with local businesses, partners and communities and to receive an update report to a future meeting of the Panel.

PCP/17/23 GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

The Deputy Mayor introduced a report and described in detail the draft Priorities, Outcomes and Deputy Mayoral commitments for the Police and Crime Plan 2018-2020. The report also proposes to launch a period of public consultation on the draft priorities, commencing on the 6 December 2017. The Deputy Mayor added that she wished to thank Clare Monaghan, GMCA and Peter Langmead Jones, GMP for leading on this extensive process of preparing the draft plan and also wished to thank other members of the Mayor's office, GM local authorities, partner organisations and member of this panel for their contributions.

The plan aimed to bring together the Mayor's priorities as described in his manifesto, together with the results from the extensive consultation and engagement process in the districts. A GM Needs Assessment was also undertaken and GMP's Threat Assessment was also used to inform what the demands are going forward, as well as looking at other plans and strategies. Having gathered the information the underlining principle going forward, is that what is produced needed to be:- evidence based and represented the needs and views expressed by the citizens of Manchester; that there is shared ownership across the Combined Authority, GMP and partner and health and voluntary agencies/organisations; that it is grounded in the wider-public service reform agenda, with a clear focus on people and place, with children and young people being very much a key priority; that there is an outcomes framework that somehow measures progress against the priorities being set and a clear commonality between all the documents being produced.

Councillor Tariq Tamoor, Chair of the Police and Crime Panel arrived and then took office as Chair and invited comments and questions from members of the panel. He added that he would be pleased to hear how the overarching outcomes framework will be evaluated. He also added that he felt the terminology used in describing it as a Police and Crime Plan should be re-considered. The Deputy Mayor acknowledged the comment and agreed that it did not accurately describe what was seeking to be achieved and hence why it has been described as 'Standing Together'.

A general discussion ensued and the following comments/observations were made:

- Young people are critical in the consultation process and engagement in schools is a valuable way to achieve this.
- A member was pleased to see that the plan was written in a useful and helpful format and was pleased to see that it included modern slavery, safer travel and child sexual exploitation.
- Having on-line facilities to carry out community engagement is very useful but also having workshops and face-to face engagement with people, including the various faith groups across GM is equally important.
- It is pleasing to hear that consideration is being given within the plan to the outcomes for children who have a parent in prison and who may be at risk of negative behaviour from an early intervention perspective.
- Concern was expressed regarding the use of social media and the huge impact this was having on public service delivery.

The Deputy Mayor reported that the budget settlement was due to be announced next week and it was anticipated, and that at best, the expectation was that we would receive a flat cash settlement which would represent a real terms reduction in funding.

The Chief Constable said that it is important to engage with our communities and young people and to have an honest conversation around expectation and what is achievable. He added the public service reform was critical and how we collectively work together to combat and solve crime and anti-social behaviour and sign post residents to the right place for support.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the work that has been undertaken in relation to the development of the Police and Crime Plan.
2. To support the launch of the public consultation on the draft Priorities.

PCP/17/24 BUDGET 2017/18

Jayne Stephenson, GMCA introduced a report which provided the context within which the Mayor will set the precept for 2018/19 and the medium term financial strategy, and described what a real terms 'flat cash' settlement would mean for policing going forward.

She added that the final budget precept report would be presented to the Panel in the New Year.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the key issues for consideration by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor when considering the 2018/19 police precept and medium term financial strategy.
2. To note the timetable for the setting of the 2018/19 police precept.

Jeanette Staley, Salford City Council & GM Police & Crime Policy Lead presented a report which detailed a draft work plan for 2017/18, which had been developed under the direction of the AGMA lead Chief Executive for Police and Crime. Jeanette reported that the focus for the development of this work plan has been to identify work streams of commonality across the 10 Local Authorities in Greater Manchester together with our strategic partners as it relates to the area of Police and Crime.

The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime was also currently developing a GM Police and Crime Plan and the priorities that came out of this would be reflected in due course, as well as those identified within the Mayor's Greater Manchester Strategy.

Jeanette added that the workstreams focused on the needs at a GM level rather than what was needed at an individual borough level. The panel noted that if approved the police and crime steering group would ensure progress of the programme areas which include key outcomes to be achieved, timescales for delivery and reporting periods back to both the leads, steering group and panel meetings.

The work programme once approved will be developed into a forward plan of meetings for the leads and steering group meetings.

Maqsood Ahmad, Independent Member welcomed the report and suggested that he would welcome further discussion outside this meeting around how himself and possibly Dianne Curry, Independent Member, may be able to offer further support going forward.

RESOLVED/-

1. To approve the draft GM Police and Crime Steering Group Work Programme as presented.

PCP/20/26 THE FORWARD PLAN 2017/18 – STANDING ITEM

The Police and Crime Panel received the Forward Plan for the rest of the municipal year. This has been informed by regulations regarding what the Panel must receive and through conversations between the Chair and the Deputy Mayor about what they would like to receive. The forward plan was a working document with all suggested items considered for inclusion.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the forward plan for 2017/18;
2. To send any additional items to Jeanette Staley, GM Police and Crime Policy Lead and Steve Annette, GMCA for inclusion in the Forward Plan.

Item No.3

MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JANUARY, 2017 AT CHURCHGATE HOUSE, MANCHESTER

Members Present-

BOLTON COUNCIL

Councillor Derek Burrows

BURY COUNCIL

Councillor Tamoor Tariq (in the Chair)

GMCA

Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor (Policing
and Crime) Beverley Hughes

MANCHESTER CC

Councillor Nigel Murphy

OLDHAM COUNCIL

Councillor Barbara Brownridge

ROCHDALE MBC

Councillor Sultan Ali

SALFORD CC

Councillor David Lancaster

STOCKPORT MBC

Councillor Wendy Wild

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Councillor Laura Evans

WIGAN COUNCIL

Councillor Nazia Rehman

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Maqsood Ahmed
Diane Curry

Also in attendance-

Clare Monaghan
Jayne Stephenson
Gwynne Williams
Jeanette Staley

GMCA
GMCA
GMCA
Salford City Council & GM Police & Crime
Policy Lead
GMCA

Nicola Ward

PCP/01/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Joe Kitchen, Tameside Council, Ian Hopkins, Chief Constable, GMP and Eamonn Boylan, GMCA.

PCP/02/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

PCP/03/18 MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING 12 DECEMBER 2017

The minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 12 December 2017 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED/-

1. To approve the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 12 December 2017 as an accurate record.

PCP/04/18 PRECEPT AND BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime) presented a report and supplementary report which advised the members of the Police and Crime Panel of the process and context for setting the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) component of the Mayoral precept. She explained that the provisional settlement from Government had been received on 19 December 2017 indicating that the police grant for 2018/19 would remain the same as the 2017/18 grant, coupled with increasing costs there would be an estimated saving requirement for GMP for 2018/19 of £12 million. When considering raising the precept level, the rising crime levels, the threats identified and the impact of cumulative cuts since 2010 have all been taken into account.

The Government has provided the flexibility for all Police and Crime Commissioners to raise the precept by £12, this has been a difficult dilemma which has been considered by the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor at length. A statutory public consultation regarding the PCC precept proposals has taken place, a total of 2,896 people responded to the consultation, of which 74% agreed with the proposed precept.

Therefore, the Greater Manchester Mayor and Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor are proposing a £12 increase to the PCC component of the Mayoral precept for band D properties. This will raise an additional £8.7 million to support the police budget and help to tackle the increase in demand. This funding will be specifically used to maintain visible community safety presence in neighbourhoods, maximise the number of police officers, provide a ring fenced community safety fund and prioritise service improvements.

There are some uncertainties within the budget, including the funding for the emergency services network which is a national project migrating services from the current provider that will require support in continuing with the current licensing whilst finding new provision.

The budget will also allow for levels of PCSOs to remain the same, whilst increasing the number of police officers (by at least 50) for the first time in a number of years. This will be in addition to replacing those officers who leave/retire as has been the policy for the last couple of years.

Another priority for the precept funding is to accelerate the improvements to the 101 service through a targeted operating model.

In recognition to the cuts in Local Authority budgets, it is intended that the Community Safety Grant continues to be earmarked to fund the work of the Community Safety Partnerships in Greater Manchester for 2018/19 at the same level of 2017/2018.

Members welcomed the report and thanked officers for the detailed highlights, however there was some concern that the additional precept would not be welcomed amongst the public and that officers should commit to detailed communication from the outset of these proposals.

A member further added that although everyone wants to see a strong police service that an increase in the precept needs to be justified and supported by a detailed narrative as to what this funding will bring to each and every community in Greater Manchester. Members went on to suggest that this could even be broken down into how many police officers per borough or how much funding would be allocated to each borough.

The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor reminded the Panel of the events of 2017 which had increased the demand on local policing, and the concern of residents, and agreed that these budget proposals must be communicated in practical and illustrative ways to ensure that local people can clearly see what this additional funding will bring for the people of Greater Manchester.

Members commented that this budget settlement marked a difficult time for policing, as the proposed funding was not substantial for sustaining the required levels of neighbourhood policing. It was felt that this shortfall should not fall on the tax payer, and that this was the responsibility of Central Government.

Members asked whether Greater Manchester Police had made enough efficiency savings before considering an increase in the precept. The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor confirmed that there have been successive efficiencies over the past few years, and savings of £26 million in 2017-18 despite an increased cost of extra policing for a number of large scale events following the arena attack. The precept will partially mitigate the savings in the budget, but will also bring much needed additional resources.

A member commented that they welcomed the preservation of the PCSOs and a commitment to neighbourhood policing, however they had some concern that the shortfall of funding will fall on Local Authorities and as a result will negatively impact local communities.

The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor thanked members of the Panel for their work in building relationships with their divisional commander and making time to discuss local operational issues. She particularly highlighted Salford's approach to addressing the effective use of local resourcing. A member further added that local consideration of

police resources is a really useful process and that if the funding can be detailed in a similar way it would help to explain how the precept will bring added benefits to local authority areas. Officers confirmed that the additional funding could be split out as central spend, and local spend and that the ring fenced police fund could be communicated separately to the public.

Members were concerned that with rising levels of crime, and serious incidents over the past 12 months and felt that the public perception of policing is low. Therefore it is crucial that communication is clear as to what additional support the precept will bring and how improving responsiveness and effectiveness of neighbourhood policing remains a priority for GMP.

A member suggested that the figures received through the proceeds of crime work in GM are also detailed in the communications about policing budgets.

Members also commented that the process for applying for community safety grants need to be improved to ensure that local authorities have equal access to such opportunities. Officers reported that there had been similar feedback through the formal consultation and that this was in the process of being reviewed. Officers further agreed to circulate additional information as to the detail of the consultation and the respondents.

A member of the Panel commented that over the past 5 years there had been a cumulative increase to the precept of £37. They expressed concern these proposals marked the most significant increase, and that this would become the norm for future precepts. The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor recognised the concerns, and empathised with the sensitivities of passing this funding shortfall burden onto the public however it was impossible to assess what would happen in future years without the provision of a longer term Government settlement. She further added that a three year settlement would give a stronger context to future planning.

Members welcomed the additional recruitment in GMP, but urged that they remain committed to diversity in their workforce. The Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor reported that GMP had won an award for their achievements in diverse recruitment and that there had been significant improvements but there were still further opportunities to increase this further. Members expressed their thanks to GMP for all their efforts taking Greater Manchester through a challenging year with limited resources.

Following the discussion a member suggested that an additional recommendation be agreed which demonstrated the feelings of the Panel in relation to the Government Settlement and in support of this, that a letter be sent outlining the concerns of Members.

The suggested recommendation was given as –

That the Police and Crime Panel notes that the Government accepts that policing across the country is underfunded and is disappointed that despite this no additional funds were made available in the recent budget settlement. Instead, the Government decided to place the burden on council tax payers via the option to increase the precept by £12. By agreeing to increase the precept, we note that Greater Manchester are able to maintain a visible community safety presence in our neighbourhoods, maximise the number of

police officers, prioritise service improvements and ring-fence our community safety fund.

The recommendation was voted on, and agreed unanimously.

A member summarised, that although there were some serious concerns about the shortfall in the Government settlement that they would accept the proposed precept with a 'heavy heart'.

Another member asked that there be some quick communication as to the decision taken by the Panel and that a short briefing be prepared for members to share with colleagues at their own authority.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the process and context within which the PCC component of the precept has been set be noted.
2. That the Panel propose that the precept level can be issued.
3. That the budget assumptions relating to the budgets for 2018/19, including the proposals for the Community Safety Fund be noted.
4. That officers explore how it could be demonstrated in which borough the additional funding is being used, and for what specific purpose.
5. That officers circulate further details of the consultation on the precept proposals.
6. That officers prepare a short briefing on the precept for members of the panel to share in their own authorities.
7. That the Panel notes that the Government accepts that policing across the country is underfunded and is disappointed that despite this no additional funds were made available in the recent budget settlement. Instead, the Government decided to place the burden on council tax payers via the option to increase the precept by £12. By agreeing to increase the precept, we note that Greater Manchester are able to maintain a visible community safety presence in our neighbourhoods, maximise the number of police officers, prioritise service improvements and ring-fence our community safety fund.
8. That the Panel write to Government expressing their concerns as set out in the above recommendation.

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
FIRE COMMITTEE**

HELD ON 9th FEBRUARY 2018

Present:

Councillor David Acton (Chair)	(Trafford)
Councillors Mohammed Ayub	(Bolton)
Councillor Walter Brett	(Stockport)
Councillor Jillian Collinson	(Salford)
Councillor Joan Grimshaw	(Bury)
Councillor Jane Hamilton	(Salford)
Councillor Derek Heffernan	(Oldham)
Councillor Barrie Holland	(Tameside)
Councillor Tommy Judge	(Manchester)
Councillor Afia Kamal	(Manchester)
Councillor John O'Brien	(Wigan)
Councillor Shaun O'Neill	(Rochdale)
Councillor Michael Whetton	(Trafford)
Councillor Steve Williams	(Oldham)

Beverley Hughes (Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime))

Officers in Attendance:

Paul Argyle (Strategic Advisor to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on Fire and Resilience)

Dawn Docx (Interim County Fire Officer)

Andrea Heffernan (Director of Corporate Support)

Clare Monaghan (Assistant Director Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire)

Donna Parker (Governance and Scrutiny)

Richard Paver (Treasurer)

Sarah Scoales (Acting Head of Planning and Performance)

Sarah Keaveny (Communications Manager)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kathleen Houlton (Wigan).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Shaun O'Neill (Rochdale) declared a Personal Interest in Item 4 – Terms of Reference by virtue of being appointed to sit on the Local Government Association for the 2017/18 municipal year by Rochdale Council (Minute 4 refers).

Councillor Shaun O'Neill (Rochdale) declared a Personal Interest in Item 5 – GMFRS Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2018/19 by virtue of receiving a

Firefighters Pension from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (Minute 5 refers).

3. CHAIR AND DEPUTY MAYOR (POLICING AND CRIME) ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair and the Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime) welcomed Member's to the first meeting of the Fire Committee.

4. FIRE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Resolved: That the GMCA Fire Committee's Terms of Reference, be noted.

5. GMFRS REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report of the GMCA Treasurer which advised that the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority was abolished on 7th May 2017 and its functions were now exercisable by the Mayor. The Fire and Rescue Service budget was now part of the Mayoral General Budget and the report detailed the GMFRS budget for 2018/19.

It was reported that in December 2017 the Mayor announced his intention to postpone some elements of the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for a period of 12 months, including the proposed reduction in the number of appliances operating out of specific stations across Greater Manchester. In financial terms the current year underspend of £5.5- £6m was being used to fund overtime at time plus half for an initial 6 month period to firefighters to allow crewing levels to be achieved (£2.6m) and to put on hold the withdrawal of pumps for 12 months (£3.24m). In addition, as the Service continued to have a significant number of vacancies, the current attraction and recruitment efforts were to be enhanced to bring numbers closer to establishment.

Pay award for operational staff was included at 2% for 2018/19. The pay award for 2017/18 for operational staff had not yet been finalised, however, 1% was paid in December 2017 at the Employer's request. Pay award for support staff was included at 2%, albeit the pay claim was not yet settled. Fees and charges had been increased in line with inflation, with the pay related charges increased by 2%.

Sharing of overall GMCA costs had delivered savings for GMFRS (£0.5m) who were providing a number of support services across a wider base of users. The previous Medium Term Financial Strategy did not assume an increase in future precept beyond the increase in 2017/18, therefore, in relation to the Mayoral General Budget, specifically Fire, the Mayor proposed that the level of precept relating to the Fire Service, as part of the overall General Precept, remain at its current level (£59.95 at Band D).

A Member requested clarity on the attraction and recruitment efforts to bring numbers closer to establishment and would this reflect the communities within Greater Manchester. In response, Interim County Fire Officer advised

that the last two trainee recruit cohorts represented 50% of the underrepresented groups in Greater Manchester and it was the intention to continue to attract underrepresented groups to join GMFRS. It was essential that recruitment was accelerated due to the significant number of expected retirements.

Members and Officers had a detailed discussion on the underspend and how this was being used to fund the payment of overtime to firefighters for a six month period including the budget forecast for year end.

Resolved: That the proposed GMFRS Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2018/19, be noted.

6. GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE PERFORMANCE UPDATE - QUARTER 3, 2017/18

Consideration was given to a report of the Interim County Fire Officer which provided an update on the GMFRS Performance Update for Quarter 3 2017/18. The report provided a view of performance for each of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) against forecasted target and variances when compared to Quarter 3 of 2016/17.

The Committee were informed of the main headlines which advised that there had been a total of 3214 fire incidents attended during Quarter 3 this year which represented a reduction of 234 (6.7%) when compared to the same period in 2016/17. There had been 55 incidents of hostility towards firefighters reported during Quarter 3, a significant increase when compared to the same period in 2016/17 when 22 incidents were reported. A total of 7838 Safe and Well visits had been made to homes across Greater Manchester this quarter, that was a small reduction of 27 when compared to the 7865 completed during Quarter 3 2016/17. The overall sickness absence level in Quarter 3 was 4.92% that was above the 3% target and a 1.128% increase when compared to the same period last year. An increase had been observed in both uniformed and non-uniformed employees. It was sadly reported that during Quarter 3 six people had died in fires and four of the individuals were involved in the same incident.

Members welcomed the informative report and a number of questions and comments were raised on the increase in false alarms and the work taking place with local hospitals to keep these instances down, the increase in hostilities and the work taking place with other agencies, such as Greater Manchester Police, to reduce these attacks moving forward.

Reference was made to the increasing trend in wheelie bin fires and the work that was taking place with partners and local authorities to tackle issues associated with anti-social behaviour and the environment agencies in relation to refuse collections and fly tipping, such as reporting refuse when it had been discarded prior to a fire occurring. It was noted that there had been an increase in the number of accidental dwelling fires, the majority of these continue to be in the kitchen. There had also been a number of recent

incidents involving white goods. One Member asked if the type and make of white goods was recorded by the crews when these incidents occurred. In response, Sarah Scoales advised that this was not always possible depending on the extent of the fire, however the Service were developing an information sharing agreement with Trading Standards to enable this kind of information to be shared and where appropriate acted upon.

It was reported that the GMFRS carbon footprint was 5% lower over the last Quarter compared to Quarter 3 2016/17, which remained in line with the Sustainability Strategy target to reduce greenhouse emissions by 50% by 2020. Members welcomed this achievement and suggested sharing this good news story with the local authorities to share best practice.

Resolved: That: The Quarter 3 2017/18 Performance Update and comments raised, be noted.

7. FIRE COMMITTEE WORK PLANS

Consideration was given to a report of the Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime) which supported the development of Work Plans for the Fire Committee. It was reported that in order to provide effective advice to the Mayor, the Fire Committee would develop and implement agreed Work Plans.

The Fire Committee was invited to identify ways in which they wished to develop Work Plans in areas referenced within the report and Appendix 1 of the report detailed a Working Planning table that was partly populated to support the process. The Committee welcomed the Work Plans and made the following suggestions:

- The expectation for Members to meet regularly with their Borough Command Teams should be included within the 'Skills, experience and responsibilities of Members';
- 'Sprinklers' should be considered as a potential work area with specific reference to planning applications for new developments in the local authorities;
- To ensure that the Committee meeting dates synchronise with specific reports relating to the budget and performance.

It was reported that an updated version of the Working Planning table would be submitted to each meeting of the Committee and the Chair and Clare Monaghan would meet prior to the next meeting of the Committee to discuss and populate the table accordingly.

Resolved: That the Work Plans are developed by the Fire Committee in accordance with the report.

8. HIGH RISE SAFETY UPDATE

The Chair advised that since the Mayor established the Greater Manchester High Rise Taskforce, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS)

had carried out fire safety audits in all of the 480 residential high rise premises within Greater Manchester. 292 buildings had action plans in place and revisits had been taking place to ensure agreed interim measures had been implemented. In addition, GMFRS were also pulling together a risk-based inspection plan for the 200 plus non-residential high rises and the 254 identified hospitals/care homes/schools.

It was reported that clarity was still required around non-ACM cladding which may be non-compliant and Paul Dennett, Chair of the of the Greater Manchester High Rise Task Force and City Mayor of Salford had written to Sajid Javid MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to prioritise and progress the testing of non-ACM cladding.

The Task Force had also set out plans to develop a new approach to fire safety, including a feasibility study into the retrofitting of sprinklers in residential high rises, a consistent Greater Manchester approach to fire safety, and a call for the fire and rescue service to be consulted at all stages of a building's life cycle. Several Councils including Manchester, Salford, Stockport and Wigan had announced plans for feasibility studies with a view to retro-fitting into blocks where they had responsibility.

Greater Manchester had also submitted evidence to the government's independent review of building regulations and fire safety. The submission called for a ban on flammable cladding and an overhaul of the planning process to put fire safety at the heart of building design and construction.

In December, the Task Force welcomed the interim findings of the Hackitt Review as a positive first step on what was a complex, however, critical journey and had since written to Dame Judith Hackitt outlining how Greater Manchester wish to work with her on the identified working groups to progress this work.

The emerging issues in the media around the cost of interim measures being passed on to private leaseholders was discussed. A tribunal recently found against the residents of the Fresh building in Salford, who were facing a tripling of their service charge to pay for 24 hour fire wardens and other interim measures.

The Committee welcomed the informative update and took the opportunity to thank staff within GMFRS for the excellent work and speed in carrying out fire safety audits in all residential high rise premises within Greater Manchester.

Members requested clarity on if GMFRS were still in the process of purchasing two Aerial Hydraulic Platform Vehicles. In response, Andrea Heffernan advised that this purchase had been included in the budget and from the date ordered it would take approximately 12 month until delivery.

Resolved: That the update and comments raised, be noted.

9. HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS) TIMETABLE

The Chair reported that in July 2017, the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) extended its remit to include inspections of England's fire & rescue service to assess and report on the efficiency, effectiveness and leadership of the 45 fire & rescue services in England.

The HMICFRS had confirmed that Suffolk, Staffordshire and West Yorkshire fire and rescue services would be participating in pilot inspections that were due to take place during Spring 2018. A letter had since been sent to all fire and rescue services advising of the services in each tranche. Greater Manchester was scheduled for Tranche 2 – Autumn/Winter 2018.

Dawn Docx reported that work had already commenced to prepare for the inspection and that the Fire Committee would be involved in the preparation.

Resolved: That the update and comments raised, be noted.

10. FIRE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Director for Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire which advised that it was the intention to produce a 'Fire Plan' on a similar model to the current 'Police and Crime Plan'. This would be a strategic document that would sit above the Corporate Plan and IRMP and would not include the detail of these documents.

Dawn Docx and Clare Monaghan would visit the ten local authorities to deliver the document as part of a consultation and discussion process and the proposed timescale was early summer for consultation.

Members of the Committee asked if they could also attend the visit to the local authorities to support the consultation on the 'Fire Plan' in their local areas.

Resolved: That:

1. The update and comments raised, be noted.
2. The Fire Committee received an update on the proposed 'Fire Plan' in due course.

11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS 2018

It was agreed that the Chair of the Committee and the Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime) to plan future meeting dates for the Committee.

GM HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2017

Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Trust	Dorothy Whitaker
Bolton CCG	Su Long
Bolton Council	Councillor Linda Thomas John Daly
Bury CCG	Stuart North
Bury Council	Steve Kenyon
Christie NHS FT	Roger Spencer
GMCA	Eamonn Boylan Lindsay Dunn Jamie Fallon
GM ACCGs	Rob Bellingham
GM Fire and Rescue Service	Tony Hunter
GM H&SC Partnership Team	Steve Barnard Warren Heppolette Claire Norman Nicky O'Connor Jon Rouse Steve Wilson
Health Innovation Manchester (HiM)	Rowena Burns
Healthwatch	Jack Firth
Heywood, Middleton & Rochdale CCG	Chris Duffy Simon Wooton
Manchester CC	Councillor Bev Craig Geoff Little
NW Boroughs Healthcare NHS FT	John Heritage

Oldham Council	Councillor Eddie Moores Carolyn Wilkins
Primary Care Advisory Group (GP)	Tracey Vell
Primary Care Advisory Group (Optometry)	Dharmesh Patel
Primary Care Advisory Group (Pharmacy)	Adam Irvine
Salford CC	Councillor John Merry David Herne
Salford CCG	Tom Tasker
Stockport CCG	Ranjit Gill
Stockport MBC	Councillor Wendy Wild Pam Smith
Stockport NHS Foundation Trust	Adrian Belton
Tameside & Glossop CCG	Paul Pallister
Tameside MBC	Councillor Brenda Warrington Steven Pleasant
Tameside NHS Foundation Trust	Karen James
TfGM	Bob Morris
Trafford CCG	Matt Colledge Cameron Ward
Trafford Council	Councillor John Lamb Jill Colbert
Wigan Council	Councillor Peter Smith (in the Chair)
Wigan, Wrightington & Leigh NHS FT	Carole Hudson Neil Turner

SPB 85/17 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from;

Simon Barber, Ann Barnes, Councillor Jacqui Beswick, Wirin Bhatiani, Chris Brookes, Andy Burnham, Derek Cartwright, Paul Connellan, Bev Humphreys, Julie Connor, Mayor Paul Dennett, Alan Dow, Councillor Richard Farnell, Anthony Hassall, Beverley Hughes, Bev Humphreys, Majid Hussain, Pat Jones-Greenhalgh, Kevin Lee, Andrew Lightfoot, Councillor Cliff Morris, Silas Nicholls, Pete O'Reilly, Christine Outram, Dr Richard Preece, Steve

Rumbelow, Colin Scales, Councillor Rishi Shori, Tom Thornber, Liz Treacy, Ian Williamson, Ian Wilkinson and Giles Wilmore.

SPB 86/17 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair thanked Oldham for the use of facilities for the revised arrangements of the GM Health and Social Partnership Board meeting that previously met on the same day as the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. It was explained to members that as well as the frequency and timings changing, the format would also alter in order to better engage with the talents of those represented.

RESOLVED/-

To note the revised arrangements and format.

SPB 87/17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 28 JULY 2017

The minutes of the meeting held 28 July 2017 were agreed as a true record

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2017.

SPB 88/17 CHIEF OFFICER'S UPDATE

Jon Rouse, Chief Officer, Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership (GMHSCP), provided an update on key items of interest across the GMHSC Partnership.

The Board were asked to note and provide feedback on the content of the revised update report that included recommendations and decisions made at the GM Strategic Partnership Board Executive meetings.

The following items were highlighted;

-) In relation to the Workforce Strategy, GM has developed a system wide approach to nursing recruitment with some encouraging first results. Commendation was given to the Directors of Nursing and the relevant Universities for their collaborative work in this area which has seen an 11% increase in student intake against a national reduction of 6%. The Partnership is expecting to build on this collaborative model and extend to benefit Social Care, General Practice and mental health where there are significant staff shortages.
-) GM is investing £10m of capital in digital solutions across the health and care system this year. The funding will support the transformation of services to residents and is the start of a digital improvement plan expected to invest up to £70m over the next 3-4 years. Localities have had the opportunity to submit bids for the use of this funding which relates to 2017/18. The recommendations from this process will be reported to SPBE for decision.

- J The Care Quality Commission (CQC) will undertake place based reviews in both City of Manchester and Trafford over the forthcoming weeks with emphasis on the integration of health and social care. The outcome of both reviews will be presented to the Board in due course.
- J Urgent Care performance across GM is currently at 89.4% for the year to date with no individual trust achieving the national standard of 95%. Bolton, Stockport and Pennine Acute have particularly challenged performance.
- J Delayed Transfers of Care performance is at 3.7% for the month of July, showing a positive lower amount year on year. Variation still exists across the system, however, Stockport has reported significant improvements in this area.
- J Cancer performance is now a priority concern for GM. The Partnership team is supporting improvements to address, stabilise and correct the current position.
- J CQC have recently completed Primary care inspections. A tremendous achievement was reported on the performance of Tameside and Glossop GPs practices, all of which have been found to be either 'good' or 'outstanding'.
- J Although resources are much tighter this year, financial performance was summarised as broadly to plan.

RESOLVED/-

To note the update report and provide feedback in relation to content or omissions for future updates.

SPB 89/17 HEALTH INNOVATION MANCHESTER – UPDATE ON PROGRESS

Rowena Burns, Executive Lead, Health Innovation Manchester introduced a report and provided a presentation which outlined the work that has taken place since March 2017 to refocus Health Innovation Manchester (HInM) and create a sound platform for delivery. It also outlined the further work scheduled for the months beyond October 2017.

It was reported that the operational merger of the Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) and Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC) organisations, including colocation of the staff, is complete. The HInM board has agreed a 3-year strategic business plan consisting of a revised set of three strategic objectives, which will be presented to this Board in due course and published in November.

The HInM board, partners and staff have all been engaged in its creation. This plan will have a full suite of KPIs and a measurement framework to demonstrate contribution to GMHSCP's goals, and direct and indirect economic benefits.

The 3 key strategic objectives going forward for HInM were reported as:

- J To make GM an internationally renowned location for life science, med-tech and digital healthcare research and innovation.
- J To accelerate the discovery, development and deployment of innovations that improve our population's health and well-being.
- J To contribute to national and international health and life science policy to strengthen the competitiveness of the UK Life Sciences Industry, tackle health and social care challenges and address the rising costs of ill health.

The key next steps over the next six months were highlighted as:

-) Consolidation of the HInM delivery vehicle, governance arrangements and complete resourcing of the single HInM team.
-) The confirmation of the future funding model for HInM.
-) The launch the 3-year strategic business plan to reflect the Key priorities for HInM going forward.
-) Extensive communication with partners and stakeholders, to improve understanding of HInM's work, and of the processes through which innovations will be evaluated and adopted.
-) Bringing forward quick win innovations in mental health, social care, and primary care, alongside implementation of the secondary care quick wins already identified.

On behalf of the Partnership, the Chair welcomed the update which demonstrated the use of the devolution agreement to ensure wider benefits for the region in terms of healthcare and promoting GM as an attractive place for future innovative developments.

A member asked, if as a result, GM providers and commissioners would benefit from obtaining drugs and medicines at a competitively reduced price. It was highlighted that the pricing of drugs is highly complex both in the degree in control at a national and local level. It was confirmed that at present, the focus of work alongside the pharmaceutical industry with regard to pricing, is on projects with payment linked to outcomes.

Jon Rouse confirmed that an adoption and diffusion framework is a critical development required for GM. This is currently being developed in order to drive perception into reality for the potential opportunity to develop evidence based best practice. The adoption and diffusion context and structure will be presented to the Board in due course.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the progress made in 2017 to establish HInM and provide a firm basis for implementation of the priorities in the Business Plan;
2. To note and approve the next steps to be undertaken in 2017/18 to consolidate the new organisation, launch the strategic objectives and new business plan and determine HInM's future funding structure.

SPB 90/17 TRANSFORMATION FUND UPDATE

Steve Wilson, Executive Lead: Finance & Investment introduced a report providing an update on recent developments with the Transformation Fund. Members were asked to acknowledge the significant milestone in the investment of the fund as all ten localities have progressed through the locality bidding process for investment. It was noted that the Transformation Fund will move into a different phase and focus on delivery of the plans and assurance that investment will deliver the goal of clinically sustainable and financially affordable services across GM.

This month had an expanded section on the findings and recommendations from the assessment team in their evaluation of the proposals from Bury, Rochdale and Trafford.

The key headlines were:

- J Bury's proposal supports the delivery of their locality plan to achieve a series of system wide transformational 'shifts' in order to transform the health and wellbeing of the population in Bury.
- J By 2021, Rochdale aims to have more people in control of their own health and wellbeing, managing their long term conditions well and being supported to achieve good health and wellbeing.
- J Trafford's Transformation Fund Bid sought to secure a sustainable health and social care economy by 2021, in order to build a strong foundation for delivery of Trafford's vision for 2031.
- J TFOG recommended a substantive investment of £19.2m over four years for Bury, £23.5m over four years for Rochdale and £22m over three years for Trafford. These funding recommendations were accompanied with material conditions for the funding. Funding for all Bury and Rochdale was approved by SPBE on 9 August 2017, and for Trafford on 28 September 2017.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the progress update reported on the Transformation Fund;
2. To note the Executive's decision to:

To approve a substantive investment in Bury of £19.2m over four years, with phasing to be set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:

- J 2016/17: £1.0m
- J 2017/18: £7.03m
- J 2018/19: £6.31m
- J 2019/20: £4.89m
- J Noting that there are material conditions to funding, only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 2.3.2.

To approve a substantive investment in Rochdale of £23.5m over four years, with phasing to be set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:

- J 2016/17: £0.46m
- J 2017/18: £6.32m
- J 2018/19: £14.95m
- J 2019/20: £2.2m
- J Noting that there are material conditions to funding, only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 3.3.2.

To approve a substantive investment in Trafford of £22m over three years, with phasing to be set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:

- J 2017/18: £4.80m
- J 2018/19: £13.42m
- J 2019/20: £3.77m
- J Noting that there are material conditions with funding only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 4.3.2.

To note the BDO conclusion and revisions to the process to take into account their recommendations.

SPB 91/17 WINTER PREPAREDNESS

Steve Barnard, Head of Urgent and Emergency Care Service Improvement introduced a report which provided an overview of the work undertaken by the Partnership and localities to help mitigate the demands of winter. The report described how the GMHSC Partnership will provide ongoing support for local systems to ensure they are able to respond effectively to the demands of winter and continue to provide safe, high quality care to patients. It also set out the current challenging position of the GM system and identified the ongoing risk in relation to service delivery over winter.

The key headlines were:

-) GMHSC Partnership, in partnership with NHSI, has worked closely with each of the localities to support the development and ongoing review of plans to help mitigate the increased demands of winter. There has been additional focus on (and support offered to) three systems within GM (Bolton, Stockport and North East Sector), which are considered to be more fragile in the context of achieving the 4 hour performance standard. The GMHSC Partnership has developed an overarching winter assurance document, which reflects local planning and nationally identified best practice. The document also sets out the role of the partnership during winter in terms of operational support, escalation, winter reporting and assurance.
-) From November, the GM UEC Operational Hub will be a key component of the GM-level of support, when urgent care pressures are experienced within the system. It will collect, analyse and report key performance and flow information, to support decision making as part of the escalation processes. It will also act as a single point of contact for regional and national winter reporting – reducing the burden on local systems.
-) A GM winter summit took place earlier that day and was attended by Chief Officers and senior system leaders from across health, social care and the voluntary sector attended. The summit offered localities an opportunity to provide an update on their plans and to discuss ongoing challenges. The GM and locality-level UEC Delivery Boards continue to meet monthly and monitor progress and provide oversight of the plans.

The children's programme for the flu vaccination was discussed and the Chair questioned whether or not there was a possibility that some parent's reluctance could be attributed to previous concerns surrounding other immunizations. The reasons were thought to be difficult to understand, however it was believed that the current communication campaign has a good chance of success and will feature along major gateways and on televised boards in areas where there is a high footfall.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the content of the paper in relation to winter preparedness;
2. To support the delivery against the identified priority areas.

SPB 92/17 GREATER MANCHESTER MODEL FOR URGENT PRIMARY CARE

Dr Tracey Vell, Associate Lead for Primary and Community Care, GMHSC Partnership introduced a report that provided context regarding urgent and out of hours primary care reform in Greater Manchester. An overview of progress to date and the proposed future model for an integrated 24/7 urgent primary care offer was detailed in the paper.

A model which articulates what a reformed, integrated 24/7 urgent primary care offer could look like with key components that will enable patients to receive the right care, in the right place in a timely manner while reducing the burden on highly pressurised A&E departments was described in the report. The new model of urgent and out of hours primary care will contribute to a reduction in hospital utilisation by reducing avoidable A&E attendances and subsequent admissions and at the same time assist in community resilience.

The rationale for a GM Model along with the risks, considerations and opportunities including the next steps, changes for this forthcoming winter and the future ambition were highlighted to the Board.

Stuart North, Urgent Care Lead for the Association of Clinical Commissioning Groups (ACCGs) offered support for the approach and confirmed that there had been the appropriate clinical involvement throughout the process in the development of the model. The key next steps for health and social care partners in each locality is to implement the recommended approach and model. In support of this, a group chaired by the Urgent Care Lead for ACCGs will provide assistance to facilitate the development and mitigate risks identified in the report.

Members offered support for the proposals and requested that local elected members are provided with a thorough briefing in order to positively explain and address concerns regarding access to appropriate treatment from members of the public. It was recognised that this maybe a complex process to understand, however the aim is to provide better standardisation across all localities. It was recommended that plain English is used in literature to deliver communication on urgent primary care. A slide pack with a visual explanation of the process has also been developed which will be considered to support the development of appropriate patient messages.

A Member brought it to the attention that Tameside and Glossop would be one of the areas that would not meet the national specification highlighted in section 5.2.2 of the report. This is due to the fact that the control total has not yet been signed off, and as a result, NHSI will not release funding for primary care streaming. Despite improvements locally to reduce direct demand on hospitals and the overwhelming contribution of health and social care staff, essential capital is required in order to continue to deliver improvements. Support was requested to continue to improve all services and resolve the release funding.

On behalf of the GM Partnership Jon Rouse explained that he was sympathetic to the fact that both Tameside and Stockport capital requirements to develop new models of care were linked to control totals. This has been communicated previously and just recently expressed to the Prime Minister's Health Advisor. This will now be followed up by a letter to the Department of Health (DoH), NHSI, NHSE and Treasury from Lord Peter Smith reiterating the concerns regarding limiting the ability as a devolved system to make decisions and allocate resources.

In offering support for the paper, Primary Care Advisory Group (PCAG) acknowledged their role in helping to develop and deliver the public message in the community. The involvement of local social care partners in planning at locality level was considered integral as appropriate availability of social care support is essential to respond to and meet needs.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the progress to date including development of future model of 24/7 urgent primary care;
2. To support the proposed 24/7 urgent primary care model;
3. To note the risks to delivery and considerations which will be picked up as part of the work of the task and finish group;
4. To agree the deliverables for 2017 and future ambition for GM;
5. To provide effective communication to elected Members in order to provide support for the model;
6. To develop appropriate communication and engagement of the model for the public.

SPB 93/17 MANCHESTER ARENA INCIDENT RESPONSE

Nicky O'Connor, Chief Operating Officer, GMHSCP, provided a paper which highlighted the health and care input during the immediate response and recovery phases following on the Manchester Arena incident on 22 May 2017. This included the delivery of actions within the Health and Welfare plan focused on identifying and ensuring provision of appropriate immediate and longer term psychological, physical, practical and social support for those affected and their families.

Tribute was paid to all public sector and voluntary workers involved in the immediate emergency response and recovery phase which was described as exemplary.

