

***OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD
Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Agenda***

Date Tuesday 16 June 2020

Time 6.00 pm

Venue Virtual Meeting

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200608/meetings/1940/live_council_meetings_online

- Notes
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Paul Entwistle or Lori Hughes at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
 2. CONTACT OFFICER for this agenda is Lori Hughes email lori.hughes@oldham.gov.uk
 3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - Any Member of the public wishing to ask a question at the above meeting can do so only if a written copy of the question is submitted to the contact officer by 12 noon on Thursday, 11 June 2020. The question will be read out by the Chair and a response will be provided at the meeting.
 4. FILMING – This meeting will be recorded for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council’s website. The whole of the meeting will be recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items and the footage will be on our website. This activity promotes democratic engagement in accordance with Section 100A(9) of the Local Government Act 1972. The cameras will focus on the proceedings of the meeting.

Recording and reporting the Council’s meetings is subject to the law including the law of defamation, the Human Rights Act, the Data Protection Act and the law on public order offences.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Councillors McLaren (Chair), Taylor, Toor, Jacques, Curley, Price, Surjan and Williamson

Item No

1 Apologies For Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

To Receive Declarations of Interest in any Contract or matter to be discussed at

the meeting.

3 Urgent Business

Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair

4 Public Question Time

To receive Questions from the Public, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

5 Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 1 - 10)

The Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 3rd March 2020 are attached for approval.

6 Minutes of the GMCA Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Pages 11 - 18)

The minutes of the GMCA Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11th February 2020 are attached for noting.

7 Minutes of the GMCA Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Pages 19 - 26)

The minutes of the GMCA Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 8th November 2019 are attached for noting.

8 Place Based Integration (Pages 27 - 28)

9 Poverty Task and Finish Group (Pages 29 - 52)

10 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2019/2020 (Pages 53 - 74)

11 General Exception and Special Urgency Decisions (Pages 75 - 78)

12 Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme (Pages 79 - 92)

13 Key Decision Document (Pages 93 - 106)



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD
03/03/2020 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillor McLaren (Chair)
Councillors Taylor, Toor, Harkness, Jacques, Curley, Price and Surjan

Independent Members: Rev. Jean Hurlston

Also in Attendance:

Lori Hughes	Constitutional Services
Joanne Betts	Principal Transport and Highways Policy Officer
Neil Crabtree	Head of Service - Public Protection
Jennie Davies	Headteacher for the Virtual School for Looked After Children
Elaine Devaney	Director of Children's Social Care
Matthew Bulmer	Programme Director - Opportunity Area

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

3 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 21st January 2020 be approved as a correct record.

6 **MINUTES OF THE PERFORMANCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY SELECT COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance and Value for Money Select Committee held on 9 January 2020 be noted.

7 **GMCA HOUSING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the GMCA Housing, Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 14 November 2019 be noted.

8 **GMCA CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the GMCA Corporate Issues and Reform Scrutiny Committee held on 19 November 2019 be noted.

THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

The Board gave consideration to a report which provided an overview of the work of the Virtual School and reported the education outcomes for Oldham's Children Looked After (CLA). The scope of the work undertaken by the Virtual School had developed significantly under new leadership and reported outcomes for children who were looked after compared favourably with national averages and that inclusion was a key priority in the coming year. These themes emerged in the Ofsted report of the inspection of the Local Authority's Children's Services (ILACS) which included the Virtual School in January 2019.

Increased staffing had enabled the development of PEP/ePEP processes, quality assurance and targeted Post 16 provision. The Virtual School had engaged with key partners across education, children's social care and wider agencies to develop understanding of the education needs of children looked after (CLA). Following the introduction of new statutory guidance in September 2018, the Virtual School continued to ensure that partners in education and social care understood the new duties and associated roles and responsibilities.

The Virtual School integrated its work with teams across the Education and Early Years' service and closer working with the SEND team was improving practice.

The most recently validated data (from 2017/18) confirmed that attainment and progress for CLA (OC2 cohort) was ranked within the top 25% nationally at the end of Key Stages 2 and 4. The report outlined the significant improvement in outcomes. Promoting attendance and reduction of exclusion were priorities for the Virtual School with its partners. It was noted that the overall absence and persistent absence rates for the OC2 cohort increased between 2017 and 2018 and were now higher than CLA nationally and regionally. CLA attendance data was now tracked by the Virtual School and informed case work for the Education Support Officers. The members noted the impact of the Virtual School 2018/19 and the priorities for 2019/20.

Members commented that this was a positive report. Members queried the NEETS figure and asked if this would be improved. Members were informed that there was a designated officer in post, a link with Positive Steps with some provisional and preventative work. Alternative qualifications were being reviewed.

Members asked about authorised and unauthorised absences and what was being done to address the reasons. Members were informed that this was being reviewed. Officers had access to data, were looking at triggers in notification to contact social workers and reviewing continuous absence. Deeper implications of school moves were also being reviewed.

Members asked about the reasons for fixed term exclusions. Members were informed that any pupil could be excluded and repeated exclusions were being reviewed to include how they could be prevented, review roles and responsibilities, provision planning, appropriate support, getting schools to integration meetings and challenging disruptive behaviour.

Members asked whether former students were involved with the Virtual School Governing Body. Members were informed that one had but had since left, a new individual would be sought. Members were also informed that the Virtual School had been inspected under the Young Inspectors scheme from representatives of the CIC Council and had received positive feedback.

Members also asked about skills-based training rather than values based and how much work was being done on developing emotional intelligence and strategies for life. Members were informed that the appointment of engagement officers to review this, resilience, engagement with persistent absentees as well as targeting work in local residential provision was underway.

Members asked about the priorities for 2019/20 and how far they had been delivered and were informed about appointment of officers, how the challenge was being managed, challenges with the completion of post-16 pep which now had day to day oversight and work underway with integrated partners. An educational psychologist had also been funded full time and consultation sessions had been delivered.

RESOLVED that:

1. The report and information provided on the Virtual School be noted.
2. An update be provided in 12 months' time.

10

OLDHAM CARES COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS UPDATE

The Board gave consideration to an update on the Integrated Commissioning Function. Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Oldham Council had committed to integrate fully to drive better health outcomes and reduce demand and, therefore, cost through the establishment of a single approach to commissioning (the ICF). This paper provides a progress reports towards achieving that inspiration.

Members sought clarification the Urgent and Emergency Care point when compared to other regions of England, NWAS took the highest percentage of patients to A&E whilst the second percentage of calls were resolved with phone advice.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Oldham Cares Commissioning Arrangements Update be noted.
2. A briefing session be arranged with the Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Strategic Director of Commissioning and Chief Operating Officer.

11

GM 2040 DELIVERY PLAN AND TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME - ANNUAL UPDATE

The Board gave consideration to an update on the GM2040 Transport Strategy, the GM2040 Delivery Plan and associated investment in transport infrastructure through the Council's transports capital programme.

Members were advised that the strategy was currently being refreshed in response to changes in the transport opportunities and challenges facing Greater Manchester such as the declaration by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority of a Climate Emergency, the development of the GM Spatial Framework and the GM Mayor's priorities such as those set out in 'Our Network' plan to create an integrated, modern and accessible public transport system.

The GM2040 Transport Strategy was supported by a Five-Year GM2040 Delivery Plan, which was also being updated to reflect the GM Spatial Framework Transport Evidence and Localities work. 'Our Network' and its 10-year delivery timescales and a proposed review of schemes in the context of carbon focused Right-Mix targets and the latest position on funding.

Consideration was also currently being given to including a new feature in the GM2040 Delivery Plan, and a District Local Implementation Plan (DLIP) which would set out local transport priorities for each district and be appended to the main Delivery Plan. The refreshed GM Transport Strategy would be published in the summer alongside an updated GM2040 Delivery Plan and the GM Spatial Framework.

The GM Transport Strategy was supported by many sub-strategies which varied significantly in their nature and stage of development. Some strategies were intended to be public facing documents and other provided officers with toolkits to guide investment decisions. An update on the development and implementation of several key GM 2040 sub-strategies was given in the report including Streets for All, Made to Move and the Bee Network, Change a Region to Change a Nation and Bus Reform/Local Bus Strategy.

Funding for the delivery of the GM2040 Transport Strategy was outlined in the report with particular focus on capital investment to maintain and improve the transport network in Oldham, which was delivered through Oldham's transport capital programme. Appendix 1 to the report contained details of investment programmes in the current three-year programme.

Securing external funding to invest in transport infrastructure in Oldham was a Council priority. The report provided updates on several bidding competitions through which the Council is hoping to secure additional funding for transport infrastructure.

Members asked for and received clarification on the following:

- Movement on reaching the carbon neutral target – this was be addressed under the Council's Green New Deal Strategy
- Streets for All – the original piece of work had been completed, a quality bus transit study would look in more detail to identify schemes which could be delivered. Members were also provided information related to a demonstrator corridor across Greater Manchester.
- Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund submissions – the Council was waiting for confirmation.
- Future High Streets Fund – Members were informed that Regeneration were leading on this work.

- Bus Reform and the effect on quality bus transit schemes – Members were informed that engagement with operators was part of the scheme.
- Members asked if there was potential similar to ‘Our Pass’ for a pass for homeless people – Members were informed that this would need to be raised with the Mayor of Greater Manchester and TfGM.
- New Bike Hire Scheme and any similarity to the old scheme – Members were informed that the scheme was being led by the Commissioner and was initially for the City Centre and Salford;
- Funding for trams on a route for Middleton – officers were not aware of this.
- Quantity of charging points to meet the carbon neutral challenge and the move to electric cars – members were informed of proposals, installation of points where the network could be expanded and that work was ongoing.
- Confusion of fares – members were informed that this formed part of the bus franchising consultation. The transport system at this time was not integrated and why GM were looking at the possibility of controlling ticketing with a smart system. GM had no power at this moment on fares.
- Encouragement of Cycling – members were informed that this was about behavioural change which included walking on shorter journeys and public transport for longer journeys and was being addressed by the Sustainable Journeys team.

Members commented on the incredible amount of work detailed in the report and asked how progress would be monitored. Members were informed TGFM produced a progress report annually. As information became available, Overview and Scrutiny would be informed.

RESOLVED that:

1. The GM2040 Delivery Plan and Transport Capital Programme Annual Update be noted.
2. An update on the GM2040 Delivery Plan be brought to Overview and Scrutiny in 12 months-time.

12

GM'S CLEAN AIR PLAN - TACKLING NITROGEN DIOXIDE EXCEEDANCES AT THE ROADSIDE - UPDATE

The Board gave consideration to a report which set out the progress that had been made following the Government's response to Greater Manchester's Outline Business Case to tackle Nitrogen Dioxide Exceedances at the Roadside (OBC) and the implications for the 10 Greater Manchester (GM) local authorities related to the schedule of work and statutory consultation on the Clean Air Plan.

In March 2018, the Secretary of State issued a Direction under the Environment Act 1995 which required Oldham Council to produce a feasibility study to identify the option which would deliver compliance with the requirement to meet legal limits for nitrogen dioxide in the shortest possible time. The Council

complied with this Direction by the production of a feasibility study submitted to the government's Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU) in July 2018. The Council was also required to address the exceedances that had been identified within its boundary during the Target Determination Exercise and the Council confirmed in its supplemental plan that the exceedance identified in Oldham was being addressed as part of the Greater Manchester plan. This had been acknowledged by Government.

Oldham Council had, therefore, been developing the study collectively with the other 9 Greater Manchester local authorities and the GMCA, coordinated by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) in line with Government direction and guidance. An Outline Business Case was duly submitted on 25 March 2019 at the Council's Cabinet meeting for submission to the government's Joint Air Quality Unit (JAQU).

Members noted the delay arising from the ministerial feedback and lack of clarity on the direction, JAQU guidance and GM's legal obligations related to the options appraisal process which meant that consultation would take place later than originally planned. Consultation must comply with the relevant public law principles summarised in the report. Despite the delay in consultation, GM must continue to proceed towards developing the implementation and contract arrangements of a charging Clean Air Zone utilising the initial tranche of £36m of funding. Officers would continue to work with JAQU to clarify the 2019 Ministerial Direction, JAQU guidance and GM's legal obligations related to the options appraisal process, and the implications of that to the schedule of work and timings for consultation on the plan, continue dialogue with JAQU to secure a clear response from government on clean vehicles funding asks and continue stakeholder engagement and awareness raising with both groups in the scope of the Clean Air Zone and the general public.

Members were informed of enforcement cameras in place, real time monitoring, links to schools and exceedances.

Members sought and received clarification on the following:

- EU Standards and if these would change – it was confirmed that these were entrenched in law.
- Consultation Format – new one would be sharper.
- Type of engines effective – petrol and diesel.
- Fines for Clean Air Zones and idling – Members were informed of the Taxi Working Group and an outline business case which had been submitted for funding to help drivers change to compliant vehicles; work ongoing with the Hackney Carriage Coalition at GM and UK wide. Members were also informed of legislation in place which allowed for enforcement around idling. Officers can ask drivers to switch off the engine and issue a fixed penalty notice. Greater Manchester and TfGM have sent a letter requesting more draconian enforcement measures which would allow more opportunities to fund enforcement officers. Members were also informed of an advertising campaign and school developed projects.

- Breaches of air quality – Members were informed of monitoring on road networks, modelling of traffic flows and the regulatory role of Environmental Health.
- Work with the food industry regarding delivery trucks and work with the Chamber of Commerce

Members asked about the timeline and an indication of future updates and were informed that it was intended to start consultation in late June, the clean air zone implementation was due in 2021. An update could be received by Overview and Scrutiny in December 2020.

RESOLVED that:

1. The progress on the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan be noted.
2. The ministerial direction under the Environment Act 1995 (Greater Manchester) Air Quality Direction 2019 which required all ten of the Greater Manchester local authorities to implement a charging Clear Air Zone Class C across the region be noted.
3. The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods Services had been requested to co-sign a letter from the GM Authorities to the Transport Secretary asking them to bring forward the launch of a statutory consultation to strengthen rule on vehicle idling be noted.
4. An update be received by Overview and Scrutiny in December 2020.

13

COUNCIL MOTIONS

The Board gave consideration to responses and briefing notes received in relation to motion which had been referred to Overview and Scrutiny by Full Council.

Updates were received in relation to:

1. Clean Air Outside Our Schools
2. A Sensible Approach to Firework Displays
3. United Nations Sustainable Goals

1. Clean Air Outside Our Schools

On 6th November 2019 the motion related to Clean Air Outside School was referred to the Board. Key points were raised in the motion and considered in the GM context of the GM approach to which the Council is signed up to. The Board is requested to note the updates received and endorse the comments received at Section 3.

2. A Sensible Approach to Firework Displays

A motion was referred to Council regarding the above on 8th January 2020. Officers have recommended that officers from Public Protection work in partnership with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue and the Council's Community Safety Team to develop an action plan that

could be reported back to Overview and Scrutiny for further recommendations.



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3. United Nations – Sustainable Development Goals

The report highlighted how Oldham was championing and implementing the United Nations Sustainable Goals and provided an overview of work that was being undertaken across the organisation.

The Board were requested to note the work being undertaken in Oldham that contributed to the ambitions of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

RESOLVED that:

1. The updates provided on the Motions referred to Overview and Scrutiny be noted.
2. Work to be undertaken to assess the opportunity working through the current arrangement for eco/green messaging on the board via sponsorship and awareness working through schools be noted.
3. Officers from Public Protection to work in partnership with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue and the Council's Community Safety Team to develop an action plan and report back to Overview and Scrutiny with further recommendations be agreed.
4. The report on work undertaken by Oldham on the United Nations Sustainable Goals be noted and commended to Council.

14 **KEY DECISION DOCUMENT**

The Board gave consideration to the latest published Key Decision Document.

RESOLVED that the latest Key Decision Document be noted.

15 **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Board gave consideration to the latest Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme.

The Board noted updates related to the Resident First Programme, the overview of new Safeguarding Children Arrangements and Place Based Model.

The Board were also informed of a request for the establishment of a Task and Finish Group to assist in the update of the Council's Poverty Strategy.

RESOLVED that:

1. The Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme for 2019/2020 be noted.
2. The delivery of the Residential First Programme, delivering by Digital Design Update and the change of focus to shaping a Digital Strategy and Digital Delivery

Plan to enable digital to have a greater impact across Team Oldham be noted.

3. The update on the new Safeguarding Children Arrangements be noted.
4. The update on the Place Based Model be noted.
5. The established of a Task and Finish Group to assist in the update of the Council's Poverty Strategy be agreed.

