

CABINET Agenda

Date Monday 21st August 2023

Time 6.00pm

Venue Crompton Suite, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

- Notes
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires any 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 the Constitutional Services team in advance of the meeting.
 2. CONTACT details for this agenda are available from Constitutional Services Tel. 0161 770 5151 or email constitutional.services@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 Wednesday, 16th August 2023.
 4. FILMING - The Council, members of the public and the press may record/film/photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Constitutional Services Officer who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

Please note that anyone using recording equipment both audio and visual will not be permitted to leave the equipment in the room where a private meeting is held.

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.

Please also note the Public attendance Protocol on the Council's Website: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/homepage/1449/attending_council_meetings

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET IS AS FOLLOWS:

Councillors Ali, Brownridge, Dean, Goodwin, F Hussain, Jabbar, Mushtaq, Shah (Chair) and Taylor

Item No

- 1 Apologies For Absence
- 2 Urgent Business
Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair
- 3 Declarations of Interest
To Receive Declarations of Interest in any Contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting.
- 4 Public Question Time
To receive Questions from the Public, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
- 5 Minutes (Pages 1 - 14)
The Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 17th July 2023 and 24th July 2023 are attached for approval.
- 6 Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24: Quarter 1: April - June 2023 (Pages 15 - 66)
To provide an update, at 30th June 2023, of the Council's 2023/24 forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the capital programme, together with the revised capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28.
- 7 Grant Acceptance: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) - Oldham Mumps Corridor Improvement Scheme (Pages 67 - 78)
To confirm the value of the grant available to the Council and to notify Cabinet of the intention to bring this resource into the transport capital programme to commence a detailed development and the full business case for the scheme.
- 8 Grant Acceptance: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) - Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss Improvement Scheme (Pages 79 - 88)
To confirm the value of the grant available to the Council and to notify Cabinet of the intention to bring this resource into the transport capital programme to commence a detailed development and the full business case for the scheme.
- 9 Approval to utilise the GMCA Contract for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods (Pages 89 - 94)
To seek authority to enter into a call-off contract with a provider for the supply and Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods.
- 10 Corporate Furniture (Pages 95 - 104)

To seek approval to enter into a new contract with a furniture supplier following the completion of a mini tender process.

- 11 Approval to delegate authority to award contract following an open tender process for Advocacy Services (Pages 105 - 120)

To seek authority to delegate the award the contract to deliver the Oldham Advocacy Hub service, to the Director of Adult Social Services, following completion of an open procurement exercise.

- 12 Approval to delegate authority to award contract following an open tender process for Mental Health Supported Living Services (Pages 121 - 140)

To seek authority to delegate the award the contract to deliver Mental Health Supported Living Services, to the Director of Adult Social Services, following completion of the ongoing open procurement exercise.

- 13 UKSPF Skills Funding (15 – 19 NEET) (Pages 141 - 148)

To request approval to accept and enter into a grant agreement with GMCA for a portion of the UKSPF Skills grant funding and to seek approval for the delivery arrangements of the funding.

- 14 Oldham Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 (Pages 149 - 182)

Cabinet is asked to consider the Oldham Youth Justice Plan 2023/24

- 15 Exclusion of the Press and Public

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 two items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraph(s) 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

- 16 Approval to utilise the GMCA Contract for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods (Pages 183 - 192)

To consider the recommendations in the confidential report

- 17 Corporate Furniture (Pages 193 - 202)

To consider the recommendations in the confidential report

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET
17/07/2023 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillor Shah (in the Chair)
Councillors Ali, Brownridge, Goodwin, F Hussain, Jabbar,
Mushtaq, Shah and Taylor

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dean.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions for this meeting of the Cabinet to consider.

5 **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 during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it contains 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 report.

6 **ADULT HEALTH CARE/NURSING CARE PROVISION**

Consideration was given to a confidential report of the Director of Adult Social Care (DASS) which presented details of an impending emergency at one of the Borough's significant care homes.