The immediate health response saw 65 ambulances deployed to the scene of the incident within 31 minutes. In total 59 individuals were taken to local hospitals depending on their particular injuries and which hospital was most suitable. The responsibility for the recovery phased passed to Manchester City Council on 31 May 2017. The health and care response is providing support to bereaved families, individuals injured as a result of the incident and public service staff involved in the response. This has been enhanced by the establishment of the GM Resilience Hub to provide support for people psychologically affected by the incident. Following the independent review lessons learnt will be used to inform responses to any potential future incidents.

Geoff Little, Deputy Chief Executive, Manchester CC who has led the Health and Welfare Group as part of the recovery phase, added to this that, this particular workstream will continue for as long as is required. Furthermore, where necessary, services will be improved and support will continue for the survivors. The link between public services to deliver integrated post discharge assistance for those that received the most severe physical injuries will also remain in place. It was noted that the web site that has been created to sign post those affected, will be further developed along with other support networks by the survivors with expert guidance of Dr Anne Eyre.

The Chair added his appreciation to all those involved in the aftermath of the tragedy and on the ongoing support for those in need.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the health response to the Manchester Arena incident during the immediate and recovery phases;
2. To note the actions delivered through the Welfare and Health plan in particular the establishment of the GM Resilience Hub;
3. To note the involvement in the independent review and lessons learnt process which will influence responses to future incidents;
4. To note the gratitude to all those involved in the aftermath of the tragedy.

SPB 94/17 HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS

Consideration was given to a report presented by Warren Heppolette, Executive Lead, Strategy and System Development, which set the background and emerging detail of the homelessness and health work programme, which supported the wider Greater Manchester priority with a Mayoral commitment to end rough sleeping and homelessness by 2020.

The paper outlined some of the current challenges and activity in respect of homelessness and rough sleeping in Greater Manchester and a proposed response from the Health and Social Care system.

The involvement of the health and care system in delivering support to people experiencing homelessness was acknowledged to be of critical importance. It was reported that the health needs of the client group can be acute and both a cause of homelessness and a consequence of it.

The Strategic Partnership Board were informed of the intended contribution of the health and care system to end homelessness and rough sleeping. It detailed the Greater Manchester context and the four principal commitments made by GMHSC Partnership at the meeting of Reform Board on 6 October 2017. Alongside this, based on evidence and understanding, some longer term action was proposed, which collectively will provide additional health service support to people experiencing homelessness. A task and finish group will be convened over the forthcoming weeks to identify the necessary processes, stakeholders and mechanisms required to achieve delivery of the commitments.

Members offered support for the report and requested information on the numbers involved in order to assess if there is likely to be any impact on the issues raised as a result of winter pressures. It was confirmed that the numbers are small and should not have an immense consequential impact on delayed transfer of care. It was noted that in some localities, housing is already embedded in the discharge process and integration with housing should be standardised across GM.

It was noted that each Local Authority has a significant resource in the commissioning of housing which addresses and helps to provide housing solutions across the conurbation. It was suggested that these are included on the proposed task and finish group.

Members expressed concern with regard to the level of engagement and communication required in order to respond to those individuals sleeping rough and homeless. Likewise the

possibility of NHS processes being overly bureaucratic and in turn preventing the moral response referred to.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note and discuss the content of the report;
2. To confirm support for delivery of the commitments made to Reform Board;
3. To support collective engagement with the actions that will emerge from the identified work areas, to ensure they are successfully implemented.

SPB 95/17 OLDHAM LOCALITY PRESENTATION

Dr Carolyn Wilkins, Oldham Chief Executive introduced a presentation that provided an overview of the Oldham locality model of Public Sector Reform. The partnership vision and ambition for improving Oldham’s population health by empowering people and communities, the case for change, next steps and journey to date were detailed in the presentation.

Thanks were placed on record for the contribution of Denis Gizzi, Chief Officer, Oldham CCG for his involvement in the development of Oldham’s Local Care Organisation and the wider Health and Social care system in GM. It was noted that it was his final day in the role and the Chair extended his appreciation and wished him success in his new role.

Investment, innovation and Oldham’s achievements in establishing the primary care cluster system and integrating services including a fully integrated hospital discharge team along with successful local performance were highlighted to the Board.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the progress provided and update on Oldham Locality Model;
2. To acknowledge the role of Denis Gizzi in the GMHSC Partnership.

SPB 96/17 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meeting of the GM Health and Social Care Strategic Partnership Board are arranged as follows:

Friday 10 November 2017 10.00am Stockport Town Hall

Friday 19 January 2018 10.00am Wigan Town Hall

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**GM HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2018**

Bolton CCG	Wirin Bhatiani
Bolton Council	Tony Oakman
Bury CCG	Kiran Patel
Christie NHS FT	Christine Outram
GM Mayor	Andy Burnham
GMCA	Eamonn Boylan Lindsay Dunn Jamie Fallon
GM ACCGs	Rob Bellingham
GM H&SC Partnership Team	Warren Heppolette Nicky O'Connor Jon Rouse Steve Wilson Zoe O'Neill Sarah Price Sarah Fletcher-Hogg Karishma Chandaria
GMCVO	Nathalie Long
Healthwatch	Jack Firth Mick Hodlin
Manchester Carers Forum	David Williams
Manchester CC	Councillor Bev Craig Geoff Little
Manchester Foundation Trust	Kathy Cowell
Manchester Health and Care Commissioning	Craig Harris
NW Boroughs Healthcare NHS FT	John Heritage
Oldham Council	Councillor Eddie Moores

Oldham CCG	Noreen Dowd
Primary Care Advisory Group (GP)	Tracey Vell
Primary Care Advisory Group (Pharmacy) Pennine Acute NHS Trust	Adam Irvine Jim Potter
Rochdale MBC	Steve Rumbelow Ross Jeffrey
Salford CC	Councillor Paula Boshell David Herne
Salford CCG	Tom Tasker Jim Potter
Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust	Chris Brookes
Stockport CCG	Ranjit Gill
Stockport MBC	Councillor Wendy Wild Pam Smith
Tameside MBC	Councillor Brenda Warrington Gill Gibson
TfGM	Bob Morris
The Gaddum Centre	Lynne Stafford
Trafford CCG	Matt Colledge
Wigan Council	Councillor Peter Smith (in the Chair) Will Blandamer Donna Hall
Wigan, Wrightington & Leigh NHS FT	Carole Hudson Neil Turner
Wigan CCG	Tim Dalton Trish Anderson

SPB 01/18 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from;

Darren Banks, Simon Barber, Steve Barnard, Julie Connor, Paul Dennett, Alan Dow, Chris Duffy, Councillor Alex Ganotis, Pat Jones-Greenhalgh, Anthony Hassall, Beverley Hughes,

Bev Humphreys, Tony Hunter, Karen James, Kevin Lee, Claire Molloy, Steven Pleasant, Councillor Sara Rowbotham, Joanne Roney, Councillor Rishi Shori, Councillor Andrea Simpson, Mel Sirotkin, Jim Taylor, Liz Treacy, Alex Whinnom, Dorothy Whitaker, Ian Williamson, Carolyn Wilkins, Ian Wilkinson and Simon Wooton.

SPB 02/18 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair opened the meeting and wished members of the Board a Happy New Year. He highlighted that the NHS had received a considerable amount of publicity recently as it approached 70 years of establishment along with the challenges for health and social care systems nationally from winter pressures.

Tony Oakman, Chief Executive, Bolton Council was introduced and welcomed to the Board. Thanks were placed on record for the contribution of Anne Gibbs for her joint role as Director of Delivery and Improvement, NHSI for GM and Lancashire and within the GMHSCP and was wished success in her new role.

SPB 03/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 13 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes of the meeting held 13 October 2017 were agreed as a true record.

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 October 2017.

SPB 04/18 CHIEF OFFICER'S UPDATE

Jon Rouse, Chief Officer, Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership (GMHSCP), provided an update on key items of interest across the GMHSC Partnership.

The Board were asked to note and provide feedback on the content of the revised update report that included recommendations and decisions made at the GM Strategic Partnership Board Executive meetings.

The following items were highlighted;

-) NHS England (NHSE) National Commissioning Committee have given GM the ability to make decisions around most specialised mental health services. In this context, GM has agreed a delegated specialised commissioning portfolio which has been developed in collaboration with NHSE North West specialised commissioning team. Sarah Price, Sandy Bering, Tom Tasker and the team were thanked for the significant work undertaken to develop and agree the delegated portfolio. It was highlighted that the first area of focus would be CAMHS Tier 4 provision in order to address the barriers that existed between levels of intervention for children and young people.
-) There had been significant coverage of the whistleblower case and letter from clinicians at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital expressing concern with regard to staffing levels in respect of critical care for children and young people. Manchester Foundation Trust (MFT) have issued a clear statement in terms of the seriousness with which they had taken the concerns and the appropriate steps taken. The Board were reassured that in light of the Francis Report, all parties had taken the concerns

seriously and were working to ensure that the provision of care in the unit was safe and of the highest quality possible;

-) It was expected that the national planning guidance for the NHS 2018/19 which set out how extra resources announced in the November budget were to be allocated would be published imminently. It was anticipated that there would be some new requirements alongside the money which would need to be reflected in the devolution accountability agreement and may need some re adjustment to targets;
-) It was reported that in light of national guidance issued in relation to the potential cancellation of elective procedures and outpatient appointments, GM had adopted a proportionate approach and had only cancelled procedures where necessary to ensure the safe running of UEC departments. It was recognised that cancellations were a huge inconvenience which could cause potential stress for patients. It was anticipated that just under 14% of procedures would be cancelled in January and partnership work had ensured this had been minimised. Plans for recovery and rebooking would be scheduled as a priority over the coming months. It was also advised that if the position was to change due to winter pressures for example, then the partnership and public would be kept informed;
-) A succession of Ofsted and CQC SEND inspections has highlighted that there is work to do in GM to strengthen joint arrangements between Local Authorities and CCGs to focus on the assessment and planning of an individual education, health and care plan for each child with special educational needs;
-) Salford locality were commended for their remarkable improvement in quality in care homes performance. The percentage of care homes rated good or outstanding compared to last year had seen a significant level of progress;
-) Steve Wilson, Executive Lead, Finance and Investment provided a six month finance position update. It was advised that the financial position for 17/18 remained challenging especially for the provider sector. This was mainly due to Pennine Care FT not expecting to meet the agreed financial plan for the year and other trusts not meeting their UEC performance, thus not allowing for the maximum Sustainability and Transformation funding allocations from NHSI;
-) Dr Tracey Vell provided the Board with feedback from the delegation of representatives that had visited 10 Downing Street earlier in the week to discuss support required to roll out primary care reform at scale. The meeting with representatives from Government, Treasury and the Department of Health had provided an opportunity to demonstrate the progression made in the development reviews of the LCO's as a collective part of the accountable care system. It also presented the opportunity to highlight some of the difficulties experienced in general practice, with contracts and estates. The group had requested support and a positive narrative towards general practice, primary care and community work.

Members of the Board welcomed the update provided and asked for clarification on the progress with government with regard to capital funding which had been held up due to control totals not being agreed. It was confirmed that the Partnership continued to make representations and the latest position was that resources could be released if GM could make a commitment across the system to meeting the aggregate of the individual control totals. However, as previously highlighted in the finance update, there could be no guarantee at this stage that such a position could be met due to the current deficit against planned position.

Assurance that transformation fund allocations were being used to make the intended improvements to services along with the required checks and balances was requested by the Board. It was recognised that there was a real and present risk with regard to funding and as such built into investment agreements were clauses which ensured that the transformation funding only be used for the purposes intended along with monitoring and tracking to provide assurance.

RESOLVED/-

To note the update report and provide feedback in relation to content or omissions for future updates.

SPB 05/18 TRANSFORMATION FUND UPDATE

Steve Wilson introduced a report providing an update on recent developments with the Transformation Fund.

This month had an expanded section on the findings and recommendations from the assessment team in their evaluation of the proposals from Salford and Wigan.

The key headlines were:

-) The report provided a general update on the latest developments in relation to the £450m GM Transformation Fund and contained, in detail, the findings of the Transformation Fund Oversight Group (TFOG) on 23 November, 5 December and 13 December 2017, and the decisions of the Strategic Partnership Board Executive on 14 December, where the Mental Health, Salford and Wigan submissions were considered.
-) The mental health proposals allocated funding to two key elements of the GM Mental Health Strategy which supported both the development of the Children and Young Peoples Crisis Care Pathway and the Liaison Mental Health Services within GM Acute Hospitals.
-) The Salford proposals supported a plan to deliver a radical upgrade in population health through stratification and needs identification, engagement and prevention. It would support people to live healthy independent lives, managing their own conditions through a community asset based approach.
-) Wigan's proposals build on their phase 1 transformation fund allocation and looked to deliver a new approach to out of hospital unplanned care, a reformed housing with care offer, a place based approach to specialist mental health services and a further acceleration of the Heart of Wigan programme.
-) TFOG recommended a substantive investment of £27.68m in mental health services (this is out of the total transformation fund allocation of £42m agreed by SPBE in July 2017), £3.44m investment in Salford and £15.43m for Wigan. These funding recommendations were accompanied with material conditions for the funding. Funding for all proposals was approved by SPBE subject to those conditions.

RESOLVED/-

1. Note the Strategic Partnership Board Executive's decision to:

- J Approve a substantive investment in the Mental Health business case for the Children and Young People's Crisis Care Pathway of £13.44m over four years, with phasing to be set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:
 - o 2017/18: £0.56m
 - o 2018/19: £3.89m
 - o 2019/20: £4.51m
 - o 2020/21: £4.48m
 - o Noting that there are material conditions with funding only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 2.4.3.

- J Approve a substantive investment in the Mental Health business case for the Liaison Mental Health Services in Acute Hospitals of £14.24m over four years, with phasing to be set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:
 - o 2017/18: £0.37m
 - o 2018/19: £2.96m
 - o 2019/20: £4.73m
 - o 2020/21: £6.18m
 - o Noting that there are material conditions with funding only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 2.4.3.

- J Approve a substantive investment in Salford of £3.44m over four years, with phasing to be set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:
 - o 2017/18: £0.28m
 - o 2018/19: £1.51m
 - o 2019/20: £1.37m
 - o 2020/21: £0.28m
 - o Noting that there are material conditions with funding only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 3.3.2.

- J Approve a substantive investment in Wigan of £15.43m with phasing still to be determined, set out in the Investment Agreement and paid quarterly in advance:
 - o Noting that there are material conditions with funding only to be released upon their satisfactory completion. These are set out at 4.3.2.

SPB 06/18 GM HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE REVIEW: PROPOSALS

Jon Rouse introduced a report which set out the review of the current governance arrangements for the GM HSC Partnership and proposed a number of changes to recognise and support the Partnership's move into its next phase of delivery of Taking Charge Together.

In drawing together the proposals in the report, all key stakeholders have been consulted. In addition the recommendations from a recent NHS England Internal Audit of governance have been incorporated. The proposals were supported by SPBE at their meeting in November 2017 and have been updated to reflect that discussion.

It was highlighted that the review provided the opportunity to ensure that GM health and social care governance was fit for purpose and proposed that the current Board became more public facing and focused on impacting the determinant's of health by working across public services and beyond, including the role of the VCSE. It would develop a strong relationship with local statutory Health and Wellbeing Boards in pursuing their local strategies along with the Mayor on public service reform priorities.

The Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham supported the direction set out in the proposals and thanked the Board for the work done so far to integrate and engage with the public service reform agenda. He highlighted the work done regarding homelessness and in doing so extended his gratitude for the implementation of the proposal to help those of no fixed abode register with a GP along with the commitment not to discharge those from hospital onto the street and the ongoing efforts to address and improve mental health outreach. The broad GM person centred focus, which concentrated on place based interventions was welcomed and fully endorsed by the Mayor.

Members of the Board offered support for the report and discussed the importance of engaging the public and by doing so recognising the need to ensure that reports are public facing providing a clear understanding of the vision and ambitions. It was recognised that it may be challenging to implement citizen led agendas, however a balance would be required to become fully engaged with the public. Acknowledgment for the role of the VCSE in the report and the opportunities to become more innovative were welcomed. The importance of recognising the public as people that may access a myriad of services rather than a patient in just a health setting was highlighted.

It was confirmed that there had been an oversight in the terms of reference for the Health and Care Board and that the broader Primary Care Advisory Group should be represented as opposed to primary care through the Local Medical Committee.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the issues with and limitations of the current governance approach;
2. To note the high level findings from the governance audit;
3. To agree the proposed changes;
4. To note the comments from the Board with regard to the broader public service reform agenda, public engagement and a person focused place based approach;
5. To amend the Terms of Reference for the Health and Care Board with regard to primary care representation.

SPB 07/18 GM HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18 – SIX MONTH SUMMARY

Warren Heppolette, Executive Lead Strategy and System Development, introduced a report which summarised the Health & Social Care Partnership's progress in delivering its aims for the first six months of the financial year set out in the 2017/18 Business Plan.

It was advised that there had been a number of key achievements and relatively good performance against target, however there were inevitable challenges which would require addressing.

Key highlights included;

-) The proportion of children who start school ready has steadily increased. Good progress had been made in improving the oral health of children along with the co-ordination in reducing the numbers of pregnant women and their partners who smoke in GM;
-) The Lung Health Check pilot introduced and focused on deprived areas has led to a significant increase in early stage lung cancer being diagnosed;
-) £134m investment for mental health was one of the number of momentous steps to deliver on the commitment to improve mental health and well-being of the residents in GM;
-) The rate of progress with the mobilisation and progress to develop the Local Care Organisations (LCO's) was considered to be compellingly positive in helping to deliver new models of care and support in neighbourhoods;
-) The support and activity of the community learning disability teams across GM had been recognised for the progress made in supporting people with learning disabilities to live in their communities;
-) In line with Mayoral priorities, an innovative housing and health programme including the commitment to tackle homelessness had been set up in GM;
-) Urgent and emergency care was one of the most challenging areas where there had been significant steps to introduce stability and consistency including the introduction of urgent primary care on a 24/7 basis;
-) In order to improve hospital care, the first stage of the most significant hospital merger in the country, the Single Hospital Service was completed. Progress had been made in the development of the Northern Care Alliance along with secured national funding of £93m for capital investment for Healthier Together and the development to increase capacity for major trauma services;
-) The work on genomics and cancer, being led by leading world experts and the GM Cancer Board would aim to dramatically advance precision medicine in the treatment of cancer;
-) £10m of funds has been assigned to a range of digital projects across localities;
-) The Workforce Transformation Strategy was agreed to help address the key workforce gaps and critical shortages;

The contribution of staff working seamlessly across the system to address the challenges and pressures faced by urgent and emergency care (UEC) systems to better support patients was recognised. A member welcomed that the rate of smoking had reduced in Greater Manchester but requested that consideration be given to a report which highlighted that

younger people were taking recreational drugs as opposed to smoking which may have a future impact on mental health.

The benefits of the Tameside integrated care digital health programme were highlighted to the Board and it was suggested that a presentation to demonstrate the cost effectiveness of this model be provided to the Board.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the six month summary update on the progress this year;
2. To note the contribution of staff working across the system to address the challenges and pressures faced by admissions to UEC;
3. To receive a presentation from Tameside locality on the digital programme.

SPB 08/18 WINTER PREPAREDNESS

Jon Rouse introduced a report which provided an overview of the winter UEC performance to date and the work undertaken by the localities and the Partnership to continue to mitigate the demands of winter and provide safe, high quality care to patients. It also set out the current challenging position of the GM system and identified the ongoing risk in relation to service delivery over the winter.

The effort, dedication and commitment of staff across health and social care was recognised and the obligation to deliver a more sustainable framework at local and national level going forward was acknowledged.

The key headlines were:

- J All local and national systems have reported a much greater number of higher acuity patients, which had resulted in increased hospital admission rates. This had resulted in much higher bed occupancy rates of 95% plus. This was despite running a GM-wide 'Home for Christmas' campaign and a significant effort by systems, leading up to the festive period, to achieve 85% bed occupancy. The validated performance against the 4 hour standard for Greater Manchester was 81.5% for December, down from 86.7% in November and 89.6% in October. Having sustained at or close to the recovery target level of 90% over summer and through to end of October it is disappointing that we have been unable to hold the position as winter has set in. On a more positive to note to date, partnership work across Greater Manchester has meant that OPEL4 major incidents have been avoided and delayed discharge numbers low.
- J The Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership with NHSI, had continued to work very closely with localities through regular site visits, system conference calls and workshops. Additional service improvement support has continued to be provided by NHSI, the Emergency Care Improvement Programme and Advancing Quality Alliance to three systems within GM (Bolton, Stockport and North East Sector).
- J The Greater Manchester UEC Operational Hub had been operational for two months and had been working with the systems to help reduce ambulance handover delays, maintain

patient flow, support escalation processes and winter reporting to the regional and national winter rooms.

- J GM had received approximately £21 million of additional winter monies from the national allocations for acute, primary care and mental health services. The additional monies have been predominantly used to increase; bed capacity, clinical workforce, primary care additional access and 24/7 mental health services.
- J Following the publication of NHSI and NHSE guidance on the deferral of non-urgent elective activity until the 31st January, the GMHSCP had asked each locality UEC delivery Board to consider their response to the guidance and submit a plan for January and the remainder of the financial year. Work was currently underway to understand the implications of the guidance and any deferrals in the context of devolution and the formally adopted accountability agreement, particularly around the requirement to achieve constitutional standards such as Referral to Treatment.

The capacity of the estate and workforce were highlighted as constraints that would require immediate attention to manage the pressures and demand placed on the system.

Following his visits to the Emergency Care Hub, the Mayor reiterated the views of the Chief Officer and thanked all parts of the system for working in partnership and managing the situation under increased and unprecedented levels of demand. The one system and partnership approach to working, evident after the attack at the Arena had continued across the health and care system and was commended for continually improving.

Following the guidance issued by Government on the cancellation of elective procedures, the Mayor highlighted the proportionate and balanced approach adopted by GM which illustrated the benefits of a devolved health and care system. This had resulted in fewer procedures being unnecessarily cancelled which delivered a more favorable outcome for the residents of GM.

The record number of people arriving at UEC and the ultimate admissions demonstrated that the care at home model was no longer acceptable. The increasing impact of that would have an inevitable effect on the demand placed on the system, therefore a new model of care which optimises the patient journey, like Care 2020 was considered essential.

The Chair replicated the views expressed with regard to the efforts of the workforce across GM.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the content of the paper in relation to winter preparedness;
2. To support the delivery against the identified priority areas;
3. To note the positive comments from the Board with regard to the efforts of the workforce across the system and;

4. To note a national and local solution is required to manage the pressures of winter in a sustainable framework.

SPB 09/18 BURY CCG MEDICINES STRATEGY

Dr Kiran Patel, NHS Bury CCG Clinical Chair, GMHSC Partnership introduced a presentation which provided an overview of the Medicines Optimisation project introduced ten years ago in Bury. Two areas of focus for the project were diabetes prescribing and the national call to reduce psychotropic medicines for people with learning difficulties (LD).

The driver for the diabetes medicine optimisation project was due to the fact that Bury's prescribing spend was 21% above the England average, higher than the North West average spend and the worst 10% of English Primary Care Trusts for cost-effective statin prescribing. The programme recommended a combination of incentive payment and support, the development of a trustworthy relationship and a cost effective model along with quality improvements. The data was analysed to challenge well established views and a programme of work was developed, the outcomes of which have reduced average practice spend on statin prescribing along with good outcomes.

Collaborative work was undertaken between Bury CCG and Pennine Care NHS FT to implement the call to action by reviewing all LD patients receiving antipsychotics. As a result all people where prescribing was considered inappropriate have had reduction plans in place, and where agreed, appropriate support was provided.

Members offered support for the optimisation strategy and welcomed the balance of cost with quality and engagement across the system involving patients with treatment plans. The work of the Medicines Strategy Board to reduce wastage and the implementation of electronic patient prescribing was highlighted as being a key area of focus.

The expansion of the primary care workforce to deliver front line medicine management care was recognised as allowing GP's more time to see and treat patients. It was suggested that in order to roll out the important piece of work across localities, collaboration would be required through the GP excellence programme. The emphasis on quality as a focus to develop involvement and understanding for patients would be paramount.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the progress to date of Medicines Optimisation in Bury;
2. To consider programme roll out across localities using the GP excellence programme.

SPB 10/18 WIGAN LOCALITY PRESENTATION

Will Blandamer, Programme Director of Health and Care Integration, Wigan Council introduced a presentation that provided an overview of the Wigan locality model which sought to improve outcomes and secure sustainable cost reduction in public service provision

through the large scale application of Wigan Deal principles across health and care and wider public services.

It was emphasised that large scale application of asset place based integrated place working for individuals and communities was core to the attainment of improving the population health and wellbeing, managing demand and reducing the cost base. It was advised that the focus of public services should be on the people who receive them and the communities in which they live and not the organisations that provide them.

In line with the GM framework, staff from different public services and agencies in the Healthier Wigan Partnership, work closely together to support residents with a shared common commitment and ambition.

Service delivery footprints built out of primary care clusters provided a focal point for new delivery models and the foundation for public service reform. This was gaining significant momentum and success as a single operating model for place based working has developed.

The best advocates to highlight the benefits already achieved of the single operating model and develop further are the staff who have expressed enthusiasm and confidence.

Members offered their support for the co-ordinated work being carried out and described it as the principle theme and aspect for the mobilisation of LCO development which was energising people at neighbourhood level. The model of public service delivery which has people at the centre was recognised as a tribute to reform. Will Blandamer was thanked for his contribution to the locality planning agenda and wished success in his new role.

RESOLVED/-

To note the progress provided and update on Wigan Locality Model.

SPB 11/18 GM COMMITMENT APPROACH TO CARERS: CARERS CHARTER AND COMMITMENT TO CARERS

Warren Heppolette, Executive Lead introduced a report which set out a commitment to carers, agreed by organisations across Greater Manchester to support the implementation of an integrated approach to the identification, assessment and meeting the health and wellbeing needs of unwaged carers; and the Carers Charter which has been developed by carers for carers and which articulates what carers across GM could expect.

The report also provided an overview of the programme of work and delivery plan being progressed to make real and embed the Commitment to Carers and Carers Charter into everyday support. It also detailed the potential 'ask' of partner organisations going forward to support the many carers in GM.

The background and emerging detail of the Support for Carers work programme, the key principles for supporting carers formalised through a Carers Charter and Commitment to Carers and how the offer for carers as a whole could be improved were highlighted to the Board.

Lynne Stafford, Chief Executive, The Gaddum Centre and the VCSE lead for carers provided an overview of the assistance provided by the voluntary and community sector to engage and consult with carers to feedback and design the charter through the forums that were already providing support.

David Williams, Chief Officer, Manchester Carers Forum and working carer provided a personal overview of the benefits of adopting the charter which he described as vital for the wellbeing of carers and maintenance of the essential workforce. He commended the Charter to the Board for endorsement which recognised the role of carers as partners in care provided.

The Mayor offered his support for the Charter and recognised that the development reflected the ethos of work of the Combined Authority where individuals and support organisations were involved in the development of policies. He suggested that ongoing core funding and financial support should be provided for carers organisations and the charter should be viewed as the start of the journey for carers. It was recognised that more could be done and the potential to provide carers with one point of contact to offer accountability and assurance was proposed.

The importance of the charter as new models of care are established and the potential implications and pressures on carers were highlighted. Reassurance was provided by the Chief Officer that a commitment would be made to all carers and that localities would be accountable for delivery of the charter and the commitment would be sought through the assurance framework. The challenge of funding for different cohorts was acknowledged.

RESOLVED/-

To approve and sign off the Commitment to Carers, the Carers Charter and delivery plan as appended within.

SPB 12/18 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meeting of the GM Health and Social Care Strategic Partnership Board are arranged as follows:

Friday 16 March 2018	10:00am – 11:30am	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
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Friday 11 May 2018	10:00am – 11:30am	Council Chamber, Manchester Town Hall
Friday 13 July 2018	10:00am – 11:30am	TBC

Present:	Councillor	Councillor Murphy (in the Chair)
	Councillors	Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Iqbal, Jones, Lancaster, Piddington, Quinn, Shilton-Godwin, Smart, Young and Zaman.
	Officers	Clerk to the Authority, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Solicitor, Director of Contract Services, Head of Corporate Services, Head of Finance and Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer.
	Project Management Office:	Head of Project Management Office.
	Advisors: Partner:	Head of Local Government, DWF Procurement Project Lead Transactor, GMCA Waste Infrastructure Development Programme (WIDP).
	District Officers:	Head of Waste Management, Bolton Council Assistant Audit and Counter Fraud Manager, Oldham Council Waste and Recycling Manager, Rochdale Council Assistant Director, Environment and Community Safety, Salford City Council Strategic Head of Place Management, Stockport Council Assistant Executive Director, Environmental Services, Tameside Council

M51 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Ali and Bellamy.

M52 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

There were no items of urgent business reported.

M53 To receive Declarations of Interest in any contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest made by any Member, in respect of any contract or agenda item.

The Solicitor and Head of Corporate Services each declared an interest in any discussions regarding Greater Manchester Combined Waste and Recycling Limited, each respectively being the Company Secretary and a Director of this company. Members also noted that they would remove themselves from the meeting whilst any discussions relating to the indemnification matters associated with this company.

M54 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on the 21st September 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 21 September 2017 were submitted for consideration as a correct record.

M55 Public and Member Question Time

There were no questions received at the meeting.

M56 Authority and Committee Work Programmes for the 2017/18 Municipal Year

Members considered a report of the Head of Corporate Services, which sought their comments in relation to the content of the 2017-18 work programmes for the Authority and its Committees, as set out in the appendix to the report.

The Chair noted that discussions had taken place with representatives from the trade unions and suggested that they were to address the Authority at the meeting on 21 December 2017.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the 2017-18 Work Programme for the Authority, the Audit and Standards Committee and the Procurement and Policy Committee, be agreed, as set out in the appendix to the report.
- b) That it be agreed that the meeting of the Authority on 16 November 2017 be cancelled and that the date for the Authority Budget Setting meeting be rescheduled from 15 February 2018 to 8 February 2018.

That representatives from Trade Unions be invited to address the Authority at its meeting on 21 December 2017, be noted.

M57 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.

M58 Recycling and Waste Management Contract- Savings Update

As indicated at Minute M53 above, the Solicitor and Head of Corporate Services each declared an interest in any discussions regarding Greater Manchester Combined Waste and Recycling Limited and left the room whilst those discussions took place.

Prior to any discussion on this item, the Solicitor reiterated the confidential nature of the report and any subsequent discussions on this matter.

The Deputy Clerk and Treasurer provided a report which presented Members with a further update on securing savings from the Recycling and Waste Management Contract (the Contract) and formally records the conclusion of the initial stages of the savings plan, with c £28 million average savings (gross) now secured, through:

- a) The acquisition of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Viridor Laing (Greater Manchester) Limited (VLGM) and the subsequent pay-out of the Banks, that generates annual savings of around £21m;
- b) Agreements to enter into a Residual Value Contract (RVC) to access the Runcorn facility at a lower gate fee, which will, on average, generate annual savings of around £7m.

In addition, Members noted that an update which set out details of the good progress made with the preparations to procure three new operating contracts. Members' input was also sought into proposals to amend the existing governance arrangements.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the conclusion of the initial two stages of the savings programme and the delivery of £28m per annum of savings, as set out in the report, be noted.
- b) That the updates on Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits, risk transfer and mitigations and spend on advisory support, as set out in sections 11 and 13 to the report, be noted, together with the update on GMCWR as provided in the presentation.
- c) To agree that the Authority records its thanks for the tremendous team effort of the Authority staff, Project Management Team, Leaders' Task Group and external advisors, in successfully concluding the exit of the PFI arrangements.
- d) That the progress being made in relation to the 'run off' operations contract, including the Authority's strategy with regards to pensions, be noted.
- e) That it be agreed to grant delegated authority to the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, to settle the final form of the Deed of Indemnity for the GMCWR Directors and Company Secretary, as set out in the presentation.
- f) That the continued progress on the procurement of three operating contracts, the proposed revision of the scope of those three operating contracts and the expected formal start of that progress with the issues of the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) notice in the next four weeks, be noted.
- g) That the proposed revised governance arrangements, as set out in section 10 and appendices B, C and D to the report, be noted.

M59 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Update for a revised levy allocation mechanism

Members considered a joint report of the Clerk, the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services which informed them that following conclusion of the settlement phase of the termination of the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Recycling Waste Management Contract with Viridor Laing (Greater Manchester) Limited (VLGM) the opportunity has been taken to review budget requirements and refresh the MTFP to 2021/22. The report also set out an updated strategy and outlined major assumptions and risks which have been taken in to account in producing the revised proposals.

In addition, Members also considered proposals to allocate reduced budget requirements to district authorities via a replacement Levy Allocation Mechanism (LAM) and noted that such a change will require unanimous support from all nine constituent district authorities and for this reason, proposals for a formal consultation process designed to ensure a final LAM agreement can be considered for adoption at the January 2018 meeting of the Authority.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the projected £6m net overspend in 2017/18 and the requirements to meet the additional spend by the allocation of Reserves, be noted.
- b) That the proposals to use Reserves to provide for an increase in the GMWDA only levy of 0% 2018/19 and noted that following that support levy increases of 1.7% in 2019/20, 1.9% in 2020/21 and 2.2% in 2021/22 will apply, be endorsed.
- c) That the revised Levy Allocation Mechanism be commended to the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) and the Authority's constituent districts, for full implementation from 2019/20 and with a transitional arrangements year in the 2018/19 financial year to smooth impacts.

GMWDA

Present:	Councillor	Councillor Murphy (in the Chair).
	Councillors	Ali, Bellamy, Brock, Cummings, Driver, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Iqbal, Lancaster, Piddington, Quinn, Shilton-Godwin, Smart, Young and Zaman.
	Officers	Clerk to the Authority, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Solicitor, Deputy Treasurer, Director of Contract Services, Head of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, Head of Communications and Behavioural Change and Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer.
	Contract Team	Head of Project Management Office.
	Advisor Partners	Head of Local Government, DWF

M60 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair extended a welcome to those present. A particular welcome was extended to Michelle Whitfield, GMWDA who was attending her first meeting of the Authority and Members noted that Michelle will be taking on the Head of Communications and Behaviour Change role whilst Jen Barker was embarking on her maternity leave.

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Emmott (Rochdale) and Holden (Trafford).

M61 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

The Chair explained that Item 13 Trade Union Presentation had been deferred to the 18 January 2018 meeting of the Authority.

With regard to Item 16 GMCA Governance and Revised Staffing Structure, it was noted that the Chair had allowed for this item to be tabled, in order for Members to be presented with the most up to date position.

M62 To receive Declarations of Interest in any contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest made by any Member, in respect of any contract or agenda item.

With regard to Item 16 GMCA Governance and Revised Staffing Structure, Members noted that officers would leave the meeting during the consideration of this item.

M63 Public & Member Question Time

There were no questions received at the meeting.

M64 Minutes of the Authority 19th October 2017

The minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 19 October 2017 were submitted for consideration as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 19 October 2017, be approved as a correct record.

M65 Minutes of the Audit & Standards Committee 1st November 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee, held on 1 November 2017 were submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee, held on 1 November 2017, be noted.

M66 Minutes of the Policy & Procurement Committee 20th November 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Procurement Committee, held on 20 November 2017 were submitted.

A Member thanked officers for the work they had undertaken in providing a response to Government in relation to proposals for the introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme. A suggestion was made that Government be lobbied in order to secure the appropriate funding for such a scheme.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Procurement Committee, held on 20 November 2017, be noted.

M67 Communications and Behavioural Change 2017/19 Delivery Plan; including Resource Greater Manchester

The Director of Contract Services presented a report which provided Members with an update on the delivery of the approved detailed and budgeted delivery action plan for the next period from January 2018 to March 2019 and noted that the delivery against plan for both the Communication and Behavioural Change Strategy and the Resource Greater Manchester Programme, as appended to the report.

Members noted that since 1 April 2017, the Communications and Behavioural Change team had been developing, researching and delivering against the Communications and Behavioural Delivery Strategy. A full service and delivery review had been undertaken and a detailed delivery action plan had been developed. Members also noted that this Delivery Plan was approved at the Behavioural Change Task and Finish Group on 3 October 2017. Details of this and an update on the progress made against this plan was set out in the report.

Following comment by a Member, officers undertook to provide Members with a statement in relation to Waste Strategy and the reprocurement contract.

With regard to the contamination data held by GMWDA and Viridor, a Member suggested that the numbers associated to this data would be helpful. In response, officers noted that this matter would be considered at the upcoming meeting of the Behavioural Change Task and Finish Group.

In response to an enquiry from a Member regarding the messages contained in the Communications and Behavioural Change Strategy, officers noted that this matter would be discussed at the next meeting of the Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED:

1. That the good progress made across both work streams and the output of the review process which have fed into the full delivery plan up to March 2019, be noted.
2. That the delivery strategy as approved at the Behavioural Change Task and Finish Group on 3 October 2017 be noted and endorsed by the Authority.
3. That approval to carry forward the budget underspend from the 2017/18 to the 2018/19 financial years, as set out in section 11 to the report, be granted.
4. That consideration of contamination data and the communication strategy was to take place at the upcoming Behavioural Change Task and Finish Group, be noted.
5. That the Head of Communications and Behavioural Change be thanked for her hard work in developing the Communications and Behavioural Change Strategy and that Authority Members convey their best wishes to her.

M68 Annual Report 2016/17

Members considered a report which presented them with the verified Recycling and Composting performance data for the 2016/17 financial year which had been added to the draft Outturn position that was considered by the Authority on the 26 April 2017 and charted the progress against the Authority's Business Plan.

Members noted the following key headline levels as set out in the Appendix to the report:-

- a. A small increase of 1.8% in waste generated by the Authority's citizens, with almost all of which was due to the higher arisings from Household waste Recycling Centres (HMWRC).
- b. An 8.19% increase in recycling and composting being achieved at HWRCs.
- c. Increased contractor diversion from landfill to 91.7%, an increase of over 12% on 2015/16.
- d. Approximately 260,816 MWh of electricity generated.
- e. An unqualified Audit Opinion on the Statement of Accounts 2016/17.
- f. That the 2016/17 financial year has been one of continuing progress and some notable achievements which provide a good stepping stone for even more ambitious targets set for the current financial year, as set out in Appendix B to the report.

Following a comment from a Member in relation to the Waste Contract, Members noted that a meeting was to be convened with District Waste portfolio holders and Senior Officers in the new year.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Outturn Performance for 2016/17, incorporating the verified Recycling and Composting Performance data, as set out at appendix A to the report, be noted.
2. That approval to delegate authority to the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk to make any consequential changes to included comments by Members, correct minor typographical

corrections and agree a final user friendly factsheet prior to its publication on to the Authority's website, be granted.

M69 Authority and Committee Work Programmes for the 2017/18 Municipal Year

Members considered a report of the Head of Corporate Services, which sought their comments in relation to the content of the 2017-18 work programmes for the Authority and its Committees, as set out in the appendix to the report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the 2017-18 Work Programme for the Authority, the Audit and Standards Committee and the Procurement and Policy Committee, be agreed, as set out in the appendix to the report.
2. That it be agreed that the Authority Work Programme for 18 January 2018 be updated to include consideration of the final form of the Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA), consideration of the Free Tipping Permit Scheme and a Trade Union presentation.