16

GENERAL EXCEPTIONS AND URGENT DECISIONS

The Board gave consideration to a report advising of decisions related to the Local Full Fibre Network Contract Award, Care at Home Cluster Provider, Independent Mental Advocacy Service (IMCA) and Strength-Based Approaches Training for Oldham Cares Workforce – Balance of Funding Request.

RESOLVED that the report and authorisations granted under Rule 13 (General Exception) and Rule 14 (Special Urgency) be noted.

17

GETTING TO GOOD CHILDREN'S IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

The Board were informed and it was **AGREED** that the report could form part of the Open agenda.

The Board gave consideration to a report of the Managing Director of Children and Young People which provided an update on progress related to Children's Social Care Transformation and Improvement Plans. The report highlighted the following areas:

- Progress against the plans
- Demand
- Caseloads
- Workforce

The Board were provided an update on recruitment, the strengthening of overall leadership and preparation for the Annual Conversation with Ofsted. Members were also informed about the refurbishment of Metropolitan House which has facilitated the collation of teams into one building. The Board were also informed about assistance received from Stockport Council related to complex safeguarding. Members were advised of an increase in demand. MASH arrangements were being reviewed as well as processes. Members were also informed of the low number of agency staff and that turnover was low.

Members commented on the reduction of agency staff. Members asked about social workers' caseload and how this was being addressed. Members were informed that the caseloads remained variable. The services wanted stable coherent intervention for families. There was a focus to reduce agency staff further, have sustained caseloads at a reasonable level and to continue to work with families to improve their lives. Members sought and received clarification on Child Protection Plans which did fluctuate throughout the year.

Members asked if there was a delay in decision making related to social workers' caseloads. Member were informed there were

areas within the team to be focussed upon. The challenge was around filling posts with experienced staff on a permanent basis. Members asked for clarification on the progress against the Improvement Plan and noted a number of areas where further work was required and asked what initiatives were being planned and action taken to move toward green. Members were informed of the work being undertaken to address the issues including the Assurance Board.

Members asked about the meeting with Ofsted and were informed that this was part of the usual inspection framework followed by either a focused visit or a joint area thematic inspection.

RESOLVED that:

1. The update related to progress on the Children's Social Care Transformation and Improvement Plans be noted.
2. An update be provided in September 2020.

18

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 paragraph 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.

19

OLDHAM OPPORTUNITY AREA BRIEFING - FEBRUARY 2020

RESOLVED that the report and information provided in the confidential report be noted.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 8.30 pm

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2020 AT GMCA - BOARDROOM**

PRESENT:

Councillor Tim Pickstone (Chair)	Bury
Councillor Robert Allen	Bolton
Councillor Stella Smith	Bury
Councillor Greg Stanton (Substitute)	Manchester
Councillor Chris Goodwin	Oldham
Councillor Sam Al-Hamdani (Substitute)	Oldham
Councillor David Jolley	Salford
Councillor John McGahan	Stockport
Councillor Dave Morgan	Trafford
Councillor Teresa Smith	Tameside
Councillor Joanne Marshall	Wigan

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Burnham	Mayor of Greater Manchester
Kevin Lee	Director of Mayor's Office
Jim Wallace	Chief Fire Officer, Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service (GMFRS)
Andrew Lightfoot	Deputy Chief Executive, GMCA
Steve Wilson	Treasurer, GMCA
Amanda Fox	Group Finance Lead, GMCA
Joanne Heron	Statutory Scrutiny Officer, GMCA
Jamie Fallon	Governance & Scrutiny Officer, GMCA
Lee Teasdale	Governance & Scrutiny Officer, GMCA

CI&R/45/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Colin McLaren (Oldham), Kallum Nolan (Rochdale), Tanya Burch (Salford), Dena Ryness (Stockport), Anne Duffield (Trafford).

CI&R/46/19 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair extended thanks to Councillors Greg Stanton, and Sam Al-Hamdani for their attendance at the meeting as substitutes.

Thanks was also extended to GMFRS, for hosting a Briefing session on Thursday 6 February 2020, at the Bury Fire Training Centre. The session focussed on the changing nature of fire risk in GM, so that Members were better prepared to scrutinise, and to support the identification of potential deep dive themes.

The Chair welcomed Mayor Andy Burnham, and GMCA Treasurer Steve Wilson, who were in attendance to present the budget reports.

CI&R/47/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

CI&R/48/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2019 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2019 be agreed.

CI&R/49/19 GMCA BUDGET REPORTS

GM Mayor Andy Burnham introduced the suite of GMCA Budget Reports 2020/21, which would be considered by the GMCA on Friday 14 February 2020.

The Mayor advised that when determining the precept level, he had given careful consideration to the impact to residents, and expressed his concerns regarding the need to use council tax to fund frontline services, which could be seen as regressive taxation, as this was not sustainable.

Whilst additional Government funding had been announced to support the Police Service to recruit additional police officers, it was acknowledged that a fairer settlement was needed for the Fire Service given the increased pressures they face in light of the Grenfell Inquiry and recent incident at 'The Cube' in Bolton.

It was noted that resources were also required to improve the public transport system in GM, in particularly buses. The Board were informed that the 'Our Pass' pilot was intended to boost public transport, and increase patronage on buses, but transformational change would be a challenge without recognition from central government, given the pressures on local councils

The following key points were highlighted:

- The total impact of the proposals for the Mayoral General Budget would mean an increase in the mayoral precept for a Band D property of £7.75 (when combined with the GMFRS proposals the total precept increases by £14 to £90.95 for a Band D property or £10.88 for Band B).

- The increase would deliver the previously agreed continuation of the 'Our Pass' pilot into 2020/21. TfGM were currently undertaking an analysis of the pilot, noting that to date, there were over 38,000 pass holders, who had taken approximately 5.8 million journeys, and accessed over 8000 opportunities linked to the pass. A recent GM FE publication had indicated that the 'Our Pass' was providing greater choice for students.
- It would also provide £2.6 million for mayoral priorities which would contribute to:
 - The continuation of the rough sleeper initiative 'A Bed Every Night' (ABEN) pilot (£1.5 million). It was noted that at last count, there was 111 rough sleepers across GM, a significant reduction from 268 reported in 2017.
 - A proposed care leaver's travel concession (circa £0.55 million).
- It was proposed that the GM Fire and Rescue service budget increases to £110.9 million in 2020/21. The increased budget would fund inflationary and other pressures and reduce the previously expected saving requirement from the service. These plans consider the preliminary findings in relation to the Grenfell inquiry, and the incident at 'The Cube' in Bolton. In light of these incidents, previous savings relating to the reduction of the number of 'pumps' from 50 to 48, and changes to the crewing ratios, and non-shift duty system have been removed from the 2020/21 budgets, pending further review.
- The required increased budget would be funded by a precept increase equal to £6.25 for a Band D property, with central Government funding increasing by 1.6%. The Mayor advised that following the Grenfell Inquiry there was a greater role in fire safety and prevention, and it was therefore important to ensure there were the required levels of available frontline staff. It was confirmed that the GMCA would be campaigning Government for a fairer settlement.
- It was reported that the Police and Crime Panel had unanimously approved the proposal to increase the Police and Crime Mayoral Precept by £10 for a Band D property at their meeting on the 31 January 2020. The additional funding raised by the precept, together with national funding from central government would support investment in frontline policing, including the recruitment of 347 more officers in 2020/21. It would also enable a significant number of improvements to be introduced which would include:
 - The recruitment of named neighbourhood beat officers / community support officers in every ward in GM.
 - The recruitment of school based police officers, for those schools most in greatest need, following a call from the Head teachers.
 - Improvements to the 101 service, which would include maintaining the recruitment of 40 extra call handlers.

Members raised the following questions and comments:

- What were the ambitions for phase 3 of ABEN? The Mayor advised that over time, ABEN had continued to evolve, but there was a need for additional mental health, and drug and alcohol support, which would developed within the next phase. It was acknowledged that

ABEN reflected the amazing commitment of the 10 GM councils, and key partners including health, and the voluntary sector. The Board were informed that official figures due to be published in two weeks' time, indicated that there had been a 30% reduction in rough sleepers year on year, and it was hoped that these results would encourage the Government to provide funding to enable the good work to continue. Following a clarification request, it was confirmed that the Housing First pilot, had supported 79 people to secure permanent accommodation.

- A Member commented that some boroughs would be disproportionately effected by the precept increase. The Mayor acknowledged that he did not believe that essential services should be funded through council tax, and recognised the challenge this posed for residents, however, this could not be avoided in the current climate. There was a need to find ways of investing in key services, such as the declining bus service, to position GM to effectively lobby Government for additional support.
- What was the expected revenue from the introduction of the administration charge for the concessionary tram and train pass for older people. It was confirmed that the bus pass for older people was still free, and there was only a charge for the addition of tram and train concessionary pass. To date, 108,000 older people had accessed the pass, with a total of £125,000 expected. The revenue was ring fenced to contribute towards the reform of bus services. The Mayor commented that to ensure greater consistency with other concessionary schemes it was only fair to introduce the £10 annual fee.
- A Member requested further information regarding the bus reform proposals, and the proposed contributions from councils. It was confirmed that TfGM had conducted a full assessment of how the GMCA could afford to make and operate a proposed franchising scheme (without government support), should this decision be taken. As part of this assessment the 10 councils agreed to ring fence £17.8 million (from Waste reserves passed back to districts) pending a Mayoral decision. The Mayor confirmed that the responses to the bus consultation (which ended in January 2020) were currently being analysed, with a view to a decision being taken as soon as possible. It was noted that whichever route GM decided to take was likely to require annual investment.
- How many responses had the bus consultation received? It was confirmed that approximately 9000 responses had been received, with around 80% in support of franchising. It was noted that bus operators had provided substantial responses, with some proposing a partnership approach for consideration.
- A Member referred to the recent government announcement regarding HS2, and explored whether the timeframes could potentially impact on GM's economic competitiveness. The Mayor welcomed the announcement but confirmed that he would be pressing the Government for a clear timetable. The Mayor advised that the promises on future infrastructure must not distract from the need to urgently upgrade the current railway, noting that the creation of two new platforms at Manchester Piccadilly Train Station was a shovel ready project that would benefit the whole North.
- A Member requested further information regarding the Mayor's Direct costs which had increased by 50%. Steve Wilson, GMCA Treasurer, confirmed that this did not relate to additional staff, but the costs were associated with inflation, and relevant recharges which had been applied to the Mayor's Office. Following discussion, it was agreed that a further

breakdown of staffing costs (including consultancy and agency costs) should be considered by the Committee in the next municipal year.

- A Stockport Member recorded his thanks to the GM Mayor, for the support in developing the Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC). The Mayor advised that what was taking place in Stockport was a template for the boroughs, and called for councils to consider this approach. The MDC was helping to redefine Stockport and had changed the approach to the long-term future of town centres and brownfield regeneration for years to come. The Mayor added that he hoped that this use of his powers, would encourage the Government to invest in town centre regeneration.

Members received a presentation from Steve Wilson, GMCA Treasurer, which provided an overview of the suite of six budget reports which would be considered by the GMCA:

- GMCA Revenue and Capital Budgets 2020/21 – Overview
- Mayoral General Budget and Precept Proposals
- GMCA Transport Revenue Budget 2020/21
- GMCA Revenue General Budget 2020/21
- GM Waste Budget and Levy 2020/21 and Medium Term Financial Plan to 2023/24
- GMCA Capital Programme 2019/20

Members highlighted the following questions:

- Given the extent of the GMCA's capital programme, it was agreed that Members would reconsider the GMCA's Capital Programme 2019/20 within the next municipal year.
- It was reported that a full 'bottom up' and strategic review of transport budgets would be undertaken for the 2021/22 budget setting process and beyond.
- Members explored whether the GMFRS holding position outlined was sustainable, should a fairer settlement not be received from Government in 2021/22. The significant challenges faced by the Fire Service were considered, and it was acknowledged that should government not announce further funding to support the service, further consideration would be given to whether further savings could be made, or whether it was appropriate to raise additional revenue from the Precept.
- Jim Wallace, Chief Fire Officer, GMFRS, advised that there was still a considerable degree of uncertainty for the Fire Service, in particularly given, the next phase of the Grenfell Inquiry had just begun. The Government had however, made a commitment to provide one off funding (of £10 million) to support the implementation of the Grenfell recommendations.
- It was noted that the fire at 'The Cube' in Bolton posed a new challenge for the service as it was below 18 metres (not classed as high rise). There was approximately 12,000 buildings of this nature within GM, significantly more than the 700 high rise buildings (approximately).

- A Member queried whether there were costs associated with the Commissioners appointed by the Mayor. It was confirmed that apart from the Cycling and Walking Commissioner, all other Mayoral appointments were not remunerated.
- Following a clarification request, it was reported that all capital borrowing was now undertaken directly by the GMCA.
- A Member requested further information regarding the planned Metrolink spend. It was confirmed this figure included the completion of the Trafford Park extension, tram renewal programme (27 new trams) and significant line maintenance which was required.

RESOLVED:

1. That the reports be noted.
2. That an update on the GMCA's Capital Budget be included within the work programme for consideration within the next municipal year.
3. That a breakdown of the GMCA's staffing costs be included within the work programme for consideration within the next municipal year.

CI&R/50/19 WORK PROGRAMME

Joanne Heron, Statutory Scrutiny Officer, introduced the 2019/20 work programme for Members to review, develop and agree.

Consideration was given to the March work programme, and it was proposed that following the GMFRS briefing session, the Committee should consider the results of the High Rise Residents Survey. Given this, it was proposed that Care Leavers Charter update be deferred until June 2020.

The Committee considered the June 2020 work programme, and what items should be considered to inform the development of the work programme for 2020/21. The Chair proposed that it would be beneficial to consider the expected announcements from Government regarding the Spending Review and Devolution White Paper.

RESOLVED:

1. That the work programme be agreed.
2. That the results of the latest High Rise Residents Survey be considered by the Committee in March 2020.
3. That the Care Leavers Charter be deferred until June 2020.
4. That the expected Government announcements relating to the Spending Review and Devolution White Paper be considered by the Committee in June 2020.

CI&R/51/19 REGISTER OF KEY DECISIONS

RESOLVED:

That the Register of Key Decisions be noted.

CI&R/52/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 17 March 2020, at 6pm, GMCA Offices.

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**MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY (GMCA)
ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH AND
SKILLS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 8 NOVEMBER AT 2.00 PM AT GMCA OFFICES, CHURCHGATE HOUSE**

Present:	Councillor Michael Holly (in the Chair)
Bolton:	Councillor Susan Haworth
Bury:	Councillor Mary Whitby
Manchester:	Councillor June Hitchen Councillor Luke Raikes Councillor Greg Stanton (substitute)
Oldham:	Councillor George Hulme
Rochdale:	Councillor Ray Dutton (substitute)
Stockport:	Councillor Kerry Waters
Trafford:	Councillor Barry Brotherton
Wigan:	Councillor Charles Rigby Councillor Michael Winstanley

In attendance

LEP	Mike Blackburn, Chair of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership
GMCA	Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive of GMCA & TfGM
GMCA	Andy Burnham, GM Mayor
GMCA	Alison Gordon, Assistant Director of Business Innovation & Enterprise
GMCA	Joanne Heron, Statutory Scrutiny Officer
GMCA	Kevin Lee, GM Mayor's Office
GMCA	Simon Nokes, Executive Director of Policy and Research
GMCA	Phil Swan, Chief Information Officer, Digital
GMCA	Lee Teasdale, Governance & Scrutiny Officer
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson, GMCA Portfolio Holder for Digital City Region

E84/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stephen Homer (Tameside), Jim King (Salford) and Daniel Meredith (Rochdale).

Apologies were also received from Sir Richard Leese (Leader of Manchester City Council) and Jim Taylor (CEX, City of Salford Council).

E85/19 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were none.

E86/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

E87/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2019

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

E88/19 GMS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN & PERFORMANCE UPDATE

The GM Mayor Andy Burnham introduced a report to the Committee, which highlighted progress made on his top priorities during his term of office to date. These included improvements in outcomes for disadvantaged children, the further development of mental health services for children & young people and increasing levels of engagement with sports activities.

Work around reducing levels of rough sleeping was also highlighted – it was expected that 401 places would be available to accommodate rough sleepers over the winter period – and the ‘Bed Every Night’ initiative had received funding to continue until at least mid-2020. The Housing First pilot was also up and running, with 80 references having been made to the service, however, due to a lack of available stock, only 35 referees had been accommodated so far. Work was taking place with housing providers to get stock availability coming through at a faster rate.