Options/Alternatives considered

Five Options – 1, 2,3 4 and 5 were detailed in the report.

Options 1,2, 3 and 5 were rejected for the reasons detailed in the confidential report.

Resolved:

1. That Option 4, as detailed in the Director of Adult Social Care's report, be approved.
2. Given the urgency of this decision, it be exempted from call-in.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.10pm

This page is intentionally left blank

Present: Councillor Shah (in the Chair)
Councillors Ali, Brownridge, Dean, Goodwin, F Hussain, Jabbar,
Mushtaq and Taylor

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A question was received from Councillor Al-Hamdani:
"With regards to the proposed £1 million grant for the installation of a new pitch at Oldham Athletic, to ensure that the pitch is of sufficient standard for the proposed use by multiple clubs, I note that in paragraph 8.3(c) it requires "the production of a fit for purpose grant funding agreement, which not only deals with the expenditure of any grant funding, but also clawback and security of the grant funding in prescribed circumstances and the continued use of the site for the approved purpose."

I note that in a previous grant agreement with former owners of the club, a similar clause was present. However, a decision was taken behind closed doors not to exercise the agreement, with no formal record of the decision, no public record of the decision, and no report made to either Cabinet or Council.

With that in mind, I would like to ensure that any such clawback clause cannot be assessed without due record and transparency. As such, any decisions on such a clawback clause must be done in such a way that they include a formal record of the decision, and oversight by an elected body such as Cabinet or Full Council, and these requirements should be expressly laid out in the clause. Could you please confirm that this is the case."

Councillor Shah, Leader of the Council, responded:

"Many thanks for submitting your question to Cabinet – this was only brought to my attention very recently, so apologies it was not considered as part of due process at Cabinet the other week.

In consultation with the Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth, and Directors of Finance and Legal Services, I can confirm the following information to answer your query on behalf of the Cabinet –

- the finance agreement does indeed include a clause about clawback;
- in the event that clawback is required, to enable the Council to recover any of the grant deemed ineligible, the formal procedure would be for Officers to prepare a

formal report for the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and then depending on the nature of the concerns / issues being raised, this could then be escalated to Cabinet.

In either occurrence, the formal decision relating to the issues and enactment of clawback would be a matter of public record.”

5

MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 19th June 2023, be approved as a correct record.

6

APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET SUB-COMMITTEES AND JOINT COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Legal Services which sought appointments to the following Cabinet Sub-Committees:

1. The Local Investment Fund Cabinet Sub-Committee
2. The Commissioning Partnership Board
3. The Shareholder Cabinet Sub-Committee

The terms of reference for each sub-committee were considered by the Cabinet.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – To appoint to the sub-committees

Option 2 – Not to appoint to the sub-committees

RESOLVED That:

1. Membership of the Local Investment Fund Cabinet Sub Committee, in 2023/24, comprise:
 - The Leader of the Council
 - The Statutory Deputy Leader of the Council
 - The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Resources
2. Membership of the Commissioning Partnership Board, in 2023/24 comprise:
 - The Leader of the Council
 - The Statutory Deputy Leader of the Council
 - The Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care
 - The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
3. Membership of the Shareholder Cabinet Sub-Committee, in 2023/24 comprise:
 - The Leader of the Council
 - The Statutory Deputy Leader of the Council
 - The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Resources
 - The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods.
4. The terms of reference for the Local Investment Fund Cabinet Sub-Committee, the Commissioning Partnership Board and the Shareholder Cabinet Sub-Committee, be noted.

7

TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2022/23

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Finance which advised that the Council was required by regulations

issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2022/23.



The Director of Finance's report met the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

During 2022/23 the minimum reporting requirements were that full Council should receive the following reports: An annual treasury strategy in advance of the year, which was approved by the Council on 2nd March 2022. A mid-year (minimum) treasury update report, which was approved by the Council on 14th November 2022 and an annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the strategy (which was covered in the report detailing this item).