M70 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: To agree 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 by virtue of paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Act, as the report contains information relating to the finance or business affairs of any particular person and information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings. In addition, it was agreed that it would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose this information to the public and press because disclosure would be likely to breach the reasonable requirements of the Authority's commercial confidentiality and disadvantage the GMWDA in possible future legal proceedings

M71 Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy Mid-year Review Report 2017/18

The Treasurer and Deputy Clerk introduced a report which set out an overview of treasury management activity for the first six months of 2017/18 for consideration by Members, as required by under the Treasury Management Strategy. Members noted that the draft Review report was submitted to the Audit and Standards Committee on 1 November 2017 and noted further that the comments arising from that meeting had been incorporated in to the final report before them.

The report had been prepared in compliance with Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management and covered the following matters:-

- a. An economic update for the first part of the 2017/18 financial year.
- b. A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy.
- c. The Authority's capital expenditure (prudential indicators).
- d. A review of the Authority's investment portfolio for 2017/18.
- e. A review of the Authority's borrowing strategy for 2017/18.
- f. A review of any debt rescheduling undertaken during 2017/18.
- g. A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2017/18.

Following a request from a Member, officers undertook to explore the provision of reports in the open section of future agendas, where possible.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That approval of the revised prudential indicators, as set out in the report, be granted.

M72 Trade Union Presentation

Members were reminded that the presentation by representatives of the Trade Unions had been deferred to the Authority meeting on 18 January 2018.

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that the presentation by Trade Union representatives had been deferred until the 18 January 2018 meeting of the Authority.

M73 GM Combined Waste and Recycling (GMCWR) Shareholder Update Report

Members considered a joint report of the Directors and the Company Secretary of Greater Manchester Combined Waste and Recycling Limited (GMCWR) which presented them with an update on the work that they are carrying out to deliver the Authority's direction of achieving the winding-up of the companies and hence prevent issues that otherwise could arise at year end.

RESOLVED:

That the progress update be noted.

M74 Procurement of Operating Contracts and Contract Savings Update

The Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, the Director of Contract Services and the Interim Programme Director (Commercial), presented a joint report which provided Members with a further progress update on contract savings and also outlined the revised timelines and progress on the procurement of the replacement Operating Contracts.

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress on producing the final contract documentation, as set out in sections 5, 7 and 8 of the report, be noted.
2. That the delegation to the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk to finalise the Run Off Contract, be reconfirmed, as per the key features set out within the presentation.
3. That those additional actions set out in the presentation in relation to human resources, be agreed.
4. That Greater Manchester Combined Waste and Recycling Limited (GMCWR) Directors be asked to facilitate the early winding up of the Company on the basis set out in paragraphs 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 to the report, be confirmed.

5. That it be agreed that the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk be nominated to act as the Shareholder representative to the GMCWR Board, with the Director of Contract Services as the a deputy) and that delegated authority be granted to the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk to provide any shareholder instructions needed to facilitate the winding up.
6. That the update on the timelines for the procurement of the Operating Contracts, additional resource requirements and revised risk register/mitigation, as set out in sections 9 to 11 to the report be noted and that it be agreed to delegate to the Director of Contract Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Authority authorisation to increase resources and take such decisions needed to ensure the procurement timetable, as amended, is delivered.
7. That those matters in relation to Insurance and Staffing, as set out in sections 12 and 13 to the report be noted.
8. That it be agreed that consideration of the adoption of the final form of the Levy Allocation Mechanism Agreement (LAMA) be considered at the Authority's meeting on 18 January 2018.

M75 GMCA Governance and Revised Staffing Structure Requirements

[Note: Given the sensitivities associated with this report, officers removed themselves from the meeting room during its consideration.]

RESOLVED:-

1. That the progress regarding the transition between the Authority and GMCA be noted and requested that a meeting be arranged in early January between the Chair of the Authority and the Chair of GMCA Waste Advisory Steering Group to consider future proposals on governance arrangements, to enable a further report to be considered at the Authority meeting in January;
2. That the likely impact of the transfer of existing staff to the GMCA, as set out in Section 6 to the report be noted, and requested that all positions are suitably mapped across to the GMCA staffing structures prior to the transfer of staff on 1st April 2017, and approve the cost implications/funding sources detailed in paragraph 10.1 arising from those post transfer changes;
3. That the additional staffing requirements as set out in section 7, be approved, with anticipated cost implications at paragraph 10.1, and that the final proposals will be considered using delegated powers be noted; and
4. That the on-going consultation process set out in section 8, which will final stages of transition to be carried out, be noted.

The meeting opened at 13.30 and closed at 15.54

GMWDA

Present:	Councillor	Murphy (in the Chair)
	Councillors	Ali, Bellamy, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Iqbal, Jones, Lancaster, Quinn, Shilton-Godwin, Smart and Young.
	Officers	Clerk to the Authority, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Solicitor, Director of Contract Services, Deputy Treasurer, Head of Corporate Services, Interim Programme Director (Commercial), Head of Organisational Development and Administration, and Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer.

M76 Acknowledgement - Councillor Kieran Quinn

At the commencement of the meeting the Chair advised Members of the sad passing of Councillor Kieran Quinn, Leader of Tameside Council. The Chair highlighted that Councillor Quinn had been a strong friend to the Waste Authority and extended condolences to his family.

As a mark of respect, Members stood for a moment in silent reflection.

M77 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Brock, Cummings, Piddington and Zaman and from the Interim Programme Director (Commercial).

M78 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

The Chair noted that with regard to Item 8 Impact of Chinese Decision to Close Markets for Plastics Recycles and Opportunities Following That Decision, there would be a presentation supporting this report which would provide an overview on the 25 year Environmental Plan.

The Chair explained that Item 12 Trade Union Presentation had been deferred to the 8 February 2018 meeting of the Authority.

With regard to Item 15 GMCA Governance and Revised Staffing Structure, it was noted that the Chair had allowed for this item to be tabled, in order for Members to be presented with the most up to date position and would now be in the form of two reports with Item 15A Report on GMCA Governance Update and Item 15B Report on GMCA Staffing Update.

M79 Declarations of Interest in any contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest made by any Member, in respect of any contract or agenda item.

With regard to Item 15B GMCA Staffing Update, Members noted that officers would leave the meeting during the consideration of this item.

M80 Minutes of the last meeting held on the 21st December 2017

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 21 December 2017 were submitted for consideration as a correct record.

RESOLVED:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 21 December 2017, be approved as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Jones in the list of those apologies received and to note the attendance of Daryl Hill, Defra.

M81 Public and Member Question Time

The Authority considered questions from a member of the public which sought a response on (i) the proportion of waste is sent to China and how much of this was household waste; (ii) household waste recycling and sorting; and (iii) creation of new jobs. The following response was made by the Authority:-

Question 1 What proportion of waste from Greater Manchester is sent to China?

Response 1: Around 7% of Greater Manchester's waste goes to Asia, which primarily made up of about 81% of the paper & card that our Contractor receives, however VRM (part of the Viridor Waste Management Group) is not dependant on the Chinese markets having diversified into a range of global markets. The remaining 19% of paper and card collected and primarily all other recyclates go to outlets in the UK and Europe. Please see the link to [Recycle for Greater Manchester - What happens to my waste and recycling?](#) which provides quarterly updates on where the end markets of all our recyclates.

Question 2: How much of that is household waste?

Response 2: None of Greater Manchester's household residual waste is sent to China.

Question 3: In the light of the difficulties of getting the public on board re avoidance of contamination of recyclable materials how is it proposed to offer reassurance the materials in the different bins are now being and will continue to be recycled. Disbelief is sometimes offered as a reason for careless sorting.

Response 3: The Authority is committed to collecting quality recyclates to obtain the best value of money through current end markets. To help achieve this an extensive action plan has been produced through the delivery of the Authority's Behavioural Change and Communications Strategy to reduce contamination. We agree however that it is essential to continue to get the messages about the importance of 'recycle right'.

Question 4: What scope is there for Greater Manchester to create new jobs in recycling materials?

Response 4: We believe that by creating the right conditions for a Circular Economy approach, and being an early mover, Greater Manchester could become a world leader in this field. That should then produce quality 'green jobs' for our citizens. Our wider plans being led by the Combined Authority are seeking to deliver those aspirations as part of the Green Cities initiative.

Question 5 Are there any plans to encourage businesses to reduce their plastic waste?

Response 5 Government's recently published 25 year Environment Plan sets ambitious targets to eliminate avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042. In revising the

Authority's Waste Management Strategy in 2018, the Authority (and subsequently the Greater Manchester Combined Authority) will look at ways Greater Manchester can contribute to helping the Government reach the targets set out within their Plan.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the member of public be thanked for submitting her questions; and
- 2) That the response to the questions, as set out in the preamble above, be noted.

M82 Review of the Health and Safety Action Plan 2017/18

The Director of Contract Services introduced a report which provided Members with an update on the progress made against the 2017/18 Health and Safety Action Plan, as set out at Appendix A to the report.

A Member enquired if health and safety inspections at waste facilities were undertaken with representatives from the Trade Unions in attendance. He also highlighted an incident of plastic materials affecting traffic on the M66 at Pilsworth. In response, officers noted that such inspections were undertaken with the operator. Members also noted that all vehicles leaving waste facilities were required to be fully sheeted to stop incidents of wind-blown litter. Members were encouraged to inform officers if they observed incidents where this was not the case.

RESOLVED:-

That the progress made against the 2017/18 Health and Safety Action Plan, as set out at Appendix A to the report, be noted.

M83 Review of the Free Tip Permit Scheme

The Head of Organisational Development and Administration presented a report which advised Members on the findings of a review of the Free Tip permits scheme, which is in place across Greater Manchester, and sought the endorsement of Members to the recommendation from the Task and Finish Group on how the permit scheme may be improved to reduce the potential for abuse and reduce the current burden in administering the existing scheme.

The report highlighted the existing policies in place at a number of different Waste Authorities across the country and set out proposals to:-

- a) Reduce the administration process;
- b) Ensure that the process was kept simple and can be followed consistently by all waste collection authorities;
- c) Restrict the amount of non-recyclable waste being disposed of; and
- d) Promote recycling.

Members wished to place on record their thanks to partners at Bolton Council for their assistance in helping to develop the scheme.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the actions set out in section 5 and 6 to the report, as recommended by the Task and Finish Group, be endorsed;
- 2) That the recommended expenditure as set out in section 7 to the report, be approved; and

- 3) That Members place on record their thanks to officers at Bolton Council for their support in developing this scheme.

M84 Impact of Chinese Decision to 'Close' Markets for Plastics Recyclates and Opportunities Following from That Decision

Members considered a joint report of the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk, the Director of Contract Services and the Head of Corporate Services, which advised them of the recent press coverage around recycling markets and in particular China. The report also suggested that in light of this, the Authority renews its lobbying with Central Government to ensure that opportunities from the decisions in China can be potentially used to benefit Greater Manchester.

In addition to the report, a presentation was provided which highlighted Chinese waste restrictions on imports of 24 grades of solid waste, including unsorted mixed papers and post-consumer plastics. In addition, it was noted that from 1 March 2018, loads exceeding a contamination limit of 0.5% will also be blocked. A breakdown of current recycling destinations and an overview of the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan were also presented.

A discussion took place, during which Members made the following observations:-

- a) The 50% recycling target remained challenging;
- b) Continue to engage with the Local Government Association (LGA) regarding policy matters;
- c) The potential for the Authority to manage plastics from other authorities through the RVC facility in Runcorn could be explored;
- d) It was important for markets for recycling to be developed in the UK and to create green jobs for Greater Manchester;
- e) An industry wide approach was needed to ensure that packaging can be recycled.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the potential impact of changes to recycling markets, as set out in Section 4 to the report, be noted;
- 2) That the work already in train regarding improving the clarity of the recycling messages and quality, as set out in paragraph 5.2 to the report, be noted; and
- 3) That the proposed market development and lobbying activities, as set out in paragraphs 5.3 and 5.4 respectively, be agreed.

M85 Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) - Final Agreement for Adoption

Members considered a joint report of the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services which set out the proposed final amendments to the Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA), which have been requested by constituent Districts to improve clarity.

The report also sought Members confirmation to adopt the final LAMA form, so that they can be formally signed by each District, prior to the budget levy being approved at the meeting of the Authority.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That it be noted that all Districts have not signed the LAMA;

- 2) That the proposed changes to the draft LAMA, as outlined in section 5 and detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted; and
- 3) That the final LAMA as attached at Appendix 1 to the report be agreed for signature by the Authority's constituent councils.

M86 Work Programme Report

Members considered the Authority's work programmes for the 2017/18 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix A to the report.

With regard to the Audit and Standards Committee, it was noted that the Annual Report was still required.

An additional meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee would be held on 28 February 2018.

RESOLVED:-

That the Authority's Work Programme for the 2017/18 Municipal Year, as attached to the report, be agreed.

M87 GMCA Merger and Governance - Governance Update

[Note: At the meeting, Members resolved to consider this item in the open section of the Agenda, as the report did not contain sensitive information. Members noted that such sensitive information was contained in the accompanying Staffing Matters Update, at item 15B.]

The Treasurer and Deputy Clerk submitted a report which updated the Authority on the progress with preparations for the merger into GMCA from 1st April 2018, and to specifically advise on the additional areas on Governance added at the 21st December meeting. Members noted that a separate report, Part B report covered the second area of staffing matters.

Members highlighted concerns that so far, there was no certainty as to the role of the Authority/Waste Committee going forward.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the progress being made to define and adopt GMCA Member Governance, as set out in section 5 to the report, be noted; and
- 2) That it be agreed for a further update report be presented to the 15th March 2017 meeting, and that that be added to the work programme.

M88 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 paragraphs 1 and 3 and that it would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose the information to the public because disclosure involves information relating to an individual and would be likely to breach the reasonable requirements of companies to commercial confidentiality at this stage of the procurement process.

M89 Trade Union Presentation

Members noted that this item had been withdrawn and would now be provided at the next meeting of the Authority on 8 February 2018.

RESOLVED:-

That the deferment of this item to the 8 February 2018 meeting of the Authority be noted.

M90 GM Combined Waste and Recycling (GMCWR) Shareholder Update Report

Members considered a joint report of the Directors and the Company Secretary of Greater Manchester Combined Waste and Recycling Limited (GMCWR) which presented them with an update on the work that they are carrying out to deliver the Authority's direction of achieving the winding-up of the companies and hence prevent issues that otherwise could arise at year end.

RESOLVED:-

That the progress update be noted.

M91 Contract Progress Update - Presentation

The Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services provided a presentation which provided Members with an update on contract arrangements. The following matters were highlighted:-

- a) Interim Arrangements;
- b) Run off - contract signature;
- c) Facility and service delivery modification;
- d) GMCWR - termination, insurance and winding-up;
- e) Residual Value Contract (Runcom TPSCo) (RVC) - sign off;
- f) Reprocurement;
- g) Evaluation progress;
- h) Key contract principles; and
- i) PFI Grant – update on discussion with Defra.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the presentation be received with thanks and noted;
- 2) That Members formally record their thanks to officers for their hard work in relation to the contract matters; and
- 3) That with regard to workforce consultations, the establishment of Trade Union sub groups to ensure that all staff were represented, be supported.

M92 GMCA Merger and Governance - Staffing Update

[Note: Given the sensitivities associated with this report, officers removed themselves from the meeting room during its consideration.]

The Treasurer & Deputy Clerk presented a report that provided a progress update on how staffing and TUPE matters are being dealt with, prior to the Authority's transfer into the GMCA

on 1st April 2018. Members debated the report in detail and expressed their disappointment that matters relating to the transfer of staff had not yet been fully dealt with.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the measures being taken to ensure a smooth TUPE transfer for existing staffing, into GMCA from 1st April 2018, as set out in section 5 be noted;
- 2) That the current situation was unacceptable and require that that view be communicated to the GMCA Chief Executive;
- 3) That a further update report be presented to the 8th February 2018 Authority meeting, and that the GMCA Chief Executive be requested to attend to present the paper; and
- 4) That with regard to resolution 3 above, the report be added to the work programme for that meeting.

The meeting opened at 1.30 pm and closed at 3.55 pm

GMWDA

Present:	Councillor	Murphy (in the Chair)
	Councillors	Ali (part), Bellamy, Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Lancaster, Smart, Young and Zaman.
	Officers	Clerk to the Authority, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Solicitor, Director of Contract Services, Deputy Treasurer, Head of Corporate Services, Interim Programme Director (Commercial), Head of Organisational Development and Administration, and Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer.

M93 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Iqbal (Bury), Jones (Bolton), Piddington (Tameside), Quinn (Bury) and Shilton-Godwin (Manchester).

Members extended a welcome to Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive of Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), who was attending the meeting to provide an update on the GMCA transition.

M94 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

The Chair introduced the following matters of urgent business:-

a) Late Items

Members noted that Item 8, Procurement of Operating Contracts – Selection of Bidders and Item 10, GM Combined Waste and Recycling – Arrangements for Winding up of the Company, were circulated as a supplement to the agenda. The Chair confirmed that this was done so in order for officers to provide the most up to date position in relation to these activities.

b) Budget and Levy – Item 14

Members were reminded that pursuant to paragraph 18.5 of the Authority's Constitution, a named vote would be undertaken on this item and that all votes were to be recorded in the minutes.

The Chair advised Members that an updated Appendix C in relation to the Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2021/22 had been circulated and that for clarity, the updated items had been highlighted in red. Members noted that the highlighted matters took in to account information that was not available at the time when the agenda was prepared.

M95 Declarations of Interest in any contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest made by any Member in relation to any item on the agenda.

M96 Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 18th January 2018

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 18 January 2018 were submitted for consideration as a correct record.

RESOLVED:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 18 January 2018, be approved as a correct record.

M97 Minutes of the Audit and Standards Committee held on 17th January 2018

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority's Audit and Standards Committee, held on 17 January 2018 were submitted.

RESOLVED:-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority, held on 17 January 2018, be noted.

M98 Public and Member Question Time

There were no questions received.

M99 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.

M100 Procurement of Operating Contracts - Selection of Bidders to progress to Competitive Dialogue Stage

The Head of Corporate Services introduced a report which updated Members on the evaluation process of the Selection Questionnaires (SQ) received for the Authority's procurement of new waste management contracts and recommend the down selection to three tenderers for each of the three Lots. The report also outlined the processes and timings for the next stage of the procurement process.

A presentation was also provided.

[Note: Councillor Shukat Ali left the meeting at this point.]

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the evaluation process, as set out in the report and the accompanying presentation be noted;
- 2) That the Authority endorses that the selection questionnaire stage has been a compliant process run in accordance with the Authority's Constitution;

- 3) That the existing delegation to the Director of Contract Services and the Head of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Authority, to approve the suite of procurement documents, be reconfirmed;
- 4) That it be agreed that the recommended down selection of the 3 tenderers per Lot, based on the presented evaluation results, provided at the meeting, be taken through to the next procurement stage of Invitation to Participate in Dialogue and Draft Tender for Review (Collectively referred to as 'ITPD'); and
- 5) That Members place on record their thanks to officers from the Authority and partner organisations for their hard work in undertaking the evaluation process.

M101 GM Combined Waste and Recycling Shareholder Update

The Deputy Treasurer introduced a report of the Directors and Company Secretary of GMCWR (acting on both the Company its parent, HoldCo), which presented an update for its Shareholders, the Authority, on the work being undertaken to deliver the Authority's direction of achieving winding-up of the companies, and hence prevent issues that otherwise could arise at year end.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the progress update as set out in the report and its appendices, be noted; and
- 2) That the proposed next action, including the termination of the GM Waste PFI contract, on the date as set out in the report, be noted.

M102 GM Combined Waste and Recycling - Arrangements for Winding up of the Company

The Treasurer and Deputy Clerk introduced a report which informed Members on the process for the capitalisation of the Greater Manchester Combined Waste and Recycling Group (GMCWR) loan and debenture, so as to aid a solvent winding up process and hence deliver maximum benefits for the Authority.

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the process of capitalisation, as set out in paragraph 5.1 be confirmed; and
- 2) That a delegation to agree the final approval of the final elements of the process and amounts to the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, be granted.

M103 GMCA Transition Update

[Note: Several officers declared an interest in this item and left the room during its consideration.]

Members received an update from Eamonn Boylan, GMCA Chief Executive, which outlined the on-going discussions regarding the GMWDA's transition in to the GM Combined Authority in terms of governance and staffing matters.

A discussion took place during which Members highlighted concerns on the lack of certainty of future Governance arrangements for the Authority/Waste Committee. In response, officers noted that Leaders were considering proposals and terms of Reference were to be developed.

A Member suggested that lessons learnt from the establishment of other GMCA Committees should be considered.

RESOLVED:-

That the update on GMCA transition be received and noted.

M104 Budget and Levy 2018/19 & Medium Term Financial Plan to 2021/22 - Commercial Considerations

Members considered a joint report of the Clerk, the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services which set out commercial considerations in respect of the 2018/19 and beyond budget and Levy prospects. Members noted that all of those matters contained in the report had been appropriately summarised in the complementary Budget and Levy report in the open section of the agenda (Minute M106 refers) and that all relevant information was included in a single point, to facilitate formal decision making. That also ensures that the Authority is, in so far as possible, delivering on its aim to be open and transparent.

Members considered the following matters:-

- a) the remaining budget issues to be finalised by the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Recycling and Waste Management Contract (the Contract) termination and move to interim operating contract arrangements with Viridor Waste (Greater Manchester) Limited (known as the 'run off' contract) and move to a Residual Value Contract (RVC) at the Runcorn Thermal Power Station (TPSCo) (Section 4 to 6);
- b) other key budget assumptions (Section 7); and
- c) commercial risk assessment and Balances Strategy (Section 8).

RESOLVED:-

- 1) That the current position in relation to the development of the savings programme, as set out in Section 4, be noted;
- 2) That the budget assumptions for 2018/19 and the associated critical judgements in relation to the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), as set out in Sections 5 to 7 to the report, be endorsed; and
- 3) That the detailed commercial risk assessment and proposed General Balances position, as set out in Section 8, be noted.

M105 Authority to Pass Resolution to Open the Meeting Up To The Press And Public

RESOLVED:-

That the meeting be opened to the press and public for the remaining items contained within the agenda.

M106 Budget and Levy 2018/19 & Medium Term Financial Plan to 2021/22

Members considered a joint report of the Clerk, the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services, introduced a report which sought the Authority's agreement for the Budget and Levy for 2018/19 and set out a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for a further three year period to 2021/22. Members noted that those plans were to be delivered by:

- a) a total Levy requirement for 2018/19 of £91.893m, which represents a 62.8% average decrease over 2017/18. The impact of that at District level was however mitigated to 0% average increase, by a reduction in the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Transport Levy reflecting a full reversal of the 2017/18 resources switch. At a district level the Levy changes, excluding the additional Levy switch, have a 14.6% range from minus 5.1% to plus 9.5%;
- b) The MTFP then proposes Levy charges (excluding further unwinding of the GMCA Transport Levy switch) of 3.0% in 2019/20, 1.7% in 2020/21, and 1.6% in 2021/22. Those are achieved via the full unwinding of the GMCA Transport Levy switch in (2019/20), full achievement of our extended savings from operational contractors and the expected impact of predicted annual inflation (as measured by the Retail Price Index, excluding mortgages (RPIx), as set out in the table below:

Levy Charges%

	With GMCA Transport adjustment	Excluding GMCA Transport Adjustment	Inflation compliance % (RPIx)
2018/19	-62.8	0.0	4.2
2019/20	+90.0	+3.0	2.9
2020/21	+1.7	+1.7	2.8
2021/22	+1.6	+1.6	2.9

Members noted that the Authority, whilst committed to openness and transparency, in setting its budget for 2018/19 and beyond, has to take account of several matters which relate to legal privilege and the commercial positions of other parties. As such, the detail of those matters was included in the complementary preceding report and considered in the closed section of the agenda at Minute 104, above. Members also noted that, in order to maintain as much transparency as possible, the information contained in this report highlighted all relevant and necessary considerations, at a summarised level, so as to enable approval of the budget recommendations in this report alone.

Pursuant to paragraph 18.5 of the Authority's Constitution, a named vote of Members was undertaken in relation to the recommendations before them. The outcome of the vote was recorded thus:-

For: Councillors: Bellamy, Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Lancaster, Murphy, Smart, Young and Zaman.

Against: None.

Abstention: None.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

- 1) That the proposed revised budget for 2017/18 which, whilst containing several changes at an individual budget spend level, is expected to be broadly in line with the approved net budget, as set out in Section 6, be noted;
- 2) That approval of the outline savings programme for the Contract, and further work to finalise that programme, as set out in Section 7, be granted;
- 3) That approval the 2019/20 Trade Waste rate at £96.51 (i.e. current £92.62 plus 4.2%) to allow forward planning by Districts, as set out in paragraph 8.5 to the report, be granted;

- 4) That the Capital Programme 2018/19 to 2021/22 as set out as the updated Appendix C and inclusion of the consequential revenue effects in the budget and Levy from 2018/19, as set out in paragraph 8.6, be agreed;
- 5) That the base budget for 2018/19 of £197.347m (11.6% increase), confirm the return of the 2017/18 additional Levy requirement of £77.701m, use of £27.753m of Medium Term Financial Plan Reserve and hence a total Levy requirement of £91.893m (a 62.8% decrease), as set out in Section 8 and Appendices A to G, including the updated Capital Programme at Appendix C, be agreed;
- 6) That the expected Levy increases of 90.0% (3.0% excluding GMCA Transport Levy unwinding), 1.7% and 1.6% in 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 respectively, be noted;
- 7) That the risk position set out in the Balances Strategy and Reserves, as set out in Sections 10 and 15, and Appendix E, be noted;
- 8) That the updated Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) schedule 1, which is replaced by Appendix B, as set out in paragraph 8.3, be agreed; and
- 9) That approval of the instalment dates for the GMCA to receive Levy payments from the constituent Districts, as set out in Appendix H, be granted.

M107 Authority and Committee Work Programme

Members considered the Authority and Committee work programme for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year.

Members noted that the Audit and Standards Committee had been brought forward to 28 February 2018 to allow consideration of the Authority's Annual report, prior to its consideration at the meeting of the authority on 15 March 2018.

RESOLVED:-

That the Authority approve the work programme for the 2017/18 Municipal Year attached to the report as Appendix A.

The meeting opened at 13.00 and closed at 14:42

GMWDA

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT FOR
GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE (TfGMC), HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2018
AT THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE, MANCHESTER**

PRESENT

Councillor David Chadwick	Bolton
Councillor Stuart Haslam	Bolton
Councillor Guy Harkin	Bolton
Councillor Noel Bayley	Bury
Councillor Rhyse Cathcart	Bury
Councillor Azra Ali	Manchester
Councillor Andrew Fender (Chair)	Manchester
Councillor Dzidra Noor	Manchester
Councillor Chris Paul	Manchester
Councillor Mohon Ali	Oldham
Councillor Howard Sykes	Oldham
Councillor Phil Burke	Rochdale
Councillor Patricia Sullivan	Rochdale
Councillor Robin Garrido	Salford
Councillor Roger Jones	Salford
Councillor Christine Corris	Stockport
Councillor Annette Finnie	Stockport
Councillor Tom Grundy	Stockport
Councillor John Taylor	Stockport
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside
Councillor Doreen Dickinson	Tameside
Councillor Peter Robinson	Tameside
Councillor Rob Chilton	Trafford
Councillor Michael Cordingley	Trafford
Councillor June Reilly	Trafford
Councillor Lynne Holland	Wigan
Councillor Eunice Smethurst	Wigan

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chris Barnes
Bob Morris
Amanda White
Caroline Whittam
Jenny Hollamby

Head of Programme Management, TfGM
Chief Operating Officer, TfGM
Head of Rail, TfGM
Rail Programme Manager, TfGM
Governance & Scrutiny, GMCA

SECTION 1 STANDING ITEMS

TfGMC17/53 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Aldred (Wigan), Councillor James Grundy (Wigan), Councillor Barry Warner (Salford) and Councillor Shah Wazir (Rochdale).

An apology for absence was also received from Dr Jon Lamonte (TfGM).

TfGMC17/54 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business introduced by the Chair.

The Chair advised that a KAM presentation, following the first six months of Metrolink operation and a brief update on the rail investment programme, in light of yesterday's Northern Rail's North West electrification announcement would be provided for Members after the meeting.

TfGMC17/55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the meeting.

TfGMC17/56 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting dated 10 November 2017, were submitted for consideration.

Arising from minute TfGMC17/52, a Member asked where the report was about the conclusion of Network Rail's assessment and proposals for May 2018. Officers explained that an update would be provided in the rail update presentation following the meeting.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the previous meeting dated 10 November 2017, be approved as a correct record.

TfGMC17/57 MINUTES FROM SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

a. Bus Network and TfGMC Services Sub Committee

The minutes of the Bus Network and TfGMC Services sub Committee meeting which took place on 17 November 2017 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the Bus Network and TfGMC Services Sub Committee meeting, held on 17 November 2017, be noted.

b. Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee

The minutes of the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee meeting, which took place on 1 December 2017 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee meeting, held on 1 December 2017, be noted subject to West Haughton being amended to Westhoughton in minute CPP17/26 and the word 'learning' be removed from the first bullet point in minute CPP17/27

c. Metrolink and Rail Sub Committee

The minutes of the Metrolink and Rail Sub Committee meeting, which took place on 8 December 2017 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the Metrolink and Rail Sub Committee meeting, held on 8 December 2017, be noted.

TfGMC17/58 REGISTER OF KEY DECISIONS – JANUARY 2018

Members considered the Register of Key Decisions, which set out details of key transport decisions that the Committee and its sub Committees would make over the upcoming month. Those key transport decisions that would be considered by GMCA were also included for information.

RESOLVED/-

That the Register of Key Decisions for January 2018 be noted.

SECTION 2 ITEMS FOR FURTHER APPROVAL BY GMCA

There were no items for further approval by GMCA reported.

SECTION 3 ITEMS FOR RESOLUTION BY TFGMC

There were no items for resolution by TfGMC.

SECTION 4 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

TfGMC17/59 YEAR-END REVIEW PRESENTATION

Members noted the video presentation that was provided at the meeting.

RESOLVED/-

That the video presentation be noted.

TfGMC17/60 GREATER MANCHESTER CYCLING AND WALKING STRATEGY PRESENTATION

The Cycling and Walking Champion provided each Member with a copy of the Made to Move booklet, which was approved by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) in December 2017.

Members also received a presentation, which covered:

- Our goal.
- 15 steps.
- Delivering the GM network.
- The proportion of children that cycle to school.
- The cost of doing nothing.
- Cycling infrastructure pay back.
- Next steps and taking action.
- The reverse traffic pyramid.

Following the presentation, a question and answer session took place, which was noted as follows:

- All Members welcomed the plan and bold vision. The Cycling Champion was congratulated on the booklet, Members stated it was excellent piece of work. The Committee thanked the all the teams and parties involved for their help and co-operation.
- A Member asked about the ring-fenced, 10 year £1.5 billion infrastructure fund investment, how the figure was arrived at, where would the funding come from,

what targets had been set and how much would be spent on capital and revenue. It was explained that in generating the figure, the cost of undertaking the 700 miles of major road works required to allow people to walk and cycle along, recognising there was a difference in costs between main link roads and roads in town centres had been taken into account. Also added to that was the cost of civilising town centres. Consideration and comparisons had also been given at what had been spent in London on improving junctions and public realm as the geography was almost the same. In terms of funding, work was being undertaken with colleagues in the GMCA and TfGM to look for possible future funding streams but work in the initial period would be undertaken with utilising existing budgets. It was envisaged that Districts would come forward with funding and match funding would also be available. The target was a 10% increase in cycling and much more walking. Where infrastructure had been provided cycling had increased.

- A Member asked about cycle hubs and if funding was available. Cycle hubs at Media City, City Tower and a number of interchanges had already been provided. The process was being reviewed on effectiveness and improving the use of those hubs. Funding opportunities were being explored. There was a need to provide parking and storing facilities for bikes to increase cycling.
- A number of Members suggested that not enough importance had been placed on increasing walking. It was further suggested that traffic flow and not pedestrians was the priority. There was often talk about keeping the traffic flowing but not about keeping people moving. Members recommended that the barriers such as street corners and junctions were not pedestrian friendly and were more important than cycle super highways. Walking should be the first choice for short journeys, it was local and important. Members also asked that social isolation should be taken into consideration. The Champion was aware of the need to bring walking forward. Chris Boardman, the Walking and Cycling Commissioner was opening doors in this area and was his area of expertise. Getting people out of cars was a priority and schemes should benefit walkers. Furthermore, it was intended that future town centre renewal programmes, would involve better walking facilities.
- A Member suggested that more funding should be spent on upgrading the current cycle lanes to make them safer and each District should be encouraged to undertake local cycle friendly schemes and funding be provided. The Champion agreed that separate infrastructure for cycling and walking was a gold standard. Where traffic was slower, separated cycle ways would be targeted. There was a need to create space for cycle lanes and separation kerbs could potentially follow. Where there was investment from the Mayor and TfGM standards would be high and every foot way should be able to take a double pram.
- A Member asked that future reports make reference to the Bridgewater Way, which was a regeneration project which, when completed, would create a 65km (39 mile) leisure route for walkers and cyclist along the Bridgewater Canal. The Member stated that it was a wonderful asset for connectivity for cycling and walking.

- A Member asked about barriers such as how much funding would be spent on the built environment such as broken pavements and flag stones as Councils did not have the funding available. Broken pavements and obstacles on pavements was a barrier to walking. London had outlawed parking on pavements, it was suggested that Greater Manchester needed the same power. In response, it was explained that the issues had been discussed by the GMCA and it was recognised that social isolation would improve if people could walk around. Scope of investment did not include for, actuary that should fall within annual maintenance programmes. Chris Boardman's mantra 'to get people out of cars, the solution needed to be easy, attractive and safe', which was the aim of the plan.
- A Member raised the issue of Council's reducing the number of pedestrian crossing in times of austerity. Reference was also made to the significant investment in Radcliffe to make the cycle way safe, the Member asked how would that be monitored and the impact measured moving forward. The Champion agreed that walking or cycling to school needed to be safe and was an issue for highways. The cycle way at Radcliffe (investment made with Cycle City Ambition grant), was not cost effective as the cycle way had not been maintained. How the provisions be maintained should be considered and Districts needed to have a suitable maintenance programme.
- A Member asked about the cost to repair footways. A high level estimate would be £1 billion but that was not in the scope of works and represented a high level projection over an extended period of time.
- A Member advised that parents did not think it was safe for children to cycle and asked about what evidence was there to show how many more children and young people would cycle if it was safe. Reference was made to the Bike Life report in 2015 and 2017, which showed that safety was an obstacle. People would cycle or resume cycling if they thought it was safe. 77% of respondents said they would like to see major investment in walking and cycling even if their journey by private car was extended. People wanted safety first and foremost. More walking, cycling and remodeled streets would mean less congestion and reduced journey times for drivers.
- A Member asked what behavioural change and attitudinal work was required. The Champion explained that there were a number of issues to consider. Space, capacity, good schemes and political support were required to bring about change. The Walking and Cycling Commissioner, had visited all Council Leaders. The meetings had been very fruitful and they all shared the same vision.
- A Member praised the work of the team and learning from other cities. In terms of cycling, the Member would like to see priority given to reallocating road space, planning well ahead and correcting past mistakes. Reference was also made to power assisted bikes and the Member asked about the work taking place in this

area. It was explained that it had been agreed that a network would be established, which would be supported with temporary arrangements and kerbs could be later introduced. In terms of e-bikes, many barriers such as hills, mobility and distance were less of a problem for users of these bikes. It was a valid point and more work was required in this area.

The Chair thanked all those involved who had contributed to the work and thanked the Walking and Cycling Champion for a fantastic presentation.

RESOLVED/-

That Members noted the presentation.

TfGMC17/61 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press 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(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

It would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose this information to the public and press for the reasons indicated within the reports.

TfGMC17/62 PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services, which sought the approval of the Committee, to the proposed property transactions as detailed in the report.

RESOLVED/-

That Members approved the property transactions as detailed in the report.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY, HELD ON FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2017 AT
STOCKPORT TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham
Deputy Mayor (Police and Crime)	Baroness Beverley Hughes
Bury Council	Councillor Rishi Shori, (Deputy Mayor)
Manchester CC	Councillor Richard Leese, (Deputy Mayor)
Oldham Council	Councillor Jean Stretton
Rochdale BC	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford CC	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport MBC	Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
Trafford Council	Councillor Sean Anstee
Wigan Council	Councillor Peter Smith

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Fire Committee, Chair	Councillor David Acton
GMWDA, Chair	Councillor Nigel Murphy
TfGM, Chair,	Councillor Andrew Fender
Bolton Council	Councillor Linda Thomas
Bury Council	Councillor Jane Black
Bury Council	Councillor Andrea Simpson
Manchester CC	Councillor Angelicki Stogia
Stockport MBC	Councillor Wendy Wild
Tameside MBC	Councillor Lynn Travis
Tameside MBC	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford Council	Councillor Dylan Butt
Trafford Council	Councillor Laura Evans
Wigan Council	Councillor Jennifer Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA – Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer	Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
Bolton Council	Margaret Asquith
Bury MBC	Pat Jones Greenhalgh
Manchester CC	Joanne Roney
Oldham Council	Maggie Kufeldt
Rochdale BC	Steve Rumbelow

Salford CC	Jim Taylor
Stockport MBC	Pam Smith
Tameside MBC	Kathy Roe
Trafford Council	Theresa Grant
Wigan Council	Alison McKenzie-Folan
TfGM	Simon Warbuton
GMFRS	Dave Keelan
Manchester Growth Co	Mark Hughes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lindsay Dunn
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Emma Stonier

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCVO	Alex Whinnom
	Patsy Hodson

195/17 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Richard Farnell (Rochdale Council, Councillor Allen Brett attending), Councillor Cliff Morris (Bolton Council – Councillor Linda Thomas attending) Chief Executives – Donna Hall (Wigan Council – Alison McKenzie-Folan attending), Ian Hopkins (GMP), Jon Lamonte (TfGM – Simon Warbuton attending), Jon Rouse (GMHSCP), Steven Pleasant (Tameside Council – Kathy Roe attending) and Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham Council – Maggie Kufeldt attending).

196/17 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

a) Town Centre Challenge

In welcoming Members, the GM Mayor reminded the meeting that it marked the opening of the Red Rock Development in Stockport. It was also confirmed that Stockport would be the first town in GM nominated under the town centre challenge.

b) Gender Balanced Combined Authority

The GM Mayor introduced and welcomed the district nominated Assistant Portfolio Leads to the meeting. He highlighted that this was a further step towards gender equality within the Authority and demonstrated GM’s commitment to inclusive gender balance. Members were reminded that 2018 will mark the centenary of women receiving the right to vote, a campaign that was prominently lead in Manchester.

c) White Ribbon Day

The Chair noted that white ribbons were being worn to mark White Ribbon Day on 25 November, a global campaign to end violence against women and girls was supported by all GM public agencies.

d) Carers Rights Day

The GM Mayor informed members that the 24 November marked Carers Rights Day. He announced that later in the day he would be delivering a speech to the Carers Rights Day event in GM that would demonstrate strength and commitment to help carers in their local community to receive the help and support they are entitled to.

e) Kerslake Review – Emergency Services Response to the Manchester Arena Attack

The GM Mayor reminded the meeting that the closing date for submissions from those who were affected by the Manchester Arena Attack to the Kerslake Review was the 24 November.