An update was provided on the ‘Our Pass’ scheme providing free bus travel for 16-18 year olds. This was a pilot scheme so did not presently have a guarantee of long-term funding – but the scheme had proved popular so far with 30,000 young people having taken advantage of the pass – resulting in 2.2m journeys to date. An added benefit of the scheme had been records of young people using the Pass to aid their attendance at cultural activities.

On the subject of transport – the ambition for Greater Manchester was to create an integrated scheme akin to that seen in London, where a ticket covers all modes of transport – rather than the current system that effectively traps users within a single mode of travel or face having to pay for multiple tickets in a single journey.

Comments and Questions from Members

The Chair asked the GM Mayor what he considered as his biggest disappointments faced in the last six months.

The Mayor answered that the process of making change was sometimes delayed by the complexity of the Greater Manchester system – and whilst progress was being made in all areas, there was still a lot he’d like to achieve that had to be considered as ‘work in progress’. There was also disappointment at the level of transport ‘chaos’ still being seen on the rail and occasionally the road networks. Whilst many good plans were in place, there now needed to be a distinct shift towards delivery on strategies.

It was asked if the Mayor felt the relationship between the GMCA and the ten GM authorities was working as well as it could.

The Mayor stated that the relationship was a distinctive one – different to that seen with the Greater London Authority for example, which acted as a body completely independent of all London Borough Authorities. It was felt that the GMCA model was stronger and more coherent

by being jointly led by all ten GM authorities. Trying to achieve equity across all ten authorities was a balance being sought, and active work was taking place to ensure that the focus of work was not too concentrated on Manchester city centre – with a plan that the outlying towns of GM would see investment and the revival of their town centres.

Bus reforms were discussed – with concerns raised about the upfront costs required for the transformation. Was there confidence that the revenue subsidy required would be obtainable, and could there be a guarantee that this would also be used to improve services on less used routes?

The Mayor agreed that the costs involved in reforming the system meant that this would have to result in a noticeable difference in feel and quality, as otherwise the public would rightly ask questions about the value of the outlay. One of the key elements of this would be linking bus routes directly into other transport modes – as part of a move towards a more intelligent usage of the extant system. Subsidies would be sought, as it was considered unfair to place the full burden on the taxpayer when London had received considerable levels of subsidy funding for transport connectivity.

Members noted that as at December 2018 – 27.3% of GM working-age residents had qualifications below Level 2. What was being done to broach this issue?

The Mayor advised that there were some well-regarded colleges across GM providing excellent services to upskill residents. Another key element that would help in broaching this issue was that control of the £92m adult education budget was now in the hands of GM. This budget had not been used strategically in the past by Whitehall and had always been delivered in a ‘piecemeal’ way – so this would allow for more constructive and creative use of the budget to improve levels of adult education.

Members expressed concern about median pay changes – in particularly why Bolton, Oldham and Wigan appeared to be growing at a slower rate than the other districts of GM – The Executive Director of Policy and Research advised that he would look at the figures and feedback further detail to the Committee.

The Mayor highlighted that the GM Good Employment Charter would be opening for applications in January 2020 – with paying the living wage being one of the strands of membership requirement.

Members made further reference to Our Pass. Was it expected that the retention of the scheme would become a manifesto commitment once the benefits of the pilot scheme had been fully analysed – and if so, were there plans in place for its continued funding going forward?

The Mayor stated that he remained passionate about Our Pass as it opened up the breadth of GM to young people in outer areas – previously costs in outlying areas such as Wigan were such that young people often felt trapped – the Pass helped to alleviate that. When taking the levels of current uptake into account, it suggested that it could be affordable going forward. Some financial benefits had been seen in GM colleges and they are contributing towards the scheme. It was also advised that any future franchising arrangements would be expected to include a permanent Our Pass within its system. Bus operators in conversation so far had been supportive of the scheme, with some discussion taking place about making 19 year olds and beyond eligible

for the Pass. Bus patronage within GM had been declining since the 1980s, this needed to be turned around to secure future investments, and Our Pass provided a big step towards gaining these increases.

Members asked if any further information was available about the devolution of rail services. The Mayor advised that lots of progress was being made – the rail debate having moved on considerably since 2018. The Williams Rail Review was being awaited, but the announcement of the General Election had held up its publication. There appeared to be a broad acceptance of a devolved element to the rail system – and the next stage would be about working out the details. GM had published a rail prospectus in early October that had included a positive vision for rail devolution.

Members referred to children’s mental health – and the positivity that this could now be talked about openly where once it would have been considered a ‘taboo’ subject. Birch Hill Hospital in Rochdale was highlighted for having done good work around the linking of poor attendance in school with possible mental health issues – and how early targeting could reduce the need for attendance at special needs schools. However, there was still a shortfall nationally in the number of mental health professionals available to ensure that all children received help at the earliest possible stages.

The Mayor agreed, stating that the youth justice system showed that seven in every ten youths going through the system had an undiagnosed mental health condition. Mentally healthy schools campaigns were being championed by organisations such as 42nd Street. There was a keenness to firm up the Care Leavers Guarantee in the New Year, as this was a cohort at the highest level of risk.

RESOLVED:

1. That the updated GMS Implementation Plan and Performance Dashboard be noted and agreed by the Committee.
2. That overall progress towards the achievement of the GMS 2020 ambitions and targets be noted.
3. That further information on median pay changes across Greater Manchester be fed back to the Committee.

E89/19 GM LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

The Chair of the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) – Mike Blackburn, introduced a report that provided Committee Members with an update on the work of the GM LEP in overseeing the delivery of the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) and progress on innovation initiatives.

Members were provided with information on the membership of the LEP. Private sector terms of office in the LEP were for two years and then reviewed, with the most recent review of private sector members having concluded earlier in 2019. Two members had stepped away from the board – exceptional candidates had come forward, the majority of which were kept on as valued contacts and sub-board members. The two new members of the Board were agreed as Chris

Oglesby (Bruntwood Plc) and Amanda Halford (GE Healthcare Life Sciences). There had been conscious efforts to ensure that the board moved towards gender parity and private sector membership now stood at six male and five female members (with the Board having agreed they wanted to retain an odd number of members should a voting situation ever arise).

Greater Manchester had been one of three designated trailblazer areas working in collaboration with the Government to develop a LIS. Whereas in other parts of the Country these were being developed in isolation, within GM the LIS was a subject of the overall GM Strategy.

This had involved looking at the outstanding areas of potential within GM – where opportunities lay to become world leaders, should the right levers be pulled. These included areas such as health innovation, life sciences and manufacturing. The LIS had been jointly launched with Government on 13th June 2019 and had been vital for business confidence.

Work was also being built around the strength of GM universities and related academic research – could the innovation being developed in GM be utilised at the pace seen in some other parts of the world for example?

Made Smarter had been launched in November 2018 as a 30 month £20m North West pilot – led by the Growth Company and regional business growth hubs. This was supporting local enterprises to adopt industrial technology and management practices in order to boost productivity. It would enable engagement with 3,000 small to medium enterprises (SMEs) and aimed to increase Gross Added Value by £115m.

Greater Manchester was also growing as a centre for digital excellence. This was evidenced by the opening of a Government Communications Agency (GCHQ) site in 2019. The Cyber Foundry, a partnership between the University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University, the University of Salford and Lancaster University – had secured £3.2m of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) money to deliver a programme of cyber innovation support and growth for SMEs in Greater Manchester. The Cyber Foundry would support 45 GM businesses into university collaboration and provide support to 50 local enterprises up to 2021.

Comments and Questions from Members

Members welcomed the work being undertaken around cyber security – as cyber threats needed to be on the agenda of every single company within GM.

Members asked whether Greater Manchester could benefit from a science leadership base of some form – providing a knowledge base on what science leadership should look like.

It was advised that innovation sharing in science did take place across GM – whilst each of the universities undertook very different research, sharing did take place where it was felt it could aid their work. It was agreed however that GM needed a way to better tell its stories about its products – whereas the discovery and final product stages were well covered, the production and development stages were often little understood. The GM Innovation Board also brought people from the education, research and business communities together to share knowledge and generate further innovation.

Members expressed concern that smaller areas of employment opportunity appeared to be disproportionately represented over some of the larger employers in the region. Did board representation and engagement activities take this into account?

It was advised that some LEPs around the country had taken an approach where they tried to cover all sectors within the Board and had ended up with 40 people around the table, and unable to find a focus or consensus. For the membership of the main board, the focus was on ensuring that growth areas were represented, and a significant number of sub-boards were in place that allowed for a wider membership/cohort of employment sectors.

Members asked about the potential impact of the loss of ERDF funding. It was understood that at the current stage all monies were secure, but with caveats of targets and dates that had to be met. There was some concern about the Shared Prosperity Fund, as details around if and when it would happen were still unclear. The right form of funding needed to be in place to help support reasonable expansion in the region, as even the ERDF, despite its benefits, came with many strings attached that could stymie some planned expansion.

Made Smarter was discussed – members stated that it would be helpful to receive a geographical breakdown of the number of funded projects by district and the impact that had been seen on employment opportunities – so that a focussed message could be provided in communities getting these good news stories out. It was advised that this information could be provided following the meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report updating members on the work of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership be noted.
2. That information be fed back to the Panel detailing the number of Made Smarter projects by district, and the resulting impact of these projects.

E90/19 DIGITAL STRATEGY

Councillor Elise Wilson (Leader of Stockport Council and Portfolio Lead for Digital City Region) presented a report outlining the draft refreshed Greater Manchester Digital Strategy. This was now being referred to as a 'Blueprint' for GM and was a result of significant stakeholder engagement, and reflected the speed at which the digital economy in GM had progressed since the first Digital Strategy had been adopted by the GMCA in February 2018.

Comments and Questions from Committee Members

Members asked for further information around the kind of stakeholders that were being engaged in the refresh.

It was advised that a wide range of engagement had taken place – from SMEs, to larger organisations and international organisations that were seeking a base for UK operations. Specific digital events held been held to address all of these sectors, where officers had gone out to them to seek input – as if you asked for one-size fits all style input you end up with a self-selecting strategy that would not work for the whole region.

Members referred to digital skills – specifically how these could be improved and how performance in this area was monitored so that lessons could be learnt and taken forward.

It was agreed that people needed to be presented with life-long learning opportunities, and have the confidence in their skills necessary to find jobs. Digital here fed into a wider range of sectors looking at skills and promoting projects such as inspiring and energising children to pursue STEM subjects. Cyber resilience was considered an area of key importance, in ensuring that skills were kept up to date for students learning in the digital arena – so that they did not complete a course to find out that their learnings were already out of date.

Members noted that the presentation papers did not directly refer to measures and key targets being sought – were these in place elsewhere?

It was confirmed that key targets did exist – but feedback from stakeholders had indicated that they did not wish to see a heavily detailed 500 page document – but rather something that was visually striking and interested people who may otherwise be reluctant to read long text heavy documentation. Something was needed that showed to the public that they were at the heart of GM’s plans around its digital future. It was stated that the Blueprint clearly showed that GM was ‘ahead of the game’ and undertaking exciting innovation work that was helping to put GM firmly on the map as a global digital influencer.

It was advised that some of the specific measures and targets in place could be fed back to the Committee for information.

The Chair welcomed the approach and the enthusiasm shown, but indicated that the increasing of productivity and Gross Added Value (GVA) was imperative – and should be highlighted within the Blueprint somewhere.

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress on GM Digital be noted by the Committee.
2. That the draft refreshed Digital Blueprint be supported by the Committee.
3. That the GM Digital Blueprint should be reviewed annually to reflect the dynamic environment in which it is embedded.
4. That information around the Digital Blueprint’s specific measures and key targets be fed back to the Committee.

E91/19 GREATER MANCHESTER BREXIT PREPARATIONS UPDATE

An update on GM’s Brexit preparations following the latest extension was received for noting.

RESOLVED:

1. That the update be noted by the Committee.

E92/19 WORK PROGRAMME 2019-20

The Chair asked the Committee if, given that GMCA meeting business had been cancelled for December in light of the announcement of a General Election on December 12th – whether they were minded to cancel the December meeting of the Committee, and amalgamate the items from that meeting into the remaining meetings for the year ahead.

Following a discussion, Members agreed to the cancellation of the December meeting and agreed to delegate responsibility for the reshaping of the work programme to the Chair, Vice-Chair and supporting officers.

Members indicated that further to the Mayor’s comments on taking control of the £92m adult education budget – an item scrutinising the usage of the budget to date would be welcome.

It was advised that the timing of any such item would need to be appropriate so that informed performance data could be in place. It was also highlighted that the plans around the adult education budget had previously been brought to the Committee.

Members stated that not all of them were members of scrutiny when that item was brought and that a briefing outside of the meeting would be welcome.

RESOLVED:

1. That the updated work programme be noted.
2. That it be agreed by the Committee that the meeting of 6th December 2019 be cancelled following the announcement of a general election and the subsequent cancellation of GMCA business for December.
3. That permission be delegated to the Chair and Vice-Chair to incorporate the items for the December 2019 meeting into the remaining work programme where appropriate.
4. That information on the devolution of the adult education budget be supplied to Members for information.

E93/19 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were none.

E94/19 REGISTER OF KEY DECISIONS

Received by the Committee.

E95/19 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 10th January 2020.

Report to OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Place Based Integration

Date: 16 June 2020

Portfolio holder: Cllr Sean Fielding, Leader of the Council

Officer Contact: Rebekah Sutcliffe, Strategic Director of Reform

Report author: Vicky Sugars, Head of Reform

Summary of the issue

In summary, place-based integration is about teams of public services, working in an integrated way, out in communities to better meet the needs of people and communities.

The Overview and Scrutiny Board to be provided with an update.

Recommendation

The Overview and Scrutiny Board is recommended to note the information provided related to Place Based Integration.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Poverty Working Group (Task and Finish)

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Shah,

Officer Contact: Various

Report Author: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer
Ext. 4716

16th June 2020

Reason for Decision

The Overview and Scrutiny Board members are requested to help to update the Council's Poverty Strategy.

Executive Summary

The aim of the Poverty Working Group is to help to update the Council's Poverty Strategy which has been in place since 2010. The Board is requested to take into account four main points as detailed in the report.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board assist in the update of the Strategy.

Poverty Working Group

The aim of the group to look at helping to update the Council's Poverty Strategy (from 2010), taking into account the four main points that are suggested by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the UK Poverty report 2019/20, information from the Local Government Association (LGA), what the Council itself is doing and how the Council can work with partners in the clusters. The report is attached at Appendix 1.

Members of the group will include one or two Council members per cluster.

A. **Joseph Rowntree Foundation**

1. We need as many people as possible to be in good jobs.
2. We need to improve earnings for low income working families, helping people in the lowest paid jobs or working part time. In work poverty must be seen as a critical issue for our economy.
3. We need to strengthen the benefits system so it provides the anchor that people need in tough times. We also need to offer a better service for people using it, and to shift public thinking so that a poverty fighting social security system is seen as an essential public service.
4. We need to increase the amount of low cost housing available to families on low incomes and increase support for people with high housing costs. We also need to address the sense of insecurity felt by many people living in the private rented sector.

B. **LGA Response to the JRF Report**

Responding to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Report on poverty across the UK, which reveals that it has risen among children and pensioners over the last five years Cllr Richard Watts, Chairman of the Local Government Association's Resources Board, said:

"Today's report shows that in order to tackle poverty and promote social mobility, policies cutting across a wide range of areas – such as education, employment support, welfare, health and affordable housing – need to be considered together.

Councils understand the challenges and opportunities of their communities best and want every resident to have a good quality of life and to be able to improve their circumstances regardless of their background or where they live. With the right funding and flexibilities, councils can better support low-income and disadvantaged households, lift thousands out of poverty and help the Government realise its commitment to level up communities across the country.

This includes the ability for councils to resume their historic role as major builders of affordable homes and handing control of national employment schemes to local areas who can target skills, careers advice and employment support more effectively to help people get on in life and progress their careers."

Also look at '100 more innovations of Labour in Power' LGA.

C. What happens in the Local Authority

The group could also look at how each department of the Council can improve how they deal with people going through poverty, i.e.:

- a. Education – effect of poverty on results and children's education experience;
- b. Finance - council tax payments, pupil premium;
- c. Environment – cost of moving rubbish;
- d. Lifelong Learning – courses;
- e. Housing – homelessness, cost of furnishing a house
- f. Leisure
- g. Get Oldham Working
- h. Warm Homes

D. What is available in our clusters via our partners and voluntary groups?

To do this, the group could take information from local groups, who are already working in different areas, like the foodbank, Real Change activity, Action Together and others.