The regulatory environment placed responsibility on Members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. The report before the Cabinet was considered important in that respect, as it provided details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council's policies that had previously approved by members. The Council had confirmed that it had complied with the requirements under the Code to give prior scrutiny to the treasury strategy and the mid-year update.

The Audit Committee was charged with the scrutiny of treasury management activities in Oldham and had therefore considered and approved the contents of the Treasury Management Review 2022/23 report at its meeting on 27th June 2023. The Audit Committee had been content to commend this report to Cabinet. As such, Cabinet was therefore requested to approve the content of this annual report and to commend it to Council (to ensure full compliance with the Code for 2022/23).

Options/Alternatives considered:

In order that the Council complies with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the Cabinet has no option other than to consider and approve the contents of the report and to commend the report to Council. Therefore, no options/alternatives were presented.

Resolved that the Cabinet:

1. Approves the actual 2022/23 prudential and treasury indicators presented in the Director of Finance's report.
2. Approves the annual Treasury Management Review report for 2022/23.
3. Commend this report to Council.

The Cabinet considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive that sought approval to enter into a call-off contract with Access UK Limited to provide the Mosaic Social Care System, including Workflow API, together with any additional modules and services for Mosaic, subject to budget approval.

The current contract for Mosaic was due to expire on 16th July 2023; however, the Council required continued use of the system and, therefore, a replacement contract was required to commence immediately following the expiry of the current contract.

The purpose of this report therefore was to seek approval to procure a new support plan for the Hosted Managed Service of the Customers Integrated Adult and Children's Social Care System under an existing Framework Agreement for 3 years with the option to extend twice on an annual basis (3+1+1).

Options/alternatives considered:

Option A – to approve the recommendations in the report

Option b – to do nothing. This may ultimately result in significant increased costs for the Council, which are associated with buying a Business-Critical system.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information contained at item 15 of the agenda before making a decision.

9

APPROVAL TO AWARD THE TREE SURGERY FRAMEWORK

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director, Place and Economic Growth, which sought approval for the awarding of the framework agreement for Tree Surgery Services.

The Cabinet was informed that a framework agreement was to be established and used for allocating jobs, either by direct award to the first ranked bidder, or mini competition if the value of works is above £5,000. To establish the framework, an Invitation to Tender (ITT) was advertised using the open tender procedure. Following the advertisement, a supplier engagement event was held, with the primary objective of providing support and guidance in the tender process which included social value. The event was well received with 10 organisations attending; two of which were local and four were located with Greater Manchester.

In total 16 submissions were received; 11 of which were compliant. These were evaluated by the Commercial Procurement Unit and arboriculture specialists within the Environmental Services Team using the following criteria: Quality – 60%, Social Value – 10% and Price – 30%. Five bidders had been identified, as the outcome of the evaluation, as offering the most economic advantageous packages in relation to service delivery, cost, and social value. Details

thereon were contained within Part B of the Executive Director's report.



Oldham
Council

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 - to award the framework agreement to the most economically advantageous bidders.

Option 2 - do nothing. This would result in no formal framework agreement in place, breaching the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and no guaranteed stand-by and emergency provisions in place, both of which increase the risk for the Council.

Resolved:

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

10

ENVIRONMENTAL WARRANTY AT FITTON HILL

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy that sought to confirm settlement to a Notice that had been issued by ForHousing on 28th September 2022, notifying the Council of purported breaches of the environmental warranties in the Transfer Agreement between the Council and Villages Housing Association in 2004.

Members were advised that the Cabinet had approved the disposal of land at Fitton Hill to Countryside in March 2020. The land was being sold in partnership with ForHousing who owned 43.28% compared to the Council's 56.72% holding. Sales proceeds were split accordingly. Countryside had reserved the right to complete further Site Investigations and to revise the offer accordingly. An independent report by Savills was commissioned by the Council and ForHousing which confirmed these additional costs were reasonable and justified.