Deputy Mayor Beverley Hughes provided members with an update on the progress of the independent commissioned Kerslake Review Panel that commenced in October. It was noted that all single and multi-agency debrief documents from those involved in the response to the incident at the Arena. However, the primary focus of the review has been what lessons can be learned from the experiences of the people and their families involved in the incident, including those that came to assist and respond on the night, which can be picked up in future contingency planning. During the first phase of the review, the NSPCC have been commissioned as the conduit of the personal experiences to the Panel. The time period was extended to continue to gather views and the response so far, was described as very good. This has been gathered by large numbers of phone calls, e-mails and a number of face to face interviews from members of the public, victims and their families, who have been directly affected. A progress report will be presented in January 2018 and the final report with the findings will be produced in Spring 2018.

f) Autumn Budget

Consideration was given to a late paper circulated the previous evening in response to the key announcements made in the Government's Autumn Budget on 22 November. The GM Mayor described the Autumn statement as a mixed picture for GM. It was highlighted that Government's commitment to strengthen devolution and improve outcomes to Greater Manchester Combined Authority was clear as the City region was the only area to have an agreement published alongside the main Budget document.

Recognition was offered from the GM Mayor on behalf of the GMCA to the Chief Executive and colleagues who continue to engage in a professional and

effective manner in securing the best interests of GM which was demonstrated in the publication of the Greater Manchester Autumn Budget 2017.

The Chancellor had announced that GM will be provided with an allocation of £243 million over four years as part of the Transforming Cities Fund. This funding will provide GM with the flexibility to make strategic decisions on the priority transport projects, and help to improve connectivity and reduce congestion in the region. This announcement of the fund will allow for the implementation of proposals in response to the recent public consultation regarding congestion. In addition, Government has also recently committed up to £300 million towards ensuring HS2 infrastructure and 'touch points' to accommodate future Northern Powerhouse and Midlands rail services.

As part of the agreement, the Government will also invest £28m in Housing First pilots in three mayoral areas across England, one of which will be in GM. Approximately £9m will be awarded to GM to support rough sleepers with the most complex needs to turn their lives around.

Confirmation was received that GM will be a Digital and Technological Hub alongside the Government's commitment to working with GM to develop a Local Industrial Strategy pilot. It was acknowledged that a caveat to this was that the Budget announcement did not progress on the devolution of post 16 skills funding. Further discussions on this issue allied with the Industrial Strategy will be pursued with Government.

The GM Mayor further announced that GM had been awarded a share of the funding to commemorate and celebrate 100 years of women being given the right to vote. This announcement was welcomed by members.

The Government and GMCA have also committed to work together on a range of other policy areas, including Trade and Investment, Housing, Skills, Offender Management, and Employment Support.

On a less positive note it was highlighted that although a package of funding was announced with respect to the NHS, there was no significant announcements on, or additional funding for the proposed pilot on social care. Furthermore, there were no declarations in respect of funding for policing or counter terrorism budgets, which indicated the future settlement will be held at 'flat cash'. This was described as challenging as it suggested, in real terms, the prospect of a reduction in Central Government funding for policing in GM.

Members expressed their disappointment at the lack of acknowledgment in the Budget with regard to additional resources for adult social care or children's services, as two of the main pressure point for local councils across the country. Prior to the Autumn Budget, The Local Government Association (LGA) presented a cross party submission to Government about the funding required and the consequences of not providing investment in those areas. In addition to this, GM provided a constructive offer to Government to test a different way of providing care in the home and community for older people

which recognised the current deficit in social care funding. Members raised concerns with regards to the delay of the Green Paper on care and support for older people. Furthermore, the package of funding announced with respect to the NHS was described as insufficient to deal with the winter pressures of increased demand on the health and social care system.

Members were also reminded that GM had previously been awarded £450M Transformation Fund to look at how GM provides care and well being services, with good work already underway in localities to deliver those commitments, notwithstanding the pressing need for sustainable funding for social care.

Deputy Mayor, Beverley Hughes expressed concerns with regard to the failure of Government to address policing and security. She described the impacts of successive budgets in terms of loss of officers and staff and described this year as the most challenging given the added pressures at a time when the threat level from terrorism was severe and impacting on neighbourhood policing.

Further lobbying of Government ahead of next month's settlement would be pursued by representatives of GM.

Dissatisfaction was voiced in respect of the lack of any announcement in public sector pay awards. Members highlighted Local Government budgets have been cut at a time when demand for public services would continue to rise year on year.

The GM Mayor raised the matter of the recovery of costs for the attack at Manchester Arena. He described the absence of any substantive response in the Budget as frustrating but highlighted that a statement from the Prime Minister was expected later in the day.

196/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Richard Leese declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Items 16, Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval for Recommendation and 19 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation as Manchester City Council own the site of Stagecoach.

197/17 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes of GMCA meeting held on 27 October 2017 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 27 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

198/17 MINUTES OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee meeting held on 27 October 2017 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee meeting held on 27 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

199/17 MINUTES OF THE ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH AND SKILLS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 10 November 2017 be noted.

200/17 MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Corporate Issues and Reform Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 21 November 2017 be noted.

201/17 MINUTES OF THE HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED /-

1. That the minutes of the Housing, Planning and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 16 November 2017 be noted.
2. That the appointment of Councillor Jamie Walker (Bury) (Labour) to the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee be approved.

**202/17 TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE
MINUTES HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee held on 10 November 2017 be noted.

**203/17 GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 13 November 2017 be noted.

**204/17 GREATER MANCHESTER VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE (VCSE) ACCORD**

The GM Mayor introduced a report providing members with an update on the development of an Accord between the Greater Manchester Mayor and Combined Authority and the GM Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise.

In introducing the report, the GM Mayor explained that another piece of history was being made as the Accord set out the principles of a new relationship of trust based on a shared vision for the city region as highlighted in the refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy to unlock the full potential of citizens and communities.

In order to provide the adequate level of leadership for this, it was announced that Councillor Kieran Quinn (Tameside) will be the Portfolio Lead and responsible for Investment, Finance, Community, Voluntary and Co-operatives. It has been suggested that delivery of the Accord and development of a GM VCSE Action Plan would require additional capacity. Following discussions, it was initially proposed that an additional £50k of funding was provided to support crime and disorder issues.

Alex Whinnom, Chief Executive of GMCVO and Patsy Hodson, Chair of GMCVO, were introduced to the meeting as representatives from the Voluntary and Community and Social Enterprise Sector in GM. The Chair of GMCVO welcomed the ambition to extend into a new relationship with the GMCA and as highlighted in the GM Strategy, take a proactive approach to create new partnerships and encourage more diverse voices to have an active role in shaping and challenging policy.

Councillor Kieran Quinn further added that austerity has highlighted that GM would be a far weaker place without the extended role that the VCSE provide.

One of the key commitments from the GM Mayor and GMCA will be to develop an investment approach based on long-term funding arrangements which extend beyond annual contracting and cover core costs not just project funding.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GM Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Accord and arrangements as detailed in the report be endorsed.
2. That the funding arrangements detailed in paragraph 4.4. be noted.

205/17 LOCAL GROWTH FUND 3 – GM BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAMME

RESOLVED /-

That the report be deferred and considered at the meeting of the GMCA on 15 December 2017.

206/17 PLANNING FOR THE RIGHT HOMES IN THE RIGHT PLACES: RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT’S CONSULTATION PROPOSALS

City Mayor Paul Dennett provided members with an update on the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) consultation document and the GMCA’s response, considering implications for the preparation of the next draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.

The consultation on a standardised methodology for calculating Objectively Assessed Housing (OAH) need was published on the 14 September. The consultation was described as significant for local planning authorities, planning professionals, house builders and developers in that it presented Government’s proposals on how housing need should be calculated in local areas. This has important implications for local and joint plans like the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). It was highlighted that there is an expectation that local planning authorities should adopt the standard approach.

A detailed response to all of the proposals was submitted on behalf of the GMCA and a copy of the full submission was attached to the report at Annex One.

On behalf of the GMCA, the GM Mayor welcomed the Government’s proposals of the introduction of a robust and consistently applied method for calculating local housing need.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the report and proposals that the Government are suggesting in the consultation be noted.
2. That GMCA's response to the consultation be endorsed.
3. That information from the consultation be used to inform further work to prepare the next draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.

207/17 BREXIT MONITOR – MONTHLY UPDATE

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Leader for Business and Economy, introduced a report which updated members on the key economic and policy developments in relation to the UK's decision to leave the EU, adding that a 'no deal' scenario would be considered disastrous for GM .

It was brought to the attention of members that the economic forecast had been revised since writing the report following the Autumn Budget. Furthermore, there has been considerable debate with regard to the extent to which the UK can change its mind on the decision to leave the EU as people are made further aware of the economic consequences of Brexit.

RESOLVED /-

That the November Brexit Monitor be noted.

208/17 WARM HOMES FUND

Councillor Alex Ganotis, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, introduced a report that provided details of an opportunity to supplement the existing GM Local Energy Advice Programme (LEAP), being delivered by Agility Eco and Local Authorities with c. £1.8m Warm Homes Funding to further assist the most vulnerable fuel poor residents in GM, specifically those in off-gas grid areas.

Tribute was paid to officers within the GMCA responsible for the bid and securing the subsequent funding of £1.8m which, supported the delivery of the GMS Implementation Plan action to *“Deliver a programme of energy switching, local energy advice and domestic energy efficiency retrofit particularly to fuel poor households”*.

It was confirmed that it is intended that these funds would be used to install central heating in urban 'off gas' IMD areas (25% worse Index of Multiple Deprivation areas). The paper demonstrated how these new monies would complement the previously agreed GM Local Energy Advice Programme (LEAP).

The GM Mayor thanked officers of the GMCA and Councillor Alex Ganotis for the work undertaken to successfully attain the Warm Homes Fund monies.

Councillor Richard Leese offered support for the report and highlighted the importance of ensuring that the implementation of any new heating systems should be user friendly as well as energy efficient.

RESOLVED /-

That the utilisation of c. £1.8m Warm Homes Funds to supplement delivery of the existing Local Energy Advice Programme be agreed.

209/17 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK – GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FUNDS UPDATE

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Leader for Investment, Finance, Community, Voluntary and Co-operatives, introduced a report which provided a six month update on the Greater Manchester Investment Funds.

Key highlights included £5.3m of funding dedicated to fourteen businesses and £113.9m of housing funding committed to nine developments. It was reported that the developments will see the creation of 1,334 new homes helping to meet the challenge of housing growth across the conurbation. £7.9m of commercial property funding has been committed within the city and towns across GM. CBRE were reported as the successful bidder in the Evergreen procurement process and are now managing Evergreen 1 and Evergreen 2.

The Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund was launched in March 2017 offering debt and equity funding packages to businesses. £138m of business funding has been committed with a further £18m of funding requirements in the pipeline. It was noted with success, that £50.3m of funding has been recycled from funds to date.

It was highlighted that the funds are overseen by the Core Investment Team with due diligence. In support, Councillor Richard Leese commented that the report highlighted success for GM and further expressed his appreciation to Councillor Kieran Quinn and officers from the GMCA Authority who have overseen the investment of the funds.

The GM Mayor conveyed his gratitude to the Portfolio Lead and officers in the Core Investment Team for the work undertaken to actively support growth in Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED /-

That the update on the Greater Manchester Investment Funds be noted.

210/17 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK – PROJECT UPDATES

Councillor Kieran Quinn introduced a report for approval for loans to Planix Limited. The loan will be made from recycled funds and was recommended to the Combined Authority for approval following appraisal by the Core Investment Team.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the funding application by Planix GRP Limited (investment of £750k) be conditionally approved and progressed to due diligence.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transactions, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan.

211/17 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

Councillor Richard Leese declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this report, as Manchester City Council own the site of Stagecoach and left the room during the discussion of the report.

City Mayor, Paul Dennett presented the GMCA with a report for approval of the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan detailed below.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Rowlinson Developments Ltd. SPV	Stagecoach site, Moss Side	Manchester	£5,620,000

Members were asked to approve the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan in the table as detailed further in the report and the accompanying Part B paper.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan in the table above, as detailed further in the report and the accompanying Part B paper be approved.
2. That Manchester City Council be recommended to approve the above and prepares and effects the necessary legal agreements in accordance with its approved internal processes.

212/17 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members noted that the commercially sensitive information contained in Item 18 Greater Manchester Investment Framework and Conditional Project Approval and item 19 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation was taken as read during consideration of the Part A - Greater Manchester Investment Framework Projects Update (minute ref 210/17 refers) and Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation (minute ref 211/17) and for this reason the exclusion resolution was not moved.

**213/17 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND
CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL**

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered and noted in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Framework Projects Update at minute 210/17 above.

**214/17 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS
FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION**

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered and noted in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Loans Fund Investment Approval at minute 211/17 above.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY, HELD ON FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER 2017 AT BOLTON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham
Deputy Mayor (Police and Crime)	Baroness Beverley Hughes
Bury	Councillor Rishi Shori, (Deputy Mayor)
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese, (Deputy Mayor)
Oldham	Councillor Jean Stretton
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside	Councillor Kieran Quinn
Trafford	Councillor Sean Anstee
Wigan	Councillor Peter Smith

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Fire Committee, Chair	Councillor David Acton
GMWDA, Chair	Councillor Nigel Murphy
TfGM, Chair,	Councillor Andrew Fender
Bolton	Councillor Linda Thomas
Bolton	Councillor Anna Marie Watters
Manchester	Councillor Angelicki Stogia
Stockport	Councillor Wendy Wild
Tameside	Councillor Lynn Travis
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford	Councillor Dylan Butt
Trafford	Councillor Laura Evans
Wigan	Councillor Jennifer Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA – Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer	Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
Bolton	Margaret Asquith
Bury	Pat Jones Greenhalgh
Manchester	Sara Todd

Oldham	Carolyn Wilkins
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Jim Taylor
Stockport	Pam Smith
Trafford	Theresa Grant
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
TfGM	Simon Warbuton
TfGM	Steve Warrener
GMFRS	Dawn Docx
Manchester Growth Co	Mark Hughes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lindsay Dunn
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Emma Stonier

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

GM Cycling and Walking Commissioner	Chris Boardman
British Cycling	Simon Powers
British Cycling	Eve Langford
British Cycling	Aaron Gales
British Cycling	Martin Key

215/17APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Chief Executives – Donna Hall (Wigan Council – Alison McKenzie-Folan attended), Jon Lamonte (TfGM – Simon Warburton attended), Jon Rouse (GMHSCP) and Steven Pleasant (Tameside Council – Ian Saxon attended).

216/17 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

1. Fire at Walkden

The GM Mayor noted the tragedy which took place in Jackson Street, Walkden, earlier in the week, which had tragically claimed the lives of 4 children. The GM Mayor expressed sincere condolences on behalf of the GMCA, to the family and community, at what was an extremely difficult time.

2. Councillor Allan Brett’s appointment as Leader of Rochdale

The GM Mayor welcomed Councillor Allan Brett to the GMCA as the new Leader of Rochdale Borough Council.

3. Councillor Cliff Morris

The GM Mayor noted that Councillor Cliff Morris was stepping down from his role as Leader of Bolton Council after 34 years of distinguished service to the public and thanked him for his contribution towards building GM into what it is today. Councillor Morris had been Leader of Bolton since 2006 and the Portfolio Lead for Health, Children's Services and Culture for the GMCA during this time.

The GM Mayor also welcomed the new Leader Elect, Councillor Linda Thomas to the meeting adding that he was looking forward to working with her.

4. Manchester Arena Attack

The GM Mayor expressed his thanks for the exemplary work of all public services in supporting the community, GM Police in particular, in the aftermath of the Arena Attack and for the support provided to the families and communities following the attack.

The GM Mayor noted that following the discussions at the last meeting of the GMCA the Government has agreed to meet the £28M cost to GM in full and expressed his thanks to the Prime Minister for the clarification received from Government. The GM Mayor also confirmed that the Kerslake Review had begun and that this was expected to be concluded early in the New Year.

5. Anderson Report

The GM Mayor informed the meeting that the Anderson Review into the intelligence services handling of UK terror attacks had been published the previous week and commented that this was difficult reading for GM. The report indicated, however, it was impossible to be certain, that the attack might have been averted. He also acknowledged the difficulty of the important work undertaken by the intelligence services, recognising the importance of having all available facts to ensure a thorough lessons learned was completed and responses to be strengthened accordingly.

The GM Mayor explained that it had been suggested that GM may agree to participate in a pilot project regarding how intelligence could be handled differently in future forming a stronger relationship with national security agencies, GMP and local communities. On behalf of GM he had indicated that we would be willing to take part in this pilot linked to the ongoing work of the Cohesion Commission.

6. Agenda

The Chair requested that agenda item 12; the Greater Manchester Cycling and Walking Strategy was taken first and welcomed Chris Boardman, as the Cycling and Walking Commissioner to the meeting for this item.

217/17 GM CYCLING AND WALKING STRATEGY

The GM Mayor introduced the GM Cycling and Walking Commissioner, Chris Boardman, who presented the Made to Move Strategy. The Strategy had been developed over the previous 3 months, informed by discussions with colleagues across GM district councils and a wide range of partners and it was intended to formally launch the strategy following the meeting. The main ethos of the strategy was aimed at encouraging car drivers out of their cars.

The key areas highlighted were;

- Plans have been developed in consultation with a wide range of partners
- That cycling infrastructure needed to be improved and developed further
- That car users needed to be attracted to take up cycling to ensure the strategy was a success
- That schemes and investments needed to be assessed against an 'easy, attractive and safe' framework
- That cultural change was needed that encouraged people to take up cycling
- Schemes needed to be led by districts following the standards set out in the strategy
- That the £1.5b cost outlined in the report covered a period of 10 years. The overall cost of taking no action was highlighted as being more expensive in the long run and the return on investment was explained as being £5.50 for every £1 spent.

The GM Mayor commented that the £243M from the Transforming Cities Fund, in addition to potential other sources of funding, was available to support the implementation of this Strategy. It was proposed that a detailed proposal be submitted to the GMCA establishing a Challenge Fund of £50M fund from 2019/20 available for GM District Councils to build infrastructure, based on a match/part funded structure.

Members welcomed the report and the ambitions which the strategy outlined for GM and emphasised the need to look at the acceleration and the incremental implementation of the Strategy.

Councillor Richard Leese advised that the redesign of cycle lanes on Oxford Road scheme, particularly the Oxford Street end had looked at some of the New York design solutions which had created a safety gap between cycle lanes and the general road. In addition to measuring proposed schemes against the proposed criteria, it was suggested that given the scale of the problem, the potential to deliver schemes

incrementally should be considered. He emphasised the importance of districts councils working collaboratively across local boundaries to deliver the strategy. In addition to encouraging new cyclists, he also reiterated that to instil confidence in existing cyclists there needed to be investment in existing road surfaces.

Members noted that the strategy aligned itself with physical and mental health strategies in GM and highlighted the importance of physical activity for mental health. Inexpensive interventions, such as the daily mile implemented in schools in Wigan, were also drawn attention to. The need for driving change in communities, through utilising community groups, was noted as being crucial to achieving behavioural shifts.

Members commented that the outcomes in the strategy relied significantly on behavioural change which was a considerable challenge. It was also emphasised that the positive implications for road users in delivering major infrastructure projects needed to be better understood. In addition the importance of reaching residents within deprived areas, who suffer from the worse health outcomes, was stressed.

Support was expressed for the 'easy, accessible and safe' framework outlined in the report. A Member also noted that the links between this strategy and GM's spatial planning and local level district planning should be articulated. Ensuring this strategy was aligned with work taking place on Green Infrastructure and the consistent approach needed across GM districts councils related to highways design was stressed. Linking programmes on skills, employment and local businesses to the development of cycling infrastructure should also be considered, alongside the adoption of a social value approach across GM.

A Member felt the approach outlined in the report was practical and pragmatic and commented that improvements in the design of highways was required to ensure they were focused on people and communities. It was further noted that consideration to fund the strategy was now needed, confirming that the Challenge Fund approach was the right approach. The work on Public Sector Reform work was also noted as being aligned to this strategy.

Members were informed about a scheme in place in Westhoughton which provided residents with free hire bikes, which feeds into this strategy. The project started in September and was already oversubscribed. An invitation was extended to all Members to view the model.

Chris Boardman thanked Members for their support and helpful and encouraging comments provided to him and his team to take this work forward.

RESOLVED/-

1. To welcome the presentation and strongly support and commend the GM Cycling and Walking Strategy.

2. That a further report on the establishment of a Challenge Fund in the sum of £50M and supporting criteria be submitted to a future meeting.

218/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Richard Leese, Councillor Jean Stretton and City Mayor Paul Dennett declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 5, Local Growth Fund 3 – Greater Manchester Business Productivity and Inclusive Growth Programme as members of the Board of The Growth Company.

219/17 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2017

The minutes of the GMCA meeting held 24 November 2017 were submitted for consideration. Councillor Anna Marie Watters requested that she added to the list of those in attendance at the meeting.

Members were reminded that it had been previously agreed that the Brexit Monitor would not be considered in December, however following recent Government announcements the Chair asked whether there was any update to be reported. Councillor Richard Leese explained that the Brexit negotiations had progressed at pace over the last few weeks, with a move towards a softer Brexit deal, with a transitional period operating within EU law for up to 2 years. The final deal will now have to be considered by Parliament.

The GM Mayor informed the meeting that the Brexit Secretary, David Davis, had been in touch regarding a meeting in January, which suggested further engagement with Government would be forthcoming.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 24 November 2017 be approved as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Anne Marie Watters to the list of those in attendance.
2. That the update on the Brexit negotiations be noted.

220/17 LOCAL GROWTH FUND 3 – GREATER MANCHESTER BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAMME

Councillors Richard Leese, Jean Stretton and City Mayor Paul Dennett declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this report, as they are members of the Board of The Growth Company and left the room during the discussion of this report.

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance, introduced a report which sought approval for the Full Business Case for Local Growth Fund 3 (LGF) and local authority funding to deliver the GM Business Productivity and Inclusive Growth programme.

Challenges related to UK productivity were highlighted, particularly its performance against EU countries and international competitors, and the fact that productivity in GM was below the national level was emphasised as a clear indication that action was needed to address the situation. A single business support system was intended to be introduced going forward to address the gap between GM and the rest of the UK.

The programme total cost was £26.1M with £15M of this funding received from the LGF and £11.1M from local authority contributions. It was expected that over time the investment would increase GM's GDA by £96M.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the allocation of £11.1M of local authority funding to the Programme, which in 2018/19 would be taken from retained business rates and thereafter subject to sufficient such business rates being generated, or otherwise as a call on other GMCA resources be approved.
2. That the allocation of £15M of LGF monies to the Programme, subject to the influence of appropriate monitoring and evaluation arrangements being put in place be approved.
3. That the requirement for a capital and revenue switch which would require approval from the GMCA's auditors be noted.

221/17 SOCIAL IMPACT BOND – ROUGH SLEEPERS

The GM Mayor presented a report which requested authority to award the contract for a Social Impact Bond for Entrenched Rough Sleepers in GM. The contract was a payment-by-results contract with a maximum value of £1.8M over 3 years and would deliver a range of specified outcomes for this client group.

The GM Mayor provided a general update on work related to homelessness and rough sleeping and thanked Leaders and districts councils for the strong partnership formed over the past few months. The creation of the GM Homelessness Action Network (GMHAN) has enabled voluntary and community sector organisations to work together in a more coordinated way and the network was expected to bring a strategy to the GMCA in the near future. The Mayor's Homelessness Fund which was established which has now awarded a £6k grant to Bolton Young People's Housing Project, in addition to a number of other grants which have been awarded. The amount raised by the fund was now over £60k. Arrangements for winter have been implemented which have exceeded statutory duties and Councillor David Action was thanked for his assistance in opening fire stations as temporary shelters.

The Social Impact Bond was aimed at rough sleepers who had been on the streets for the longest period of time. The 361% increase in rough sleeping since 2010 was

highlighted; with official counts having recorded 189 rough sleepers with the real figure estimated at between 300-400 people. A partnership agreement has been reached between Shelter, The Brick, other voluntary organisations and 15 housing providers, together with an ethical investor to operate the bond.

Members welcomed this initiative and the inclusion of a provision in the bond that provided support to people to address their individual circumstances. Provision of support for rough sleepers all year round was crucial and work in Tameside was underway to ensure maximum uptake of the programme.

A Member welcomed the opportunity Social Impact Bonds provided to tackle individuals underlying issues such as mental health and substance abuse, highlighting the work underway in Tameside specifically.

Notwithstanding all the publicity around homelessness, further work was required around communicating the scale and complexity of the problem. Figures for families and single people in temporary accommodation in Manchester were highlighted, in addition to unfit and/or overcrowded accommodation, that underlined the problem faced was not only related to rough sleeping. Organisations working to address homelessness in Manchester were thanked for their continued efforts and work.

Members were reminded that Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF) has invested £50M as an ethical investor which has resulted in 10% of the resource for Social Impact Bonds being received from GM.

Homelessness prevention was stressed as a crucial strand of this work, as was assisting people with rebuilding their lives once immediate housing issues have been addressed, including employment.

It was emphasised that the bond was a housing first approach, with support for other issues provided following. There were 200 properties included in the housing first approach and money has been announced in the Autumn Budget which would enable this approach to be extended further.

Member's attention was also drawn to the £3.8M of trailblazer funding received through DCLG and the fact it was intended to focus this funding on homelessness prevention. It was expected that proposals regarding this would be submitted to the GMA in the New Year.

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be noted that DCLG have confirmed an allocation of up to £1.8m to the GMCA to deliver a Social Impact Bond for Entrenched Rough Sleepers.
2. That the process undertaken as described in the report in order to identify a preferred provider to deliver the programme be noted.

3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to award the contract for the delivery of the GM Rough Sleepers SIB in accordance with the terms and value set out in the report following the procurement process and that authority be authorised to the GMCA Monitoring Officer to finalise and complete the necessary legal documentation.
4. That proposals for the use of the £3.8M trailblazer funding to prevent homelessness be submitted to a future meeting of the GMCA.

222/17 INTERIM NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION

The GM Mayor introduced a report which provided an update on the interim national infrastructure consultation that was launched on the 13 October 2017.

The report outlined the key issues to be raised in the GMCA response on the 12 January 2018. Lord Andrew Adonis, the Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission had held an initial meeting with the Mayor of London and other Metro Mayors which provided an early opportunity to comment on the proposed approach.

A number of key decisions for GM, expected to take place next year, to support infrastructure and sustainable growth, were highlighted. In particular the decision regarding HS2 at Manchester Piccadilly was noted as being crucial for achieving GM's ambitions to provide maximum West-East connectivity; to secure the land around Piccadilly for regeneration and to fulfil the vision of Manchester Piccadilly as a transport hub for a revitalised North of England. The fact this was not currently the Government's preferred option was noted, and the corresponding need to ensure GM's position as clearly stated in the consultation response was stressed. The economic potential benefit to the North as a whole was also highlighted as an area to be articulated in the response.

Members concurred that Manchester Piccadilly was the most important rail hub in the North of England and the critical significance of the decision made regarding HS2, stressing that this was important for the whole of the North of England, recognising the importance of trains passing through Manchester in addition to services to and from Manchester. It was also noted that in the absence of additional capacity at Manchester Piccadilly, the proposed May 2018 timetable would not be deliverable, given the lack of capacity in the Castlefield corridor to accommodate the number and length of trains. There were also platform issues in terms of length at both Oxford Road Rail Station and platforms and passenger capacity of Platforms 13 and 14 at Piccadilly Rail Station.

The upgrading of the Manchester-Leeds trans-pennine line to provide regularity of services, accommodation of longer trains and reduce journey times was also highlighted alongside the longer term goals of both Northern Powerhouse Rail and HS2. Potential long term economic consequences of decisions taken over the next 12 months were paramount to the future options available for Manchester Piccadilly Rail Station.

Transport for the North were due to publish their draft Strategic Plan in January 2018, including the preferred option for the North of an underground Station for Piccadilly.

Members reiterated previous requests from GM for assurance that HS2 will not adversely impact passenger services on the West Coast Mainline. Improved radial routes in GM was also needed to ensure better connectivity between districts and to achieve the ambitions of the GM Spatial Framework (GMSF). Figures outlined in the GMSF report regarding transport modal share needed to improve over the next 10 years, for sustainable growth to be delivered. These infrastructure investment 'asks' need to be made clear to Government in the response.

The GM Mayor confirmed that these points alongside reference to the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) and infrastructure to support housing proposals would be included in the final consultation response.

Members suggested inviting the Northern Powerhouse Minister to a future meeting of the GMCA and it was agreed that this would be progressed.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the report and key issues identified outlined in section 2.4 be noted.
2. That the process for developing and finalising the response outlined in section 3 be noted.
3. That final amendments and sign off be delegated to the GMCA Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor of GM.
4. That the Northern Powerhouse Minister be invited to a future meeting of the GMCA.

223/17 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK – GREATER MANCHESTER LOAN FUND

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance, presented a report which set out proposals that amended the Limited Partnership Agreement of the Greater Manchester Loan Fund (GMLF or the Fund), extended the commitment period for capital investment made by the Fund, extended the term of the Fund and reallocated partner commitments to enable the GMCA to lend additional amounts to the Fund. The Fund was set up to support Small and Medium Enterprises, to drive economic growth and it was proposed to extend this Fund from 2021 to 2023 and that the commitment period was extended by one year from June 2018 to June 2019. So far it was noted £14.3m had been committed and £13.2m invested and approximately 1000 jobs created in Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the extension of the commitment period be extended by one year from June 2018 to June 2019, resulting in the Maven's team changing from a five year commitment period and three year run off period to a six year commitment period and a two year run off period be approved.
2. That the extension of the Fund Term by two years from June 2021 to June 2023, providing the fund with flexibility to continue to make investments with a minimum term of four years, throughout the commitment period be approved.
3. That the replacement of the by the GMCA of MCC's existing commitment to the Fund via repayment of capital (£5.5M) and accrued interest thereon (£0.4M) be approved.
4. That the funding of any further partner commitments required (estimated at £2M) from GMCA rather than MCC be approved.

224/17 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK – PROJECT UPDATES

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance presented a report which sought approval for loans of £2.6m to Citylabs limited (Phase 2). It was noted that the loans would be made from recycled funds. Citylabs was highlighted as a key partner in delivering health devolution and health innovation. The loan was intended to deliver high quality commercial space and create 400 jobs in key areas for Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the funding application by Citylabs Limited (investment of £2,600k) be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transactions, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loans at a) above.

225/17 GREATET MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Leader for Planning, Housing and Homelessness, introduced a report which sought approval of a GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan of £800k for the development and conversion of aging office space in

Manchester to residential space. The proposal was for 4 apartments and the work was intended to be completed by a small and medium enterprise. It was noted that agreement of this loan would move the fund from £401.2m to £402m. Members were informed that the loan had been recommended for approval by the Fund's Gateway Panel and Credit Committee and there was further information included in part B of the report.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan in the table below as detailed further in this and the accompanying Part B report be approved.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Cert JDS Ltd.	40-42 John Dalton Street, Manchester	Manchester	£800,000

2. That it be recommended to Manchester City Council that it approves the above and prepares and effects the necessary legal agreements in accordance with its approved internal processes.

226/17 TRANSPORT UPDATE

The GM Mayor provided a verbal transport update following his speech to the Urban Transport Group in Leeds where he outlined his ambition to deliver a safe, reliable, affordable and fully integrated high capacity transport network, with customers at its heart.

Issues highlighted were; that the transport system in Greater Manchester was not working; trains are over-crowded, old and subject to disruptions and cancellations, buses are confusing and over-priced; the M60 smart motorway was delayed causing increased congestion and Metrolink was experiencing capacity issues. Greater Manchester needed an integrated transport system which worked across the conurbation.

The GM Mayor outlined his plans to tackle some of these issues. These included; the introduction of a Mayor's Strategic Transport Board, jointly chaired with Sir Richard Leese which will be provided with regular updates on performance, progress on improvements, will hold operations to account and ensure decisions are made in a joined-up way; Greater Manchester was noted as being the first city region to use new powers to improve bus services; contactless bank card payments will be introduced on Metrolink in late 2018 and train operators urged to do more to compensate commuters for poor service. From January 1 2018 half-price travel for 16 to 18-year-olds on Metrolink will be introduced and discussions begun with regards to better coordination of transport operations in GM on a 24/7 basis.

Members were informed that regular updates would be submitted to the GMCA in 2018 regarding transport.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Transport Update be noted.
2. That regular updates regarding transport plans are provided.

227/17 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members noted that the commercially sensitive information contained in Item 14 Greater Manchester Investment Framework and Conditional Project Approval and item 15 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation was taken as read during consideration of the Part A - Greater Manchester Investment Framework Projects Update (minute ref 224/17 refers) and Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation (minute ref 225/17) and for this reason the exclusion resolution was not moved.

228/17 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL

CLERK'S NOTE: This item was considered and noted in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Framework Projects Update at minute 224/17 above.

229/17 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

CLERK'S NOTE: This item was considered and noted in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Loans Fund Investment Approval at minute 225/17 above.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY, HELD ON FRIDAY 26 JANUARY 2018
AT THE GMPF OFFICES, DROYLESDEN, TAMESIDE**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham (Chair)
Deputy Mayor (Police and Crime)	Beverley Hughes
Bolton	Councillor Linda Thomas
Bury	Councillor Rishi Shori
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese (Deputy Mayor)
Oldham	Councillor Jean Stretton
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	Councillor John Merry
Stockport	Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside	Councillor John Taylor
Trafford	Councillor Sean Anstee
Wigan	Councillor Peter Smith

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Fire Committee, Chair	Councillor David Acton
GMWDA, Chair	Councillor Nigel Murphy
Bolton	Councillor Anne-Marie Watters
Bury	Councillor Jane Black
Bury	Councillor Andrea Simpson
Manchester	Councillor Angeliki Stogia
Stockport	Councillor Wendy Wild
Tameside	Councillor Lynn Travis
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford	Councillor Dylan Butt
Trafford	Councillor Laura Evans
Wigan	Councillor Jennifer Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA – Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer	Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
Bolton	Tony Oakman

Bury	Pat Jones Greenhalgh
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Helen Lockwood
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Jim Taylor
Stockport	Pam Smith
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Tameside	Sandra Stewart
Trafford	Theresa Grant
Wigan	Donna Hall
TfGM	Simon Warburton
TfGM	Steve Warrener
Manchester Growth Co	Mark Hughes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Lindsay Dunn
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Nicola Ward

GMCA 01/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford Council – Councillor John Merry attended), Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham Council – Helen Lockwood attended), Dawn Docx (Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue), John Rouse (GM Health and Social Care Partnership), John Lamonte (Transport for Greater Manchester – Steve Warrener attended) and Ian Hopkins (Greater Manchester Police).

GMCA 02/18 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

1. Post Arena Attack Cost Recovery

The GM Mayor reported that the full cost to Greater Manchester following the arena attack as reported to Government was £28m, and that he had received a letter from the Prime Minister this week confirming that £24m would be reimbursed. The Government have indicated that they will not fully fund the cost of the 'We love Manchester' fund, or the cost of the Independent Review led by Lord Kerslake. The Mayor offered to pursue these negotiations privately, and commented that this review was not simply a local review, but that it had looked at national policy and guidance and would have a much wider impact.

2. Levels of Rough Sleeping and Homelessness

The Mayor of Greater Manchester confirmed that there had been a significant rise in homelessness across GM, with an increase of 20% in the city centre, and 40% in outlying boroughs.

He reported that this was a significant increase from reducing levels of the last decade, and that GM would continue to push forward their efforts to tackle these issues. A meeting of the Homelessness Action Network is scheduled for 15 February, where a number of organisations will be brought together to sign off a plan to tackle homelessness across the whole of GM. Efforts were also being made to increase the number of Housing First schemes to 500 places by the end of the year, which would be a major contributor towards reaching GM's goal of ending rough sleeping by 2020.

Richard Leese, Manchester City Council commented that this was a shared objective for all members of the GMCA, and that there the scale of the problem could be underestimated. He reported that Manchester Council's budget for 2017/18 had increased its funding to services to prevent homelessness and the capacity to manage increased numbers of people in temporary and permanent accommodation. Working with partner organisations, there have been more staff and volunteers on the streets of the city centre talking to people who are homeless and offering them a range of support services. However, he expressed concern that despite these increased levels of intervention, the issue of homelessness was still getting worse. He added that within the Local Government settlement, the provision for housing, affordable housing and tackling homelessness was not sufficient. It was estimated that Manchester City Council will have to provide 5 times the amount provided in the settlement to support the growing problem through 2018/19.

The Mayor summarised that although the issue nationally and locally was getting worse, Greater Manchester's response has improved and was continually looking for further ways to improve. There have been new winter arrangements put in place for when temperatures drop below zero degrees, five hundred people have been able to register with a GP following the removal of the requirement to have a fixed address and local authorities have been able to waive the cost of providing copies of birth certificates which has helped people to access jobs and benefits. Furthermore, there have been 200 referrals to the Housing First scheme and additional measures planned to be put in place by the end of the year.

He added that public concern regarding the issue of homelessness was growing, and urged that there needs to be a Government review of Universal Credit and its impact on people being able to afford rent. It was important that as a society we need to provide a better response, and that homelessness needs to stay on the top of the list of priorities.

GMCA 03/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by any member of the GMCA in relation to items on the agenda.

GMCA 04/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2017

The minutes of the GMCA meeting held 15 December 2017 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 15 December 2017 be approved as a correct record.

GMCA 05/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 15 DECEMBER 2017

The minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee held on the 15 December 2017 be approved as a correct record.

GMCA 06/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH AND SKILLS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committees held on the 8 December 2017 and 19 January 2018 be noted.

GMCA 07/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED /-

1. That the minutes of the GMCA Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committees held on the 19 December 2017 and the 16 January 2018 be noted.
2. That the appointment of Cllr Debbie Newall (Bolton) to the Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee be approved.

GMCA 08/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED /-

That the GMCA Housing, Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees held on the 13 December 2017 and 15 January 2018 be noted.

GMCA 09/18 MINUTES OF THE GM LEP HELD ON THE 15 JANUARY 2018

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GM LEP held on the 15 January 2018 be noted.

GMCA 09/18 MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT FOR THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 12 JANUARY 2018

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester held on the 12 January 2018 be noted.

GMCA 10/17 GMCA MAYORAL GENERAL BUDGET OVERVIEW REPORT

The Mayor of Greater Manchester presented a report which set out the background to the GMCA General Budget, Transport Levy Budget and Mayoral General Budget and Capital Programme which were detailed in following agenda items. He explained that these budgets were new territory for the GMCA but that they represented an opportunity for the GMCA to continue to move forward despite the pressures of Brexit.

The Mayor introduced the background to HIS proposals for the policing precept, and explained that the police service have dealt with significant budget cuts over recent years. The Deputy Mayor, Beverley Hughes further added that although the Government grant had not been increased, the settlement had given the Mayor the ability to increase the precept up to £12 per household in band D. She reported that at their meeting on the 18 January, the Police and Crime Panel accepted the proposed precept amount, within the context of £12m savings, and a shortfall of £11m in the policing budget. These additional funds would also be specifically used to recruit 50 additional police officers, accelerate improvements in customer services and maintain the community safety grant scheme for local authorities. The commitment of Greater Manchester Police to community policing was recognised as commendable despite the pressures they were under.

Members commented that they accept that the Mayor had have no choice but to accept the precept proposals as the funding from Central Government was not sufficient to support the required services. However, it was important that the message be conveyed back to Government that this was not a sustainable method of funding the shortfall.

Members further added that although the settlement gives the power for the Mayor to determine the precept, it does not give him complete freedom to raise the money. Increasing Council Tax results in the lowest income families being hit by unfair increases. It is therefore imperative that the GMCA demonstrate what this additional funding really means for communities.

It was suggested that alongside this, that the Police need to continue to reform and look to find ways of ensuring effective and efficient use of their budget allocations.