Appendix 1: Joseph Rowntree Poverty Report and Talking about Poverty Toolkit

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Talking about

UK
POVERTY
2019/20

Talking about UK Poverty 2019/20

This is a hard time for a lot of people in our society. We know – from what people have told us and from our research – that rising living costs, low-paid and unstable jobs, and the current design of the social security system are locking people in poverty. We know that this is unacceptable. But we also know we can break poverty's grip.

In our leading independent report, UK Poverty 2019/20, we highlight the injustice of poverty in our society – and what we can do about it. We show how some parts of the UK, and some groups of people, are more likely to be caught in poverty's constraints.

We've taken the launch of this report as an opportunity to release a new edition of our Talking About Poverty toolkit. This straightforward guide gives you the key messages from our latest content and findings and is designed to support you – our friends and allies campaigning to turn the tide on UK poverty – to prepare a quality response, tell a well-framed story on the issues you're concerned about, and join us to call for action. Together, we can be a collective voice for change that's impossible to ignore.

What is framing?

Framing means making deliberate choices about how you communicate. It's about understanding how people think and feel, and telling stories that change hearts and minds. We're working with the FrameWorks Institute to understand the public's attitudes to poverty in the UK and use insight from research with 20,000 people to talk about poverty in a different way.

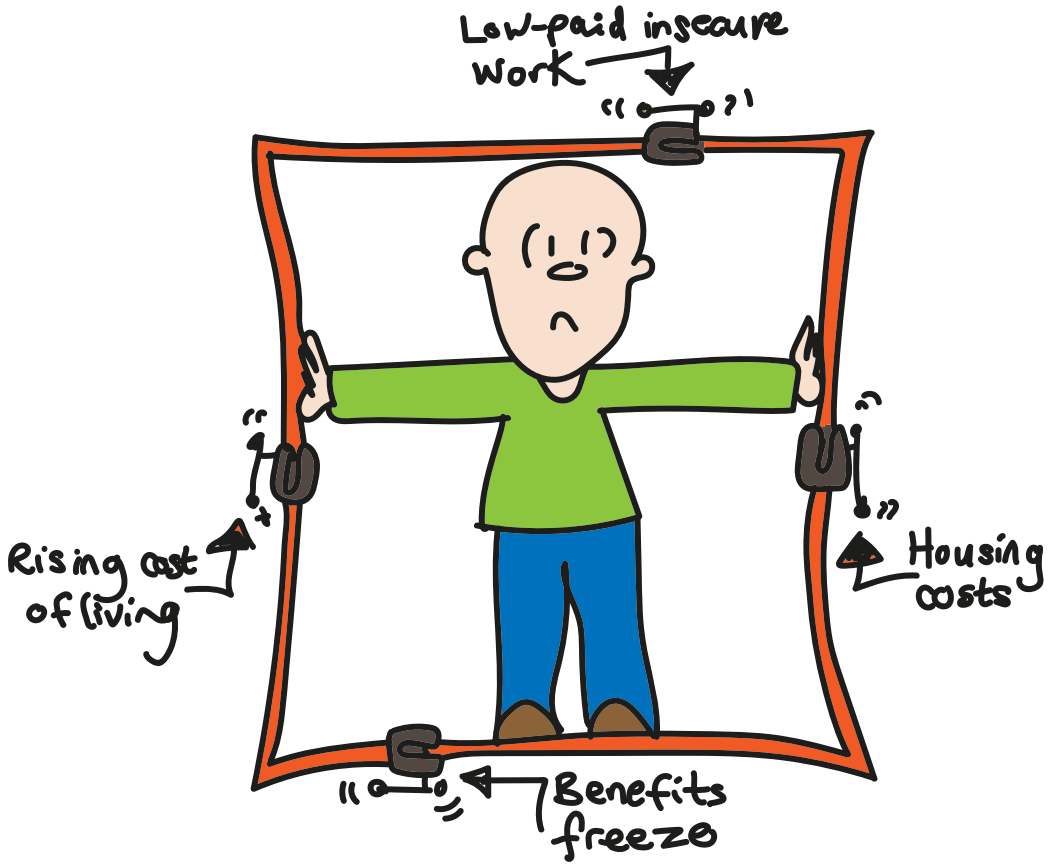
Talking about poverty – five golden rules

Shared values

Across our society, people believe in compassion and justice – we believe in helping and protecting each other from harm. We can make a moral (but not preaching or judgemental) appeal to people’s values of compassion and justice to show why poverty matters. This is about all of us. We share a moral responsibility to ensure that everyone in our country can have a decent standard of living.

Metaphors

Metaphors are a powerful way of explaining how poverty works. Using them means we can use something people are familiar with to explain something they don’t understand. The two metaphors we use to explain poverty are restricts/restrains and currents. Restricts/restrains is good for explaining how people get trapped in poverty, and how their options are severely limited, and currents helps to show the uncontrollable forces that sweep people into poverty.



Circumstances like losing a job or a relationship break-up can pull people into poverty.



But the social security system can be redesigned to help people stay afloat when they're struggling.

Context

On their own, statistics and heart-breaking stories don't change people's minds about poverty. To help people make sense of them, we need to show the bigger picture. We need to show how different factors can pull people into poverty and how hard it is to turn the tide; or explain the way people's options are restricted by a combination of issues.

Solutions

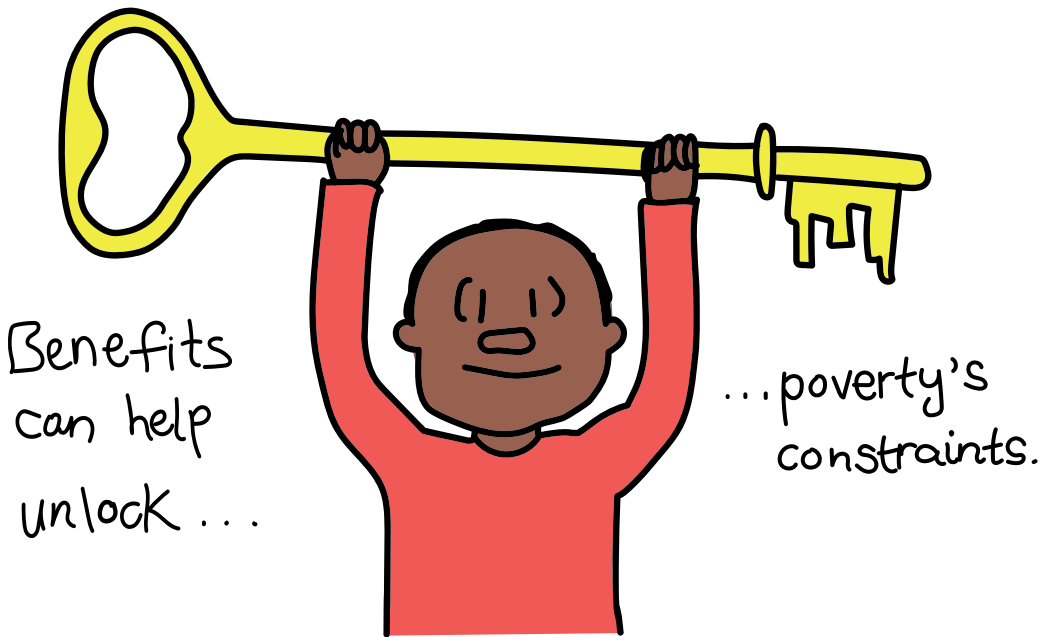
We know that poverty can be solved. It's important that we talk about how this can be done. We can talk about redesigning systems, such as the economy:

“The economy we have today was designed – it is the result of a set of decisions that were made about our society's priorities and resources. Just as it was designed, we can redesign it so that it works for everyone.”

We can also talk about how the social security system could be the key to unlock poverty's constraints, or an anchor to stop people getting swept further into poverty.



The economy we have today was designed – and it can be redesigned to work for everyone.



Tone down the politics

People can be put off by overtly political language. It's better to appeal to the values that people have across political perspectives, and to unite people behind the changes that can solve poverty.

For example:

“It is simply not right that we live in a society where so many are locked in poverty. We must all get behind the changes that can solve poverty.”

Messages from UK Poverty 2019/20

Headline messages

For a decent standard of living, we all need secure housing, a reliable income, and support when things get difficult. Too many people in our society are caught in poverty's grip, held back from improving their living standards.

For the new government to truly 'level up' our uneven nation and unlock opportunities, it must break poverty's grip on all the places and families where it has taken hold.

Themed messages

Talking about work

Your headline message: In-work poverty is on the rise – an unacceptable situation. This is often because people’s pay, hours or both are not enough for a decent standard of living. We need as many people as possible to be in good-quality jobs, with improved earnings, flexibility and security for low-income working families.

Explainer: More than half of all people in poverty are in a working family – 56% compared to 39% 20 years ago. In-work poverty must be seen as a critical issue for our economy and given high priority by economic policy-makers. People working in the hospitality or retail sector are particularly likely to be in poverty. Workers need more security, better training and opportunities to progress, particularly in part-time jobs.

While the proportion of people in employment has risen consistently for six years, weak local economies in some parts of the country have led to higher unemployment than in the UK as a whole. This needs to change or progress will stall. In addition, employment among disabled people and carers is still low, and this can only improve if people are given the support they need to be able to work, if and when they can.

Talking about social security

Your headline message: Social security is an essential public service. It should provide the anchor that we all need in tough times and should stop us getting swept into poverty. The current system needs to be redesigned, with sustained investment to ensure it gives adequate support and offers a better service for people using it.

Explainer: Sometimes our income might be too low to cover our core living costs because of, for instance, unemployment, low pay or insecure work, or reduced because of unexpected life events (like relationship breakdown or sudden illness) or higher costs. If this happens, it is only right that we should be able to depend on social security to prevent us from getting swept into poverty.

Spending on benefits has been falling since 2012/13, adding to the factors that tighten poverty's grip and restrict people's options and opportunities. The benefits freeze is the largest single reason for this: since 2016, benefits have not been increased, while prices have risen in the shops.



Talking about housing

Your headline message: We all need somewhere to live – somewhere to call home – so it’s unacceptable that many of us are shut out of having a secure, affordable home. We need to increase the amount of low-cost housing available for families on low incomes, and increase support for people with high housing costs. We also need to address the sense of insecurity felt by many people living in the private rented sector.

Explainer: Housing costs have risen since 2000/01 for households on low incomes who rent in the private and social rented sectors, while a raft of changes to social security policy have been underway since around 2010, making housing less affordable.

The growing number of households in the expensive private rented sector is part of the picture of rising poverty levels. The number of families with children in poverty living in the private rented sector grew rapidly from 2005/06 to 2015/16. Meanwhile, the social housing sector has continued to shrink, and social sector rents have become less affordable over the longer term.

Talking about disability and caring

Your headline message: In a society that believes in compassion and justice, it's simply wrong that being disabled or being a carer puts you at a higher risk of poverty. The social security system needs sustained investment to offer better support to disabled people and carers, alongside improving access to work.

Explainer: Nearly half of the 14 million people in poverty are affected by disability. Around 4 million people – that's 31% of the 13 million people with disabilities in the UK – lived in poverty in 2017/18, and another 3 million non-disabled people in poverty lived in a household where someone was disabled.

Carers are more likely to be living in poverty too. There were nearly 4.5 million informal adult carers in the UK in 2017/18 – around 7% of the population – and nearly a quarter (more than a million people) were living in poverty.

Talking about families

Your headline message: Childcare and transport should unlock opportunities and enable parents to work, but instead, many parents on low incomes are constrained by a lack of affordable, flexible childcare and the cost and availability of transport, which restrict the hours they can work and their access to suitable jobs.

Explainer: Families get locked in poverty by a combination of factors – the availability and costs of childcare, transport and housing; the limitations of the current social security system; and restrained access to good-quality, flexible and secure work.

Poverty rates have risen for children in the last five years. Seven in ten children in poverty are now in a working family, because working families are being pulled into poverty by falling income from benefits and rising housing costs.

The risk of poverty for lone parents is almost twice as high as for any other family type. Lone parents on low incomes have spoken of insecurity across many aspects of their lives: ‘dehumanising’ work, feeling trapped ‘in a never-ending circle’ by the benefits system, and feeling ‘stuck’ in unaffordable or insecure housing with ‘no alternative’.

What works, and what doesn't

Certain words and phrases work better than others when talking about poverty. We need to keep using these words and phrases to tell our stories.

What works?	Watch out for
Leading with shared values of compassion and justice.	Leading with the economic benefits of reducing poverty.
Choosing messengers who embody these values.	Overtly politicised language.
Showing how the economy restricts people's choices and can lead to poverty.	Focusing on describing the problem and its prevalence and missing out the explanation of how it works.
Leading with poverty.	Opening with benefits as the issue.
Highlighting how we all rely on public services day-to-day – especially those who are struggling.	Unintentionally leading people to condemn public services at a general level.
Showing the real causes and systemic solutions when telling a person's story.	Heartfelt individual stories that don't show the wider context, why this is happening and how it can be fixed, or stories that narrowly frame the causes and solutions to poverty at an individual level.

What works?	Watch out for
Enabling people to see that changes to systems are possible by talking about redesigning our economy.	Talking about the economy or system without explaining how it works and can be redesigned.
Using shared values and metaphors to frame facts and statistics.	Naked numbers: facts that don't help people to know what the numbers are saying and understand the context.
Connecting illustrations of poverty with this narrative and poverty's wider causes and solutions.	Presenting poverty's impacts as standalone issues.

Read the full report and summary

www.jrf.org.uk/report/uk-poverty-2019-20

Need more information about how to use framing?

Contact: TalkingAboutPoverty@jrf.org.uk

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Report to OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2019/20

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Colin McLaren, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

Councillor Riaz Ahmad, Chair of the Performance and Value For Money Select Committee

Councillor Eddie Moore, Chair of the Health Scrutiny Committee

Report Author: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer
Ext. 4716

16 June 2020

Purpose of the Report

For the Overview and Scrutiny Board to review the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for the 2019/2020 Municipal Year.

Executive Summary

The report outlines the purpose of Overview and Scrutiny, the roles and responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, Performance and Value for Money Select Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee. The report is a summary of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny during the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

Recommendations

For the Overview and Scrutiny Board to commend the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report to Full Council.

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Report to Council

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/2020

Report of:

Cllr Colin McLaren, Chair of Overview & Scrutiny

Cllr Riaz Ahmad, Chair of Performance and Value for Money Select Committee

Cllr Eddie Moores, Chair of Health Scrutiny

Officer Contact:

Report Authors: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer and Mark Hardman, Constitutional Services Officer

Ext. 5151

(Date TBC)

Reason for Decision

To provide Council with an overview of the contribution made by Overview and Scrutiny during the 2019/2020 Municipal Year as required in line with the Council's Constitution.

Executive Summary

The report outlines the purpose of overview and scrutiny, the roles and responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, Performance and Value for Money Select Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee, a summary of the work undertaken by overview and scrutiny during 2019/20 and an outline of how individuals can get involved in overview and scrutiny in Oldham.

Recommendations

Council is asked to note the contribution of Overview and Scrutiny during the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

1. What is Overview and Scrutiny?

1.1 All local authorities operating an executive form of governance must by law have an Overview and Scrutiny function. The function was introduced in the first instance by the Local Government Act 2000 and has been subject to legislative change and development over the years. The current principal legislative sources for overview and scrutiny functions and responsibilities are:

- Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) – powers for the overview and scrutiny function to:
 - Review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, related to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the Council's Executive.
 - Report or make recommendations to Council or the executive in respect of the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive.
 - Review or scrutinise decision made, other action taken, related to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive.
 - Report or make recommendations to Council or the executive in respect of the discharge of any function which is not the responsibility of the executive.
 - Report or make recommendations to Council or the executive on matters which affect the Council's area or residents of that area.
- Police and Justice Act 2006 – powers for the overview and scrutiny function to:
 - review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by those bodies responsible for crime and disorder strategies in the Borough of their crime and disorder functions;
 - to report or make recommendations to the Council with respect to the discharge of those crime and disorder functions.
- National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended) (and with specific reference to The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013) – the Council has powers, delegated to the Health Scrutiny Committee, to:
 - review or scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the Borough area, including health related services of the local authority;
 - respond to a statutory consultation from an NHS body or a health service provider and, if considered appropriate and necessary, to report to the Secretary of State.