Part of the land which ForHousing had sold was formerly owned by the Council. This land was acquired by The Village Housing Association Limited from the Council in 2004 via a small-scale stock transfer. In the relevant transfer agreement, the Council had provided a warranty to The Village Housing Association Limited which effectively confirmed that there was no contamination in the relevant land. In 2019 The Village Housing Association Limited merged into City West Housing Trust, which was renamed ForHousing Limited.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – Settle the Claim. Based on the information above, the Council provided a Warranty when the land was transferred to Villages in 2004. Now that the sale to Countryside has been completed, the claim against the Council has been crystallised. The quantum of this claim had been independently verified as accurate.

Option 2 – Challenge the claim. The Council had no grounds to defend the claim and would only incur additional legal costs should this option be pursued.

Resolved:

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



Oldham
Council

11

SETTLED ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME FOR AFGHAN AND UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Economy which informed Members that the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) had made £500 million available to local authorities across England to assist with housing refugees who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or living in unsuitable temporary accommodation and who are in the UK under certain specific programmes.

Oldham Council had therefore been allocated grant funding from the £500m which intended to be used to make 11 properties available in the borough that will be designed to support Ukrainian and Afghan refugees between 2022 - 2024.

The Director of Economy's report confirmed the allocation of funding and the completion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and the DLUHC. The report was also seeking approval to enter into a grant agreement with two Registered Providers to contribute to the delivery of these homes. Oldham had been identified to be eligible for capital grant funding totaling £1,027,244 from DLUHC. This was not a competitive fund and the Council would be expected to use the grant to provide a minimum of eight homes, in addition to a minimum of three larger properties as bridging accommodation relief for the benefit of Afghan and Ukrainian refugees.

The grant funding would also support ongoing delivery of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority's wider Homelessness Prevention and Reduction Strategy.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – Do not enter into an Memorandum of Understanding with DLUHC and do not enter into a grant agreement with the two Registered Provider Partners. Proceeding with this option would result in the Council being unable to deliver the Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) project detailed in this report and increased risk of homelessness for Ukrainian and Afghan refugee cohorts.

Option 2 – Enter into an MoU with DLUHC and a grant agreement with two RPs to deliver the LAHF scheme. Taking this approach would enable the Council to continue to support our refugee communities, preventing risk of further homelessness in the borough. The grant will fund 11 properties of both permanent and temporary accommodation placements for eligible cohorts.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information contained at item 18 of the agenda before making a decision.

CULTURAL QUARTER PUBLIC REALM

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director, Place and Economic Growth, which advised members that the existing community garden located outside Oldham Library and Gallery Oldham would be subject to damage and changing levels as part of the refurbishment works to the Old Library and Old Post Office buildings, as the Council continues to deliver projects to bring both heritage buildings back into public use. This would also apply to the footways and carriageway as construction vehicles access the area on a more regular basis, and part of the area is used as a compound for important materials needed in close proximity to the buildings.

The Executive Director's report sought to outline proposals to reinstate the community garden and improve access routes to the cultural facilities in this area to ensure the green space is enhanced and valuable outdoor space is created, some of which can be used for events and performances.

The report sought approval to fund the replacement/reinstatement of the community garden area, to create a new public green space and reflection area, to create a new open air event space, and to improve the pedestrian and vehicular access routes in the Cultural Quarter of the town centre (i.e. the immediate areas by Oldham Library, Gallery Oldham, the Old Library building and the Old Post Office Building, located off Union Street).

The report was also seeking to obtain approval for the submission of a planning application and a highway stopping up order in respect of the proposals.

The Executive Director reported that culture and heritage were critical elements, which members of the public had asked the Council to enhance and protect during the Big Oldham Town Centre Conversation, that was held two years ago. This feedback had influenced and shaped the Creating a Better Place Programme of works, which included where possible bringing the borough's heritage buildings back into public use for future generations to enjoy.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – to approve the recommendations contained in the commercially sensitive information contained at item 19.

Option 2 – do nothing.

Resolved:

That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information contained at item 19 of the agenda before making a decision.

CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT (CRSTS) - TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director, Place and Economic Growth regarding the City Region Sustainable

Transport Settlement (CRSTS) - Transport Capital Programme 2023/24. Historically, highway maintenance funding was received through the Core Highways Maintenance and Integrated Transport Block (ITB): this has now been 'consolidated' into the CRSTS and Oldham had a new funding settlement, effective from 1st April 2022 and lasting for a 5 year period.

Cabinet was advised that with the strategic approach for the 5-year CRSTS programme, that had previously been approved in March 2022, the submitted report sought formal acceptance of the funding and the programmes recommended for delivery in 2023/24.

The Executive Director reported that a core highway maintenance allocation of £35m (covering the first year of the £175m) would be made available to local authorities based on an allocation process agreed with the Greater Manchester (GM) Delivery Group, the GM Highways Group and the GM Treasurers.

To sustain the progress made as part of Oldham Council's recently completed Highway Investment Programme (HIP), it was planned to prioritise funds going forward in the same manner. Ensuring that the scheme selection was to be carried out in the same manner will allow the Council to continue to prioritise the correct intervention on the highway at the correct time. Prioritising the programme using the most recent condition data from the range of condition surveys carried out annually, and cross referencing those against claims and enquiry data, had allowed Highways Officers to not only target the worst roads across the borough, but also to continue in their efforts to reduce highway claims and revenue repairs throughout Oldham.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1 – that the Cabinet agrees that the proposed programme of schemes, which would fully utilise the expected City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement highway maintenance and Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations, available for 2023/24 as per the formal grant notification from GMCA.

Option 2 – that the Cabinet does not agree that the proposed programme of schemes, which would fully utilise the expected City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement highway maintenance and Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations, available for 2023/24 as per the formal grant notification from GMCA.

Resolved that the Cabinet approves:

1. The allocation of CRSTS maintenance funding to the figures shown below

Year	CRSTS & ITB Allocation	ITB Schemes	Footway	Structures	Carriageway
2023-24	£3,824,000	£707,000	£100,000	£1,647,000	£1,370,000

2. The proposed programme of schemes, which would fully utilise the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement highway maintenance and Integrated Transport Block (ITB) allocations available for 2023/24, as per the formal grant notification from GMCA.
3. That all tender award decisions are approved by the Authorised Officer (as per Departmental Scheme of Delegation) (up to £99,999) and where applicable (£100K+) by the Executive Member in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive, Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth, Managing Directors, and Directors (as relevant); this being necessary to meet delivery timescales.
4. To delegate approval and authorisation to the Director of Legal Services or his nominated representative to sign and/or affix the Common Seal of the Council to all contracts/agreements/documents and associated or ancillary paperwork to give effect to the recommendations in this report.
5. That any underspend generated as the attached programmes progress (as per Appendices to the submitted report) be used to deliver additional schemes in priority order (although lower priority schemes may be selected depending on available budget, value for money and type of treatment) until the budget is fully expended in year.
6. To seek approval for any underspend generated as the programme progresses to be used to deliver additional schemes in priority order (although lower priority schemes may be selected depending on available budget, value for money and type of treatment) until the budget is fully expended in year. This approach to utilising underspend means we do not need to gain further approvals to deliver additional schemes, ensuring they can be delivered as soon as practically possible.

14

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 five items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 3 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

15

CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS - ADULT & CHILDREN SOCIAL CARE SOFTWARE APPLICATION (MOSAIC - THE ACCESS GROUP)

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 8: Contractual Arrangements - Adult & Children Social Care Software Application (MOSAIC - The Access Group).

Resolved:

That Cabinet approves a Call-Off Contract under YPO Ref No 1095 Software Applications Framework Agreement

Lot 12 Health & Social Care Systems largely on the call-off terms and conditions prescribed by the Framework Agreement and delegate authority to the Director of Legal Services to formalise any relevant legal requirements, including the execution of the Call-Off Contract as a Deed.

16 **APPROVAL TO AWARD THE TREE SURGERY FRAMEWORK**

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 9: Approval to Award Tree Surgery Framework.