The Mayor summarised that the precept needs clear agreement and demonstration as to what it will specifically fund and how all communities will see real benefits from increased police presence, a stronger frontline and improvements to the 101 service. He further suggested that the Chief Constable be invited to the next meeting of the GMCA to set out his plans for the utilisation of the 2018/19 precept.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GMCA notes the process for considering the proposals submitted by the Mayor for his General Budget, precept and capital budget.
2. That it be noted that that final information underpinning the calculation of the Mayoral General budget and precept is not available for the meeting and that a further budget meeting has been arranged for 20 February 2018 to give consideration to the final proposals ahead of the Mayor formally determining his budget and precept in time for District Councils to start setting their Council Tax levels.
3. That the Chief Constable be invited to the March meeting of the GMCA to set out his plans for the utilisation of the 2018/19 precept in relation to policing.

GMCA 11/18 GMCA MAYORAL GENERAL BUDGET 2018/19

The GM Mayor introduced a report which set out his proposals for the Mayoral General Budget and precept for 2018-19 which included a number of elements including the fire service budget. The Mayoral element of the precept would include the provision of funding to support GM to improve its efforts on congestion planning, regeneration and the use of mayoral powers and the review of the GM Spatial Framework.

The Deputy Mayor, Beverley Hughes added that this precept would further give the budget headroom to undertake a comprehensive review of the Fire Service arrangements.

A member asked why there was specific provision for the Mayor to award grants to Local Authorities when they are able to apply for them directly. Officers confirmed that this allocation would allow the Mayor to award grants in respect of his mayoral priorities for specific pieces of work that could only be delivered through Local Authorities.

Members further added that the Mayor's Office should be of no additional cost to the Local Authorities and that communication should be clear that this funding is currently raised through a levy but is now more transparent through the precept

arrangements. Another member added that although this is a more open and transparent way of dealing with budgets, that residents will naturally concentrate on the overall increase and therefore clear demonstration of its benefits to communities on a day to day basis and ultimately improve communities and reduce living costs.

The Mayor summarised that he agreed that the value added to the lives of residents through the creation of the mayoral arrangements and the powers brought to Greater Manchester needs to be effectively communicated through the budget proposals and going forward.

Richard Leese, Deputy Mayor took the Chair at this point in the meeting and he informed members that there had been a series of additional recommendations circulated as the statutory calculations could not be completed until the final figures on tax bases and government grants had been received. At their meeting on the 20 February 2018 the GMCA would be invited to sign off the final budget.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proposal presented by the Mayor to set an overall Mayoral General Precept of £68.95 (Band D) comprising of £59.95 for functions previously covered by the Fire and Rescue Authority precept (no change) and £9.00 for other Mayoral General functions be approved in principle and the detailed budget calculations which support that level of precept be noted.
2. That it be noted that the proposal for the Mayoral General Precept for 2018/19 is the start of a 2-3 year strategy for setting the Mayoral precept baseline which will be adjusted in future years as further Mayoral functions are granted.
3. That the proposal to allow £11.5 million of Earnback grant to be used to support GMCA costs relating to bus reform be noted.
4. That the following items be noted:
 - i. detailed budget proposed for the Fire and Rescue Service
 - ii. the use of the reserves, to support the revenue and capital budgets and the assessment by the Treasurer that the reserves as at March 2019 are adequate
 - iii. the proposed capital programme and proposals for funding
 - iv. the 2019-20 medium term financial position which reflects the final year of the 4 year funding settlement set by Central Government
5. That the detailed budget proposals for other Mayoral functions be noted.
6. That the GMCA does not wish to submit any written comments to the Mayor in line with the legal process and timetable described in this report.

7. That it be noted that the draft budget does not include all the required statutory calculations under the Local Government Finance Act 1992, since various relevant information has not yet been provided to the Mayor by the Government and some billing authorities, including full information relating to the revenue support grant, tax bases, collection funds and various business rate information.
8. That it be recommended that the Mayor notifies the GMCA of the revised statutory calculations by no later than 15 February 2018 with a view to the GMCA making its final determination at a meeting on the 20 February 2018.

GMCA 12/18 REVENUE TRANSPORT BUDGET 2018/19

The Mayor of Greater Manchester took members through a report which set out the transport related GMCA budget for 2018/19 which remains high on the mayoral agenda. He added that there would be a review of internal expenditure to ensure the greatest efficiencies within TfGM.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the issues affecting the 2018/19 transport budgets as detailed in the report be noted.
2. That the proposal for the introduction of an annual charge of £12 for access to the Local Concessionary Scheme be not approved.
3. That the consultation process which has been undertaken by officers with the Transport Levy Scrutiny Panel be noted; the proposals recommended by Scrutiny as set out in this report, other than the proposal noted at recommendation 2 above, be agreed. That it be noted that the proposal is now for a total levy for 2018/19 of £196.373 million, plus a one-off adjustment of £87.98 million in relation to a refund from districts of transport reserves which were refunded to them in 2017/18, less a reduction of £3.9 million in relation to the costs to be met from the Mayoral General budget to take the levy to be charged to £280.453 million.
4. That the GMCA budget relating to transport functions funded through the levy as set out in the report and amended in line with recommendation 2, for 2018/19 be approved.
5. That it be noted that the planned increases of around 1.8% and 1.57% with respect to the Greater Manchester Transport Fund will be deferred.
6. That the Transport Levy on the district councils in 2018/19 of £280.453 million as detailed above, apportioned on the basis of mid-year population as at June 2016 be approved.

7. That the use of £11.5 million of Earnback revenue grant for use on GMCA transport functions be approved.
8. That the use of reserves in 2018/19 as detailed in section 5 be approved.
9. That the position on reserves as identified in the report be noted and approved.

GMCA 13/18 GMCA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19

The Mayor of Greater Manchester set out the economic development elements related to the GMCA budget for 2018/19. He highlighted issues for members to consider including the grant to the GM Health and Social Care Partnership and funding for MIDAS and Marketing Manchester.

Members suggested that the level of funding to MIDAS and Marketing Manchester be match funded by private sector contributions.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the budget relating to the GMCA Economic Development and Regeneration functions in 2018/19 as set out in section 2 of this report be approved.
2. That the District Contributions of £8.848 million as set out in section 3 of this report be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Portfolio Leader for Health and Social Care to determine the appropriate grant to the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership of up to £0.6 million.
4. That the increases to the level of funding to MIDAS £0.2 million and Marketing Manchester £0.35 million, subject to confirmation that these additional sums are matched by private sector contributions be approved.
5. That it be noted that £4.9 million of Business Rates Income is to be retained by District Councils and shared on a pro-rata population basis.

GMCA 14/18 GMCA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018-21

The Mayor of Greater Manchester presented an update in relation to the GMCA capital expenditure programme.

Members asked whether there was further information available regarding the evaluation of the current numbers and planning increase of trams on the metrolink. The Mayor confirmed that it remained his intention to increase the number of trams, but that a case was being worked up that would be dependent on the availability of

funding. It was suggested that a report on the current patronage and planned purchase of additional trams be brought to a future meeting of the GMCA.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the revisions to the capital budget as set out in Appendix A and detailed within the report be agreed.
2. That the updated 2017/18 capital forecast compared to the previous 2017/18 capital forecast be noted.
3. That the capital programme budget for 2018/19 and the forward commitments as detailed in the report and in Appendix A be approved.
4. That it be noted that that the capital programme will be financed from a mixture of grants (including from DfT), external contributions and long term borrowings.
5. That it be noted that provision has been made in the revenue budget for the associated financing costs of borrowing.
6. That it be noted that that the capital programme will continue to be reviewed, with any new schemes which have not yet received specific approval added into the programme at a later date once approval has been sought.
7. That it be noted that a revised capital programme and Treasury Management Strategy (including prudential indicators), will need to be submitted once the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority joins the GMCA on the 1 April 2018.
8. That a report on the current patronage and planned purchase of additional trams for Metrolink be brought to a future meeting of the GMCA.

GMCA 15/18 BREXIT MONITOR – MONTHLY UPDATE

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Leader for Business and Economy presented the Brexit report which updated members on the key economic and policy developments in relation to the UK's decision to leave the EU. He highlighted the recent debates regarding the potential for a second referendum and the ability for the public to determine whether the deal is acceptable.

The Mayor summarised that the current position in relation to a second referendum was unclear but that there were local discussions as to how to ensure the best deal for Greater Manchester is sought from any potential deal.

RESOLVED /-

That the Brexit Monitor (January 2018) be noted.

GMCA 16/18 INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Leader for Business and Economy introduced a report which updated members on the Government's recent Industrial Strategy White Paper and the proposed approach to developing the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy. He urged that this was an opportunity for Greater Manchester to maximise the offer from Government to keep Greater Manchester distinctive through new ideas and innovation.

Deputy Mayor, Beverley Hughes welcomed the report and planned approach and the ability to use this paper as a framework to develop a GM approach to Industrial Strategy. She suggested that as most of Greater Manchester's economic base comes from SMEs, that they would be integral to a localised strategy, which should also have a strong focus on how we support young people, and parents back into work. Any Industrial Strategy should also focus on the wider determinants of industry such as transport, housing and digital connectivity not just hardware infrastructure.

The Mayor further added that this was a great opportunity for Greater Manchester to move forward quickly and set the pace across the country and a leading conurbation.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the approach outlined to developing the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy be noted in particular that the approach does not separate our growth priorities from our people priorities. In addition that 'infrastructure' should not just include hardware it should also include other enabling infrastructure such as childcare as being key to supporting business growth, particularly SMEs.
2. That the contents of the industrial strategy white paper of relevance to Greater Manchester be noted.

GMCA 17/18 GREEN SUMMIT – MARCH 2018

Alex Ganotis, Portfolio Leader for Green-City Region gave a verbal report regarding the planned Greater Manchester Green Summit to be held on 21 March at Manchester Central. He reported that GM was starting from a strong position regarding its delivery against the targets for carbon reduction and climate change and that it was important to recognise how much had been achieved to date.

The event has been designed to actively share the message of green issues across a wide sector of attendees regarding inclusion, economic development and sustainable business growth. Greater Manchester have set a target date to be carbon neutral by 2050, but there is a strong desire to bring this forward and therefore the Green City Steering Group have been developing the policies that will enable this to be more achievable. This policy development has been informed by a

series of 'listening sessions' across the sub region which have discussed issues such as clean air, green space, waste avoidance and food economy.

The Mayor thanked all those involved with the Green City Region work, and commented that this Green Summit will put GM on the map.

RESOLVED /-

That arrangements for the planned Green Summit to be held on 21 March be noted and that local authorities and key stakeholders be encouraged to participate.

GMCA 18/18 TOWN CENTRE CHALLENGE UPDATE

The Mayor of Greater Manchester updated member of the Combined Authority on the Town Centre Challenge, and introduced a report which set out the next steps in the process. He reiterated the importance that economic growth needs to be felt all across GM and this work was designed to galvanise new discussions as to how we can support the development of towns across all boroughs, and if successful then it would be extended to further widen its impact. He urged those Local Authorities who were still to nominate a town to do so as soon as possible.

John Taylor commented that Tameside's nomination of Stalybridge is subject to cabinet approval shortly.

Jean Stretton explained how Oldham Town Centre was currently going through a masterplan development and that the Council's efforts were concentrating on this large scale project, and although they would not be submitting another town to the town centre challenge, that Oldham should not be disadvantaged in any way.

Richard Leese commented that Manchester were in a similar position, where they did not want to submit a nomination for just one town but that they would engage with the programme for the whole city.

Alex Ganotis added that Stockport had put forward their town centre so that the town centre challenge could support the work that was currently being undertaken in the hope that the Mayor could drive forward additional elements to the scheme such as the introduction of more housing options around the town centre and the Interchange.

Allen Brett reported that Rochdale would soon be sending their nomination for the town centre challenge.

Linda Thomas commented that Bolton town centre was also going through a major redevelopment programme, however the Council had decided to nominate Farnworth as the next town centre priority.

The Mayor thanked members for their comments and reminded the GMCA that this programme aspired to give those current schemes the extra push they need to move forward and alongside this, raise the profile of towns outside of the city centre. He gave assurance that no Local Authorities would be disadvantaged, and he would ensure that mayoral powers were available to those areas who required this intervention.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the issues set out in Sections 2 and 3 of this report and the town centres which have so far been put forward as part of the challenge be noted.
2. That it be noted that Manchester's nomination needs correction to reflect that they have a coherent approach to improving all of their local district centres, all of their centres being of equal importance and priority. It is within this context that they would want to work with the Mayor and GMCA to see if they can assist further.
3. That it be noted that Oldham Town Centre is Oldham's current strategic priority and they would seek a meeting with the Mayor to see if any of his new powers can assist to deliver their plans.

GMCA 19/18 COMMISSIONING WORKING WELL (WORK & HEALTH PROGRAMME)

Sean Anstee, Portfolio Leader for Skills, Employment and Apprenticeships shared a report which notified the Combined Authority of the procurement process of the £52m Working Well (Work & Health Programme) and provided an overview of the successful bidder's proposed delivery model.

The Mayor added that this has been a very successful initiative for Greater Manchester and had introduced a simpler process than the previous Work Programme and its results should be celebrated. He added that this work would support a case for GM to have much greater control over DWP (Department of Work and Pensions) budgets in future years.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the outcome of the Working Well (Work & Health Programme) procurement process and the winning bidder's delivery model be noted.
2. That the appreciation for Local Authority and partner support in the procurement process be noted.
3. That the Social Value outcomes associated with the contract be noted.

4. That the importance of Local Authorities and local governance to successful delivery and agree to support the implementation process through Local Integration Boards be noted.

GMCA 20/18 GM GROWTH DEAL – SALFORD BOLTON NETWORK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

The Mayor of Greater Manchester introduced a report which sought full approval from the Combined Authority to release the necessary funding to enable the delivery of the Salford Bolton Network Improvements (SBIN) and to allow the progression of wider TfGM project and programme management activities associated with this programme.

RESOLVED /-

1. That full approval be granted for the Salford Bolton Network Improvements - Bolton Delivery Package 4 (Farnworth) scheme; and grant release of funding of £1.676 million from the Local Growth Deal to enable delivery of the works; and
2. That the release of further funding of £0.192 million to facilitate TfGM project and programme management activities associated with the enabling, development and delivery of the Bolton and Salford SBNI packages be granted.

GMCA 21/18 INTERMEDIATE BODY STATUS FOR GREATER MANCHESTER – DELEGATIONS

The Mayor of Greater Manchester presented a report which sought the agreement from the GMCA to delegate the responsibility for ratification of Intermediate Body decisions on the strategic fit of ERDF applications to the Chief Executive of the GMCA in consultation with the Mayor. In doing so, this will ensure that there are no perceived conflicts of interest if GMCA members have a governance relationship with potential applicants. It will also ensure there is no conflict with the fact that five GMCA members are on the GM ESIF sub-committee, so GMCA members do not have to make decisions twice. Finally, the role of the GMCA is only to ratify the recommendations of the ESIF sub-committee and delegation of this ratification would mean the ratification would not be required to be undertaken at meetings of the GMCA.

RESOLVED /-

That it be agreed to delegate the responsibility for ratification of GMCA Intermediate Body decisions on the strategic fit of ERDF applications based upon the recommendations of the GM ESIF Sub-Committee to the Chief Executive of GMCA in consultation with the Greater Manchester Mayor.

GMCA 22/18 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK PROJECT UPDATES

The Mayor of Greater Manchester introduced a report which sought approval from the GMCA for investments to GPL Group Limited and Calamity Island Limited from recycled funds.

RESOLVED /-

That discussions on this item be moved into Part B of the agenda.

GMCA 23/18 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 items on business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

GMCA 24/18 GMCA CULTURAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT FUND - RECOMENDATIONS

Councillor Linda Thomas, Portfolio Leader for Culture, Arts and Leisure introduced the report which sought approval on the process to identify organisations to be funded via the new GMCA Cultural and Social Impact Fund.

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be agreed that the budget for the GMCA Cultural and Social Impact Fund should be allocated at a level to fund the balanced portfolio including existing S48 organisations and the highest scoring applicants for the GMCA Cultural Fund detailed within this report.
2. That it be agreed that GMCVO should be funded to the level they were funded under Section 48 and this funding should be taken from the GMCA Cultural and Social Impact Fund.
3. That it be noted that the conclusion of the equality impact assessment on the GMCA Cultural and Social Impact Fund
4. That it be agreed that the portfolio and programme management costs should be found from within the GMCA Cultural and Social Impact Fund budget.
5. That it be agreed that this report is made public within two months of this meeting.

GMCA 25/18 GMCA LOCAL FULL FIBRE CHALLENGE FUND PROPOSAL

Councillor Sean Anstee, Portfolio Leader for Digital City Region introduced a report which sought the agreement of the GMCA to the approach to Greater Manchester's bid to the Full Fibre Networks Challenge Fund as part of the GM Digital Infrastructure Implementation Plan.

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be agreed to submit a bid for funding under the DCMS Local Full Fibre Network Challenge Fund under Wave Two.
2. That the GM Digital Infrastructure Implementation Plan which sets the framework to create the best possible environment for market investment in digital infrastructure be approved.
3. That the development of a co-ordinated approach across GM to the development of standardised wayleaves, supportive planning policy, consistent regulation and a "one dig" approach, in order to encourage market investment in digital fibre infrastructure, reporting back to GMCA in early summer 2018 be supported.

GMCA 26/18 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive of the GMCA shared a report which provided further detail on the funding applications from GPL Limited and Calamity Island Limited.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the funding application by Calamity Island Limited (investment of £210k) be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.
2. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the Combined Authority Treasurer and Combined Authority Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and overall detailed commercial terms of the transactions, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan at recommendation 1 above.
3. That the funding application by GPL Group Ltd (investment of up to £1,500k) be agreed in principle and progress to due diligence.
4. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the Combined Authority Treasurer and Combined Authority Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the GMCA and, subject to

their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and overall detailed commercial terms of the transactions, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan at recommendation 2 above.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES,
HELD ON FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2017
AT STOCKPORT TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham
Deputy Mayor (Police and Crime)	Baroness Beverley Hughes
Bury Council	Councillor Rishi Shori, (Deputy Mayor)
Manchester CC	Councillor Richard Leese (Deputy Mayor)
Oldham Council	Councillor Jean Stretton
Rochdale BC	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford CC	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport MBC	Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
Trafford Council	Councillor Sean Anstee
Wigan Council	Councillor Peter Smith

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Fire Committee, Chair	Councillor David Acton
GMWDA, Chair	Councillor Nigel Murphy
TfGM, Chair,	Councillor Andrew Fender
Bolton Council	Councillor Linda Thomas
Bury Council	Councillor Jane Black
Bury Council	Councillor Andrea Simpson
Manchester CC	Councillor Angelicki Stogia
Stockport MBC	Councillor Wendy Wild
Tameside MBC	Councillor Lynn Travis
Tameside MBC	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford Council	Councillor Dylan Butt
Trafford Council	Councillor Laura Evans
Wigan Council	Councillor Jennifer Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA – Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer	Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee

Bolton Council	Margaret Asquith
Bury MBC	Pat Jones Greenhalgh
Manchester CC	Joanne Roney
Oldham Council	Maggie Kufeldt
Rochdale BC	Steve Rumbelow
Salford CC	Jim Taylor
Stockport MBC	Pam Smith
Tameside MBC	Kathy Roe
Trafford Council	Theresa Grant
Wigan Council	Alison McKenzie-Folan
TfGM	Simon Warbuton
GMFRS	Dave Keelan
Manchester Growth Co	Mark Hughes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Emma Stonier
GMCA	Lindsay Dunn

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCVO	Alex Whinnom
	Patsy Hodson

12/17 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Richard Farnell (Rochdale Council, Councillor Allen Brett attending), Councillor Cliff Morris (Bolton Council – Councillor Linda Thomas attending) Chief Executives – Donna Hall (Wigan Council – Alison McKenzie-Folan attending), Ian Hopkins (GMP), Jon Lamonte (TfGM – Simon Warbuton attending), Jon Rouse (GMHSCP), Steven Pleasant (Tameside Council – Kathy Roe attending) and Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham Council – Maggie Kufeldt attending).

13/17 CHAIRS’ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

Manchester Arena Attack – Re-imburement of Costs

The GM Mayor updated members on the announcement received from the Prime Minister with regard to the reimbursement of costs relating to the attack at Manchester Arena. It was noted that the Government had offered to pay ‘reasonable costs’ incurred in the wake of the atrocity.

It was reported that the letter received had offered no commitment to pay the policing costs of £9.8m. On behalf of the Board, the GM Mayor proposed to respond to the letter immediately seeking reassurance that all costs as opposed to reasonable costs would be reimbursed swiftly. It was agreed that a copy of the letter from the Prime Minister would be circulated to Leaders and Chief Executives once the meeting had concluded for consideration.

Deputy Mayor, Beverley Hughes described the response as disappointing and worrying given that the costs submitted for policing were £9.8m and the letter received from the Prime Minister made reference to an application for £8.9m. It was confirmed that the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) had acknowledged that a mistake had been made and the wrong figure had been quoted.

In support, Councillor Kieran Quinn, described the manner in which the GM Mayor and Councillor Richard Leese had handled the issue as exemplary and demonstrated an understanding of the impact of the atrocity for the families and the community. He added to this that the citizens of Greater Manchester would offer encouragement to the GM Mayor to further pursue the issue and reflect their views on the lack of commitment offered in respect of the reimbursement of costs.

Councillor Cliff Morris

The GM Mayor announced that next month's meeting would be held in Bolton and highlighted that it would be an opportunity for the GMCA to express appreciation to Councillor Cliff Morris, Leader Bolton MBC, who would be stepping down from his role as Leader and a Bolton Councillor on 31 December 2017. His vast contribution to the development of devolution in GM was acknowledged and appreciation was offered for this and the great service that he has provided to Bolton.

14/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by any Member in relation to any item on the agenda.

15/17 MINUTES OF THE AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes AGMA Executive Board meeting held on 27 October 2017 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the AGMA Executive Board meeting held on 27 October 2017 be approved as a correct record, subject to a notice of correction regarding the start of the consultation which was 9 August, not 30 August as recorded in para 2.1 of the AGMA Section 48 Scheme report.

16/17 BUSINESS RATES RESOURCES

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Leader for Investment, Finance, Community, Voluntary and Co-operatives, introduced a report which provided an update on the operation of the Business Rates Pilot which covers the 10 GM District Councils plus Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester.

Members were notified of the outcome of the Business Rates Growth Pilot for 2016/17, the prospects of the 100% Business Rates pilot in 2017/18 and proposals as to the shares of any revenues to be retained by individual authorities.

In welcoming the reporting, Councillor Richard Leese reminded the meeting that the District Councils will determine the apportionment of the Business Rates Growth Pilot to be passed on to AGMA, whilst recognising the important role of AGMA in developing the Pilot, confirming the shared benefits. The comments regarding the language in the report, in confirming the process outlined were acknowledged by Councillor Kieran Quinn.

The GM Mayor confirmed that the discussions implied that Business Rates Resources would be considered as part of the budget setting process, with a view to maximising contributions from the Business Rates Growth Pilot to District Councils at a minimum of 50%.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the outcome of the Business Rates pool and Growth pilot for 2016/17 be noted.
2. That it be noted, that all GM District Councils, together with Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester, have indicated that they were prepared to remain in the Business Rates Pool for 2018/19 and that authority be delegated to the GMCA & AGMA Treasurer, in consultation with Portfolio Leader for Investment, Finance, to make the final decision on the continuation of the pool, to be taken at the time of the RSG provisional settlement.
3. That it be agreed that any business rates retained under the:
 - a. Growth pilot for 16/17 be shared on the basis of 42% to individual districts and 58% retained centrally, subject to any unutilised centrally retained monies being considered for reallocation to all districts once AGMA/GMCA budgets have been agreed by the District Council Leaders.
 - b. 100% pilot be shared with a minimum of 50% of any benefit being retained by districts with any balance to be retained by GMCA/AGMA being subject to annual review as part of the budget setting process and agreement by District Leaders.



COUNCIL

Update on Actions from Council

Portfolio Holder: Various

Officer Contact: Executive Director, Corporate and Commercial Services

Report Author: Elizabeth Drogan, Head of Constitutional Services
Ext. 4705

28th March 2018

Reason for Decision

The decision is for Elected Members to note the updates to the actions from previous Council meetings.

Executive Summary

1. This report provides feedback to the Council on actions taken at the Council meeting on 13th December 2017.
2. This report also provides feedback on other issues raised at that meeting and previous meetings.

Recommendations

Council are asked to note the actions and correspondence received regarding motions agreed at previous Council meetings.

Update on Actions from Council

1 Background

1.1 The report sets out the actions officers have taken on motions of outstanding business and notice of motions approved at the Council meeting held on 13th December 2017.

2 Current Position

2.1 The current position from actions as a result of motions is set out in the table at Appendix One. Letters are attached at Appendix Two in response to the actions approved at Council.

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 N/A

4 Preferred Option

4.1 N/A

5 Consultation

5.1 N/A

6 Financial Implications

6.1 N/A

7 Legal Services Comments

7.1 N/A

8. Co-operative Agenda

8.1 N/A

9 Human Resources Comments

9.1 N/A

10 Risk Assessments

10.1 N/A

11 IT Implications

11.1 N/A

12 Property Implications

12.1 N/A

13 Procurement Implications

-
- 13.1 N/A
- 14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**
- 14.1 N/A
- 15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**
- 15.1 None
- 16 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**
- 16.1 No
- 17 **Key Decision**
- 17.1 No
- 18 **Key Decision Reference**
- 18.1 N/A
- 19 **Background Papers**
- 19.1 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 13th December 2017 are available online at: <http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails>
- 20 **Appendices**
- 20.1 Appendix 1 – actions taken following the Council meeting held on 13th December 2017
- 20.2 Appendix 2 – Letters and other information received in response to actions approved at previous Council meetings.

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Actions from Council 13th December 2017

ACTION	RESPONSE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Public Question from Andy Hunter Rossall re Plastic Bottle Deposit Scheme	Letter to be sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment	Cllr Brownridge	10 th January 2018
Ward Member Question from Councillor Sheldon re Recycling Bins at the Saddleworth Sports Centre	See Note 1 below.	Cllr Brownridge	19 th December 2017
Outstanding Business: Greater Manchester Policing Services	<p>Letters to be sent to the Home Secretary</p> <p>Letter to be sent to the Mayor of Greater Manchester</p> <p>Response received from the Mayor of Greater Manchester dated 4 Jan 18 received 10 Jan 18</p> <p>Response received from the Home Office dated 25 Jan 2018 received 13 Feb 18</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>20th December 2017</p> <p>20th December 2017</p>

Leader and Cabinet Member Question Time - Councillor Sykes re Big Change	Request to be considered by the Homelessness Forum	Leader of the Council	Big Change was raised with the Homelessness Forum on 30 January 2018 and partners stated that they thought it was a good idea but would like more information and asked if someone from Rochdale or Manchester could come to a future meeting to speak about it. Officers spoke to a representative from the Riverside Group which is the lead on "The Big Change" Manchester at the GM Mayor's Homelessness Action Network on 15 February. Officers were advised that there were plans to roll the Big Change out across Greater Manchester and guidelines were being developed on how this would work. The representative from the Riverside Group has been invited to the next Oldham Homelessness Forum meeting to be held on 1 st May 2018.
Leader and Cabinet Member Question Time – Councillor Sheldon re Planning	Information provided to Councillor Sheldon.	Leader of the Council	5 th January 2018
Questions on Cabinet Minutes – Councillor Williamson re Establishment of Bond Scheme Officer	Information provided on the Bond Scheme.	Cllr Brownridge	10 th January 2018

Questions on Cabinet Minutes – Councillor Harkness – Universal Credit Impact on Homelessness	Update to be provided.	Cllr Jabbar	Briefing Note is attached.
Administration Business 1: Advanced Learner Motion	Letter to be sent to Rt. Hon. Ann Milton, Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills Response received from Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills dated 20 Feb 2018 received 23 Feb 18	Chief Executive	20 th December 2017
Administration Business 2 –Royal Oldham Hospital	Letters to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Health Response from HM Treasury dated 16 Jan 18 received 22 Jan 18	Chief Executive	20 th December 2017
Administration Business 3 – Suffrage, Citizenship and Services	Motion to be rolled over to the next Council meeting	Constitutional Services	28 th March 2018
Opposition Business 1 – Notification of Discharge of Planning Conditions to Ward Members	Chief Executive to liaise with the Head of Planning and Infrastructure	Chief Executive	The Members' weekly planning list now contains all discharge of conditions applications so Ward Members are informed about these issues and can action them as they see fit. Following discussions with the Portfolio holder and Chair of the Planning Committee, further improvements are proposed in relation to

			supporting members appearing at planning appeals, pre-application discussions and validation of applications later in the year.
Opposition Business 2 – The Sentience of Animals	<p>Letter to be sent to the Environment Secretary</p> <p>Letter to be sent to the three local Members of Parliament</p> <p>Response received from J. McMahon OBE MP dated 22 December 17 received 5 January 2018</p> <p>Response received from Environment Secretary dated 16 Jan 18 received 22 Jan 18</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>20th December 2017</p> <p>20th December 2017</p>
Opposition Business 3 – Lighten Up Pledge	<p>PVFM to examine the practicality and affordability of replacing street lights</p> <p>Possibility of the Council making a commitment to replace all street lights with LEDs</p>	PVFM	In progress.
Update on Actions from Council	RESOLVED that the Update on Actions from Council be noted.	Council	The Council noted the report on 8 th November 2017.

Civic Appreciation Nomination	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The nomination for Reverend Jean Hurlston to receive the Civic Appreciation Award 2018 be agreed. 2. The ceremony for the award would take place at the Council meeting to be held on 28th March 2018. 	Council	The Council approved the nomination on 13 th December 2017.
Consideration of the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Levy Allocation Methodology and Approval of a Revised Levy Allocation Model Agreement	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having considered the proposed revised methodology, the revised Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement be approved and be applied in full from 2019/20 with transitional arrangements in place during 2018/19. 2. Authority be delegated to the Director of Legal Services or his nominee to approve and/or make any minor amendments to the final Levy Apportionment Methodology Agreement, a current draft of which was appended to the report and to enter into and finalise the Agreement, the transitional arrangements and any associated documentation related thereto. 	Council	The Council approved the recommendations on 13 th December 2017.

Treasury Management Half-Year Review 2017/18	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Treasury Management activity for the first half of the financial year 2017/18 and the projected outturn position be approved. 2. Amendments to both Authorised and Operational Boundary for external debt as set out in the table at Section 2.4.5 of the report be approved. 3. Amendments to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as set out at Section 2.4.4 of the report and in the table at Section 2.4.5 of the report be approved. 	Council	The Council approved the report on 13 th December 2017.
The 2018/19 Council Tax Reduction Scheme	<p>RESOLVED that the continuation of the current Council Tax Reduction (CTR) Scheme for 2018/19 be approved and that the 2018/19 scheme was therefore the same as that operating in 2017/18.</p>	Council	The Council approved the report on 13 th December 2017.
European Union Referendum – Impact on Oldham and Greater Manchester	<p>RESOLVED that the update on the Impact on Oldham and Greater Manchester of the European Union Referendum be noted.</p>	Council	The Council approved the report on 13 th December 2017.

<p>Amendment to Financial Procedure Rules – Write Off Authorisation Limits</p>	<p>RESOLVED that the write-off approval limits be amended as follows for debts which included Council Tax, Business Rates, Sundry Deb and Housing Benefit Overpayments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Individual debts up to £60 - Unity Partnership Ltd. b) Individual debts up to £2,500 - Head of Service c) Individual debts up to £5,000 - Director of Finance d) Individual debts over £5,000 - Cabinet 	<p>Council</p>	<p>The Council approved the report on 13th December 2017.</p>
<p>Independent Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel and Independent Persons on the Standards Committee</p>	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Independent Members on the Independent Remuneration Panel and on the Standards Committee be reappointed for three years. 2. A recruitment process be commenced to fill the vacancies as detailed in the report with a report to Full Council to make the appointment. 	<p>Council</p>	<p>The Council approved the report on 13th December 2017.</p> <p>Recruitment process in progress.</p>

Council Calendar 2018/19	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council's Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2018/19 as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report be approved. 2. Approval of any outstanding dates be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with Group Leaders. 	Council	The Council approved the report on 13 th December 2017.
Political Balance Review	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The review of political balance and committees as detailed within the report be agreed. 2. The composition of the political groups as outlined in the report and that Councillor Gloster filled the Liberal Democrat Group vacant position on the Planning Committee with Councillor Murphy as second substitute and that Councillor Harkness filled the Liberal Democrat Vacant position on the Performance and Value for Money Select Committee be agreed. 3. The appointment to the Labour Group Vacancy on the Audit Committee be delegated to the Chief Executive and three Group Leaders. 	Council	<p>The Council approved the report on 13th December 2017.</p> <p>Updates made as appropriate by Constitutional Services on 15 December 2017.</p>

Note 1: Response to Councillor Sheldon re Recycling Bins at Saddleworth Leisure Centre:

“The recycling bins at Saddleworth Sports Centre were recently removed due to ongoing issues with fly tipping and the bins being used for general rubbish.

Small public recycling sites were introduced when recycling was originally rolled out across the borough, to provide for a very small minority those households with no space for individual recycling containers.

Over the past years, most these sites have been removed due to the environmental issues that have developed around them and also because we are now able to supply recycling containers to suit households with space restrictions.

Before removing the bins at Saddleworth Sports Centre, an exercise was carried out to establish whether there was still genuine use of the bins for recycling and/or a need for a public recycling point in the area. This work identified that the bins were no longer necessary and could be removed however the area will continue to be reviewed for the short term to ensure there are no further issues.”

Previous to 13th December 2017 Council:

ACTION	RESPONSE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Opposition Business 1 – Bin Collection App (13 July 2016)	The merits and costs of the introduction of a bin app for the Oldham Borough be looked at and an update be provided to elected members.	Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods	<p>As at 15 February 2018:</p> <p>The bin app has now been successful tested, implemented and is now 'live'.</p> <p>The app has not yet been widely promoted but a Greater Manchester wide campaign is being planned over the coming months to ensure residents are aware of the app, where to find it and how to use it.</p>
Opposition Business 3: Suffrage to Citizenship (13 Sep 2017)	<p>Appoint an Elected Member Champion as per Lord Porter's Request</p> <p>Report be brought back to a future Council meeting how the Council could best support the aims of the Project</p>	<p>Cllr Stretton</p> <p>Elected Member Champion</p>	<p>Councillor Roberts was appointed as Elected Member Champion.</p> <p>As at 29 November 2017:</p> <p>Councillor Roberts, as Elected Member Champion for Suffrage to Citizenship, has met with officers from the Strategy, Partnerships and Policy Team to discuss initial ideas to commemorate Oldham's suffrage pioneers including Annie Kenney, Marjorie Lees and Lydia Becker.</p>

			A programme of events for the year is attached. Please note that this document is A3 size. Full size copies will be available in the Civic Centre Entrances and Group Rooms.
Outstanding Business: Air Quality Plan (8 Nov 17)	<p>Production of Air Quality Improvement Scheme; Support Greater Manchester Bid; Encourage installation of charging points for electric cars</p> <p>Press for more inclusive approach to improvement of Air Quality by TfGM and GMCA</p> <p>Response from TfGM dated and received 7 February 2018</p>	<p>Air Quality Sub-Group</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>See Note 2 below.</p> <p>Letters sent 13th November 2017</p>
Leader and Cabinet Question Time – Councillor Sykes Question re Sexual Harassment Procedures (7 Nov 17)	Review Procedure	Leader of the Council / Chief Executive	Briefing Note attached.
Leader and Cabinet Question Time – Councillor Goodwin re Firework Safety (8 Nov 17)	Meeting to be arranged for members with GMP	Chief Executive	In progress.

Administration Business 2 – HIV Testing (8 Nov 17)	<p>Work with Partners toward attaining Joint United Nation Programme; Introduction of HIV Testing in primary care settings; Review of current services available in the Borough; Support the GM City region approach for the eradication to HIV; Director of Public Health to provide a report outlining what needs to be done; Work with sexual health services to address decline in testing; Adopt the GM Model to increase HIV testing and associated interventions; Support the provider to implement the NHS England PrEP Prevention programme; Promote the National HIV Testing Week and the It Starts with Me Campaign</p>	Health and Wellbeing	See Note 3 below.
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Opposition Business 1 – Combatting Acid Attacks (8 Nov 17)	<p>Overview and Scrutiny Board with the Trading Standards Team and Retailers’ associations examined the introduction of a voluntary scheme</p> <p>Response from J McMahon OBE MP covering response from the Home Office dated 14 Dec 17 received 15 Dec 17</p>	Overview and Scrutiny Board	<p>After taking into consideration a report and information provided to the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting held on 6th March 2018 and the House of Commons Briefing Paper, it was agreed that a voluntary scheme not be introduced at this time. However, the issue would remain on the O&S Board Work Programme and reviewed with legislation was approved. A full briefing note is attached.</p>
Opposition Business 2 – Ending the Support for Mortgage Interest Scheme (8 Nov 17)	<p>Cabinet Member to ask officers for briefing paper on the impact of the changes</p> <p>Response received from the DWP dated 11 Dec 17 received 15 Dec 17</p>	Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods	Briefing note is attached.

Note 2: Response to the Air Quality Motion – Response from the Air Quality Sub-Group

Air Quality was a growing priority across the whole of the public sector in Greater Manchester and a response on how this challenge was tackled is already underway. Transport for Greater Manchester has been tasked with leading the GM response to improving Air Quality and have produced a wide ranging implementation plan that begins to address the key contributors to poor air quality across Greater Manchester. The plan had since been agreed by all the 10 GM borough leaders through the GMCA governance structure.

The implementation plan covers the following topics: Development Control and Planning Regulations; Freight Interventions; Buses; Cycling Travel Choices; Cars (including the introduction and increase in Electric Car charging points); and information and resources. The Air Quality Sub-Group will look at the GM implementation plan and produce an overview of what Oldham is doing to implement locally the agreed

interventions. The sub-group will report this back to the Health & Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee early in the new year and will provide regular reports thereafter.

In addition to the work being done locally to implement the GM action plan, the Council's Chief Executive has been appointed as the lead Chief Executive for the GMCA for Green City Region (including Environment & Green Spaces, Climate Change and Air Quality). This appointment ensures that Oldham will have a leading role in an inclusive approach to improving Air Quality across Greater Manchester, including the three actions outlined in points two and three of the resolution.

Oldham will also actively support TfGM in the development of any funding streams that may be available, as well as actively pursuing any opportunity for securing localised funding to enhance the work being done to deliver on the GM implementation plan actions. The Council's Air Quality Sub-Group had been established as part of the Health and Wellbeing Board's Sub-Governance with the aim to address aspects of the GM air quality plan and DEFRA's national proposals to ensure that Oldham is implementing actions that can be delivered locally.

Note 3: Response to the HIV Testing – Response from the Director of Public Health

A review has been undertaken by Lucy Rutter, Speciality Registrar in Public Health to understand HIV testing practice in Oldham. The report sets out current HIV testing practice in Oldham and a number of recommendations to improve testing rates (if you'd like a copy of the full report contact Lianne.davies@oldham.gov.uk).

One of the key factors underlying low HIV testing rates are the inconsistencies in the way that testing is offered and recommended to patients in local Sexual Health Services (SHS) as well as issues with recording and reporting mechanisms. Having addressed this with the SHS working practices have been reviewed and this is now being monitored quarterly through contract monitoring meetings.