1.2 Overview and Scrutiny Committees therefore have the statutory powers to scrutinise those decisions that the Council's Executive is planning to take, those decisions it has taken but not yet implemented, and to review the effect of those decisions that have already been implemented. Overview and Scrutiny can also play a valuable role in developing policy. Recommendations following scrutiny considerations can enable improvements to be made to policies and how they are implemented.

1.3 Overview and Scrutiny bodies are made up of Elected Members (Councillors) who are not members of the Executive (or 'Cabinet') but who instead hold those Executive decision makers to account. The Overview and Scrutiny process is not political – it is driven by the interests of the residents of Oldham.

1.4 Overview and Scrutiny bodies cannot make decisions, but instead examine policies, decisions and areas of work in order to make recommendations to the Cabinet. It

acts as a “critical friend” to the Council and its partners around the decision-making process and uses informed debate and evidence to make its recommendations.

1.5 Scrutiny works to drive forward improvements to the Council’s policies, procedures and delivery.

1.6 There are three components of good scrutiny and good governance which are necessary in order for democracy at a local level to be participative - these are Accountability, Transparency and Involvement.

2 Policy Development

2.1 The key focus of overview and scrutiny work is to influence and develop policy. Overview and Scrutiny can do this through the following ways:

- Decision-Making Scrutiny - Holding the Executive to account is a key part of the Overview and Scrutiny role. This is done through receiving reports at Committee, Call-in and questioning of Cabinet Members at scrutiny meetings.
- Pre-Decision Input - Input on draft policies and strategies before they have been agreed by Cabinet or Council helps to ensure they are more robust and that a check and balance process is in place. It also provides an opportunity for cross party consensus to be developed on issues such as the Corporate Plan, Education Strategy and Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Overview and Scrutiny can act as a consultee in respect of such policies and potential new legislation.
- Monitor and Track Implementation of Recommendations - Ensuring that the views and contributions of Overview and Scrutiny have been considered when work is undertaken to improve services – an essential part of the scrutiny process.

2.2 Full Council may refer matters to Overview and Scrutiny for examination of the viability of implementing proposals contained in submitted Motions and the appropriate Committee will report back to the Council on their findings.

3 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Overview and Scrutiny Board

3.1.1 Membership

- Councillor McLaren (Chair)
- Councillor Price (Vice Chair)
- Councillor Jacques
- Councillor Surjan
- Councillor Taylor
- Councillor Toor
- Councillor Harkness
- Councillor Curley
- Councillor Hulme (Substitute)
- Councillor Alyas (Substitute)
- Councillor Akhtar (Substitute)
- Councillor Cosgrove (Substitute)
- Councillor Ibrahim (Substitute)
- Councillor Hamblett (Substitute)

3.1.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Board leads the development of the Overview and Scrutiny process in Oldham. The Board chooses issues and topics to look at during the year, be it reviewing a proposed policy in advance of decision or considering the impact of a key decision made by the Council.

3.1.3 The Board is also responsible for:

- Publicly holding the Executive to account for delivering the Council's priorities and for the decisions they make.
- Examining any matters of wider public interest (not just Council services) which affect the wellbeing of the Borough and its people.
- Having a statutory role scrutinising substantial developments and Crime and Disorder issues.

3.1.4 During the last year, the Chair also continued to meet with the senior managers in each of the Council's Directorates. At these meetings, the Chair and Officers considered issues where Overview and Scrutiny could potentially add value to the development of Council services, policies and the decision-making process.

3.2 Performance and Value for Money Select Committee

3.2.1 Membership

- Councillor Ahmad (Chair)
- Councillor Stretton (Vice-Chair)
- Councillor Haque
- Councillor Hulme
- Councillor Larkin
- Councillor Phythian
- Councillor Williamson
- Councillor Byrne
- Councillor Alyas (Substitute)
- Councillor Salamat (Substitute)
- Councillor Surjan (Substitute)
- Councillor Ibrahim (Substitute)
- Councillor Brownridge (Substitute)
- Councillor Al-Hamdani (Substitute)

3.2.2 The Performance and Value for Money Select Committee considers how the Council and its partners are performing and whether value for money is being provided for the people of Oldham. It also monitors the implementation of recommendations which Overview and Scrutiny has had accepted by the Council's Cabinet.

3.2.3 One of the most important aspects of the Select Committee's role is to examine the Council's budget proposals each year. This involves considering both the administration's budget and any alternative budget proposals put forward by the opposition. The Select Committee also monitors the revenue and capital expenditure throughout the municipal year.

3.2.4 The Select Committee also examines the Council's corporate performance report on a quarterly basis and considers the performance and value for money of the Council's work undertaken with partners.

3.3 Health Scrutiny Committee

3.3.1 Membership:

-
- Councillor Moores (Chair)
 - Councillor McLaren (Vice Chair)
 - Councillor Alyas
 - Councillor Davis
 - Councillor Ibrahim
 - Councillor Toor
 - Councillor Hamblett
 - Councillor Byrne
 - Councillor Iqbal (Substitute)
 - Councillor Larkin (Substitute)
 - Councillor Malik (Substitute)
 - Councillor Haque (Substitute)
 - Councillor Salamat (Substitute)
 - Councillor H. Gloster (Substitute)

3.3.2 The Committee was established as a full Committee from May 2019 to discharge the responsibilities of the Council for health scrutiny functions, to receive and respond to referrals from Healthwatch Oldham, and to scrutinise the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board, including development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

3.3.3 The Committee reviews and scrutinises matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service and makes reports and recommendations on any such matters that the Committee has reviewed and scrutinised.

3.4 **Work Programmes**

Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee maintains a work programme for the Municipal Year and the Committee Chairs meet to review them on a regular basis. This allows for co-ordination of the work programmes, ensuring the best use of resources and avoiding duplication. The work programmes allow for flexibility within the wider overview and scrutiny function to accommodate any urgent and/or short-term issues that may arise.

Where Overview and Scrutiny has contributed in 2019/20

4.1 Overview and Scrutiny Board

4.1.1 Key Plans and Strategies

- a) Clean Air Update – The Board gave consideration to a report which advised on the key features on Greater Manchester’s (GM) feasibility study and the Clean Air Plan Outline Business Case for the reduction of nitrogen dioxide exceedances in Oldham and across Greater Manchester for submission to the Government’s Joint Clean Air Unit. Alongside the objectives of the Clean Air Plan was a co-ordinated GM approach to develop a common set of minimum licensing standards for taxis and private hire vehicles. The measures included a proposed Clean Taxi Fund. Members expressed concern as to how the fund would be supported without additional government support. Two issues were raised related to idling zones and the impact of the proposals on buses. Questions were asked related to engine idling in car ranks outside schools.

A second report was received later in the Municipal Year which provided an update on progress that had been made following the Government’s response to GM’s Outline Business Case to tackling nitrogen dioxide exceedances and statutory consultation. The Council had been developing the study collectively with the other nine GM authorities and GM Combined Authority (GMCA) coordinated by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) in line with Government direction and guidance. Members sought and received clarification on EU standards, consultation format, fines for clean air zones, breaches of air quality and the timeline.

- b) Alexandra Park Eco-Centre and Northern Roots – The Board were advised of developments in respect of the projects which had been developed out of the co-operative borough ambition and developments in community growing, horticultural skills and training, renewable energy and the local food economy through a series of linked initiatives. The new Eco-Centre facility built upon and provided a place for a wider range of activities which included education, enterprises and community engagement. Northern Roots was a proposal to develop the UK’s largest urban farm and eco-park. Members sought and received clarification that retention and improvement of sports pitches remained part of the vision. A suggestion was made for an animal petting farm or similar venture. It was also suggested by members that the establishment of mini-hubs in communities might be considered as a spin-off activity. It was proposed that Board members make a site visit. This took place on 15 June 2019.

The Board received a further update in the Municipal Year regarding technical options. Members sought and received clarification on accessibility and public transport links, the Biomass unit, rainwater harvesting from the lake, revenue and green waste capacity. Members also sought and received clarification on communications and advertising of the project and how success would be measured.

- c) Thriving Communities and Placed Based Integration – The Board were provided updates through the Municipal Year. Members were informed of key projects and updates, support in the care pathway to prevent high levels of need and a positive trend in reduction of the attendance at A&E. Members commented on the good work and results in the reduction of GP visits.

Members were made aware of the Fast Track Grants. A further report on Place Based Integration was received by the Board and members were informed about the twin track approach to people, place and prevention. It was envisaged that services from health and social care, Children's, Housing, Policing, Districts and Environment would be in scope for place-based integration. Members recommended further discussion between members, district teams and placed based teams to share information.

- d) Oldham Work and Skills Strategy – The Board were provided with an update on the progress related to the key components of the Work and Skills Strategy. The Strategy sought to improve population skills outcomes which supported Oldham's strategic goals. The strategy was organised around four strategic goals supported by a new outcomes framework for work and skills. The strategy would complement the new regeneration framework by focussing particularly on 'social regeneration' objectives and a developed shared ownership across all partners and providers. The Board queried the increase in no-education qualification, what was being done about long-term unemployment and work in terms of apprenticeships. Members also queried the low take up on the advanced learning strategy, performance data and the Area Based Review. Members questioned employment for young people, the Working Well Early Help and investment.
- e) Business and Investment Review – The Board looked at how the Council could optimise business engagement and provided a competitive business support offer. Members commented on the work with start-ups and queried European funding and the effect of Brexit. Members also asked about work undertaken with the third sector and work with the Oldham Enterprise Trust and noted that Oldham's survival rate had increased.
- f) GM2040 Delivery Plan Update and Transport Capital Projects – The Board were provided an overview of the three-year transport capital programme approved as part of the Council's wider Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2019/20 – 2023/24. Securing additional external funding was a priority. The programme was fluid as it was dependent upon bids to be successful. Members were informed that the GM2040 Delivery Plan was being refreshed in response to changes in the transport opportunities and challenges which faced GM, such as the declaration by GMCA of a Climate Emergency, the development of the GM Spatial Framework and the GM Mayor's priorities. Funding for the strategy was outlined in the report with particular focus on capital investment. Members sought and received clarification on 'Streets for All', Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund, Future High Streets Fund, Bus Reform, New Bike Hire Scheme and charging points to meet the carbon neutral challenge.
- g) Advertising A-Boards and Sign Policy Review – The Board were provided within an update on the policy.
- h) Green New Deal Strategy – The Board received a summary of work being undertaken on the Oldham Green New Deal Strategy which included targets for the Council and Borough to be carbon neutral by 2025 and 2030 respectively. The strategy and delivery plan set out how carbon neutrality targets would be met as well as initiatives aimed at maximising the economic benefit. The Board were also provided information on energy supply and housing policies linked to the strategy. Members queried the deliverability and informed that it was important to manage expectations. Members noted the

breadth of the pledges and for them to be incorporated into future Board Work Programmes.

The Board also received an update on the General Oldham Community Energy Programme which included the Interreg Europe COALESCCE project. Members were reminded of the establishment of Oldham Community Power. The Council had won the national Community Energy Local Authority Award in 2018. Members sought and received clarification on the effect of Brexit on the partnership, the savings, the officer for small community groups and how elected members could assist.

4.1.2 Internal and External Consultations

- a) Selective Licensing – The Board gave consideration of an update on the scheme. An independent review of the scheme had been undertaken which examined the impact in the current schemes. Members reviewed the report, noted the cost of the service, requirements for consultation, route for scheme approval and case studies presented. The Board supported the continuation of the Selected Licensing Scheme.
- b) Care Leavers Housing Commitment – The Board were provided the proposals to ensure that Oldham care leavers who became homeless received the support of full rehousing duties up to the age of 25 years. The proposal had been raised following the review of the Council’s Corporate Parenting Strategy. The Children and Social Work Act 2017 had introduced a new duty on local authorities to provide Personal Adviser Support to all care leavers up to the age of 25 years. The Greater Manchester Care Leavers Trust also worked to develop a ‘core offer’ across GM. Members queried and received information on assistance for those who were unable to live on their own or lacked a support network. Members also received information related to the financial implications of the provision. The Board endorsed the proposals.

4.1.3 Services Monitored

- a) Children’s Social Care ‘Getting to Good’ Implementation Plan – The Board continued to receive updates in respect of improvements to Oldham’s Children’s Services. A Structural Investment Plan and Transformation Programme to be delivered throughout 2019/20 had been developed along with a new operating model and additional investment to support the transformation journey. The Board were apprised of governance arrangements, particularly relating to Task and Finish Groups established for major projects. The Board revisited the provision of safeguarding training for elected members and it was confirmed that the nature and content would be different from previous years as a result of the new arrangements. The Board were advised of a sustainable staffing structure. The Board were advised of work with the Children in Care Council. Members asked questions related to performance related to children in need and early intervention, out of borough placements and projects associated with the improvement journey.

A further update was received which provided an update on progress against the plans, demand, caseload and workforce.

- b) Libraries Update – The Board were provided an update on the service and highlighted outreach work for non-users and disengaged readers. The service was committed to being open and accessible to all residents and users. The

impact of the removal of fines would be monitored and early indicators showed there had been an increase in library membership. Some provision could be accessed without a card and trail-blazing activities included reaching out to the homeless, development of 'Libraries of Sanctuary' in addition to those tackling loneliness and social isolation. Members sought and received information related to buildings being fit-for-purpose, technology, plans for an 'At-Home' Service, welcoming refugees, engagement of older groups and encouragement to local writers and artists.

- c) Heritage, Libraries and Arts Offer to Schools – The Board were provided an overview of the services provided which included collaborative approaches and new initiatives which included Story Walks and Poverty Proofing Schools Project. Members asked about the challenges related to transport for the events and the funding strategy which had links to the Heritage Schools Programme and the Princes Trust.
- d) Local Government Ombudsman and Review of Complaints System – The Board were informed of the Council's performance related to enquiries received from the Local Government Ombudsman (LGO). Since 2014, the LGO also publicly reported on Local Authority complaints performance. During 2018/19 the Council had 80 cases reviewed by the LGO of which only 17.5% were investigated and 12.5% upheld. The low number of cases reviewed by the LGO, and ultimately investigated, suggested that the Council was willing to take responsibility when things went wrong and work with residents to resolve the issue appropriately. The Council was undertaking a root and branch review of the service. Members sought and received clarification on the nature of complaints.
- e) Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – The Board gave consideration to the development and key highlights of Oldham's new SEND Strategy. Consultation and engagement sessions had been held as well as a series of stakeholder events. The ambition and outcomes of the strategy had shaped and directed the Development Plan. The Board were informed of the considered approach undertaken following the Ofsted/CQC inspection and consultation process. Members raised issues related to exclusions, links with the voluntary and community sector, home-educated students and safeguarding issues. The Board endorsed the strategy.

Performance Report – Further updates were received related to the SEND improvement journey during the municipal year. The board noted progress made against the expectations as set out in the Written Statement of Action which had contained five key priority areas and recommendations. A revised SEND action plan and strategy was due to be launched in September 2019.

- f) Oldham Care Commissioning Arrangements – An update was received on the arrangements for health and social care services as well as an overview of the future direction of travel. Work had been ongoing related to learning disability, mental health, care home and care at home commissioning, dementia, continuing health care, safeguarding policy and policy work identified in a Section 75 agreement between the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The Board queried staff in 'hubs' and were informed services were developing in a more co-ordinated manner with an absolute commitment to improvement. The Board were apprised of funding as budgets were dependent upon government announcements of grants, etc. The Board also gave consideration to staff turnover, changes in population profiles and different recording and operating systems used within the sector.

-
- g) Adults Safeguarding Board Annual Report – The Board gave consideration to a report of the Independent Chair which provided information from April 2018 to March 2019. The Board was a partnership of organisations whose role was to strategically lead adult safeguarding within Oldham. The Annual Report evaluated the effectiveness in achieving aims and identified future plans. Two important issues were outlined which involved substantive reviews of the quality of deployment of staff and the continuing business demand to be met. Members sought and received clarification on work in progress and the impact of the lack of Deprivation of Liberty safeguards signatories.
 - h) Children’s Safeguarding – Members were presented with the proposed new arrangements for Oldham Children’s Safeguarding. The Children and Social Work Act 2017 required the local authority, police and local CCG to implement new arrangements by 29 September 2019. Proposed arrangements comprised a Safeguarding Children Strategic Partnership, Children’s Safeguarding Executive Group and sub-groups to undertake detailed work on implementation of the business plan. New arrangements would provide challenge, scrutiny and commitment to continuous improvement among partners and agencies.
 - i) Virtual School Annual Report and Term Update – The Board gave consideration to the scope of work undertaken by the Virtual School which had developed significantly under new leadership and reported outcomes for children who were looked after compared favourably with national averages. The themes had emerged in the Ofsted report of the inspection of the Local Authority’s Children’s Services (ILACS) which had included the Virtual School in January 2019. Members sought and received clarification on absences, exclusions, training and the priorities for 2019/20.
 - j) SEND Inspection Revisit – The Board were provided an update on the outcome of the SEND revisit. Members were provided an update on progress made on the original written statement of action. Members sought and were provided clarification on managed moves, improvements in Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans, increased exclusions at Key Stage 4, minimising disruption, speech and language therapy, support for parent and children with new languages and bringing children who were permanently excluded back into the school system.
 - k) The Board were also provided an update on the Oldham Opportunity Area Funding.