The 10 Greater Manchester Local Authorities have jointly commissioned the Passionate about Sexual Health (PaSH) Partnership which is a collaboration between [BHA for Equality](#), [George House Trust](#) and [the LGBT Foundation](#). The PaSH Partnership delivers a comprehensive programme of interventions to meet the changing needs of people newly diagnosed with HIV, living longer term with HIV or at greatest risk of acquiring HIV.

A programme of HIV Awareness Training is being scheduled across Oldham with an initial focus on primary care.

Oldham's Specialist Sexual Health Service is due to go live with the NHS England funded Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) HIV prevention programme in the next couple of months (date to be confirmed by PHE). Pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP, is a way for people who do have HIV, but who are at substantial risk of HIV infection to reduce their risk of acquiring HIV.

**ANDY
BURNHAM**

**MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER**

Dr. Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham
OL1 1UG

4th January 2018

Dear Dr Wilkins,

Thank you for your letter and for raising your concerns regarding police funding.

Please be assured a response will be provided to you shortly.

Yours sincerely



For and on behalf of
Andy Burnham
Mayor of Greater Manchester

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Home Office

Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP
Minister of State for Policing
and the Fire Service

2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/home-office

Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
OL1 1UG

CTS Reference: M50/18

25 JAN 2018

Dr Wilkins

Thank you for your letter of 19 December 2017 sent to the Home Secretary about Greater Manchester Policing services. I am replying as the Minister for Policing and the Fire Service. I am sorry for the delay in my reply.

Ahead of the publication of the provisional police funding settlement for 2018/19, I have spoken to every police force in England and Wales, including Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to better understand changing demands of policing.

We published the provisional police funding settlement on 19 December 2017. Following the Spending Review 2015, we protected force funding (including precept) at around flat cash. The settlement however, is a comprehensive one and responds to changing demand with a year on year increase in total police funding of up to £450 million, including a £50m increase in Counter-Terrorism police budgets for 2018/19. This will enable an increase of up to £270 million in funding going directly to Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) for them and their Chief Constable to spend on local priorities. This settlement recognises the demands on the police and gives police leaders the tools they need to respond effectively.

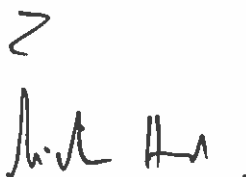
At force level, we are protecting police grant and enabling PCCs to increase their funding by up to £270 million through providing flexibility to raise precept by up to £1 a month for a typical Band D household. For GMP, we estimate that there will be an increase in direct resource funding of £10.4 million or 1.9%, if the PCC opts to use the additional precept flexibility.

My assessment is that overall; the police can maintain officer numbers at around their current level. As mentioned above we have given PCCs the flexibility to increase precept income to protect frontline services and helped them identify a significant amount of potential procurement savings.

It is therefore the responsibility of Police leaders to make the right decisions for their local areas about Council Tax and the workforce.

In addition, the overall number of police officers in England and Wales has risen in the six months to March 2017, while the number of new officers joining forces has increased by almost 60 per cent since 2015/16. Since 2010 police forces have increased the proportion of officers working at the frontline and proven that you can continue to cut crime with a smaller, more agile workforce.

Given the above consultation responses are still welcome until 5pm on 16th January 2018 when it closes. I am in regular contact with Police leaders for Greater Manchester Police and will continue to review the support provided on an ongoing basis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Hurd', with a small flourish above it.

Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP

Briefing to Cllr Abdul Jabbar**Date:** 28th March 2018**Subject:** Challenges and considerations related to Homelessness**For Information****Report of:**

Dami Awobajo (Head of Business Intelligence) & Caroline Lee (Head of Revenues & Benefits)
Ext: 1559

Portfolio holder:

Cllr Abdul Jabbar
(Cabinet Member for Corporate Support, Finance and HR)

Summary of the issue:

This briefing summarises recent homelessness numbers and provides statistics on a number of areas such as welfare reform, child poverty and children social care demand.

Homelessness

There has continued to be an increase in the number of households approaching Oldham Housing and Advice Service. In particular, as at the end of Q3 there had been an increase (from 2016/17 to 2017/18) in the number of households assessed due to being at risk of homelessness (174 households at as Q3 2016/17 and 364 households as at Q3 2017/18) and owed the full duty (64 households at as Q3 2016/17 and 140 households as at Q3 2017/18).

The reasons given for loss of last settled home include:

- Required to leave accommodation provided by Home Office as asylum support
- Loss of private rented accommodation
- Loss of lodgings from parents or other relatives or friends
- Relationship breakdown
- Domestic violence

Whilst Oldham still reports a large number of cases where homelessness is prevented, (1654 to end of Q3) preventions are becoming more difficult as prevention options are becoming fewer, particularly for households impacted by welfare reform.

Current challenges and considerations:

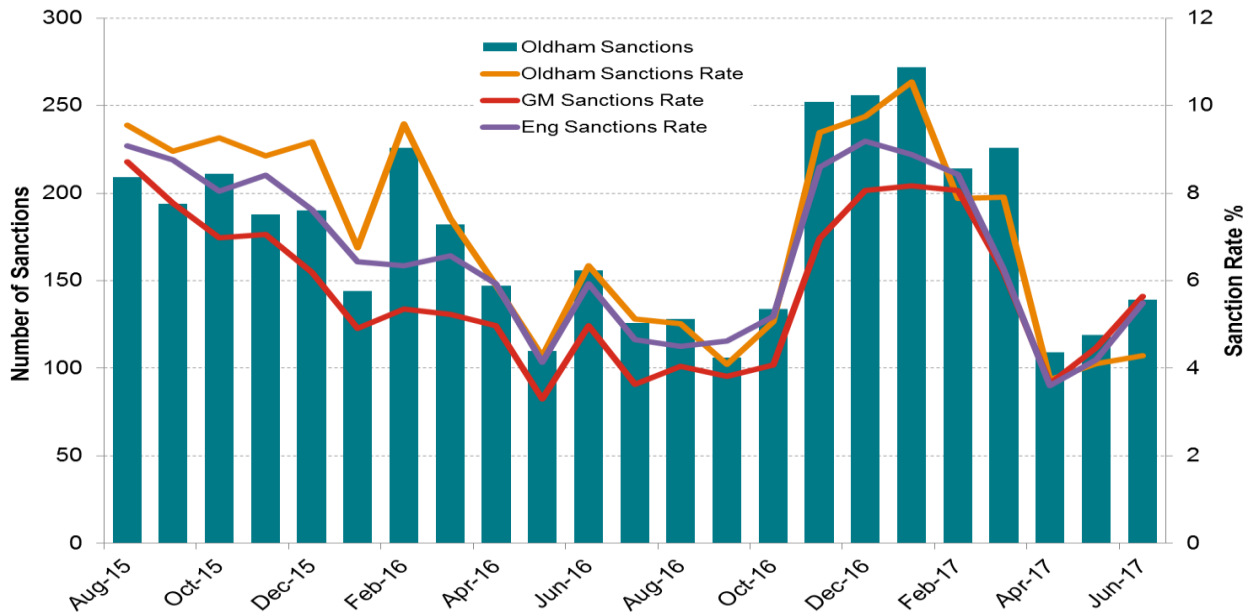
Universal Credit Full Digital Service (UCFS)

Very high levels of arrears for households on UCFS. Social housing providers report that 55%-80% of households in arrears as opposed to 18%-20% for self-payers/HB claimants. FCHO report that they are owed £424k in respect of UCFS, 624 households have had a Notice Seeking Possession served. The rollout of UCFS has been postponed in new areas.

With the introduction of Universal Credit (UC) in Oldham in 2014, UC claimants quickly formed the majority of unemployment claimants and so these claimants were sanctioned under the UC regime.

The sanction rates for Universal Credit claimants in Oldham were initially considerably higher than those seen under Job Seekers Allowance at the same time at around 9%. The rate then fell from August 2015 to August 2016 to around 4%, before then increasing to almost 12% (equivalent to 1 in 9 claimants). This mirrored a similar trend nationally which saw rates double across the country, suggesting a change in national sanctioning policy.

Universal Credit Sanctions: Aug 2015 - Jun 2017



This has since returned to levels similar to those seen before the peak. Up until March 2017, UC sanction rates in Oldham had been consistently above the Greater Manchester and national averages, however in recent months Oldham's rate has dipped below the GM and England averages¹.

Benefit Cap

As at August 2017, 334 households capped in Oldham, 39 households capped by £100-150 per week. Making access to affordable housing difficult for larger families approaching housing services. Households capped whilst still receiving housing benefit are able to claim Discretionary Housing Payment.

Mortgage Repossession

Increasing number of notifications are being received from lenders that possession proceedings being commenced. Support for Mortgage Interest payments are due to change in April 2018. This will now be paid as a loan rather than a benefit and the amount claimed or paid (plus interest) will be reduced from the equity of the property when sold. This may make it more difficult for households to re-mortgage or to achieve a sale if equity is reduced

Out of Area Placements

As at December 2017 Manchester had 120 households accommodated in the Oldham area. Oldham Council has requested that they cease further procurement until agreements at a GM level have been agreed and confirmed.

Closure of Oldham County Court

Oldham Citizens' Advice report that there is a potential increase in the number of outright orders for possession being granted when the customer has not attended court hearings.

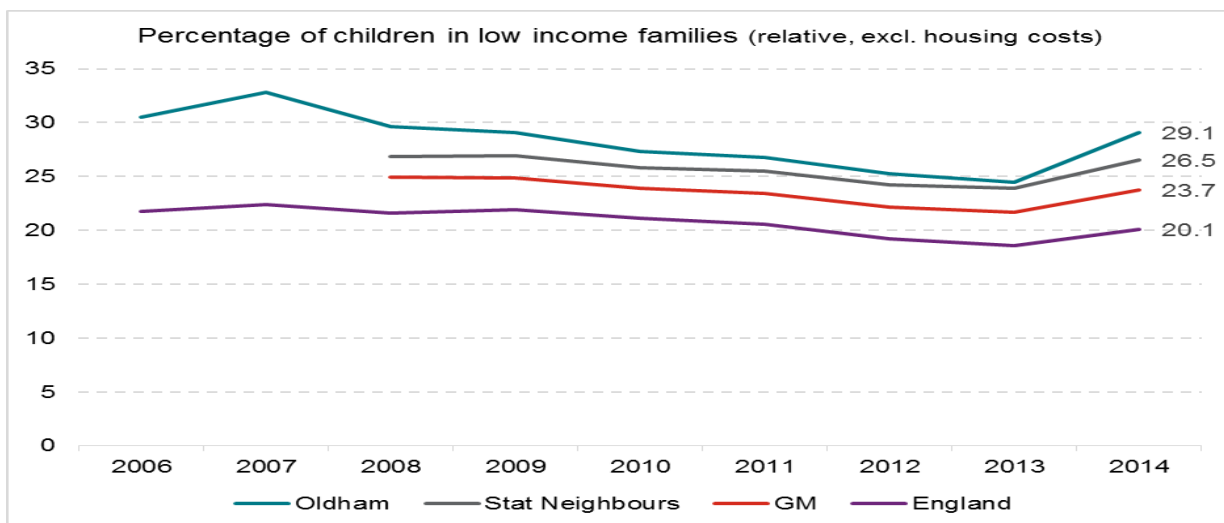
Anecdotal evidence suggests that residents cannot always afford transport costs to get to Manchester and/or feelings of anxiety are sighted as reasons for non-attendance.

Child Poverty

Determining what the recent trend in child poverty is depends on the indicator used. Generally most indicators involve a comparison of family income to 60% of the median national average. Relative poverty indicators use the mean national average for that financial year, which changes every year.

Since 2014 relative poverty has increased. When housing costs are taken into account the percentage of children in poverty is much greater and the trend since 2003 is overall stagnation in poverty levels in relative terms.

The HMRC calculation is a relative indicator that does not take into account housing costs. Using this indicator, the graph below shows that the level of child poverty in Oldham has been consistently above the national (by around 7 points) and Greater Manchester (by around 4 points) averages. Additionally it has also been above the average of authorities that are demographically similar to Oldham (Statistical Neighbours), by between 1-2 points. In 2014 Oldham has the 24th highest rate of child poverty out of 152 local authorities.



Recently the Centre for Research in Social Policy (CRSP) developed a measure for the End Child Poverty Coalition that uses more up to date datasets to extrapolate what the HMRC figure in the graph above would be today. It was using this measure that Coldhurst was widely reported to be the ward with the highest levels of poverty in the UK at 62.2%

This figure is considerably higher than that reported for Coldhurst by HMRC in 2014 (44%) and there are two reasons for this – firstly relative poverty is increasing and secondly the CRSP methodology includes housing costs whereas the HMRC measure does not and is therefore 50% higher.

Children Social Care demand

Over the past three years there have been significant increases annually in the numbers of children open to children's social care across all levels of service. The current demand for children's social care is high. We currently have more looked after children, children subject to child protection plans and children who are in need than we have had at any other point.

Headline figures are as follows:

	2015	2016	2017	Jan 2018	Stat neighbours
Number of referrals	2171	2732	3447	4768	n/a
Rate of referrals	376.4	468.6	586.2	810.9	674.3
Number of assessment completed	1851	2267	2821	4522	n/a
Number of children open to service	1537	1877	2550	2975	2290
Number of families open to service	986	1089	1404	1556	n/a
Rate of S47	105.5	194.8	155.1	313.3	198
Children in need (assess/CIN)	821	1133	1736	1879	1478
% of total open cases	53%	60%	68%	63%	(64%)
Child Protection Plans	326	329	316	561	292
% of total open cases	21%	17%	12%	18.8%	(12%)
Children Looked After	390	420	495	535	520
% of total open cases	25%	22%	19%	17.9%	(22%)

From the figures above it is evident that we are currently experiencing a high level of demand for children's social care in comparison to our statistical neighbours.

ⁱ Unfortunately as the DWP currently are only able to report on UC 'Live Service' sanctions and Oldham has moved to 'Full Service', it is now no longer possible to report on UC sanctions until DWP are able to publish sanctions under the full service regime. This, combined with the fact that there are so few JSA claimants to give a representative figure, means that we will not have any informative new sanctions figures for some time to come



2018-0002491POAM

Rt Hon Anne Milton MP
Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills
Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE, Chief Executive
Oldham Council
By email: Carolyn.wilkins@oldham.gov.uk

Your ref: Council-Learner Loan-20171213

Dear Dr Wilkins

20th February 2018

Thank you very much for your letter of 19 December 2017, about Oldham Council's Resolution on the Advanced Learner Loan Motion of 13 December 2017. I am sorry for the delay in responding to your letter.

The department is examining the reasons for the current take-up trends of Advanced Learner Loans. We will continue, with our delivery partners, to provide support to colleges and training providers to improve awareness and understanding of Advanced Learner Loans.

The budget for Advanced Learner Loans is agreed with HM Treasury on an annual basis. It is important to note that to date, in each year that the Loans have been available, funding has been available to meet learner demand even though not all of the budget has been spent. Learners can obtain an Advanced Learner Loan to support study at over 700 providers. The latest evaluation of Advanced Learner Loans is looking at the impact of the extension to those aged 19-23, and to Level 5 and Level 6 provision. It will provide the department with further evidence of how the offer supports adults from different backgrounds and ages.

In the interest of learners and the economy, the focus of these Loans is on technical qualifications that support clear routes into and through employment, and progression to higher-level skills. They are a vital component of our social mobility agenda, offering opportunities to reskill and retrain.

Thank you for sharing the Council's resolution with me.

Dr Anne Milton

Rt Hon Anne Milton MP
Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills

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HM Treasury

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Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1UG

16 January 2018

Our reference: TO2018/00316

Dear Dr Wilkins,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 19 December to the Chancellor of the Exchequer about public sector pay. As it is not practical for Ministers to respond to all the letters they receive, I have been asked to reply on their behalf.

Public-sector workers deserve to have fulfilling jobs that are fairly rewarded. At the Budget, the Government reconfirmed the announcement from September to move away from the across the board one per cent public sector pay policy, towards a more flexible approach on pay.

The Government still need to deal with our country's debts to ensure we have a strong economy to enable us to invest in our public services. This means that they will continue to take a balanced approach to public spending.

The Government will consider each specific workforce to ensure pay is set so that we can continue to both attract and hold on to the excellent staff that support our world-leading public services. Before the Government makes final decisions on pay awards, they will seek the views of the eight independent Pay Review Bodies, which will consider the evidence on how we ensure we attract and retain the very best people within our public services, like giving people more flexibility over their working hours.

They will report in spring and summer 2018, at which point we will consider their recommendations and announce public sector pay awards for each of those workforces.

The Government recognises the unique pressures the NHS is facing this year: there are more operations than ever and more people going to A&E than ever. As a result, at the Budget the Chancellor announced additional funding for the NHS as a whole.

On pay, there is an opportunity through the Health Secretary's discussions with the unions to agree a pay deal which will deliver productivity improvements. It is important not to prejudge the outcome of these discussions, but the Chancellor has committed to fund pay awards for Agenda for Change staff (which includes nurses, midwives and paramedics) that are agreed as part of a deal with the unions to improve productivity, so as to protect frontline services from additional financial pressure.

Thank you for taking the trouble to make the Government aware of these concerns.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Webb". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

T Webb
Correspondence & Information Rights Team
HM Treasury

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170857

22 December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Re: Oldham Council Resolution – The Sentience of Animals

Thank you for getting in touch with regards to the above resolution.

I would like to assure you that I take this issue very seriously, and I am currently awaiting a response from The Rt Hon Michael Gove, Environment Secretary. Upon receiving a response I will provide you with a copy.

I hope this helps.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

Constituency Office Address: Textile House, 108 Union Street, Oldham OL1 1DU

Constituency Office: 0161 652 8485 Westminster Office: 020 7219 6039

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**Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs**

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
From the Secretary of State for Environment, Food
and Rural Affairs

Nobel House
17 Smith Square
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Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham, OL1 1UG

Your ref: Council-Sentience-20171213
Our ref: PO2018/00081/SC

16/1 January 2018

Dr Carolyn Wilkins

Thank you for your letter of 19 December about the EU (Withdrawal) Bill and the recognition of animals as sentient beings in UK law after we leave the EU. I am replying as your Member of Parliament as well as Secretary of State for Defra.

The government is committed to the very highest standards of animal welfare as we leave the EU. As I set out in my Written Ministerial Statement on 12 December, there was never any question that policies on animal welfare are driven by the fact that animals are sentient beings. We published a draft Bill which underlines the government's commitment to raising animal welfare standards. The draft Animal Welfare (Sentencing and Recognition of Sentience) Bill increases maximum prison sentences for animal cruelty and clearly recognises animal sentience in domestic law. The Bill requires UK government Ministers to have regard to the welfare needs of animals when formulating and implementing government policy. We are currently seeking views on the draft Bill. Anyone who wishes to comment has until 31 January 2018 to do so.

Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) has not delivered the progress we want to see. It only applies to the implementation and formulation of EU-level policy, and has had minimal impact even in those areas. Our draft Bill is a significant improvement, both recognising animal sentience and imposing a clear duty on the state to have regard for animal welfare. Ultimately, Article 13 has failed to prevent practices across the EU which are cruel and painful to animals.

In contrast, here in the UK, we are already improving animal welfare standards without EU input and beyond the scope of Article 13. We are making CCTV mandatory in all slaughterhouses – a requirement which goes above and beyond any EU rule. We propose combatting elephant poaching with a ban on the ivory trade which is more comprehensive than anywhere else in Europe. Our ban on microbeads which harm marine animals has been welcomed by Greenpeace as “the strongest in the world”, and is certainly the strongest in Europe.

This government will continue to promote and enhance animal welfare, both now and after we have left the EU.

Thank you again for your letter.

With every good wish,

*Yours,
Michael*

Michael Gove



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100 Years of Women's Suffrage: A Year in View

January	February	March	April	May	
<p>Gallery - Re-hang of Oldham Stories with a theme of women and suffrage</p> <p>10 January - Youth Council 1st meeting- debating ideas on getting involved in the Centenary year</p> <p>26 January - conversation event with Women's organisations at Inspire Women. Hosted by Cllr Roberts, Elected Member Champion for Suffrage to Citizenship Programme</p>	<p>6 February – Anniversary of the Representation of the People Act becoming law</p> <p>6 February – Teacher training day around suffrage history, followed by children's artwork exhibition running at the Gallery in June / July</p> <p>15 February - 1pm, Museum Makes at Saddleworth Museum, ages 11-14. Find out about suffragette Annie Kenney and how she made a stand to make life fairer for all people. Come along, get your craft on and create a campaign! http://www.saddleworthmuseum.co.uk/events/</p>	<p>Flourish Crowdfund goes live – invest £5, £50 or £400 to create our 4th Cash and Support Fund to invest in women.</p> <p>2 March – 12pm-2pm Flourish at the Sharp Project. 'Lunch with...' Rose Marley and possible reshooting of their film showcasing women changemakers past and present https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flourish-network-lunch-with-rose-marley-founder-ceo-sharp-futures-cic-tickets-41071796850</p> <p>2 March – 2pm, Oldham Parish Church – Women's World Day of Prayer</p> <p>3 March – Shelia Women's Group Street Party</p> <p>4 March – 2pm-5pm Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Uppermill "Women of Palestine – the ongoing Nakba" – call Jacqui on 07976321984 https://www.facebook.com/Saddleworth-Palestine-Womens-Scholarship-Fund-225837930890873/timeline/</p> <p>5 March – 10am – 1pm - Inspire Women – "Voice of Survivors Roadshow", run by MASH Rape Crisis event. http://vosgm.org.uk/news-updates/voices-survivors-roadshow-events/</p> <p>5 March – 11am-2pm REEL CIC at Mahdlo Youth Zone "Fierce and Strong Women 2018" – Women's empowerment event including NHS health checks https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reel-cic-fierce-strong-women-2018-tickets-42881255991?aff=es2</p> <p>6 March 9.45am – 12pm Inspire Women Centre, Media Chambers, Barn Street, Oldham Women Changemaker Event in partnership with UK Parliament. How national decisions affect you; how you can influence UK parliament and get your voice heard.</p> <p>7 March 4.30pm-6.30pm Manchester Metropolitan University Business School Female Leaders in the North West: roundtable and networking event https://www.eventbrite.com/e/female-leaders-in-the-north-west-round-table-and-networking-event-tickets-43019191560?aff=es2</p> <p>10 March 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM Inspire Women Centre, Media Chambers, Barn Street, Oldham Visible Breakthrough Coaching in partnership with Inspire Women. Fun filled event to end International Women's Week Celebrations https://www.eventbrite.com/e/awakening-the-inner-goddess-tickets-42842383723</p> <p>16 March – 10 – 12 at Innospace - "Crowdfunding Communities" Peer Learning event with Flourish CIC. Get crowdfunding to take your ideas forward. https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flourish-network-crowdfunding-communities-tickets-41071449812?aff=erepanelorg</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY – 8 March</p> <p>10am – "The Little Shop of Wisdom", Oldham Boxing and Personal Development, Greaves St, Oldham – a personal transformation session developed by The Orange Club UK – book here https://thelittleshopofwisdom.eventbrite.co.uk/</p> <p>11am – "Women in Parliament" at Oldham Library Lively debate celebrating the centenary of women's suffrage. Professor Alison Fell from Leeds University chairs the discussion: "Women may have got the vote in 1918, but how far have we really come?"</p> <p>12.30 – Oldham Theatre Workshop performing a piece around Annie Kenney on plinth outside the Old Town Hall</p> <p>7pm – Oldham Library, join us for an evening of story-telling and expertise-sharing with a panel of some of the UK's most inspirational women in business. Live-streamed from British Library & featuring: Hilary Devey CBE, Dessi Bell & Foluke Akinlose MBE. http://bit.ly/2Ef3yeS</p> <p>Internal Council event – 3pm talk from Susan Wildman about Annie Kenney at the Development Academy in the afternoon</p> <p>Local Studies & Archives showcasing women who became active in Local Government, school boards, workhouses etc. Mainly covering the period from before WWI.</p> <p>Chadderton District Event - Chadderton Women's Institute and parents from Burnley Brow School - discussing equality.</p> <p>8 March 11.00 AM – 3.00 PM Werneth Centre (EIC), 79 Manchester Road, Oldham. Werneth Freehold Community Development Project. Event includes inspirational women exhibition, free mehndi, stalls and food</p> <p>8 March 10am-1pm Inspire Women changemaker event at Media Chambers, Barn Street, Oldham No booking required.</p>	<p>18 April – 7pm Oldham Local Studies & Archives, 84 Union Street. Talk at Local Studies from Jill Liddington on 'Celebrating Centenary: Votes for Women Campaigners Around Oldham'</p> <p>April – September – Flourish CIC 3 events to co-design and partner with to inform a Women Changemaker Festival 2019. We are seeking to do one in partnership / hosted in Oldham. Contact Nikala 07815023363.</p>	<p>Call out from Flourish CIC for women changemakers to apply for funding to develop projects, social enterprises and events for the Women Changemaker Festival</p> <p>31 May – Oldham Library, 7pm "Revolt Women"</p> <p>Revolt Women tells the Suffrage story through the eyes of the lesser-known Pankhurst, Sylvia, who fought for the vote alongside working women in the East End. Sylvia meets Lettie and they push together to Parliament, to bend the ear of the Cabinet.</p> <p>A story of absolute commitment or dangerous obsession?</p> <p>Full of political satire, song and more suffrage societies than you can shake a stick at, Revolt Women unravels a contentious and momentous movement in history.</p>

100 Years of Women's Suffrage: A Year in View

June	July / August	September	October	November	December
<p>Manchester Histories Festival – a look back at protests and hustings throughout Manchester's history</p> <p>7 June – Gallery Oldham – exhibition of children's work resulting from February 6 Teacher Training day to begin</p> <p>18 June – 7pm, Oldham Library – “No Petticoats Here”; Award-winning singer, songwriter and musician Louise Jordan tells the stories of inspirational women</p> <p>18 June – 2 July – Equaliteas – Join together with people from all over the country to celebrate 90 years since the Representation of the People Act 1928, which gave all men and women over 21 the equal right to vote. Invite your community to share, debate, and celebrate what equality means to you. https://equaliteas.org.uk/</p>	<p>Anniversary of the 1913 peaceful suffragist pilgrimage to London – Comms will be posting real-time updates from the diary of Marjory Lees kept during the pilgrimage</p> <p>90 Year anniversary of the Representation of the People Act (Equal Franchise) 1928 that allowed all men and women over 21 years of age to vote</p> <p>Pankhurst Centre Show Garden at RHS Tatton Park Flower Show</p> <p>9 July – Date of Annie Kenney's death</p> <p>21 July – Gallery Oldham – Exhibition of work from the 6 February teaching training day ends.</p>	<p>13 September - Annie Kenney's birthday</p> <p>18 September – Royton Townswomen's Guild, 7.30pm St James Paris Hall, Thornham – celebrating votes for women. Also a series of events at The Pankhurst Centre in Manchester. www.thepankhurstcentre.org.uk</p> <p>Gallery Oldham – Exhibition around WWI and suffrage opens date to be confirmed (possibly 27th or 29th Sept). Looking at the experiences on the home front for the people of Oldham and how Oldham's people all adapted to meet the needs of the war. Co-curated by historians Alan Fowler and Terry Wyke. Also a focus on preparations for the first general election in which all men over the age of 21 and women over the age of 30 could vote.</p>	<p>Local Democracy Week – Youth Council and young people debate and Q&A</p> <p>1 October - Older People's Day – AgeUK, details TBC</p> <p>9 October – Ada Lovelace Day</p>	<p>Flourish – reflection on the year and showcasing women. Planning legacy festival.</p> <p>2 November – Festival of Remembrance dinner</p> <p>7 November – Full Council</p> <p>11 November – Remembrance Parades and the lighting of the beacon at Oldham Edge</p> <p>12-16 November – Parliament Week</p> <p>21 November – The Parliament (Qualification of Women) Act was passed, allowing women to stand as MPs.</p>	<p>14 December – Anniversary of the first women elected to parliament. 8.5 million women over 30 vote in a general election for the first time; 40% in the UK</p>
Key			Events / Campaigns lasting the full year		
<p>Green – Commemorative / Key Dates</p> <p>Black – Council-led events around women's suffrage</p> <p>Blue – Ideas and planned events from the Conversation Event on 26 Jan / other organisations events</p> <p>Red – Links to World War One commemorative events</p>			<p>Digitisation of memorabilia at the Gallery – asking people to get in contact with us if they have memorabilia that we can digitise. Using social media for this.</p>		

Dr Carolyn Wilkins

Our ref: 8000065228
Your Ref: Council-Air Quality-
20171108

Carolyn.Wilkins@oldham.gov.uk

07 February 2018

Dear Dr Wilkins

RE: Oldham Council Resolution – Air Quality Plan

Thank you for contacting Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) in relation to our approach with improving air quality across Greater Manchester. Dr Jon Lamonte has asked me to respond to you on his behalf. Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

In conjunction with the local authorities, TfGM has developed and published the Low Emissions Strategy and Greater Manchester Air Quality Action Plan. Work is now underway to implement several of the actions and each of the local authorities should be progressing with their individual sections of the implementation plan.

A copy of the Air Quality Plan and other agreed documents that outline the work being undertaken can be found online via the following link:

https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/homepage/131/greater_manchester_low-emission_strategy_and_air_quality_action_plan

In order to respond to the requirements of the 'UK Plan to tackle roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations' TfGM is leading on the development of the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan, again in conjunction with the local authorities. A Greater Manchester Senior Leadership Steering Group has been established to oversee this work. Senior representatives from each of the ten Greater Manchester authorities, Highways England and Public Health have been invited to join this group. To date, there has been no representation from Oldham Council.

I would also like to refer you to the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 which gives a long-term view of how the transport system will need to change to meet objectives and to respond to future economic, societal, environmental and technological trends.

A copy of the Transport Strategy 2040 delivery plan can be found via the following link for your reference:

<https://assets.contentful.com/nv7y93idf4jq/1KAoqZcSdqcma8c0OumkmA/881659659ac10db8f0a7a6ea4359dc1a/05. GM 2040 TS Delivery Plan.pdf>

I hope that this information is useful to you, however, if there is anything further that we can assist you with then please do not hesitate to contact me or our Head of Customer Engagement, Sean Dyball, at sean.dyball@tfgm.com

Yours sincerely

Helen Smith

Head of Logistics, Environment & Active Travel

Opposition Leader to Leader Question at Council **Does Oldham have a zero tolerance approach to sexual harassment?**

In short the answer is yes, as this brief now depicts. The infrastructure to support this is not new. It is embedded across the council and both the approach and inclusive culture this fosters is summarised below.

Background

The council is committed to tackling all forms of harassment, including but not exclusively, sexual harassment. We observe fully the requirement to have robust standards and procedures in place to properly and swiftly deal with any such allegations.

By living and demonstrating our values and behaviours we can expect all staff to contribute proactively to the creation of a working environment in which everyone is treated with dignity, courtesy and respect and whereby inappropriate behaviour is challenged.

The council's constitutionally approved employee code of conduct underpins these values and specifies the expected standards of behaviour required by employees, for example, all staff, including Agency personnel and any contractors engaged by us are required:

- to behave in a way which would not undermine trust and confidence in you or which is contrary to the council's expected values and behaviours; and
- to treat colleagues and the public in a fair and equitable way; avoiding unfair discrimination in any form and anything which would demean, distress or offend other people.

Likewise the code is clear that any deliberate act of discrimination or other serious breach of the Equality and Diversity Policy by employees may be considered as an act of gross misconduct and may result in disciplinary action, possibly leading to dismissal. Equally, the council's Disciplinary Policy is supported by express examples of what would constitute gross misconduct and harassment and associated acts feature heavily in this also.

The Approach

1. Employees routes to raising the complaint

- **Whistleblowing** - Employees may raise concerns where they have reason to believe that a fellow employee is in breach of the Code of Conduct. Complaints can be made in writing or by phoning or meeting a member of the Internal Audit and Counter Fraud Team or one of the Appropriate Officers (Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer), Head of Corporate Governance, Director of People, Director of Finance, Chief Executive).
- **Grievance process** – an employee raising a grievance is the more likely route and there is a separate section within this procedure for managing grievances of a sensitive nature which may require special treatment; this includes harassment where employees may not feel able to voice their concerns to their own line manager. Indeed, an employee's grievance may relate to allegations about his or her own line manager. In such cases the employee should contact an appropriate alternative independent manager directly or via the HR Advisory service. This procedure also sets tight timescales which support the complainant/aggrieved person with expedient resolution.

2. Council process for dealing with the complaint or grievance

- **The victim's wishes** will drive how the matter will be dealt with i.e. formally or informally in the first instance and how they would wish the matter to be resolved. This may involve an informal discussion with the alleged perpetrator to make them aware that their behaviour is causing offence, mediation between the parties or a full investigation. However, to support a rigorous approach, the actions arising are also very much influenced by the nature or apparent severity of any alleged transgression
- **Investigation into the grievance** – will always be conducted by an impartial manager, if need be, from a different service. Where evidence is found to substantiate an allegation of harassment this may lead, as above, to the formal disciplinary process being invoked. During the investigation the alleged harasser may be moved to another work area or suspended if the allegations are considered sufficiently serious.
- **For reassurance**, harassment if proven is considered by the council to be potential gross misconduct which could result in the summary dismissal of the employee.

Support available for the employee

- **The Employee Assistance Programme** – this is the confidential support service offered by the council to its employees and to Members which includes counselling and post trauma support. In addition, where recommended by the service (or those undertaking any enquiry or investigation), the council will make a more enhanced package of psychological support available.
- **The employee's direct line manager** would be advised and expected to support the employee unless they are involved in the investigation or disciplinary process or the employee would prefer someone else such as an appropriate alternative colleague or manager.
- **The HR Advisory service** will advise on appropriate measures that maybe put in place to provide practical support and which could include a workplace or stress risk assessment, temporary re-location of the harasser or closer supervision whilst the matter is concluded.
- **Where the employee is a member of a trade union** they will be encouraged to seek support throughout the process from their union. Many unions also have access to additional specialist support available to their members.

Malicious claims

The position is laid out within the disciplinary, grievance and whistleblowing policies i.e. should an employee make an allegation in the public interest and reasonably believe it to be true, but it is not confirmed by the investigation, no action will be taken against the employee.

If, however, an employee makes malicious or frivolous allegations, or repeated allegations which have no foundation, disciplinary action will be taken against the employee.

External reporting

Internally employees are able to raise their concerns via a number of routes including directly to their line manager, a more senior manager, the HR Advisory service and/or People Services Business Partners or to a number of more senior officers detailed under the

Whistleblowing policy. In addition employees who live within Oldham can raise issues via their local councillor. Given the number of cases and the above diverse options of formal routes an employee can use, it is not considered that an additional external reporting process would add value and may serve only to intimidate some complainants. On the other hand, if either at an advanced stage of complaint or grievance or one which may allegedly involve the most senior officials, regard would be had to independence if it was considered that an internal investigator could not offer this. Where the employment conditions of the most senior staff specify independence in respect of (for instance) disciplinary inquiries, these too will be observed in full.

Where the harassment is by a non – employee

There may be occurrences where harassment emanates from people from outside of the council. In such instances, appropriate action would depend on circumstances but may include:

- Taking appropriate steps to mitigate risk and protect the employee or Member by whatever appropriate and proportionate means. This may involve making reasonable adjustments to their working or allied arrangements at least for a specified time subject to review
- 'Remove' the person from potential harm's way or arrange for them to be accompanied by a colleague if contact will be for a limited period
- Act on the persons' behalf by intervening, by warning the alleged harasser or by complaining to (say) their employing organisation about their behaviour
- Dependent on level of severity, engage with police or, at a lower level, Community Safety colleagues to speak to or warn the perpetrator
- Where the employee normally works alone, follow the guidance within the Lone Working policy to undertake appropriate risk assessments and provide additional support/training to the employee on how to avoid or deal with harassment should it occur
- In extreme cases, consult the Multi Agency Safeguarding (MASH) Team for their expert advice and, if needed, their intervention
- Offering all the support services, such as Employee Assistance etc as would be available if the perpetrator were an employee of the council.

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Report to COUNCIL

Council Motion: Combatting Acid Attacks

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Colin McLaren, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board

Report Author: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer

Ext. 4716

28th March 2018

Purpose of the Report

A motion was referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board by Council on 8th November 2017 related to Combatting Acid Attacks.

Executive Summary

A motion was referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 8th November 2017 which requested the Board, with the Trading Standards Team and retailers' associations examine the merits and practicalities of introducing a voluntary scheme in Oldham in advance of new legislation and report back their findings to full Council.

Recommendations

Full Council is recommended to note that the Overview and Scrutiny Board, after taking into consideration the report and information provided at the meeting and the House of Commons Briefing Paper, agreed that a voluntary scheme not be introduced at this time. However, the issue would remain on the Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme and would be reviewed when legislation had been approved.

Council Motion: Combatting Acid Attacks

1 Background

A motion was referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 8th November 2017 which requested the Board, with the Trading Standards Team and retailers' associations examine the merits and practicalities of introducing a voluntary scheme in Oldham in advance of new legislation and report back their findings to full Council.

2 Current Position

2.1 Officers from Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods reviewed the resolution on the introduction of a voluntary scheme.

2.2 In July 2017, the Home Office announced a new action plan aimed at reducing the number and impact of acid attacks. The plan covers matters such as prosecution guidance for the Police, the scope of the Poisons Act 1972 and whether the criminal courts had sufficient powers (including sentencing powers) to deal with acid attacks. These measures would form part of a wide-ranging review of the law enforcement and criminal justice response, existing legislation, access to harmful products and the support offered to victims. New guidance will also be provided to police officers on preventing attacks, searching potential perpetrators for harmful substances and responding to victims at the scene. Further work will also take place with retailers to agree measures to restrict sales of acids and other corrosive substances.

2.3 Given the widespread nature of availability of products which contain acid, there is no identifiable group with which to consult. There is no recognized group which it is considered could be effectively consulted on this issue.

2.4 At the Institute of Licensing Conference recently attended by a trading standards officer, the Metropolitan Police Counter Terrorism Team presented an item on acid attacks. It was confirmed that there were ongoing discussions in relation to regulating acid sales as reported above and a further announcement would be made in due course following consultation. They advised potentially raising it at the local resilience forum and look at communication issues rather than introducing a scheme at this time.

Outcome

3 The Board discussed the merits and practicalities of introducing a voluntary scheme in advance of legislation and after taking into consideration the report and information provided at the meeting and the House of Commons Briefing Paper (attached at Appendix 1), agreed that a voluntary scheme not be introduced at this time. However, the issue would remain on the Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Program and would be reviewed when legislation had been approved.

Appendices:

The House of Commons briefing paper dated 17th December 2017 is attached for information.



BRIEFING PAPER

Number CBP 8041, 17 December 2017

Acid attacks

By Sally Lipscombe
Georgina Hutton

Contents:

1. The sale of acid
2. The use of acid in attacks
3. Calls for change
4. International responses



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Contributing Authors: Grahame Allen and Rachael Harker, Social and General Statistics, Section 2.2

Summary

There is increasing concern about the use of acid as a weapon. Statistics released by the Metropolitan Police Service in response to Freedom of Information requests suggest that the number of acid attacks in London has risen sharply in recent years. The statistics indicate that noxious or corrosive fluids – including but not limited to acid – were used in London in 454 crimes in 2016, 261 in 2015 and 166 in 2014.

The sale of certain types of acid (and other dangerous chemicals) is governed by the Poisons Act 1972, as amended by the Deregulation Act 2015. The 1972 Act draws a distinction between “regulated” substances and “reportable substances”:

- Regulated substances – which contain high concentrations of certain chemicals – are now restricted from sale to the general public. If a member of the general public wants to buy any of the regulated substances, they need to apply to the Home Office for a licence to acquire and, from 3 March 2016, to possess and use.
- Reportable substances can be bought without a licence, but retailers are required to report suspicious transactions and significant losses and thefts.