4.1.4 Motions Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board

The following motions were referred to Overview and Scrutiny for investigation:

- a) ‘Improving Public Safety in Oldham’s Night Time Economy’ – a motion was referred to the Board on 12 December 2018. An update was received on the work which had already been undertaken and the Board would seek further information during the 2019/20 Municipal Year. Members were informed that the ‘Ask for Angela’ Scheme was already in operation with localised material being developed. The Street Angels has also been established in the Town centre. Work was to be undertaken by Licensing Officers with private hire operators and the licensed trade. With regard to the potential ‘safe havens’ potential significant safeguarding issues had been identified. A suggested scheme that taxi companies carry identifiable students and bill them later via

college or university authorities had been investigated and was considered to be beyond the powers of the local authority to implement.

- b) 'Tackling Dog Fouling and Nuisance' – a motion was referred to Board on 20th March 2019. An update was provided to the Board which included opportunities provided by potential stakeholders such as behaviour change campaigns and educational material. The Board were asked and provided a representative from the Board to work with officers to explore the material and initiatives promoted by charities.
- c) 'Tackling Speeding' – a motion was referred to Board on 20th March 2019 which sought to identify locations not currently equipped with a speed camera, availability of funding for mobile speed cameras, establish Community Speed Watch schemes and explore the merits of establishing bus gates. A workshop was convened on 24 September 2019 with options to be investigated by Highways and reported back.
- d) Youth Council Motion: Knife Crime – a motion was brought to the Board by the Youth Council which asked for an overview of the current youth offer across Oldham to ensure a broad range of high-quality activities available to all young people. The Youth Council were invited to attend a meeting of the Board to discuss the motion. The Board were informed of activities of the Youth Council which included the 'Make Your Mark' vote, youth offer available and mapping of activities undertaken.
- e) Making A Commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (referred jointly to Overview and Scrutiny Board and Health Scrutiny Committee) – it was requested that the relevant bodies identify work that was already being done by the Council and its partners, what more can be done and report back to Council. A report was submitted to Overview and Scrutiny Board and Health Scrutiny and it was agreed to be commended to Council.
- f) Clean Air Outside Schools – the key points of the motions were considered in the GM Approach to Air Quality to which the Council was signed up to. An update would be brought back to Board.
- g) A Sensible Approach to Firework Displays – The Overview and Scrutiny Board gave consideration to the motion as referred to the Board on 8th January 2020. The recommendation was agreed that officers from Public Protection would work in partnership with GM Fire and Rescue Services and the Council's Community Safety Team to develop an action plan which would be reported back to Overview and Scrutiny.

4.1.5 Task and Finish Groups:

- a) Community Assets – The Board Members along with other members and officers undertook a Task and Finish Group on extending the Cooperative Approach to the use of Council Assets Policy.
- b) Poverty Working Group – The Board Members agreed to look at helping to update the Council's Poverty Strategy (from 2010), taking into account the four main points suggested by the Joseph Rowntree Trust, UK Poverty Report 2019/20, information from the LGA, what the Council was doing and how the Council can work with partners in the clusters.

4.2 Performance and Value For Money Select Committee

4.2.1 Finance Scrutiny

- a) Scrutiny of Budget Proposals – The Council's overall budget proposals for 2020/21 were considered by the Select Committee. The Administration's proposals were presented to the Committee during January 2020 and the Opposition's proposals were presented in February 2020. This included the Medium-Term Finance Strategy 2020/21 to 2024/25, Housing Revenue Account Estimates for 2020/21 to 2024/25 and proposed outturn for 2019/20, Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2020/21 to 2024/25, Treasury Management Statement 2020/2021, Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2020/21 and the Statement of the Chief Financial Officer on Reserves, Robustness of Estimates and Affordability and Prudence of Capital Investments.

Scrutiny of the Liberal Democrat Budget Amendment Proposals 2020/21 – The Select Committee examined the saving, investment and proposals in detail. The Select Committee suggested areas to be investigated further by Cabinet and the Select Committee.

- b) Local Government Financial Resilience – The Select Committee were provided information related to the financial sustainability of Local Authorities and highlighted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's efforts to ensure attention on financial sustainability through the development of a financial resilience index. The Select Committee were informed that members and officers worked together to ensure current financial and demand pressures were managed in line with the Council's governance arrangements. The Select Committee were informed that despite significant financial challenges, Oldham Council's financial position remained strong as demonstrated within an increase in both balances and earmarked reserves. Members sought and received clarification on control of social care budgets, the situation in Northamptonshire and Brexit.
- c) Review of Financial Performance: Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2019/20 – The Select Committee were provided quarterly updates on the forecast revenue position and the revised capital programme. An overview of variances was provided. Members noted pressures related to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and informed that a recovery plan had been submitted to the Department for Education. On Quarter 1, members reflected on the deficit, the budget reduction in recent years and the pressure from Brexit.

The Select Committee received the Quarter 2 update which stated action would be taken for the remainder of the financial year to address variances and take mitigating actions. No significant issues were reported related to the Housing Revenue Account. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) continued to be a financial challenge. The Select Committee noted that regular budget updates were provided to respective management teams. The Select Committee also received the Month 8 revenue budget position as well as an update on the revised capital programme. The Select Committee were advised of continued action taken to address variances.

- d) Finance Performance of the MioCare Group – The Select Committee were provided with the annual updates on the financial performance of the group during the financial year 2019, an overview of business developments and an outline of the issues for the budget for 2020.

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- e) Children's Services – Financial Performance – an overview of the financial performance of Children's Social Care and measures being taken to balance the budget in 2019/20 and future years was provided. A dramatic increase in cost had been noted but this was not unique to Oldham. The overspend in 2018/19 occurred in Children in Care, Children's Safeguarding and Fieldwork & Family Support. The Children's Social Care budget had increased by £4,611k in 2019/20 to respond to spending pressures and to support the implementation of the Children's Services Operating Model and Structural Resource Plan. The largest factor in the reduction of the budget was the implementation of the Operating Model.

A further update was received which detailed the allocation and use of resources which supported spending pressures, areas of overspend, underspend and targeted management actions. Progress on the implementation of the Improvement plan and progress against key indicators were noted. Members also noted that a Financial Recovery Group had been established with an associated action plan. Members sought clarification on issues around the Regional Adoption Agency, the number of referrals and out of borough placements. Members asked that the financial position be kept under review.

- f) Street Cleansing Service: Clean Street Initiative – the Select Committee were provided information on the provision that the additional investment to the Street Cleansing Services Clean Street Initiative had made. The approach was designed around clear messaging and information followed by intervention and enforcement. A proposal had been developed and resources identified which supported the approach. Additional staff had been recruited and complemented the existing workforce which allowed a more flexible and proactive approach covering 7 days a week. An independent audit had credited Oldham with a 'Passing Grade'. The Government had requested detailed on the Council's approach as they examined examples of good practice. There had also been an increase in the number of formal legal enforcement actions.
- g) Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) - The Select Committee were provided an update on the LAMA which was a proposed six-year agreement between nine District Authorities that were subject to Combined Authority waste disposal arrangements. The Select Committee gave consideration to the proposed apportionment of costs, cost implications for delivering more or less and issues related to recycling. The Select Committee commended the report to Cabinet as the new agreement.

4.2.2 Performance Scrutiny

- a) Quarterly Council Performance Report and Challenge – Reports were presented to the Committee in terms of how the Council was performing against its key local and statutory priorities. Members highlighted issues to be addressed in the Committee's Work Programme.
- b) Delivery of Additional School Places – The Select Committee were provided an update on the current position regarding school places and school admissions for September 2019 which included current context and position, Education Provision Strategy and Current Expansion Projects and Admissions – Parental Preference Performance. The number of children seeking places had risen. Members noted information related to where places were available and the effect of the sudden closure of Collective Spirit. Members were

informed that a revised strategy of place planning would be put into place including prediction and modelling for places needed for SEND pupils and other in need of alternative provision. There was considerable activity to enhance provision of places at good and outstanding schools. Members were informed of figures related to school preference and the plans to improve parental choice. Members sought and received clarification on the number of pupils not being offered a place at their first preference secondary school, admissions criteria of faith schools, market and the continued expansion in the primary sector.

- c) Waste Management Position Statement Including Recycling – The Select Committee gave consideration to a position statement. There were three basic indicators, all of which were linked to be used to judge Waste Management Service (WMS) performance which were: Operational Performance, Disposal Performance and Environmental Performance. WMS had made significant operational efficiency savings by changing to a 2-weekly and then a 3-weekly collection system. Changes to the collection systems had also produced significant cost saving in the disposal budget as residents managed waste more efficiently and had the household recycling rate had improved from 28.88% to 44.65% over four years to 2018/19. Efficiency savings had been made with collection rounds at full capacity and the fleet included the cleanest and most full efficient vehicles available. Continued improvement in the trade waste service was considered vital as budget remained under continued pressure.
- d) Medium Term Property Strategy – The Select Committee were provided with an update in respect of the Council’s Medium-Term Property Strategy (MTPS) which outlined the plans, actions and approach that was being undertaken to meet the objectives as set out in the strategy. The corporate estate was classed into six categories: Service Delivery – Direct; Service Delivery-Indirect; Regeneration; Co-operative Property; Surplus / Vacant; and Income Generation. The Select Committee was advised of further work on efficiency targets linked to alignment of Council and CCG structures.
- e) Improving Attendance and Health and Wellbeing – an update was provided on the position related to improving attendance activity for the financial year 2018/19, sickness absence per directorate, levels of compliance and top reasons for absence. The outturn had shown an average of 9.611 working days lost per employee, the target was 6 working days. The compared with other GM local authorities of 10.35 days and the Nationwide local authority average of 9.8 days. The principal reasons for time lost were mental health (including stress) and musculo-skeletal. The Committee was advised of support available and staff were advised to seek support through work and participate in preventative activities. Members were advised of managerial compliance with return to work interviews. Members queried the use of disciplinary action and were advised that action would be taken if sickness was proven not to be genuine or if clear patterns emerged. The Fit for Oldham Programme delivered a variety of activity across several locations and responded to how health and wellbeing could be enhanced. This included ‘Supporting Mental Wellbeing in the Workplace’ and the offer of regular Health checks for employees. A suggestion was made related to the promotion of breast checks to support the early identification of breast cancer. Members noted that the Council performance well against other authorities but requested future reports contained previous years statistics for comparison.

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- f) Position Statement on Education Standards 2019 – The Select Committee gave consideration to the statement on education standards in Oldham in 2019 as indicated by outcomes across key stages and in Ofsted inspections. Members commented on sustainability of performance and improvements, support for higher ability students, ‘A’ level performance and vocational qualifications.
 - g) Housing Strategy – The Select Committee reviewed the 2019 Delivery Plan that had been developed in order to meet the objectives of the strategy. There were four themes within the Housing Strategy and a delivery plan broke these down into a series of actions as well as short, medium and long-term goals. Initiatives outlined in the strategy were highlighted. The very ambitious programme was noted to address the identified problems in the housing market and the capacity of the service was recognised.
 - h) Regeneration - the Select Committee were provided an update on the progress of a number of projects.

4.3 Health Scrutiny Committee

4.3.1 The Health Scrutiny Committee has met four times since June 2019 with an additional two development sessions and workshops, receiving a number of reports from across the Health and Care Sector in Oldham.

4.3.2 The focus of the Committee was on the impact of plans for the devolution of health and social care responsibilities to GM. Additionally, the implementation of the Healthier Together reforms of the provision of acute services across GM which will impact on the service offer available at the Royal Oldham Hospital and across North-East of Greater Manchester, for Oldham residents.

4.3.3 The Committee addressed the following areas:

- a) Urgent Primary Care – The Committee were provided with an update on the implementation of the new model of Urgent Primary Care in Oldham. The proposed model included the establishment of an A&E primary care stream and sharing of medical records between health and social care professionals. Patient safety was important when services were changed and would not be implemented unless the change provided a better experience for patients.

The Select Committee were also provided an update on work which had commenced to develop a Primary Care Strategy which would identify priorities to address the known challenges in primary care. A new model was required to provide assurance on the sustainability of the primary care offer. Oldham CCG aimed to enable general practice to play a stronger role at the heart of more integrated out of hospital services.

- b) New Safeguarding Arrangements – The Committee were provided with an overview of the new arrangements for Oldham’s Children Safeguarding and an update on the safeguarding training. The arrangements were revised under the Children and Social Work Act 2017. Training sessions were developed and planned for September 2019.
- c) Children and Young People’s Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing – The Committee were provided with an overview of the current offer with the annual refresh of the CAMHS Local Transformational Plan which focused on changes and impacts that additional investment had brought about and developed in

accordance with local needs and priorities. The Oldham Whole School Approach had proved to be successful with schools engaged and producing better partnership working. Members queried any focus on for young parents and under-5's and informed that this was ongoing.

- d) Integrating Community Health and Adult Social Care Services – the Committee were provided an update on service integration. The emphasis on Phase 2 was focused on design and implementation of an integrated community service. Other key areas of development were highlighted including community enablement, embedding integration, Adults Targeted Model, streamlining governance and decision-making and operational reform of services. The budget availability was also acknowledged and that service redesign was about managing resources effectively and identifying different ways of working.
- e) Thriving Communities – The Committee received an update on the programme and, in particular, around the initial phase of the Social Prescribing Innovation Partnership. The Oldham Model was outlined whereby the Council and its partners were committed to a cooperative future and the Oldham Plan which set out the Oldham Model for delivering tangible and sustained change. The Social Prescribing Network was highlighted which bridged the gap between medical care and the community. Members were provided information related to the Innovation Partnership, Fast Grants and the Social Action Fund. Members sought and received clarification on the primary care referral route, the role of the voluntary sector and health and wellbeing outcomes.
- f) Choice and Equity Policy – The Committee received outline consultation that would gather views of patients. The NHS Continuing Healthcare (CHC) referred to packages of continuing care arranged and funded solely by the NHS. The report set out how the CCG would implement CHC in accordance with the National Framework. The Committee were informed how the policy would be implemented. Members sought and received information as to how resources would be used, how current patients would be affected, budget implications and adequacy of providers.
- g) North West Ambulance Service – information was provided related to the current performance, position and initiatives of the service. Performance information related to level of activity, hospital conveyances, treatment and new initiatives and projects. Members sought information related to the use of private ambulances and performance indicators around reducing turnaround time.
- h) NHS Health Checks Programme – The Committee received a report which provided an update on the programme that was a national health risk assessment programme looking to help prevent vascular disease, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. On completion of an assessment, feedback and advice on achieving and maintaining healthy behaviours was given. The Committee were provided performance information and outcomes. A key focus going forward would be in improving the outcomes of the programme. Members sought clarification on data presented, responding to referrals, hidden health conditions, the number of pharmacies included in the programme, and follow up assessments.
- i) Mayor's Healthy Living Campaign – the Committee received updates on the campaign and what activities had been undertaken throughout the year.

4.3.4 Motions referred to Health Scrutiny Committee

Motions which had been referred to Health Scrutiny Committee:

- a) Making a Commitment to UN Sustainable Development Goal's – also referred to O&S Board – this was the same as that provided to Overview and Scrutiny Board; and
- b) Ban on Fast Food and Energy Drinks Advertising.