The aim of the 1972 Act is to strengthen the control of chemicals that can be used to cause harm while still allowing those with a legitimate need for the chemicals to continue their activities.

There is no one specific offence of carrying out an acid attack. People who commit such acts would instead be liable for a more general criminal offence. The [Offences against the Person Act 1861](#) sets out the most relevant offences:

- Section 18 - Wounding/causing grievous bodily harm with intent (maximum sentence: life imprisonment)
- Section 20 – Unlawful wounding/inflicting grievous bodily harm (maximum sentence: five years)
- Section 29 - Sending, throwing or using explosive or corrosive substance or noxious thing with intent to do grievous bodily harm (maximum sentence: life imprisonment)

Possession of acid in a public place with intent to use it to cause harm could also be prosecuted as possession of an offensive weapon under section 1 of the [Prevention of Crime Act 1953](#).

Following a recent spate of acid attacks, there have been calls for the Government to introduce further restrictions on the sale of acid (particularly sulphuric acid), and to criminalise the possession of acid without good excuse (in a similar way to the current law on knives).

In October 2017 the Home Office launched a [consultation on offensive and dangerous weapons](#), which included the following proposals on acid:

- Plans for a new offence of possessing a corrosive substance in public;
- Plans for a new offence preventing the sale of “the most harmful corrosive substances” to under 18s; and
- Plans to use the existing powers in the Poisons Act 1972 to reclassify sulphuric acid as a regulated substance.

The consultation closed on 9 December 2017 and the Home Office is currently analysing feedback.

1. The sale of acid

1.1 Background legislation

The sale of certain types of acid is currently regulated under rules governing the sale of specified chemicals that can be used in the illicit manufacture of explosives or to cause harm.

[EU regulation 98/2013](#) on the marketing and use of explosives precursors requires EU member states to restrict sales of certain substances and mixtures that are explosives precursors and can be misused for the illicit manufacture of explosives.

On 26 March 2015, the [Poisons Act 1972](#) was amended via the [Deregulation Act 2015](#) and the [Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2015](#) were introduced to create a new regime to control sales of explosives precursors and poisons.

The new law draws a distinction between “regulated” substances and “reportable substances”.

- Regulated substances – which contain high concentrations of certain chemicals – are now restricted from sale to the general public. If a member of the general public wants to buy any of the regulated substances, they need to apply to the Home Office for a licence to acquire and, from 3 March 2016, to possess and use.
- Reportable substances can be bought without a licence, but retailers are required to report suspicious transactions and significant losses and thefts. Sulphuric acid is a reportable substance (see Section 1.3, Box 3 below).

In addition to simplifying the regulatory system and bringing it into line with EU regulations, the aim of the new system was to strengthen the control of chemicals that can be used to cause harm while still allowing those with a legitimate need for the chemicals to continue their activities.¹

It should be noted that all licences issued under the Control of Explosives Precursors Regulations 2014 will continue to remain valid until expiration.

1.2 Overview of the current regime

The main provisions of the amended [Poisons Act 1972](#) and the [Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2015](#) are as follows.

Licensing of Regulated Poisons and Explosives Precursors

A member of the general public can only **purchase** (i.e. acquire or import) regulated substances with a valid licence issued by the Home Office and an associated photographic identity document. Business-to-

¹ [Explanatory Memorandum to the Control of Poisons and Explosive Precursors Regulations](#), 2015, para 7.1

business sales and substances restricted to professional users are exempt from the licensing requirements.

In practice, a member of the public will need to present their licence to the supplier with the same photo ID they provided details of in the licence application form. The supplier will then record details of the transaction on the licence.

It is important to note that all licences issued before 26 May 2015 under the Control of Explosives Precursors Regulations 2014 will continue to remain valid until expiration.

Members of the public who want to **possess** or **use** regulated substances must, since 3 March 2016, hold a valid licence issued by the Home office and an associated photographic identity document. The Home Office has published [Advice for home users on the Poisons Act 1972 and the Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2015](#) (last updated 19 August 2016).

Labelling

Pharmacies (chemists) are required to label regulated poisons and explosives precursors that are intended for sale to the general public stating that "Acquisition, possession or use by the general public is restricted."

Suspicious Transaction Reporting

Retailers of reportable poisons and explosives precursors above the current concentration thresholds are required to report suspicious transactions and significant losses and thefts to the police. It is important to note that this requirement covers business-to-business sales, wholesale transactions and the sale of products for home use.

Home Office guidance gives the following pointers on identifying suspicious transactions:

The below list of indicators is not exhaustive, but may be seen as a reference list, helpful for the purpose of identifying potential suspicious transactions.

- You are aware that the customer has previously been refused from purchasing a regulated or reportable product;
- The customer has presented a stolen licence, or has altered the licence in some way;
- The customer is not familiar with the regular use(s) of the product(s), nor with the handling instructions;
- The customer refuses alternative products or products with a lower (but for the proposed use sufficient) concentration;
- Insists on paying cash, especially large amounts; and
- Requests packaging or delivery methods that deviate from what would be ordinary, advised, or expected.

Reporting a Suspicious Transaction

You should report the details of the sale to the anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789321. Police counter-terrorism specialists would then decide whether to take further action.²

Enforcement

The Police are responsible for enforcing the new law and a new set of offences has been created. The [General Pharmaceutical Council](#) will continue in their role as the pharmacy regulator and inspectorate body.

1.3 Regulated and reportable substances

Regulated substances (explosives precursors and poisons) are chemicals that are capable of being used to cause harm. They may also have legitimate everyday uses in the home or in hobby activities. The relevant chemicals are listed in Schedule 1A to the [Poisons Act 1972](#).

Which substances are licensed?

If the substance is present in a concentration above a stipulated threshold (see **Box 1** and **2** below) a valid licence and associated photo ID licence is required for their acquisition, importation, possession and use by a member of the public.

In effect, any member of the general public who is not using the regulated chemicals as part of their trade, business or profession will need to have a licence to acquire (and since 3 March 2016, to possess and use) the regulated chemicals. In addition, regulated poisons must only be supplied to the public by or under the supervision of a registered pharmacist.

Although business to business transactions are outside of licensing requirements, a person may be asked to show evidence of their business, trade or profession and explain their intended use of the chemicals.

Box 1: Regulated substances: explosives precursors

These are the concentration thresholds for explosives precursors:

- hydrogen peroxide: 12% w/w
- nitromethane: 30% w/w
- nitric acid: 3% w/w
- sodium chlorate: 40% w/w
- potassium chlorate: 40% w/w
- sodium perchlorate: 40% w/w
- potassium perchlorate: 40% w/w

Box 2: Regulated substances: poisons

These are the concentration thresholds for poisons:

- Aluminium phosphide
- Arsenic and its compounds (other than calcium arsenites, copper acetoarsenite, copper arsenates, copper arsenites, lead arsenates)

² Home Office, [Guidance for Pharmacies selling non-medicinal poisons to the general public](#), May 2015, paras 20-21

- Barium salts (other than barium sulphate, barium carbonate and barium silicofluoride)
- Bromomethane
- Chloropicrin
- Fluoroacetic acid, its salts and fluoroacetamide
- Hydrogen cyanide and metal cyanides (other than ferrocyanides and ferricyanides)
- Lead acetates and compounds of lead with acids from fixed oils
- Magnesium phosphide
- Mercury and its compounds (including: nitrates of mercury; oxides of mercury; mercuric cyanide oxides; mercuric thiocyanate; ammonium mercuric chlorides; potassium mercuric iodides; organic compounds of mercury which contain a methyl group directly linked to the mercury atom)
- Oxalic acid- 10% w/w
- Phenols (phenol; phenolic isomers of cresols, xylenols, monoethylphenols); compounds of phenols with a metal; 60% w/w of phenols or, for compounds of phenols with a metal, the equivalent of 60% w/w of phenols
- Phosphorus yellow
- Strychnine and its salts and its quaternary compounds
- Thallium and its salts

Retailers of reportable poisons and explosives precursors (see **Box 3** below) above the current concentration thresholds are required to report suspicious transactions and significant losses and thefts.

Box 3: Reportable substances

Explosive precursors:

- ammonium nitrate
- acetone
- hexamine
- sulphuric acid
- potassium nitrate
- sodium nitrate
- calcium nitrate
- calcium ammonium nitrate

Poisons:

- Aldicarb
- Alpha-chloralose
- Ammonia 10% w/w
- Arsenic, compounds of, the following: calcium arsenites; copper acetoarsenite; copper arsenates; copper arsenites; lead arsenates
- Barium, salts of, the following: barium carbonate; barium silicofluoride
- Carbofuran
- Cycloheximide
- Dinitrocresols (DNOC) their compounds with a metal or a base
- Dinoseb its compounds with a metal or a base
- Dinoterb
- Drazoxolon; its salts
- Endosulfan
- Endothal its salts

- Endrin
- Fentin compounds of
- Formaldehyde 5% w/w
- Formic acid 25% w/w
- Hydrochloric acid 10% w/w
- Hydrofluoric acid alkali metal bifluorides; ammonium bifluoride alkali metal fluorides; ammonium fluoride sodium silicofluoride
- Mercuric chloride mercuric iodide; organic compounds of mercury except compounds that contain a methyl (CH₃) group directly linked to the mercury atom
- Metallic oxalates
- Methomyl
- Nicotine its salts; its quaternary compounds
- Nitrobenzene 0.1% w/w
- Oxamyl
- Paraquat salts of
- Phenols (as defined in part 2 of this schedule) in substances containing no more than 60%, weight in weight, of phenols; compounds of phenols with a metal in substances containing no more than the equivalent of 60%, weight in weight, of phenols
- Phosphoric acid
- Phosphorus compounds, the following: azinphos-methyl, chlorfenvinphos, demephion, demeton-S-methyl, demeton-S-methyl sulphone, dialifos, dichlorvos, dioxathion, disulfoton, fonofos, mecarbam, mephosfolan, methidathion, mevinphos, omethoate, oxydemeton-methyl, parathion, phenkapton, phorate, phosphamidon, pirimiphos-ethyl, quinalphos, thiometon, thionazin, triazophos, vamidothion
- Potassium hydroxide 17% of total caustic alkalinity
- Sodium hydroxide 12% of total caustic alkalinity
- Sodium nitrite
- Thiofanox
- Zinc phosphide

Products of particular interest are those in which a reportable chemical is either:

- present on its own or the main ingredient
- present in a simple mixture, typically less than 5 ingredients

Products containing less than 1% of any of the reportable chemicals, or fertilizers that are not labelled for nitrogen (N) content are, in general, of no concern.

1.4 Criminal offences

The [Poisons Act 1972](#) as amended introduces the following offences.

Acquiring and importing - It is an offence for a member of the public to acquire or import any of the regulated substances without holding a valid licence issued by the Home Office. If found guilty of this offence, there is a maximum penalty of 2 years' imprisonment and/or a fine.

Supplying – Since 26 May 2015, it is an offence to supply a member of the public any of the regulated substances if they do not hold a valid licence issued by the Home Office to acquire, import, possess and use

that substance. If found guilty, there is a maximum penalty of 2 years' imprisonment and/or a fine.

Possession - Since 3 March 2016, it is an offence to possess or use a regulated substance without holding a valid licence issued by the Home Office. If found guilty of this offence, there is a maximum penalty of 2 years' imprisonment and/or a fine.

Failure to report suspicious transactions or significant disappearance or thefts – on summary conviction in England and Wales, there is a maximum penalty of 3 months' imprisonment and/or a fine.

1.5 The licensing process

As already mentioned, the [Home Office](#) is the licensing authority. There is an online application form. On receipt of an application (and supporting document, including proof of identity), the Home Office will conduct checks into the applicant's suitability, including criminal record and health checks. Offences that might be considered relevant to these checks are listed in [due diligence checks](#). There is a non-refundable application fee.³

If the applicant is not a UK National they will need to provide evidence that they can legally reside in the UK. In addition, they will need to provide a Certificate of Good Conduct from their native country.

If granted, the licence will be valid for a maximum of **3 years**. If, however, the documentation provided during the application process is valid for a period of less than 3 years from the date the licence is granted, the licenceholder will be required to reapply for a licence once the documentation has expired.

A licence may cover more than one regulated substance. Each substance a member of the public may wish to acquire, possess or use must be listed on their licence. Conditions may be placed on the maximum concentration, quantity of substance or storage arrangements.

A licence must be amended immediately if the licence-holder:

- has changed their name since their current licence was issued;
- has changed their address since their current licence was issued ;
- has changed their storage and/or usage address since their current licence was issued;
- needs to change the substances or the volume of those substances that their current licence covers them to acquire, possess or use

Similarly, the Home Office must be notified immediately if there has been any change in the licenceholder's mental health condition and/or a

³ Licence fees cannot be changed without Parliamentary scrutiny

condition relating to substance misuse that may affect their ability to safely possess and use the substances specified on the licence. If they receive a criminal conviction, they must inform the Home Office without undue delay. This includes motoring offences, binding overs, formal written warnings and cautions and convictions in or outside Great Britain. (However, details of parking offences and fixed penalty notices are exempt).

As part of their licence conditions, the person named on the licence must also inform the Home Office, without undue delay, of the theft, loss or destruction of their licence. The theft of a licence must also be reported to the police.

A licenceholder who fails to advise the Home Office of any changes, is in violation of his/her licence conditions and their licence may be suspended or revoked.

Crucially, if a person is unable to continually demonstrate suitability to hold a licence, their licence may be suspended or revoked. This could result in their being in breach of the [Poisons Act 1972](#) and the [Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2015](#).

2. The use of acid in attacks

2.1 Criminal offences

There is no one specific offence in England and Wales of carrying out an acid attack. People who commit such acts would instead be liable for a more general criminal offence.

Offences against the person

The following offences under the [Offences against the Person Act 1861](#) are most likely to be relevant for acid attacks:

- Section 18 - Wounding/causing grievous bodily harm with intent (maximum sentence: life imprisonment)
- Section 20 – Unlawful wounding/inflicting grievous bodily harm (maximum sentence: five years)
- Section 29 - Sending, throwing or using explosive or corrosive substance or noxious thing with intent to do grievous bodily harm (maximum sentence: life imprisonment)

Details of these offences can be found in the Crown Prosecution Service legal guidance: see [Offences against the Person, incorporating the Charging Standard](#).

The [Sentencing Council Assault Definitive Guideline](#) specifically lists the use of acid as an aggravating factor (indicating higher culpability) when sentencing for a section 18 or 20 offence.

Possession offences

Carrying acid in a public place with intent to use it in an attack could also potentially be prosecuted under offensive weapons legislation.

Under section 1 of the [Prevention of Crime Act 1953](#) it is an offence for a person to have an “offensive weapon” with him in any public place without lawful authority or reasonable excuse.

[Section 1A of the 1953 Act](#) and [section 139AA of the Criminal Justice Act 1988](#) set out aggravated possession offences, which involve having an offensive weapon in a public place or on school premises and using it to unlawfully and intentionally threaten another person in such a way that there is an immediate risk of serious physical harm. For both of these aggravated offences, physical harm is considered “serious” if it amounts to grievous bodily harm for the purposes of the Offences against the Person Act 1861.⁴

“Offensive weapon” for the purpose of these offences is defined as

any article made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person, or intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by some other person.

⁴ “Grievous bodily harm” equates to “really serious harm”: see the CPS website, [Offences against the Person, incorporating the Charging Standard](#) for further details

This definition captures three categories of article:

- Articles **made** for causing injury to the person
- Articles **adapted** for use for causing injury to the person
- Articles that are not specifically made or adapted for the purpose of causing injury, but which may be considered offensive if a court or jury decides that the defendant **intended them to be used for the purpose of causing injury** to the person.

Acid would fall within the last of these categories, as it is not in itself an article made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person. A successful prosecution would therefore involve proving that the defendant intended to use the acid for the purpose of causing injury to the person.

A more detailed overview of the 1953 Act is set out in [Library Briefing Paper SN00330 Knives and offensive weapons](#).

There has been some speculation that carrying acid in a bottle might constitute an offence under [section 5\(1\)\(b\) of the Firearms Act 1968](#), which prohibits a person from possessing “any weapon of whatever description designed or adapted for the discharge of any noxious liquid, gas or other thing” unless they have the authority of the Home Office. However, case law would suggest otherwise:

In Formosa, a Fairy Liquid washing-up bottle containing 400 millilitres of hydrochloric acid was held not to be a ‘prohibited weapon’ within the meaning of the FA 1968, s5(1)(b), because the bottle was not *altered* by being filled with the acid and, therefore, it was not a weapon ‘designed or adapted’ for the discharge of any noxious liquid within the meaning of the section.⁵

Lord Justice Lloyd highlighted the difficulties in taking the alternative approach:

In the words of Lloyd LJ, a contrary construction ‘would mean that a householder who filled a milk bottle with acid in order to destroy a wasps’ nest would be in possession of a weapon adapted for the discharge of a noxious liquid and would therefore be guilty of the offence of possessing a prohibited weapon; until, of course, he had used the acid for the purpose in question when the milk bottle would revert to its pristine innocence. That could not be right.’⁶

2.2 Acid attack statistics

Home Office statistics

The Home Office does not currently collect statistics on acid attacks, as Home Office minister Brandon Lewis explained in response to a PQ in March 2017:

⁵ *Blackstone’s Criminal Practice*, 2017 edition, para B12.17

⁶ *Ibid*

The Home Office does not collect data on the number of acid attacks. Acid or other corrosive attacks would be recorded though under different offence types, usually assault occasioning actual bodily harm or grievous bodily harm depending on the severity of the injuries inflicted. We are currently working with the National Police Chiefs' Council lead to gather data through police forces to better understand the extent and scale of crimes involving acid and other corrosive substances.⁷

In October 2017 an update was provided by the then Home Office minister Sarah Newton in response to another PQ on what estimate the Home Office had made on the number of acid attacks in the last five years:

The Home Office does not hold the information requested and does not specifically collect data from police forces on acid and other corrosive attacks as part of its regular data collection. Acid and other corrosive attacks resulting in injury are included in Office for National Statistics published statistics within assault with injury offences and assault with intent to cause serious harm offences, but cannot be disaggregated.

The National Police Chiefs' Council undertook a voluntary data collection from police forces between November 2016 and April 2017 and 39 forces provided returns. This found that there had been 408 cases of attacks in the six month period. These figures must be treated with caution, as they are not official statistics and have not been subject to the usual assurance processes. We are working closely with the National Police Chiefs' Council lead on what action can be taken to improve recording and a further data collection is underway.⁸

Freedom of Information statistics

In March 2017, the BBC reported that information published by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) in response to a Freedom of Information (Fol) request showed that the number of acid attacks in London had "risen sharply in the last four years".⁹

The tables in the Fol response suggest that noxious or corrosive fluids – including but not limited to acid – were used in London in 454 crimes in 2016, 261 in 2015 and 166 in 2014. The figures also show that the London Boroughs with the highest number of attacks in 2017 were Newham (149 offences), Barking & Dagenham (58 offences), Tower Hamlets (42 offences), Redbridge (27 offences) and Havering (25 offences). These five boroughs are geographically next to each other, to the East of the City of London and North of the River Thames. Sutton was the only London Borough where no offences were recorded.¹⁰

By comparison, and also in response to a Fol about the number of crimes "where the aggrieved has been attacked with any acid, corrosive or noxious substance" between 2014 and 2016, North Yorkshire Police

⁷ [Written question 68535 on Crimes of Violence: Acids](#), 23 March 2017

⁸ [Written question 109629 on Crimes of Violence: Acids](#), 30 October 2017

⁹ ["Sharp rise in attacks involving corrosive fluids in London"](#), *BBC News*, 20 March 2017

¹⁰ For the underlying Fol response, please see Metropolitan Police Information Rights Unit, [Ad-hoc Reference Number 7825](#), 6 March 2017

Force responded that there “there has been one report recorded in 2016 where a noxious substance was sprayed”.¹¹

Hospital admissions

Figures for England are available on the number of hospital “finished admission episodes” (FAEs) with an external cause of assault by corrosive substance:

Finished Admission Episodes (FAEs) with an external cause of assault by corrosive substance in England

2010/11	110	
2011/12	105	
2012/13	97	
2013/14	109	
2014/15	106	
2015/16	98	
2016/17	109	

Source: NHS Digital Hospital Episode Statistics

The number of FAEs has remained relatively stable at just over 100 episodes per annum during the seven year period for which data is given.

¹¹ North Yorkshire Police, [Fol response 1227.2016-17](#), 2 June 2017

3. Calls for change

Calls for change have focused on three main issues:

- restrictions on the sale of acid to members of the public;
- new criminal offences relating to possession of acid; and
- sentencing.

3.1 Petitions

The [UK Government and Parliament Petitions website](#) has hosted a number of e-petitions on the law relating to acid attacks:

- In 2016 there was a [petition](#) calling for the regulation and control of acid sales. The petition closed on 25 March 2016 having received 48 signatures.
- In 2016 there was another [petition](#) calling for all perpetrators of acid attacks to receive a minimum 25 years prison sentence. The Petition closed on 2 April 2016 having received 66 signatures.
- In 2017 there was a [petition](#) to classify acid as an offensive weapon and increase sentences for acid attacks. The petition closed on 3 May 2017 having received 26 signatures.¹²
- In 2017 another [petition](#) was launched calling for a mandatory life sentence for acid attack perpetrators. The petition is due to close in March 2018 and at the time of writing had 973 signatures.

On 27 June 2017, prompted by an acid attack on Resham Khan and her cousin Jameel Muhktar, a petition was launched on the Change.org website calling for greater restrictions on the sale of corrosive substances: see [Prohibit the purchase of acid to those without a licence](#). At the time of writing the petition had attracted in excess of 536,000 signatures.

Ms Khan published an [open letter](#) in support of the petition, in which she called for various actions including:

- A statement from the police condemning corrosive substance attacks and setting out a zero-tolerance stance;
- Changes to regulations on the sale of corrosive substances, and greater responsibility from retailers;
- Stricter punishment for perpetrators of acid attacks;
- New legislation on possession of corrosive substances without good reason, and on treating certain corrosive substances as offensive weapons; and
- The introduction of licensing regulations for the buying of corrosive substances.

¹² This petition closed early due to the 2017 general election being called

3.2 Adjournment debate and Ten Minute Rule Bill

On Monday 17 July 2017 Stephen Timms, whose East Ham constituency has seen a number of acid attacks, led an adjournment debate on the issue of acid attacks.¹³ He called on the Government to:

1. Reclassify sulphuric acid – which is commonly used as a drain cleaner – as a ‘regulated substance’ and require a licence for purchase, as proposed by the British Retail Consortium;
2. Bring the possession of acid – which is not currently a criminal offence – into line with the law on possession of knives;
3. Introduce tougher and more consistent sentences for those found guilty of carrying out acid attacks.¹⁴

Lyn Brown, Member for the neighbouring West Ham constituency, is planning to introduce a Ten Minute Rule Bill on the issue, which she has said will look at putting acid on a similar footing to knives:

I want carrying acid to have a similar status to that of carrying knives. I know this is going to be complex because acid can be used for a number of perfectly acceptable purposes, however, I am hoping that by working with experts in the field, we will be able to come up with a formula that will work to minimise these heinous crimes.¹⁵

Possession of knives is covered by [section 139 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988](#), which makes it an offence for a person to have with him in a public place any article which has a blade or is sharply pointed, except a folding pocket knife with a cutting edge of three inches or less.

It is a defence for the accused to prove that he had good reason or lawful authority for having the article with him in a public place. It is also a defence to show that he had the article with him for use at work, for religious reasons, or as part of a national costume. There is no need for the prosecution to prove that the defendant intended to use the knife to cause harm: the fact of possession is enough in itself.

For a more detailed overview of the current law on the possession and sale of knives, please see [Library Briefing Paper SN00330 Knives and offensive weapons](#).

¹³ [HC Deb 17 July 2017 c682](#)

¹⁴ Stephen Timms website, [Stephen Timms calls for government action on acid attacks](#), 13 July 2017

¹⁵ [“Acid attacks: Lyn Brown and Stephen Timms call for tougher regulation”](#), *Newham Recorder*, 14 July 2017

3.3 The Government's response

Possible controls on sale

Until July 2017, ministerial comment had suggested that the Government's main focus was on working with retailers to look at possible ways of restricting the sale of certain acids.

On 13 June 2016, there was the following exchange between Gareth Johnson MP and Karen Bradley, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, following his PQ about what steps the Government are taking to reduce the number of violent acid attacks:

Karen Bradley: I am very aware of the life-changing impact and distress to victims caused by acid attacks, and I am currently working with retailers to identify the best means of restricting sales of products with a high acidic content.

Gareth Johnson MP (Dartford) (Con): Attacks involving acid are, by their very nature, particularly nasty offences. Will the Minister please assure the House that she will work with the Ministry of Justice to ensure not only that adequate resources are made available to tackle the problem, but that deterrent sentences are imposed that properly reflect the life-changing nature of these offences?

Karen Bradley: I assure my hon. Friend that I do work closely with the Ministry of Justice. In fact, my right hon. Friend the Policing Minister, who is also a Justice Minister, is on the Front Bench, and I can assure my hon. Friend that we work very closely on this issue. He is right to say that not only do we want the perpetrators caught and stopped but we want appropriate sentences for this behaviour.¹⁶

On 23 March 2017, Brandon Lewis provided the following written answer to a PQ asked by Stephen Timms on what plans the Government has to reduce the number of acid attacks:

Brandon Lewis: Attacks on people involving acids or other corrosives are a serious matter that can result in huge distress and life changing injuries. We are working with retailers to explore what action can be taken to control sales of products with a high acidic content, and we are also working with the National Police Chiefs' Council lead to better understand the extent and scale of crimes involving acid to inform measures to prevent such attacks.¹⁷

And in July 2017, Home Office minister Nick Hurd provided the following answer to a PQ asked by Caroline Lucas on whether the Government planned to restrict the sale of acid:

The Home Office and the National Police Chiefs' Council jointly hosted a meeting on 4 July with medical experts, police, retailers, and officials from a number of Government departments and agencies to share understanding about the nature of attacks and discussed action being taken by the respective agencies. We are currently considering with retailers what action can be taken to

¹⁶ [HC Deb 13 June 2016 c.1432-3](#)

¹⁷ [Written question 68460 on Crimes of Violence: Acids](#), 23 March 2017

restrict access to the most harmful products used in acid and other corrosive substance attacks.¹⁸

The Home Office action plan

On 16 July 2017, the day before Stephen Timms' adjournment debate, the Home Office announced a new action plan "aimed at reducing the number and impact of acid attacks":

As part of the action plan, the Crown Prosecution Service's (CPS) guidance to prosecutors will be reviewed to ensure it makes clear that acid and other corrosive substances can be classed as dangerous weapons, and what is required to prove intent.

In addition, the Poisons Act 1972 will be reviewed to assess whether it should cover more acids and harmful substances, and the Home Office will work with police and the Ministry of Justice to assess whether the powers available to the courts, including sentencing, are sufficient to deal with these serious offences.

These measures will form part of a wide-ranging review of the law enforcement and criminal justice response, existing legislation, access to harmful products and the support offered to victims.

New guidance will also be provided to police officers on preventing attacks, searching potential perpetrators for harmful substances and responding to victims at the scene. And further work will also take place with retailers to agree measures to restrict sales of acids and other corrosive substances.¹⁹

Other measures in the plan include:

- improving police recording and reporting of offences;
- commissioning research to better understand the motivations for carrying out these attacks;
- confirming appropriate support is provided to victims, from the initial medical response to giving evidence in court and the long-term recovery beyond; and
- ensuring that victim impact statements are completed in every case by the police so courts are made aware of the full impact of the attack. The police will also be encouraged to prepare Community Impact Statements to show how such attacks have affected communities.²⁰

Speaking during the adjournment debate, Home Office minister Sarah Newton indicated that work on the action plan was already underway. She said that in September 2017 she would update "interested" colleagues and would "seek an opportunity to update the House" on progress that had been made over the summer. She indicated that certain elements of the plan might require changes in legislation, in which case the Home Office would seek "the earliest possible legislative opportunity".²¹

¹⁸ [Written question 2974 on Crimes of Violence: Acids](#), 11 July 2017

¹⁹ Home Office press release, [Home Secretary announces action plan to tackle acid attacks](#), 16 July 2017

²⁰ Ibid

²¹ [HC Deb 17 July 2017 cc687-8](#)

Consultation on offensive weapons

In October 2017, during her speech at the Conservative Party Conference, the Home Secretary announced that the Government intended to legislate for:

- a new offence preventing the sale of acid to under-18s;
- a new offence (modelled on current legislation about carrying knives) of carrying acid in public “without good reason”; and
- greater restrictions on the sale of sulphuric acid, particularly given its role in homemade explosive devices known as “mother of Satan” explosives.²²

A Home Office press release explained that views on the proposed measures would be sought as part of a more wide-ranging consultation on offensive weapons, which would also cover knives and firearms.²³

The consultation itself was published on 14 October 2017.²⁴ It closed on 9 December 2017 and the Home Office is currently analysing feedback. There are three main proposals on acid.

A new possession offence

The first proposal on acid is to legislate for a new offence of “possessing a corrosive substance in a public place”. This offence would be modelled on the existing offence of possessing a bladed article in a public place, as set out in [section 139 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988](#).

The Government envisages that similar defences to those that exist for section 139 will apply: for example if the person could prove they had a good reason or lawful authority for having the corrosive substance. The prosecution would no longer need to show that the person intended to use the acid to cause injury (as is currently the case for prosecutions under section 1 of the [Prevention of Crime Act 1953](#)).

The Government proposes that the maximum penalty for the new offence should be similar to the maximum penalty for the section 139 offence. This is six months imprisonment and/or a fine (in the magistrates’ court) or four years imprisonment and/or a fine (in the Crown court).

The Government also plans to create a minimum custodial sentence for those convicted of a second or subsequent offence of possession of a corrosive substance in a public place. Again, this mirrors current knife legislation, which sets out a minimum six month sentence (for repeat

²² Home Secretary’s speech at the Conservative Party Conference, 3 October 2017, as reported in (for example) “[Sale of acids to under-18s to be banned, Amber Rudd says](#)”, *BBC News*, 3 October 2017

²³ Home Office, [Home Office to consult on measures to clamp down on the use of offensive and dangerous weapons](#), 3 October 2017

²⁴ [Offensive and dangerous weapons: new legislation](#), Gov.uk [accessed 17 December 2017]

knife crime offenders aged 18 or over) or four month detention and training order (for repeat knife crime offenders aged 16 or 17).²⁵

Sales to under 18s

The second proposal on acid is to legislate for a new offence preventing the sale of “the most harmful corrosive substances” to under 18s. Again, the Government anticipates this being modelled on existing knife legislation.²⁶

To support this new offence the Government is considering listing “the most harmful corrosive substances” – including relevant concentration levels – in statutory guidance or possibly secondary legislation.

The new offence would apply to online sales as well as sales in person, and there would be defences available for retailers in respect of taking reasonable precautions and exercising due diligence.

The Government proposes that the penalties for the new offence would be similar to those for the offence of selling knives to under 18s: that is, a term of imprisonment not exceeding six months, or an unlimited fine, or both.

Reclassification of sulphuric acid

Finally, the Government is also proposing to use the existing powers in the Poisons Act 1972 to bring forward secondary legislation to make sulphuric acid a regulated substance, which would mean the purchaser must have a licence to buy.

²⁵ As introduced by [s28 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015](#)

²⁶ See [Section 141A of the Criminal Justice Act 1988](#)

4. International responses

4.1 Acid Survivors Trust International

The UK-based charity Acid Survivors Trust International (ASTI), has described acid attacks as a “worldwide problem”. The [charity's website](#) includes analysis of the scale of the problem in various countries including the UK, India, Colombia, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Uganda and Cambodia.

In 2015 ASTI published [Justice? What Justice? Tackling acid violence and ensuring justice for survivors](#), a comparative review of the position in the UK, Cambodia, Colombia and India.

4.2 United Nations

UN Women²⁷ works at a national and international level to advance gender equality and to end violence against women:

Women's right to live free from violence is upheld by international agreements such as the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women](#) (CEDAW), especially through [General Recommendations 12 and 19](#), and the 1993 [UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women](#). UN Women works with countries at the global level to advance the international normative framework through support provided to inter-governmental processes, such as the General Assembly and the [CSW](#). At the country level, UN Women supports Governments in adopting and enacting legal reforms aligned with international standards.²⁸

Part of this work has focused on acid attacks. For example:

UN Women supported women parliamentarians and political leaders in **Pakistan**, as well as non-governmental advocates, in backing passage of sweeping new legislation to prevent the use of acid in attacks on women and to stop harmful customary practices. The Criminal Law Act 2011 for the first time levies prison sentences and fines for acid attacks, which were not recognized as a crime until recently. The Prevention of Anti-Women Practices Act penalizes cultural traditions once viewed as acceptable, including forced marriages.²⁹

In 2009, the United Nations published a [handbook on legislation to prevent violence against women](#).³⁰ In 2011, UN Women published a [supplement](#) to the handbook, which set out a number of

²⁷ The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

²⁸ UN Women website, [What we do: ending violence against women](#) [accessed 17 December 2017]

²⁹ Ibid

³⁰ UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Division for the Advancement of Women, [Handbook for Legislation on Violence against Women](#), ST/ESA/329, July 2009

recommendations on “harmful practices” against women.³¹ The handbook included the following recommendations on acid attacks:

- Legislation should define an “acid attack” as “any act of violence perpetrated through an assault using acid. The definition should focus “on the modality of the crime, rather than the specific motivation”, as there were various motivations for acid violence (e.g. dowries, refusal of marriage or sexual proposals, or land disputes).
- Legislation should also make specific criminal law provision for acid attacks, including:
 - a specific acid attack offence;
 - criminalisation of the unlicensed sale of any type of acid;
 - regulation of the sale of any type of acid; and
 - making it mandatory for medical personnel to report cases of bodily harm caused by acid to the police.

The supplement said that it was “critical to punish not only those involved in the acid attack itself but also anyone who trades illegally in acid”.

UN Women’s [Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence Against Women and Girls](#) gives an overview of legislative activity in Bangladesh, Cambodia and Pakistan.

One report by a number of women’s rights and human rights groups (led by the the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School), argued that gender-based acid attacks are against international law because they are prohibited by the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women](#).³²

The report argued that governments have an obligation to act against acid attacks, firstly by attacking the root cause: gender inequality. In the shorter term, the report urged governments to pass legislation outlawing the attacks, enforce that legislation and provide redress for victims.

4.3 Country-specific responses

This section looks at legislative activity in selected countries where acid attacks are a particular problem.

Bangladesh

In 2002 Bangladesh enacted the Acid Control Act 2002 and the Acid Crime Prevention Act 2002, making it one of the first countries to pass specific legislation aimed at tackling the supply of acid and its use in

³¹ UN Women, [Supplement to the Handbook for Legislation on Violence against Women: “Harmful Practices” against Women](#), ST/ESA/329, 2011

³² Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School (and others), [Combating Acid Violence in Bangladesh, India and Cambodia](#), 2011

criminal attacks. UN Women's [Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence Against Women and Girls](#) gives the following overview:

Some important features of the laws include:

- Establishment of a National Acid Control Council Fund;
- Establishment of a Rehabilitation Centre for victims of acid crimes;
- Treatment for victims of acid crimes;
- Provision of Legal Aid for victims of acid crimes;
- Locking up shops to prevent the sale of acid and banning transport engaged in carrying acid;
- Temporary cancellation of acid selling licenses;
- Capital punishment of the acid thrower and penalty of up to Tk 1 lakh (approximately US\$ 1,709);
- Judgment in special tribunals;
- Judgment in the absence of the criminal;
- Power of the Magistrate to take record of witnesses anywhere.

See also the work of the [Acid Survivors Foundation](#) in Bangladesh. The Foundation's website includes an [overview of the 2002 Acts](#) and [statistics](#) for acid attacks in Bangladesh.

In Bangladesh, the [UN Population Fund](#) had a programme of work with the authorities to try to eradicate acid attacks by 2015.

Pakistan

UN Women's [Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence Against Women and Girls](#) gives the following overview of legislative activity in Pakistan:

In December, 2011, Pakistan passed the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention (Amendment) Act, 2010. The Act amended Pakistan's Penal Code to include the terms "disfigure" and "deface" which are explained as "disfigurement of face or disfigurement of any organ or any part of the organ of the human body which impairs or injures or corrodes or deforms the symmetry or appearance of the person." In addition, the Penal Code was amended to include the following sections:

336A. Hurt caused by corrosive substance. *Whoever with the intention or knowingly causes or attempts to cause hurt by means of a corrosive substance or any substance which is deleterious to human body when it is swallowed, inhaled, comes in to contact or received into human body or otherwise shall be said to cause hurt by corrosive substance:*

Explanation: *In this sub-section, unless the context otherwise requires, "corrosive substance" means a substance which may destroy, cause hurt, deface or dismember any organ of the human body and includes every kind of acid, poison, explosive or explosive substance, noxious thing, arsenic or any other chemical which has a corroding effect and which is deleterious to human body.*

336B. Punishment for hurt by corrosive substance. *Whoever causes hurt by corrosive substance shall be punished with imprisonment for life or imprisonment of either description which shall not be less than fourteen years and a minimum fine of million rupees.*

In December, 2012, The Acid Throwing and Burn Crime Bill, 2012 was submitted for further deliberations. The Acid Throwing and Burn Crime Bill, 2012 expands upon the Acid Control and Acid Crime Prevention (Amendment) Act, 2010 and proposes the following specific definition of acid attack: "any act or omission, caused by corrosive substance/acid to be thrown or administered in any form on the victim with the intention that such person is likely to cause to the other person permanent or partial damage/injury or deformity or disfigurement to any part of the body or organ or cause death of such victim." In addition to providing extensive definitions including broad inclusion of a variety of corrosive substances, the bill provides guidelines for investigation, protection of witnesses, as well as the recognition of medical, legal, and financial support for victims and their dependents. The bill criminalizes an attempt to commit an Acid Crime and imposes liability to officers for negligence or improper investigations. To promote implementation of its terms, the bill establishes the Acid and Burn Crime Monitoring Board and describes its role and responsibilities. The bill also provides for government funding for the Board's functioning.

ASTI says that it is "estimated that up to 400 women fall victim to acid attacks perpetrated by their husbands or in-laws each year, but due to underreporting, only 1,500 cases have been documented over the past 10 years".³³

India

In March 2013, the Indian Parliament passed the [Criminal Law Amendment Act 2013](#). This made a number of amendments to the Indian Penal Code aimed at tackling acid violence. The [Acid Survivors Foundation India](#) describes the key amendments:

The amendment resulted in insertion of sections 326A and 326B for specifically dealing with acid violence. The new Sections 326A and 326B read as follows:

326A. Whoever causes permanent or partial damage or deformity to, or burns or maims or disfigures or disables, any part or parts of the body of a person or causes grievous hurt by throwing acid on or by administering acid to that person, or by using any other means with the intention of causing or with the knowledge that he is likely to cause such injury or hurt, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which shall not be less than ten years but which may extend to imprisonment for life, and with fine:

Provided that such fine shall be just and reasonable to meet the medical expenses of the treatment of the victim:

Provided further that any fine imposed under this section shall be paid to the victim.