5. Overview and Scrutiny and Procedural Arrangements

5.1 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, or the Overview and Scrutiny Chairs more generally, have certain procedural responsibilities within the Council's Constitution. These are:

- General Exception – where 28 days' notice of the intention to take a Key Decision is not or cannot be given, 'General Exception' procedures apply. These include a requirement to obtain agreement in writing from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (or nominee) that the matter about which the decision is to be made is urgent and cannot be deferred;
- Special Urgency – where General Exception procedures cannot apply and a decision is needed urgently, 'Special Urgency' procedures apply. These include a requirement to obtain agreement from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (or nominee) that the matter about which the decision is to be made is urgent and cannot be deferred;
- Decisions contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework - should such a decision be required urgently, and it is not practical to convene a quorate meeting of the full Council, the decision may be taken if the Chair of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee agrees that the decision is a matter of urgency.
- Executive business in private – where 28 days' notice of the intention to take an executive decision at a meeting in private is not or cannot be given, the matter can be considered in private should the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board agree that the matter is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

5.2 In 2019/20 there were seven instances of General Exception, ten instances of Special Urgency, no instances requiring agreement to the consideration of matters outside the Budget and Policy Framework, and two instances of agreement to the consideration of business in private.

6. Council Support for Overview and Scrutiny

6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny structure is supported by all Officers of the Council. The Overview and Scrutiny function should expect all Council Officers to provide the same level of support as those Officers provide to the executive, regulatory and other functions within the Council's decision-making arrangements.

6.2 The Overview and Scrutiny function received the following specific support during 2019/20:

- Statutory Scrutiny Officer – the Council is required by the Local Government Act 2000 (as amended) to designate a statutory Scrutiny Officer with the functions of:
 - (a) promoting the role of the Council's overview and scrutiny committees,
 - (b) providing support to the Council's overview and scrutiny committees and the members of those committees,
 - (c) providing support and guidance to all Members and Officers of the Council in relation to the functions of the Council's overview and scrutiny committees.

The Statutory Scrutiny Officer from March 2019 was Dami Awobajo, Head of Business Intelligence, who left this post in November 2019. A replacement designated Scrutiny Officer had not been identified within the 2019/2020 Municipal Year.

- Committee Lead Officers – the Council had identified ‘Lead Officers’ for each Committee in 2019/20 as follows:
 - (a) Overview and Scrutiny Board - the Lead Officer was Dami Awobajo, Head of Business Intelligence who left this post in November 2019. The lead role was thereafter assumed by Constitutional Services.
 - (b) Overview and Scrutiny Performance and Value for Money Select Committee – the Lead Officer for 2019/20 was Mark Stenson, Head of Corporate Governance.
 - (c) Health Scrutiny Committee – the Lead Officer was Andrea Entwistle, Principal Policy Officer who left this post in September 2019. The lead role was thereafter allocated to Constitutional Services on an interim basis.
- Constitutional Services undertake general governance activities in support of the overview and scrutiny function. Beyond ensuring that the Overview and Scrutiny Board and Committee meetings are convened and held in accordance with relevant legislative and procedural requirements, Constitutional Services undertake further activities including maintenance of the Committee Work Programmes, ensuring and chasing up actions, and co-ordinating scrutiny activities held outside of the formal Committee meetings.

6.3 The scrutiny function also benefits from the active support given by the Council’s partners across the statutory and voluntary sectors who prepare reports for consideration and attend Committee meetings to assist Committee members in their scrutiny considerations.

7. A New Structure for Overview and Scrutiny

7.1 As part of the Council’s Constitution refresh exercise undertaken during the 2019/2020 Municipal Year, the Chairs were involved in discussions around options for the future of the Council’s overview and scrutiny function, including a possible new Committee structure. A proposed structure which would see the following Committees established was submitted to the Council in March 2020:

- Policy Overview Committee – to consider policy, annual budget setting, big corporate issues and programmes and high-level partnership issues;
- Performance and Value for Money Overview and Scrutiny Committee - to consider implementation and to review both budget and operational performance of Council and partners’ services; and
- Health Scrutiny Committee – to undertake the statutory health scrutiny role, to scrutinise integrated health and social care arrangements and to have oversight of the work of the health and Wellbeing Board,

7.2 Following cancellation of the March 2020 Council meeting, the Chairs await confirmation of a new date for the consideration by Council of the proposed arrangements, though acknowledge that the timing of implementation will need to be set against other corporate priorities at this time.

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- 7.3 These other priorities include the COVID-19 pandemic and the vital responses being made by the Council and its partners. The Chairs consider that overview and scrutiny has an important role to play in this process and can provide an invaluable contribution that scrutiny can bring to this process.

8. **Ways to get involved with O&S?**

8.1 Overview and Scrutiny Board, Performance and Value for Money Select Committee and Health Scrutiny have rolling work programmes. These can be found as part of the meeting's agendas.

8.2 If you are interested in attending a meeting of any of the Scrutiny Committees, meeting dates can be found on the website at: <https://committees.oldham.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeed=366>

8.3 Contact and speak to your local Councillor about issues you feel have an impact on your local community in Oldham. Overview and Scrutiny will consider issues raised by Councillors.

8.4 You can contact Constitutional Services on 0161 770 5151 or email to constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk to ask Overview and Scrutiny to consider an issue which has an impact on Oldham and local people. This could be a problem, Council service or an issue which you think the Council should take in lead in improving.

9. **Legal Services Comments**

9.1 n/a

10. **Co-operative Agenda**

10.1 The Annual report contains examples of work aligned to the Council's co-operative approach in relation to issues that have an impact of local communities.

11. **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

11.1 None

12. **Equality, Community Cohesion and Crime Implications**

12.1 None

13. **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

13.1 No

14. **Key Decision**

14.1 No

15. **Key Decision Reference**

15.1 N/A

16. **Background Papers**

16.1 None

17. **Appendices**

17.1 None



Report to OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

GENERAL EXCEPTION AND SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS REPORT

Portfolio Holder: Various

Report Author: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer
Ext. 4716

16th June 2020

Purpose of the Report

The Board is requested to note the decisions that have been taken under Rules 13 and 14 of the Council's Constitution since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 3rd March 2020.

Executive Summary

A key decision may not be taken unless 28 days clear notice has been given of the intention to take those decisions. If 28 days clear notice of a matter has not been given, an agreement will be needed to be obtained with the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Chair and a notice made available as a 'General Exception Key Decision Notice' (Rule 13). After five days have elapsed, the decision can be made. General exceptions will be reported to the next relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Where a date by which an executive decision that would be a key decision and compliance with the Key Decision and General Exception (Rule 13) procedures were impracticable, the decision shall only be made where the decision maker has obtained agreement with the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair (Rule 14). Where this rule is applied, the decision is also exempt from call-in. These exemptions will be reported to the next relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Members are asked to note the decisions taken in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic. These were taken to address urgent issues as they arose in order to authorise the support as directed nationally and locally to Covid-19 response.

If a detailed explanation is required and an officer is to attend the meeting to provide further information, please contact Constitutional Services by 12.00 noon on Friday, 12th June 2020

Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Board is asked to note decisions

Background

The Chair (or their nominee) is given powers in the Council's Constitution to give authorisation for key decisions to be made under the following rules:

Rule 13 – General Exception

Where the decision has not been placed on the Forward Plan, but it is possible to give 5 clear days-notice of the decision to be made, Rule 13 allows that the decision may be made where the relevant Executive Director has obtained agreement in writing from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (or his/her nominee) of the matter about which the decision is to be made. Notice of this setting out the reasons why compliance with the 28-day notice period was impracticable will be made available at the offices of the local Authority and be published on the Council's website. Any decision made in this way is still subject to a potential call-in.

Rule 14 – Special Urgency:

In certain circumstances it may be impracticable both to:

1. Place the decision on the Forward Plan, and
2. Give 5 clear days-notice prior to the decision being made

Rule 14 allows that in these circumstances the decision may still be made where the decision maker has obtained agreement from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (or his/her nominee) or if not available the Mayor or in their absence the Deputy Mayor. As soon as it is reasonably practicable after the decision maker has received agreement from the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny that the decision is urgent and cannot be reasonably deferred, a notice will be made available at the offices of the local Authority setting out the reasons why compliance with the 28 days was impracticable and this will be published on the Council's website. Where Rule 14 applies the decision is exempt from call-in.

Subject Matter:	Officer	Rule Applied	Date of Decision and Date of authorisation	By	Reason(s) for the decision
Local Full Fibre Network Contract Award	Carol Brown, Director of Environmental Services	Rule 14	Decision Authorisation: 3 March 2020	Councillor McLaren	DECISION AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be exempt from Call In due to timescales. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.
Unity IT Restructure	Helen Lockwood, Deputy Chief Executive	Rule 13	Decision Authorisation: 12 March 2020	Councillor McLaren	DECISION AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be agreed. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.
Additional Expenditure in Support of Hospital Discharge and Health & Social Care In response to the Covid 19 Emergency	Helen Ramsden, Interim Asst Director of Joint Commissioning	Rule 14	Decision Authorisation: 31 March 2020	Councillor McLaren	DECISION AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be exempt from Call In due to timescales. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.
Funding of Legal and Advice Services	Natalie Downs, Stronger Communities Manager	Rule 14	Decision Authorisation: 3 April 2020	Councillor McLaren	DECISION AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be exempt from Call In due to timescales. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.
Resources Received by the Council in Response to COVID-19 and the Creation of a Council Fund for Related Expenditure to Supplement the Government Announced Funding	Anne Ryans Director of Finance	Rule 14	Decision Authorisation: 21 April 2020	Councillor McLaren	AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be exempt from Call In due to timescales. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.

Hardship Funding 2020/21	Anne Ryans Director of Finance	Rule 14	Decision Authorisation: 21 April 2020	Councillor McLaren	AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be exempt from Call In due to timescales. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.
Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan – Tackling Nitrogen Dioxide Exceedances at the Roadside – Preparatory implementation and contract arrangements	Carol Brown, Director of Environmental Services	Rule 14	Decision Authorisation:	Councillor McLaren	AUTHORISED: For the recommendation in the report to be exempt from Call In due to timescales. The decision had not been placed on the Key Decision Document.



Report to OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Colin McLaren, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board

Report Author: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer
Ext. 4716

16th June 2020

Purpose of the Report

For the Overview and Scrutiny Board to review the Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme.

Executive Summary

The Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme is designed to outline the areas the Board will be provided an overview during the 2020/21 Municipal Year as well as issues to be scrutinized. The work programme covers the issues to be discussed at each meeting, issues and actions arising from the meeting and outstanding issues.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, several reports that were on the work programme for early in the municipal year have had to be delayed. These will be monitored by Constitutional Services and be placed on the work programme following discussion with the Chair as they become available.

Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Board is asked to note and comments on the the Overview and Scrutiny Board Work Programme.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD WORK PROGRAMME 2020-2021 AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN

PART A – MEETING PROGRAMME

MEETING DATE & VENUE	AGENDA ITEM	SUMMARY OF ISSUE	CABINET PORTFOLIO (link to Corporate Outcome)	RESOLUTION / RECOMMENDATION	Comments
Tuesday, 16 June 2020 6.00 p.m. Deadline for reports: 5 June 2020	Annual Report	Overview and Scrutiny Work for the period 2019/20	All		
Page 81	Toolkit	Training Tool for O&S Members			
	Task and Finish Group Updates	Progress Reports			
	Place Based Integration	Verbal update on Progress	Economy and Enterprise (Thriving Communities)		
Wednesday, 22 July 2020 6.00 p.m. Deadline for reports: 10 July 2020	Get Oldham Working and Career Advancement Services (Work and Skills Strategy)	Update on the strategy	Education and Skills (An Inclusive Economy)		Requested by Board in July 2019
	Thriving Communities	Update on the programme	Social Justice and Communities (Thriving Communities)		Requested by Board in July 2019

	Council Motions Updates		All		
	Statement of Community Involvement	Consultation	Housing (Cooperative Services)		Policy Framework
	Future High Street Fund and Towns Fund	Update	Economy & Enterprise (An Inclusive Economy)		
Tuesday, 8 September 2020, 6.00 p.m. Deadline for reports: 26 Aug 2020	Community Safety and Cohesion Partnership	Policy Update	Social Justice and Communities (Thriving Communities)		Policy Framework
Tuesday, 20 October 2020 6.00 p.m. Deadline for Reports: 8 October 2020	Youth Offer	An update on the Council's Youth Offer (Youth Council to be invited to attend)	Children's Services (Cooperative Services)		
	Licensing Policy	Review of the Policy	Social Justice and Communities (Cooperative Services)		Policy Framework

Tuesday, 1 December 2020 6.00 p.m. Deadline for Reports: 19 Nov 2020	Green New Deal Strategy and Generation Oldham	Update on the action plan and scheme			
	Youth Justice Plan	Annual Report	Social Justice and Communities		Policy Framework
Tuesday, 19 January 2021 6.00 p.m. Deadline for Reports: 8 Jan 2021	SEND Services	Update on the services and progress against the Written Statement of Action	Education and Skills (Thriving Communities)		Requested by Board in January 2020
	Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report	Annual Report	Health and Wellbeing and Children's Services (Thriving Communities)		Requested by Board in January 2020
	Homelessness Strategy 2021	Review of Strategy	Housing (Cooperative Services)		Policy Framework
Tuesday, 9 March 2021 6.00 p.m.					

Deadline for Reports: 16 Feb 2021					

PART B – ONE OFF MEETINGS / WORKSHOPS / TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

Date	Title	Summary of issue	Cabinet Portfolio	Timescales	Notes	Outcome
	Community Asset Transfer					
	Poverty					

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PART C – OUTSTANDING ISSUES – DATES TO BE DETERMINED

When Discussed	Title	Summary of issue	Cabinet Portfolio	Timescales	Notes	Outcome
22 Oct 19	Youth Council Motions: Motion related to Knife Crime and a discussion was held at O&S on 22 Oct 19. Council further approved a motion related to 'Make Your Mark' for a discussion with Cabinet members	The Youth Council held a Summit in February 2020, outcomes were to be shared with O&S. Make Your Mark – to discuss what is being done to address issues associated with the environment, knife crime, youth violence and public transport.	Children's Services			

Jan 2018	Oldham Town Centre Vision	Update to the Board	Economy and Enterprise	TBC	Delayed	
	Corporate Plan	Consultation on new Plan	All		Policy Framework	

PART D – ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Date of Meeting	Title of Report	Directorate	Action(s)	Date Completed and Outcome

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Extending the Co-operative Approach to the Use of Council Asset Policy – Task and Finish Group Interim Report

Report Author: Councillor McLaren, Chair

16th June 2020

Reason for Decision

For progress on the Task and Finish Group regarding the extension of the Co-operative Approach to the Use of the Council Asset Policy to be noted.

Executive Summary

The report provides an update on the progress of the Task and Finish Group addressing the extension of the Co-operative Approach to the Use of the Council Asset Policy.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board note the information contained

Extending the Co-operative Approach to the Use of the Council Asset Policy – Task and Finish Group Interim Report

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Oldham Council’s Medium Term Property Strategy (MTPS) was approved in August 2018. One of the work streams within this strategy related to increasing the number of assets to be transferred under Community Asset Transfer (CAT) in order to reduce the Council’s current “holding costs” associated with this portfolio of assets.

1.2 A further report relating to the “Proposed Revisions to the Co-operative Approach to the Use of Council assets Policy” (CAUCA) outlining the difficulties arising from the current CAT process was approved in March 2019. The report focussed on a strategy to streamline the process and included the following recommendations:

- 1) The proposed revised Co-operative Approach to the Use of Council Assets policy.
- 2) Use of an application form and assessment matrix with effect from 01/04/19.
- 3) Limiting applications to a period of twelve months in which to complete a lease or other form of occupational agreement otherwise the group has to either re-apply or the Council may withdraw and seek to dispose of the asset if substantive or meaningful progress towards a CAT is not made by the applicant/group.
- 4) Request CAT applicants where the Council has yet to receive a full business case to complete the application form and be advised of the assessment matrix, the revised process or time limits in order to progress matters.
- 5) Note that groups occupying Council assets and where no formal lease is in place that the Council will no longer be in a position to cover running costs and repairs and maintenance. Notice periods and engagement with groups will follow if this is approved.

1.3 The report also refers to a lack of resources (Section 2.1.2) as follows:

- Limited resources within Unity Partnership – currently one part time member of staff working ten hours per week.
- Lack of resources and competing work streams within Legal Service and Finance.
- Lack of resources and funding for Action Together (AT), that is, the Council’s partner in assisting groups with the CAT process.

1.4 The report also suggests (section 2.2.4) that it is clear from the MTPS (section 6.6) that:

“To support a CAT, applicants will need to prepare a business case with a robust financial plan that demonstrates a clear community and social demand for the proposed use. The business plan will also address the organisational capacity of the group that wishes to take over the asset and an appreciation of the ongoing property management responsibilities; as and when an asset is transferred, these responsibilities will pass from the Council to the organisation applying for the asset.”

In addition, it should be recognised that CAT (section 3.2):

Is not suitable for all properties or for all organisations. The Council will continue to work with local organisations to ensure that a range of tools, programmes and initiatives are in place to support the strong and sustainable voluntary and community sector within the Borough.

Consultation relating to report (section 7.1) was as follows:

The principle of adopting the preferred option was considered and approved. It was not referred to Overview and Scrutiny at any stage.

In November 2019, the Council (under rule 16 of the Constitution referred a report to the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (O and S) for an urgent decision) endorsed a recommendation in support of the voluntary sector infrastructure as follows:

Option 5 – Increase the funding for the Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Support whilst incorporating the requirements for the provision of accommodation support for the VCSFE Sector.

This is the preferred option as it would mean that the offer of intensive and specialist organisational development for community groups is maintained without creating additional pressure on Action Together to be able to meet the demand.

An award of £271/000 is an increase in the amount allocated to the voluntary infrastructure grant. However, as a result of a contribution of £32,000 from CCG, we would still be able to achieve the required 10% reduction and contribute to the corporate savings target.

The report continues (section 4.5) as follows:

This is the preferred option as it would mean that there is a wider offer available to community groups around exploring and securing suitable accommodation, including support to apply and prefer for CAT if this was the most suitable option.

There would also be continued support for the CAT process from a Council perspective which would contribute to the achievement of the revised performance target of eight assets transferred to community groups over the lifetime of the CAUCA policy. Retaining this support for the VCSFE sector contributes to all three sectors of the Oldham Model, namely, Thriving Communities, an Inclusive Economy and Integrated Services.

It continues as follows below:

Increasing the overall infrastructure grant, which is the core funding for AT, would mean that the support around accommodation for the VCSFE sector would be retained without reliance on corporate reserves and would ensure that AT had the appropriate resources to maintain the offer to the VCSFE sector in Oldham.

At the same time, a series of attempts by elected members to find a means of promoting the re-establishment of a community café in Chadderton WBC proved fruitless. A number of meetings with Council officers, representatives of AT and Community First (PFI owners of Chadderton WBC) demonstrated that there

appeared to be no degree of co-ordination between officers and organisations to pursue any option (not to mention the cost involved).

- 1.5 At this point, O and S were asked to consider establishing a task and finish group. At their meeting on 23 July 2019, the Management Board endorsed the terms of reference as set out in the attached Appendix One.

The task and finish group consisted of Cllrs Barbara Brownridge, Martin Judd (until his resignation) and Colin McLaren who arranged meeting with various officers and a representative of AT. A meeting was also arranged with Wigan Council which took place on 30/09/19. It seems that much of their approach informed the report approved in March 2019.

However, there is one important difference. Wigan Council had established a small unit of officers with specific responsibility to liaise with community groups and organisations to provide legal advice and support for negotiating a lease, writing a business plan and preparing applications for funding etc.

The information which has come to light, so far, would suggest that many groups and organisations in Oldham can demonstrate enthusiasm and commitment. However, many of their members do not always possess the necessary background and experience to engage in any process relating to CAT (such as negotiating a lease, or developing a business plan) which are associated with the use of Council owned buildings for community activities.

- 1.6 It is suggested, therefore, that clarification is needed for some, or all, of the following:

- Is the revised policy clear as to why the Council wishes to transfer assets? If it is primarily to save money, then it is likely that some initial investment to secure sustainable transfer would be appropriate? The current policy seems to be focusing on reducing the portfolio by relying on community groups and organisations coming forward who are in possession of the necessary skills, as well as the commitment, to maintain and utilise the premises for community activities.
- Some thought needs to be given to the creation of a small centralised group of Council officers to oversee Council buildings that are to be made available for CAT. This would help to ensure that all legal requirements were met and leave the group to use the building for communal activities. It would also help to ensure that they were properly maintained. This approach would also allow the Council to retain the buildings and also allow them to be re-developed for alternative uses in the future (if that was desirable). It is suggested that this may help to secure genuine community use. It is apparent that CAT will not occur to any great extent without considerable input from the Council alongside AT.

Extending the Co-operative Approach to the Use of Council Asset Policy – Terms of Reference

Further to the report approved by Cabinet on 25 March 2019 to amend the Council's current co-operative approach to the use of Council Assets (CAUCA), it is proposed to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Board Task and Finish Group to investigate the nature and extent of support available to community groups seeking to acquire the use of Council owned assets to promote community initiatives.

This might include the following:

- Help, advice and support through the various stages of entering into a licensing or leasing arrangement for the use of a Council asset.
- Help, advice and support in entering into an agreement to agree a lease subject to funding being made available through the grant system.
- Support in the development of a business plan to ensure that the proposal to acquire a facility is viable, sustainable, achievable and that there is sufficient voluntary support available and that there is sufficient voluntary support available now and in the future.
- Help to prepare applications for funding which may require some training and preparation.
- Help in addressing issues relating to, for example, VAT and other financial aspects of any business transaction which may not be readily understood by volunteers lacking experience of business or finance.
- Consideration as to whether sharing costs for cleaning and other services which may produce economies of scale and reduce overheads for voluntary groups.

It is proposed to consider whether the Council should establish a small unit of officers / members to support community asset transfer. The voluntary sector is an important partner who can assist in the development of many local services, activities, events, etc., which need a community hub and can help to promote social inclusion, social cohesion, tackle loneliness and support those residents suffering from dementia/Alzheimer's disease as well as their carers.

Whilst there are Council officers who can support this process, there is no obvious flow diagram that would enable representatives of voluntary groups to 'find a way through the system' who can provide advice but who are not in a position to provide practical help.

Whilst Action Together may be able to offer some support, it is evident that there is insufficient overall support in the system to enable the policy for Community Asset transfer to work efficiently and effectively.

The purpose of the Task and Finish Group is to consider how this situation might be addressed.

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Report to OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

Key Decision Document

Portfolio Holder: Various

Report Author: Lori Hughes, Constitutional Services Officer
Ext. 4716

16th June 2020

Purpose of the Report

For the Overview and Scrutiny Board to review and note the latest published Key Decision Document.

Executive Summary

Overview and Scrutiny bodies have access to the Key Decision Document and timetable for decisions and intentions for consultation. Where the overview and scrutiny function has not scrutinised an item on the Key Decision Document, but that item has implications for policy/service development, then the overview and scrutiny body will have full opportunity to be able to submit any comments to the relevant Cabinet Member/Chief Officer during the course of the consultation process in relation to any key decision.

Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Board is asked to note the Key Decision Document and to provide any comments.

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KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
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Economy and Enterprise Cabinet Portfolio

RCR-10-14	Western Gateway Town Centre Land and Property Acquisitions	Director of Economy	July 2020	Cabinet
Description: To acquire strategic land and properties across the Western Gateway of the Town Centre Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private for financial and commercial reasons				
ECEN-12-07	Oldham Heritage and Arts Centre Enabling Works	Director of Economy	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Economy & Enterprise (Leader - Councillor Sean Fielding)
Description: The implementation of enabling works in relation to the development of a new heritage and arts centre and a new theatre. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Part A Cabinet report (Oldham Cultural Quarter), 24th April 2017.				
ECEN-02-19	Tommyfield Market Options	Director of Economy	July 2020	Cabinet
Description: To approve recommendations relating to the future of Tommyfield Market. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Report is to be considered in private due to commercial sensitivity and detail of financial/business affairs.				

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
ECEN-23-19	Alexandra Park Depot	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Economy & Enterprise (Leader - Councillor Sean Fielding)
Description: Consultant fees Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Cabinet Paper 28th January 2018 Public				
ECEN-20-19	Land to the North of the Lancaster Club, Broadway, Failsworth (1935 land) [Failsworth West]	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Economy & Enterprise (Leader - Councillor Sean Fielding)
Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private:				
ECEN-02-20	Hollinwood Junction and Housing Delivery Options	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	August 2020	Cabinet
Description: Hollinwood Junction and Housing Delivery Options Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Report to be considered in private due to commercial confidentiality				

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
ECEN-04-20	Award of the main OMA contract	Director of Economy	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Economy & Enterprise (Leader - Councillor Sean Fielding)
<p>Description: Award of main contract to refurbish the former library on Union St (now known as OMA) into a new heritage and arts centre. Work to include landscape works to land adjacent to the former library, and refurbishment of parts of Gallery Oldham</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Delegated report</p>				
ECEN-05-20	Alexandra Park Depot	Director of Economy	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Economy & Enterprise (Leader - Councillor Sean Fielding)
<p>Description: Construction of new depot and eco centre</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Delegated report (private)</p> <p>Report will contain financially sensitive information</p>				

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
ECEN-06-20	Council Response to Covid-19	Chief Executive/Accountable Officer NHS Oldham CCG	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Economy & Enterprise (Leader - Councillor Sean Fielding)
Description: Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Documents to be considered it private as it relates to the Council's business and financial affairs and those of partners and agencies				
ECEN-08-20 New!	Hollinwood Junction - Strategic Partnership Agreement	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	July 2020	Cabinet
Description: Hollinwood Junction - Strategic Partnership Agreement Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private report to Cabinet because it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.				

Education and Skills Cabinet Portfolio

EDS-08-19	Secondary Education Provision - Expansion of North Chadderton School	Managing Director, Children and Young People - Gerard Jones	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Education and Skills (Cllr Shaid Mushtaq)
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KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
<p>Description: The report is seeking approval to award a contract for the expansion of North Chadderton School, following the completion of a tender procurement exercise. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private</p>				

Children's Services Cabinet Portfolio

Page 99	CHS-02-20	Request for an extension to the Right Start service contract	Managing Director, Children and Young People - Gerard Jones, Strategic Director Communities and Reform – Rebekah Sutcliffe	June 2020	Cabinet
<p>Description: Cabinet are asked to approve a one-year extension of the contract from 31 March 2021 up until 31 March 2022 at the current the annual contract value. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and it is not in the public interest to disclose the information because of the commercially sensitive nature of the information enclosed in the report</p>					

Health and Social Care Cabinet Portfolio

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
HSC-02-20	Request to extend the contract for the provision of Oldham and Rochdale collaborative substance misuse treatment and recovery service	Strategic Director Communities and Reform – Rebekah Sutcliffe	June 2020	Cabinet
<p>Description: Request to Cabinet to extend the current contract for the provision of an integrated substance misuse service for a period of two years commencing 1 April 2021 until 31 March 2023.</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and is not in the public interest to disclose the information because of the commercially sensitive nature of the information enclosed in the report</p>				
HSC-03-20	Request for an extension to the Integrated Sexual Health Services contract	Strategic Director Communities and Reform – Rebekah Sutcliffe	June 2020	Cabinet
<p>Description: Cabinet are requested to approve the decision to extend the current contract for the Integrated Sexual Health Service until 31 March 2022 in collaboration with Bury and Rochdale and delegate authority to Rochdale Council and STAR procurement to enact a 12 month contract extension on behalf of Oldham Council.</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and it is not in the public interest to disclose the information because of the commercially sensitive nature of the information enclosed in the report</p>				

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
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Housing Cabinet Portfolio

HSG-03-20	Statement of Community Involvement	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	June 2020	Cabinet
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Description:
Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Statement of Community Involvement

HSG-04-20	Chadderton Neighbourhood Area and Forum Designations	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	June 2020	Cabinet Member - Housing (Cllr Hannah Roberts)
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Description: To designate The Chadderton Partnership as a Neighbourhood Forum and designate Chadderton as a Neighbourhood Area in line with the requirements set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (2012).
Document(s) to be considered in public or private:

Neighbourhood Services Cabinet Portfolio

NEI-09-19	GM Clean Air Plan - Approval to commence statutory consultation on key measures	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	July 2020	Cabinet
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Description: Approval to commence statutory consultation on key measures
Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Public report

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
NEI-01-20	Award of Contract for Highways work - New Saddleworth School	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	July 2020	Cabinet
<p>Description: Approval to award the contract for the highways works associated with the new Saddleworth School in Diggle Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Private - NOT FOR PUBLICATION by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and it is not in the public interest to disclose the information because it relates to the financial or business affairs of the Council.</p>				
NEI-03-20	Highways Improvement Programme 2019/20 - 2021/22	Deputy Chief Executive – Helen Lockwood	March 2021	Cabinet Member - Neighbourhoods Services (Councillor Ateeque Ur-Rehman)
<p>Description: Cabinet approved the £12m Highways Improvement Programme for delivery over the financial years 2019/20 to 2021/22 in March 2019.</p> <p>As part of the Programme there will be several schemes/groups of schemes with values exceeding £250,000 hence the need for an item on the key decision document. This item relates to any decisions made on tenders exceeding £250,000 in the 2020/21 financial year to ensure prompt delivery of the programme. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: N/A</p>				

Social Justice and Communities Cabinet Portfolio - None

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
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Finance and Corporate Services Cabinet Portfolio

FCS-05-20	Wrigley Head Solar Farm	Strategic Director Communities and Reform – Rebekah Sutcliffe	July 2020	Cabinet
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Description: Request for capital funding to develop a solar farm at Wrigley Head, Failsworth. Subject to receipt of ERDF funding via the 'Unlocking Clean Energy in Greater Manchester' Consortium
 Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Public

Commissioning Partnership Board

CPB-05-20	Adult Health and Social Care Fees for 2020/21	Managing Director Community Health & Social Care Services (DASS) – Mark Warren	June 2020	Commissioning Partnership Board
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KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
<p>Description: To make recommendations in relation to fees for the following commissioned services for 2020/21, following consultation with the health and adult social care provider market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential and Nursing Care • Care at Home • Extra Care Housing • Supported Living Services • Personal Assistants <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Decision to be made in private as it relates to the financial business affairs of the Council, its partners and service providers</p>				
CPB-06-20	Section 75 Agreement	Chief Executive/Accountable Officer NHS Oldham CCG	June 2020	Commissioning Partnership Board
<p>Description: To provide notification of decisions to be taken by the Commissioning Partnership Board</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Reports to be considered in private due to commercial sensitivity and details related to financial and business affairs of the Council, its partners and service providers</p>				
CPB-08-20	Proposed Use of the Transformation Fund 2020 2021	Chief Executive/Accountable Officer NHS Oldham CCG	June 2020	Commissioning Partnership Board
<p>Description: The use of the Greater Manchester and Social Care Partnerships Transformation Fund 2020/2021.</p> <p>Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Report to be in private as it relates to the financial and business affairs of the Council and its partners</p>				

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
CPB-07-20	Mental Health Investment Plan	Strategic Director of Commissioning / Chief Operating Officer - Mike Barker	June 2020	Commissioning Partnership Board
Description: The outline Mental Health Investment Plan for 2020/2021 and delivery of NHS long term plan requirements. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Report will be considered in private as it relates to the financial and business interests of the Council and its partners.				
CPB-10-20	S.75 2019/2020 Outturn Report	Director of Finance – Anne Ryans	July 2020	Commissioning Partnership Board
Description: The report will provide an update on the financial position. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: Documents will be considered in public.				
CPB-11-20	S.75 Budget Monitoring Report Month 6	Director of Finance – Anne Ryans	November 2020	Commissioning Partnership Board
Description: The report will provide an update on the financial position. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: The documents will be considered in public.				
CPB-12-20	S.75 Budget Monitoring Report Month 8	Director of Finance – Anne Ryans	February 2021	Commissioning Partnership Board
Description: The report will provided an update on the financial position. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: The documents will be considered in public.				
CPB-13-20	S.75 Budget Monitoring Report Month 9	Director of Finance – Anne Ryans	March 2021	Commissioning Partnership Board

KEY DECISION DOCUMENT – COVERING DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM 1 JULY 2020

Key Decision Reference	Subject Area For Decision	Led By	Decision Date	Decision Taker
Description: The report will provide an update on the financial position. Document(s) to be considered in public or private: The documents will be considered in public.				

Key:

New! - indicates an item that has been added this month

Notes:

1. The procedure for requesting details of documents listed to be submitted to decision takers for consideration is to contact the Contact Officer contained within the Key Decision Sheet for that item. The contact address for documents is Oldham Council, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1UH. Other documents relevant to those matters may be submitted to the decision maker.
2. Where on a Key Decision Sheet the Decision Taker is Cabinet, the list of its Members are as follows: Councillors Sean Fielding, Arooj Shah, Abdul Jabbar MBE, Amanda Chadderton, Shaid Mushtaq, Zahid Chauhan, Ateeque Ur-Rehman, and Hannah Roberts.
3. Full Key Decision details (including documents to be submitted to the decision maker for consideration, specific contact officer details and notification on if a report is likely to be considered in private) can be found via the online published plan at:
<http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=144&RD=0>