³³ ASTI website, [A worldwide problem: country files – Pakistan](#) [accessed 17 December 2017]

326B. Whoever throws or attempts to throw acid on any person or attempts to administer acid to any person, or attempts to use any other means, with the intention of causing permanent or partial damage or deformity or burns or maiming or disfigurement or disability or grievous hurt to that person, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which shall not be less than five years but which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.³⁴

However, activists claim that these laws are not being rigorously enforced, with one commenting that “Officially acid is banned but nowhere is that the reality”.³⁵ ASTI echoes these concerns in its country file on India:

Unfortunately evidence suggests that key aspects of the laws are not being effectively enforced; acid remains easy to obtain and many survivors have trouble accessing compensation, medical care and justice. ASTI research reveals that the total time taken for litigation around a case to end is between 5 – 10 years on average and in most cases (76%) the attack is committed by a person who is known to the victim.³⁶

³⁴ Acid Survivors Foundation India website, [Laws concerning acid attacks](#) [accessed 17 December 2017]

³⁵ ‘[India's acid attack victims unite against the horror of their past](#)’, *Guardian*, 20 August 2015

³⁶ ASTI website, [A worldwide problem: country files – Pakistan](#) [accessed 17 December 2017]

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Jim McMahon OBE MP



**HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA**

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170732

14 December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Please find enclosed a copy of a reply I have received in response to my letter on your behalf. This concerns the Government's efforts in combatting violent attacks which include the use of acid and other corrosive substances.

I hope the reply is helpful. If not, or if you wish to respond to the letter, please do not hesitate to contact my office again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Encl.

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

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Victoria Atkins MP
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Jim McMahon OBE MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

CTS Reference: M12304/17
Your Reference: SM/MINI01002/01170731

08 DEC 2017

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your letter of 24 November to the Rt Hon David Lidington MP, Lord Chancellor, Secretary of State for Justice, on behalf Oldham Council, about the use of acid and other corrosives in violent attacks. Your letter has been transferred to the Home Office as the department with overall responsibility for this policy area. In your letter you support the proposal to prohibit the sale of products containing the most harmful corrosive substances to under 18s. I am replying as the Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability with responsibility for this policy area.

The use of these substances in inflicting violence on others is a terrible crime that can result in huge distress and life changing injuries to victims. The Government is clear that there is no place in society for these sickening attacks, and we continue to work with a range of partners to deliver our action plan to ensure we do all that we can to prevent them from happening in the first place.

As you may be aware, on 14 October, we published a consultation paper on offensive and dangerous weapons including the proposals to prohibit the sale of the most harmful products to those under 18 and to create a new offence of possession of a corrosive substance in a public place without good reason which would attract a minimum custodial sentence for a second conviction. We believe these proposals will further strengthen the law to tackle the use of acid and other corrosive substances in violent attacks.

Furthermore, the Poisons Act 1972 provides a legal framework for controlling sales of poisons and explosive precursors, including a number of acids. The Home Secretary has also announced the intention to include sulphuric acid on the list of regulated substances to limit public sales. The Act will continue to be reviewed in order to ensure that the right substances are being controlled in the right way. We are also working with retailers on what additional action they can take to restrict access to reduce the risk of products containing the most harmful corrosive substances being used in attacks.

As part of our consultation on offensive and dangerous weapons we are very keen to hear the views of members of the public and organisations with an interest. I can assure you that all responses to the consultation are treated seriously and that responses will be carefully considered. Our aim is to tackle the use of acid and other corrosives in violent attacks. The consultation is open until 9 December and is available on the gov.uk website <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/offensive-and-dangerous-weapons-new-legislation>.

We will ensure that Oldham Council's views are captured as part of the consultation and that they will be taken into account when considering the way forward. If Oldham Council would like to contribute further views to the consultation, these can be e-mailed to Offensive.Weapons.Consultation@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

I hope that this reassures both you and Oldham Council about the action that we are taking.

*Yours,
Victoria*

Victoria Atkins MP

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Briefing Paper

Support for Mortgage Interest Scheme

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Barbara Brownridge - Lead Member for Neighbourhoods and Co-operatives

Executive Director: Helen Lockwood - Executive Director Economy, Skills & Neighbourhoods

Report Author: Ann-Marie McGinn, Principal Homelessness Strategy Officer

Ext: 5148

28 March 2018

1.0 Background

1.1 Council Motion related to Support for Mortgage Interest Scheme

This Council notes that:

- The Government have recently announced that the Support for Mortgage Interest Scheme (or SMI), administered by the Department of Work and Pensions, will come to an end on 5 April 2018.
- Homeowners who are on a qualifying benefit for long enough can currently receive help towards the interest charges on a mortgage or eligible home improvement loan.
- From 6 April 2018, new and existing claimants will instead be offered SMI loans; there will be no transitional protection.
- If a loan is not accepted, SMI will end and claimants will start to accrue mortgage arrears, putting their home at risk.
- If the loan is accepted, homeowners will have to repay the loan, including accrued interest if there is sufficient equity, once the property is sold or ownership is transferred.
- The Department for Work and Pensions has estimated that of the 140,000 households currently receiving SMI around 50% are of pension age.

Council is concerned that:

- Such claimants will end up being in further debt should they choose to participate in the new scheme.
- Other claimants who do not take up the loan may find themselves in mortgage arrears and be evicted.

-
- There is no transitional protection scheme for existing claimants.
 - As claimants fall into more debt, or are faced with homelessness, they will make a greater call on Council services and those provided by partner agencies (such as the Oldham Food Bank) placing these under greater strain.

Council believes that the proposals are grossly unfair as:

- Tenants living in social or private rented housing can receive housing benefit payments that are greater than those made to homeowners through SMI.
- Existing claimants are immediately affected without being offered access to transitional protection.
- Older homeowners with an interest-only mortgage will be hardest hit.

2.0 Council Motion

The following motion was agreed at Council on 8 November 2017:

2.1 Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister responsible outlining our concerns and objections, and to our three local MPs asking them to make representations on this matter.

Response:

The Chief Executive has written to the Minister as requested.

The Chief Executive has written to the MPs as requested.

2.2 Ask the Cabinet Member responsible to ask officers to draw up a briefing paper for Councillors identifying what the impact of these changes will be in Oldham and what actions can be taken by the Council and its partners to mitigate them.

Response:

Colleagues in the Business Intelligence Team drafted a Briefing Paper entitled 'Replacement of Support for Mortgage Interest Benefit with a Secured Loan' in December 2017. This paper is attached at Appendix 1 and provides background to the change along with projections of the number of people affected in Oldham, potential impacts and transitional provisions that are in place. This paper should be updated if further information becomes available.

The projections are very high level and based on national estimates. Despite numerous contacts with colleagues locally within the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) it has not been possible to obtain more detailed or specific information relating to Oldham. That such information is not available is confirmed in the letter from Caroline Dineage MP, Minister for Family Support, Housing and Child Maintenance in her letter to the council Chief Executive. Within this she states that 'robust numbers of SMI claimants at a constituency level are unavailable'. Without the

mechanism to obtain this information it is not possible to properly understand fully the impact for Oldham or undertake any direct contact with residents potentially affected.

The recent letter from the Minister suggests that the changes will affect 124,000 people nationally which the BI Team state relates to approximately 500 people in Oldham. Of these approximately 260 people will be of pension age and 190 will have dependent children.

The Council noted concern that claimants will end up in further debt should they choose to participate in the scheme. The loan from the DWP is applied in the form of a second charge against the property. This will mean that equity will reduce. The DWP confirm that if the equity available within the property after any sale is less than the amount owed, the balance will be written off.

The DWP state that the amount to be paid as a loan will be the same as would have been received as a benefit and paid in the same way to mortgage providers. On this basis lenders should not be more likely to take possession action than is currently the case as long as any other payments in respect of the property are maintained. DWP assumptions are that people of pension age will typically accumulate their loan at a lower rate (on the basis that outstanding capital typically falls with age) and therefore will be less impacted by the changes. Without more detailed information it is not possible to see whether this is the case.

The DWP have advised that all claimants will be notified by letter before February 2018. The letters will request that all claimants make contact to discuss their particular situation over the telephone. Serco run a number of telephone services on behalf of DWP and they will be dealing with calls on these matters. If the claimant fails to make contact, Serco will seek to make positive contact with the claimant within 3 weeks of the letter being sent out. Serco can provide information to the claimant regarding their options but it is up to the claimant to make the decision regarding whether or not to move to the loan payments.

Of potentially greater risk in respect of repossession are the people who do not take up the loan due to concerns regarding reducing levels of equity and who cannot then make payments, or those who do not fully understand what they need to do to ensure payments continue. There is also concern that some very vulnerable people will be placed under stress. Some people may only realize something has changed when they receive arrears notifications from mortgage providers. All lenders are required to notify the local authority where they are seeking to repossess a residential home. This gives the local authority the opportunity to contact the homeowner and as standard this takes place. A letter is sent to the resident providing information about sources of help and advice, in particular the Oldham Housing and Advice Service with First Choice Homes Oldham and Oldham CAB.

The changes may also lead to enquiries being raised with the Council about whether any alternative support is available towards payment of housing costs, for example, Housing Benefit (HB) or Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP). It will be important that staff in these areas are aware of the changes and able to direct residents to sources of further advice. It is suggested that an information sheet will be drafted for all staff working in front line agencies who may be in contact with residents affected by these changes. A draft information sheet for advisors is attached at Appendix 2.

Contact has been made with colleagues at Oldham Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) and they state that contact regarding this issue has been very low. They have stated that they have received 16 enquiries regarding SMI during the last 6 months. Colleagues in the Welfare Rights Service have advised that they have not received any enquiries, similarly with Age UK. The council should promote that these agencies may be able to provide information and advice on these changes. A draft information sheet is attached at Appendix 3.

3.0 Actions:

1. BI Team to update Briefing Paper if further information becomes available regarding numbers impacted by these changes in Oldham.
2. Council to continue to make contact with all residents where lender has notified that residential possession proceedings are due to commence.
3. An information sheet to be drafted and circulated for all staff working in front line advice agencies notifying of changes and sources of help and advice for residents
4. An information sheet to be drafted for residents which publicizes sources of help and advice through council networks, social media, Family Information Service, Oldham Prevention Alliance, etc.

Appendix 1

Briefing Paper

Replacement of Support for Mortgage Interest Benefit with Secured Loan

Chris Buglass, Business Intelligence, December 2017

Key Findings

- Changes are likely to affect 500-700 people (broad estimate) in Oldham currently claiming SMI.
- Those affected stand to lose £800-900 (broad estimate) on average per year in the form of reduction in equity on their home.
- The loan is repayable when the claimant moves or dies and this combined with the reduction in equity is likely to make it more difficult for those affected to move house or remortgage.
- An estimated 90% of claimants are either pensioners or have dependent children
- Claimants who have not made a decision by April will have no transitional protection, nor will the estimated 5-8% of claimants who choose not to accept the loan.
- Some claimants (some of whom may be vulnerable) are not given a great deal of time to make a big financial decision before their benefit stops on 5th April
- A small number of those affected may lose entitlement to other benefits such as Winter Fuel Allowance as a result of no longer receiving SMI as a benefit.

Introduction

In the 2015 budget it was announced that the benefit known as Support For Mortgage Interest (SMI) would be replaced with a loan scheme that would be secured on the claimant's home. SMI was a payment to cover the interest on a mortgage at a set rate and is available to people out of work (e.g. pensioners, jobseekers, those with young children, those with chronic health conditions or disabilities). From April 2018 all existing claimants will cease to receive the benefit. Those who accept the new loans scheme before April will receive the loan payments (or a transitional payment) from April onwards.

As the vast majority of SMI benefit payments are made directly to the mortgage provider, most claimants won't see a change in their day-to-day income, instead the loan would result in a reduction in the equity on their homes. The loan is only repayable when the house changes ownership (i.e. when the claimant moves, dies or places the house in the name of a relative). This, combined with the reduction in equity is likely to make it more prohibitive for those affected to move house or remortgage

The loan would also incur interest set at the 'forecast gilt rate', which would further reduce the equity and would mean that the final amount repayable would be considerably more than just the original value of the benefit alone (and this would be exacerbated by compound interest). Other impacts are highlighted in the sections below.

Oldham projections

The number of SMI claimants is not systematically monitored making estimating the number of people affected difficult. Official estimates vary from 124,000¹ to 170,000² nationally. Scaling this down to Oldham this would give a broad estimate of 500-700 people (based on Oldham having 0.4% of the UK population). Estimates of the average amount of support per person also vary from £1,400¹ to £1,550² per year. With house prices in Oldham being slightly more than half the average UK house price that would mean that in reality the average value of the benefit per person per year in Oldham is closer to £800-900. Interest will also accrue on the new loan and that would equate to an additional £13-15 per year (increasing each year due to compound interest).

Impacts - Short timescales for some claimants to make a decision

Despite being announced in the 2015 budget, the government have only committed to contacting claimants by Feb 2018³. With the last SMI benefit payments being made before 5th April 2018¹ (with the exception of some transitional provisions), this will leave some people with just a matter of weeks to make a very substantial decision with potentially far-reaching financial implications. Some of these claimants may be vulnerable or require additional support/time to be able to make a decision such as those with dementia or mental health issues.

As SMI benefit payments will stop in April 2018, any claimants who accept the loan after that will see a gap in the SMI payments made to their mortgage provider, until their application for the loans scheme can be processed, since transitional protection is only available to cover administrative delays not late decisions. These claimants would then be relying on the goodwill of their mortgage provider to avoid action being taken, such as repossession. Vulnerable claimants may be put under considerable stress by this process. The DWP will however backdate any loan payments for claimants who make late decisions.

Impacts - Loss of entitlement to other benefits

Losing SMI as a benefit may mean that some people lose their entitlement to other benefits (known as passported benefits) that have as a qualifying criterion the receipt of a state benefit¹. The claimant may however still be able to claim these passported benefits under other criteria, such as low income. It is very difficult to be able to know how many people may be affected, but the DWP estimates that the number of people affected may be between 1,000-2,000 people nationwide and believe that most of these will be pensioners. This would translate into around 5 people in Oldham. The (many) passported benefits that affected claimants may lose include Winter Fuel Payments, Cold Weather Payments, Legal Aid, Warm Homes discount, Help with Health costs, Council Tax Reduction, Housing Benefit, Free School Meals and Free education entitlement for two year olds.

See the Appendix for a more detailed explanation.

¹ Explanatory memorandum to the loans for mortgage interest Regulations 2017. DWP Jul 2017

² Impact Assessment for Converting Support for Mortgage Interest (SMI) from a benefit into a Loan. DWP Jul 2015

³ Gov.uk website SMI guidance Dec 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/support-for-mortgage-interest>

Demographic groups affected

DWP analysis indicates that 52% of claimants are pension age¹. Of the working age claimants around 80% are believed to have dependent children², meaning that 90% of those impacted are pensioners or have dependent children.

DWP estimate 5% of working age claimants and 8% of pension age claimants will not accept the loan². There is no transitional protection available for these people.

Whilst all claimants will be financially worse off, some groups will be more negatively affected in particular:

- Those temporarily out of work e.g. jobseekers and parents with young children. The loan will reduce their equity and make it harder to remortgage and/or prohibitive to move house.
- Pensioners with an interest-only loan. The loan will reduce the equity meaning that this mortgage type is likely to not be beneficial

The reduction in equity, due to the loan scheme may result in mortgage companies taking the decision to repossess sooner if a person gets into mortgage arrears than would be the case if the benefit had continued⁴.

Transitional provisions

There is some transitional protection available¹:

- Benefit payments to continue up to the first loan payment where there are 'delays in operational activity to migrate existing claimants to the loan payments scheme'. This covers administrative delays and does not include protection for anyone who does not reply or make a decision on accepting the loan before April 2018.
- Benefit payments to continue where an individual lacks mental capacity to make the decision until an authorised person can be appointed to act on the claimant's behalf.
- Claimants of legacy benefits do not need to start a new qualifying period if they are moved onto Universal Credit

However there is no support for those who have not replied by April 2018 or for those who choose not to accept the loan. The DWP will however backdate any loan payments for claimants who make late decisions so that mortgage providers will be aware that they will ultimately receive the balance.

⁴ Debt Camel advice website, Dec 2017 <https://debtcamel.co.uk/smi-loan-help-mortgage/>

Appendix – Loss of passported benefits

The explanation for why a small group of people may lose entitlement to passported benefits such as Winter Fuel Allowance is somewhat complex and is perhaps best explained with an example. SMI entitlement is dependent on receipt of an income-related benefit. Income-related benefits are calculated based on a minimum amount of money per week that a person needs to live off. If a person qualifies for entitlement to SMI as a benefit, then their minimum amount is increased (by the amount of the SMI entitlement).

In the following example a single pensioner (who is not entitled to additional premiums) has a minimum amount of just under £160. If they're in receipt of £20 of SMI as a benefit then their minimum amount needed to live off is increased to £180. If they have an income from their pension of £170 then they fall £10 below the minimum amount and so are classed as being entitled to Pension Credit. In reality they do not actually receive any Pension Credit; instead they receive enough SMI to take their income to the higher minimum amount – in this case £10. Because they are technically (but not actually) in receipt of Pension Credit, that allows them to qualify for passported benefits that have a qualifying criterion of receipt of an income related benefit.

When SMI becomes a loan, rather than a benefit then the £20 does not form part of their minimum amount, which would reduce to £160. Their pension income (£170) would therefore be over their new minimum amount and they would no longer be classed as entitled to Pension Credit. Therefore they would lose their entitlement to the passported benefits. They would however still be able to claim the SMI loan as a result of an exception built into the new rules for the SMI Loans scheme

Appendix 2 - Advisors guide (Draft) – Support for Mortgage Interest

Support for Mortgage Interest is changing from April 2018

What is it?

Support for Mortgage Interest (SMI) helps with the interest part of the mortgage repayments for people who are out of work or of pension age and on certain benefits. Generally people need to be claiming:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit

They may still be able to get SMI if they apply for one of the qualifying benefits but can't get it because their income is too high. They will then be treated as getting the benefit they applied for.

What are the changes?

Formerly paid as a benefit from April 2018, SMI becomes a secured loan.

Since September 2017, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has sent letters and an information leaflet to people who currently get SMI to explain what is changing. The letters say that they will receive a call from Serco within three weeks of the date of the letter to explain further. Serco run some of the DWP's telephone services. Serco will tell the person more about the loan, but the person themselves will need to decide if it's best for them.

After 6 April 2018, they will still receive the same amount of money to help with their mortgage payments, and paid in the same way to mortgage lenders, but it'll be a loan instead. They will need to pay it back, but only when they sell the home or give it to someone else - for example if they give it to a relative, even if they still live there.

The DWP advised that 124,000 people are affected nationally by these changes and that approximately half of these will be people of pension age, many others will have dependent children. People don't have to accept the loan, but if they don't their current benefit will end. If they then don't make alternative arrangements with their lender they could accrue mortgage arrears which means they may be at risk of repossession. There is no option to stay on the current benefit.

A further impact is that some residents may also lose their entitlement to other benefits (known as passported benefits) that have as a qualifying criterion the receipt of a state benefit. The claimant may however still be able to claim these passported benefits under other criteria, such as low income. It is not known how many people may be affected, but the DWP estimates that the number of people affected may be between 1,000-2,000 people nationwide and believe that most of these will be

pensioners. This would translate into around 5 people in Oldham. The passported benefits that affected claimants may lose include Winter Fuel Payments, Cold Weather Payments, Legal Aid, Warm Homes discount, help with health costs, Council Tax Reduction, Housing Benefit, free school meals and free education entitlement for two year olds.

Residents are encouraged to consider their options before they decide what to do. The following sources of information may be of help.

Where can residents get more information?

The following websites may be of help:

www.gov.uk/support-for-mortgage-interest

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/mortgage-problems

www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/benefits-entitlements/support-for-mortgage-interest

www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/support-for-mortgage-interest

Residents may want to seek independent financial advice. The Money Advice Service has more information on this:

www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/en/articles/choosing-a-financial-adviser

What if they want to speak to someone?

If they want to talk to someone before deciding what to do, there are a number of national and local agencies who may be able to help.

National agencies

The Money Advice Service - 0800 138 7777

Shelter - 0344 515 1640

Age UK National Advice Line – 0800 055 6112. Open 365 days per week 8.00 am – 7.00 pm, including all bank holidays.

Local agencies

Oldham Citizens Advice Bureau - 03444 889 622

Age UK Oldham – 0161 622 9333

Oldham Council Welfare Rights Team – 0161 770 6655



Department
for Work &
Pensions

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LONDON
SW1H 9DA

0207 340 4000

www.gov.uk

ministers@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Your ref: Council-SMI -20171108

Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham OL1 1UG

Our ref: POS(6)4037/821

|| December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins,

Thank you for your letter of 13 November regarding the introduction of Support for Mortgage Interest (SMI) loans.

I should explain that this change is about increasing fairness and sustainability. The purchase of a home involves the acquisition of a valuable capital asset and a fair balance has to be struck between the needs of homeowners and the cost to taxpayers. The Government will continue to support homeowners to avoid the threat of repossession, by providing low interest loans to help with their mortgage payments.

The Government believes that it is right that, when they can, homeowners should repay this financial help they receive from taxpayers to accrue an asset, which may increase in value over time.

I can confirm that recovery of SMI loans will not be pursued until the property is sold or transferred, although a recipient may volunteer repayment at any time. If the amount of equity available after the sale of the property is less than the amount due to be recovered, the balance will be written off. A low level of interest will be charged on these loans based upon the cost of gilts. This rate reflects the cost of Government borrowing and is forecast to be 1.7 per cent in 2018/19.

I can assure you that a managed transfer process is in progress, with all existing recipients of SMI receiving information about the new scheme in advance, giving them time to consider their options and make an informed decision as to whether to take up the offer of a loan. Claimants are encouraged to consider how they will manage their mortgage commitments if they choose not to take up the offer of a loan. The transition is expected to affect 124,000 claimants nationally.

The Government anticipates that some claimants may decline the offer and make alternative arrangements where they are able to do so. This could include help with their mortgage repayments from a family member, using any modest savings or perhaps downsizing. Those claimants who decide not to take a loan but find themselves struggling with their mortgage repayments subsequently can apply for and receive an SMI loan at any time, as long as they remain entitled to the qualifying benefit.

The regulations contain provisions to enable existing claimants of SMI a temporary period in which they can still receive SMI as a benefit. This will allow the first loan payment to be made shortly after 6 April 2018 if that date falls during the claimant's benefit week (for claimants of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance and State Pension Credit) or assessment period (in the case of a Universal Credit claimant) so that there is no gap in payment between the last SMI benefit award and the first SMI loan payment.

Where an existing claimant lacks the mental capacity to make decisions about entering into the loan agreement, the regulations enable SMI benefit to continue until an appropriate person is appointed to act on the claimant's behalf. Transitional provisions are also included to ease the transition from the legacy benefits to Universal Credit. If a claimant has served the 39 week SMI qualifying period before moving on to Universal Credit, they will not have to serve the qualifying period again. If the SMI qualifying period has been partially served, then only the remainder will need to be served under Universal Credit.

The new loan scheme will continue to provide robust protection against repossession to all eligible claimants in times of need, with the level of support available being calculated in the same way as under the current system. Claimants and mortgage lenders will not see any difference in the payments they receive. There is no reason to expect lenders to behave any differently to now and we do not anticipate that this measure will lead to an increase in the number of homes that are repossessed.

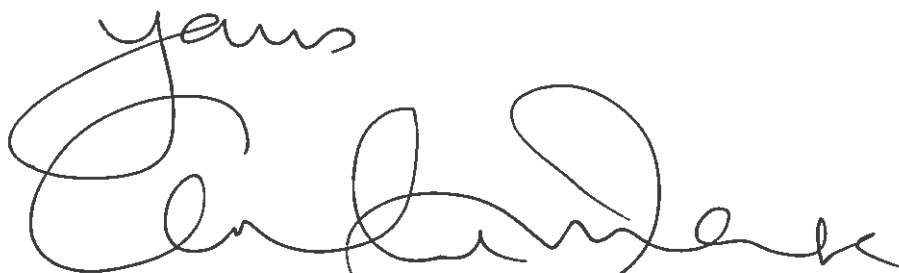
It may help if I explain that there are fundamental differences between the support provided to tenants via Housing Benefit (and Universal Credit) and to home owners via SMI. The Housing Benefit scheme is designed to help those on low incomes or on benefit who have a legally enforceable rent liability to pay a reasonable rent for their home and helps to secure the occupation of their home. By way of contrast, owner-occupiers hold a potentially valuable capital asset which can increase in value over time. We believe it is right to help this group by offering an SMI loan to protect them against repossession and the potentially higher costs to the taxpayer that would follow. However, we are also clear that as a property may increase in value, it is also right to ask SMI loan recipients to repay the help they have received that has allowed them to retain the property.

The Impact Assessment that was published alongside the SMI loans regulations may be of help to you. This can be found at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukia/2017/117/pdfs/ukia_20170117_en.pdf

This explains that SMI claimants are considerably more likely to be over pension age than mortgage payers in general. People of pension age will typically accumulate their SMI loan at a slower rate than those of working age as they receive smaller average weekly amounts (because the value of outstanding capital typically falls with age). All SMI claimants will continue to be protected from the threat of repossession regardless of age.

Unfortunately, the proportion of people in Oldham that will be affected when SMI becomes a loan is not known because robust numbers of SMI claimants at a constituency level are unavailable. For more information on the impacts of SMI at a national level please see the aforementioned Impact Assessment.

I hope you will find this reply helpful.

yours


Caroline Dinenage MP

Minister for Family Support, Housing and Child Maintenance

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170481

29 November 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Re: Council Resolution Response – Adult Congenital Heart Disease Facilities & Services

Please find enclosed two replies I have received in response to my letters on your behalf, regarding the above Council resolution.

I hope this helps.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

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SECRET



Department
of Health

Philip Dunne MP
Minister of State for Health

39 Victoria Street
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020 7210 4850

Your Ref: SM/DEPA01002/01170369

PO-1103480

Jim McMahon OBE MP
House of Commons
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA

20 NOV 2017

Dear Jim

Thank you for your letter of 19 October to the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Secretary of State for Health, on behalf of Oldham Council and a number of your constituents about adult congenital heart disease (CHD) in North West England. I am replying as the issues raised fall within my ministerial portfolio.

I note the concerns raised about needing to travel to Leeds, Sheffield or Newcastle for NHS treatment.

As the council and your constituents will know, under NHS England's proposals the most specialist parts of services for adult patients with CHD would move from Manchester to Liverpool. NHS England considers that outpatient clinics and non-complex maternity care for adults with CHD could still continue in Manchester. Specialist services for children with CHD are already provided in Liverpool.

In its assessment of CHD centres NHS England identified the arrangements at Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (CMFT) as a risk. A significant factor was that the service has been supported by only one surgeon. This arrangement lacked resilience, as if the surgeon were to be unavailable care could be compromised. This surgeon has now left the trust.

NHS England has worked with CMFT, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Newcastle-upon-Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to develop robust clinical arrangements for the safe ongoing care of patients.

A comprehensive set of arrangements has been put in place to support the ongoing care of all Manchester's adult CHD patients. Some aspects of that service are still

being provided in Manchester and some elements of the service are being delivered by Manchester clinicians, but the majority of the specialist CHD care is being provided by clinicians from Leeds, and, to a lesser extent, Newcastle. The arrangements include the management of adult CHD medical and surgical emergencies, urgent care of CHD patients with other surgical emergencies, outpatients and multidisciplinary team meetings.

Unfortunately, this will mean that some patients have longer journeys to appointments and admissions and NHS England recognises that this will be an additional burden on affected patients and their families. To minimise the impact of this, most outpatient care and diagnostic tests will continue to be offered on the CMFT site, supported by consultants from other hospitals. In addition, there will be a dedicated adult CHD clinical nurse specialist service and support at CMFT, together with non-cardiac surgery for adults and children with CHD, and maternity care for women with adult CHD, including pre-conception counselling.

In addition, CMFT has said that patients who need to travel to another hospital for elective (planned) treatment will be supported to make appropriate travel arrangements.

NHS England is continuing to work with the hospital trusts in Manchester and Liverpool to ensure that safe and effective care is available now and in the long term. It understands that the uncertainty over the future of services in the north west adds to the anxieties that patients and their families are feeling. It is considering how best to resolve that uncertainty as quickly as possible. Its priority in establishing the interim arrangements is to ensure that patients continue to receive safe, effective care.

As the Trust responsible for these patients, CMFT has led the work of letting patients know what is happening and answering their questions. NHS England and CMFT staff recently met patients and their representatives to explain more about the interim arrangements. At the meeting, patients were able to express their concerns about the service, and these will help inform the next steps in managing this situation.

I hope this reply is helpful.

Yours sincerely
Phil

PHILIP DUNNE

JIM McMAHON MP
WESTMINSTER OFFICE

23 NOV 2017

RECEIVED

**ANDY
BURNHAM**

**MAYOR OF
GREATER
MANCHESTER**

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Textile House
108 Union Street
Oldham
OL1 1DU

Ref: 1710-135/ES

23 November 2017

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your recent letter in which you raised concerns on behalf of your constituents regarding the proposed changes to the Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) Services in Greater Manchester. I consulted NHS colleagues at the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership (GMHSCP) with regards to your correspondence.

Adult congenital heart services are a nationally commissioned specialised service so the responsibility for these services is with NHS England, not GMHSCP, under the devolved arrangements. Greater Manchester is, of course, a crucial stakeholder and we have made our views clear at each stage of the process.

NHS England have had long term concerns about the variability on quality of care provided by these services in different parts of the country, and therefore set out a revised set of standards for the care of people with congenital heart disease. It has been consulting on changes to the configuration of services across the NHS to enable these standards to be met consistently, so that ACH services are provided to the highest standards for all patients.

The consultation closed in July, and I have attached the GM commissioner response (i.e. GMHSCP and the CCGs) for information, which you may find useful.

The current position is that as a result of the publication of the new standards and the consultation process on the back of a 'minded to' decision to consolidate the North West service in Liverpool, the current service at Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (CMFT) has become unsustainable.

The NHS in the North West has only ever employed one adult congenital cardiac surgeon, along with three based at Alder Hey who focus on paediatric surgery and during the course of this consultation period, I have been informed that the adult surgeon handed in his notice, and has subsequently moved to alternative NHS employment outside of the North West. In addition to the above, other key staff members have recently left the service which has meant that a safe service

cannot currently be provided. As such, this means that complex interventional procedures will need to be undertaken outside of the North West.


The proposals as set out in the consultation mean that the cardiac surgery and complex interventional cardiology procedures for patients with congenital heart disease would no longer take place at Manchester Royal Infirmary. These procedures would be undertaken at Liverpool Heart & Chest. Both mine and the GMHSCP's position however would be that some interventional procedures should remain in Greater Manchester.

I can confirm that the ACH services in Leeds and Newcastle are currently jointly supporting CMFT to deliver their ACH services. Currently, emergency inpatients are transferred to either Newcastle or Leeds as appropriate for their clinical needs and dependent on the receiving Trust's capacity. Surgical and cardiology input and outpatient support is being, as far as possible, 'in-reached' into CMFT from Newcastle and Leeds. It is my understanding also that CMFT are contacting all patients to inform them of their care pathways.

To summarise both mine and the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership's position, is as follows:

- There are significant lessons to be learnt from the handling of this matter which has caused patients an unnecessary level of uncertainty and upset;
- It is now imperative that the consultation responses are considered diligently but rapidly, and a decision about the future of the North West service made;
- Whether the lead provider is Liverpool or Manchester, it will need to be a networked model so that services are provided in the best place for patients to secure the best clinical outcomes;
- It will also need to be a clinical model of care that ensures that related services such as maternity care do not suffer any detriment; and
- It is now incumbent on NHS England and clinical leaders in Liverpool and Manchester to agree the model that works best for patients, and get on with decisions and implementation so that the current reliance on out-of-region services can be brought to an end as swiftly as possible.

I hope this provides reassurance that in Greater Manchester we are doing all we can to ensure affected patients receive the best care possible.

Best wishes,


Andy Burnham
Mayor of Greater Manchester

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170481

07 December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Please find enclosed a copy of a further reply I have received in response to my letter on your behalf. This is from the NHS Foundation Trust, and concerns the recent resolution on Adult Congenital Heart Disease Services.

I hope the reply is helpful. If not, or if you wish to respond to the letter, please do not hesitate to contact my office again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Encl.

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

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MD/MG

29th November, 2017

Jim McMahon OBE MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr McMahon

Re: Adult Congenital Heart Disease Services

Thank you for your letter of 21 November in connection with recent developments in our adult congenital heart disease service.

You will be aware of the NHS England proposals to reconfigure congenital heart disease services in England. In the North West we have been advised that NHSE are 'minded to' relocate the current specialist surgical and complex cardiological service from Manchester to Liverpool. We understand NHSE are intending to make a final decision on the future configuration at their Board meeting on 30 November.

Unfortunately this national review, which has been ongoing since 2012, has caused uncertainty within our specialist workforce and has resulted in our only adult congenital surgeon resigning in July 2017. This coupled with significant long term sickness within our team of specialist cardiologists has meant we have not been able, safely, to offer this specialist service. You will appreciate that in this circumstance patient safety has been our overriding concern and unfortunately the nearest specialist centres are in Leeds and Newcastle. We have been working with their clinical teams and NHSE to ensure that we can continue to ensure patients in the North West can access specialist care. We are naturally disappointed that we have had to take this step but hope you will appreciate the rationale behind the decision.

As you highlight, this situation has also had a further impact on our congenital heart disease patients with Pulmonary Hypertension. Historically we have worked with the specialist centre in Sheffield in order that we are able to manage these patients locally and this arrangement has operated successfully over several years. Given the unavailability of our specialist cardiologists we have had to source additional support from Sheffield to continue to offer outpatient clinics locally and we hope to continue this into the future.

I trust this is a helpful response to your letter but please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J McMahon', with a small horizontal line at the end.

Sir Michael Deegan
Group Chief Executive

JIM McMAHON MP
WESTMINSTER OFFICE

6 DEC 2017

RECEIVED

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Level 3
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West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170735

19 December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Please find enclosed a copy of a reply I have received in response to my letter on your behalf. This response concerns work experience opportunities for schoolchildren.

I hope the reply is helpful. If not, or if you wish to respond to the letter, please do not hesitate to contact my office again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Encl.

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2017-0057014POAM

Rt Hon Anne Milton MP
Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills and Minister for Women
Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Jim McMahon OBE MP
By email: jim.mcmahon.mp@parliament.uk

Your ref: SM/DEPA01005/01170734

Dear Jim

14th December

Thank you very much for your letter of 24 November, addressed to the Secretary of State, on behalf of Oldham Council, about the work experience opportunities that are available to schoolchildren. I am replying as the minister responsible for this policy area.

Preparing students for adult life is one of the department's top priorities, and experience of work and the wider links between education and employers play a vital part in this. Work experience and work placements inspire young people, helping them decide on future careers and demonstrating their potential to future employers or universities. They can be structured either to support young people to achieve specific vocational qualifications, or to support the development of their employability, skills, and experience, which employers say are critical when recruiting.

Activities involving employers, such as careers insights, mentoring, work tasters and work experience are all vital in giving young people the skills they need to succeed. Our careers statutory guidance makes it clear that schools should offer work placements, work experience and other employer-based activities as part of their careers strategy for year 8-13 pupils.

We are also providing valuable support for schools through The Careers and Enterprise Company, which is working to increase the level of employer input into schools and colleges. We want more young people to have the opportunity to take part in high-quality work experience that helps to prepare them for the workplace and begins to develop the skills needed by employers.

For that reason, we took the decision to remove the statutory obligation for work experience in order to allow schools the freedom and autonomy to decide how they provide work-related learning at key stage 4. Schools can choose which types of encounters are most appropriate, of which a traditional 'work experience' placement may be one, but which will not be appropriate for all young people and all school circumstances.

I hope that this helps in replying to Oldham Council.

Foot as follows



Rt Hon Anne Milton MP

Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills and Minister for Women

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Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive
Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170741

13 December 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Please find enclosed a copy of a reply I have received in response to my letter on your behalf. This response concerns safety regulations for children's fancy dress costumes.

I hope the reply is helpful. If not, or if you wish to respond to the letter, please do not hesitate to contact my office again.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Encl.

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Our ref: MCSL2017/28356/kw
Your ref: SM/DEPA01007/01170740

13 December 2017

Dear Jim

Thank you for your letter dated 27 November to the Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, regarding Oldham Council's concern about the fire safety requirements that apply to children's fancy dress. I am replying as this matter falls within my Ministerial portfolio.

The Government takes product safety very seriously and keeping our children safe is, of course, a priority.

Children's fancy dress is currently regulated under the Toys (Safety) Regulations 2011, which requires all Halloween and other party and fancy dress costumes for children to be safe when they are sold. The Toys Standard (EN71-2) contains a specific chapter on fancy dress costumes which includes tests relating to rate of spread of flame and which takes into account all the potential hazards likely to affect children wearing the costumes, such as drawstrings and small parts.

You have commented on the possibility of regulating fancy dress safety under regulations for clothing rather than those for toys. I want to ensure that the regulations and standards that apply to fancy dress remain the most appropriate for delivering safety.

I recently met with the British Retail Consortium (BRC) on 25 October to discuss their new voluntary code of practice for fancy dress and I have also asked my officials to continue to work with the British Standards Institution (BSI) to propose further improvements to the current Toys standard to ensure it takes account of industry best practice.

I will keep this issue under review and will consider all the options available to ensure that the system we have provides the highest levels of protection.

Thank you for raising this issue with me. I hope that this information is helpful in responding to Oldham Council.

Best wishes
Margot

MARGOT JAMES MP
Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Corporate Responsibility

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2017-0054822 RGPO

Robert Goodwill MP
Minister of State for Children and Families

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
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Dr Carolyn Wilkins OBE
Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
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Oldham OL1 1UG

Your ref: Council – Children - 20171108

5 December 2017

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your letters of 13 November, addressed to both the Chancellor of the Exchequer and myself, about children's social care in Oldham. I am responding as the minister responsible for this policy area.

This government is clear that protection from abuse and neglect is a fundamental right for all children. Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility and we are working to create a world class child protection system, where the needs of individual children are identified early and they get the help and support they need as soon as possible to keep them safe.

The policy paper, 'Putting Children First: Delivering our vision for excellent children's social care', published July 2016, sets out the government's reform programme for children's social care in England over the next five years. We have legislated through the Children and Social Work Act 2017 to create the right environment for excellent practice to thrive.

We have committed to a transformative reform programme which involves fundamental reform of each of the three pillars on which the children's social care system stands: people and leadership, practice and systems and governance and accountability

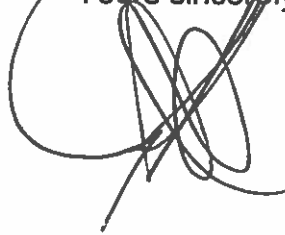
In addition, we have invested £100 million through the Innovation Programme, to support the development of new approaches to helping children who need children's social care services. Moreover, we announced in April 2016 that we are expanding this with an additional £200 million investment.

We want to consolidate our understanding of how to protect children at risk, which is why we are setting up a 'What Works Centre' for children's social care, to enable us to build robust evidence based around what would help local

practitioners and commissioners to employ the most effective frontline practices to support children. Alongside this, we are reforming how reviews of serious cases are to be conducted.

Finally, through the Children and Social Work Bill 2017, we are seeking to establish a new Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel to commission and publish reviews of serious or complex cases leading to national learning. This will sit alongside locally commissioned reviews.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Goodwill MP
Minister of State for Children and Families

The Chief Social Worker for Children, Isabelle Trowler travels widely around Local Authorities and gives me regular updates regarding some of the concerns raised in your letter. I look forward to coming to Oldham again as part of the Opportunity Area Programme & to discuss other related issues.

RG.