Resolved:

That the Framework Agreement is awarded to the 5 highest ranking bidders.

17 **ENVIRONMENTAL WARRANTY AT FITTON HILL**

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 10: Environmental Warranty at Fitton Hill.

Resolved:

1. Cabinet agrees that the claim from ForHousing under the Notice of Breach, for the amount specified in the report, be paid.
2. Cabinet authorises the Director of Legal Services, or his nominated representative, to sign and/or affix the Common Seal of the Council to all documents required to bring effect to the recommendations in the report.

18 **SETTLED ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME FOR AFGHAN AND UKRAINIAN REFUGEES**

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 11: Settled Programme for Afghan and Ukrainian Refugees.

Resolved that Cabinet:

1. Confirms acceptance of the grant from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
2. Delegates authority to the Director of Economy to agree and enter into grant agreements with First Choice Homes Oldham and Cromwood Homes (which will incorporate the requirements under the MoU) to deliver the homes, subject to the Subsidy Control regime.
3. Delegates authority to the Director of Legal Services to formalise any necessary legal requirements including signing and/or sealing any documentation required to give effect to the recommendations and/or delegations in this report.
4. Delegates authority to the Director of Economy and/or their nominee to approve the appointment of external legal advisers required to protect the Council's interests and give effect to the recommendations in this report.

19 **CULTURAL QUARTER PUBLIC REALM**

The Cabinet considered the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 12: Cultural Quarter Public Realm.

Resolved that Cabinet:

1. Approves the proposals for the Cultural Quarter Public Realm as indicated in Appendix 1.
2. Approves a budget, for the amount specified in the report, for the Cultural Quarter Public Realm project
3. Approves the delivery of the Phase 1 Cultural Quarter Public Realm works within the Old Library Phase 2 works.
4. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Reform and Regeneration, to approve the final delivery mechanism/agent for the Phase 2 works of the Cultural Quarter Public Realm (prior to the conclusion of the Oldham Theatre project).
5. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Reform and Regeneration, to apportion the final funding requirement to each phase of the Cultural Quarter Public Realm project (capped with the approved overall funding envelope in point 4 above) and funded from the various funding streams identified in this report.
6. Approves the submission of a planning application in respect of the earthworks and public realm proposals.
7. Approves the submission of a highways stopping up order application for Ashworth St and the northern end of Southgate St. (subject to planning approval being obtained).
8. Subject to the progression of all the above, Cabinet authorises the Director of Legal Services, or his nominated representatives, to sign and/or affix the Common Seal of the Council to all contractual documentation and associated or ancillary documentation referred to above and/or required to give effect to the above approvals/authorisations, delegations and recommendations in this report.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.20pm

This page is intentionally left blank



Report to Cabinet

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Quarter 1 – June 2023

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Abdul Jabbar MBE, Cabinet Member for Finance & Corporate Resources

Officer Contact: Anne Ryans, Director of Finance

Report Author: Anne Ryans, Director of Finance
Ext. 4902

21 August 2023

Reason for Decision

The report provides Cabinet with an update as at 30 June (Quarter 1) of the Council's 2023/24 forecast revenue budget position (at Annex 1) and the financial position of the capital programme together with the revised capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28 (at Annex 2), as outlined in section two of the report.

Executive Summary

Revenue Position

The forecast outturn position for 2023/24 is a projected deficit variance of £12.104m after allowing for approved and pending transfers to and from reserves.

Unlike 2022/23, when £12.000m of corporate resources were held to offset costs arising from the legacy of the COVID-19 pandemic, the budget for 2023/24 has been prepared so that anticipated COVID legacy costs are consolidated within the mainstream budgets of Children's Social Care and Community Health and Adult Social Care.

An update on the major issues driving the projections is detailed within Annex 1, Section 2.

As this financial monitoring report reflects the financial position at Quarter 1, it can be regarded as an early warning of the potential year- end position if no further action is taken to reduce net expenditure where possible. The management action initiated in 2022/23 across all service areas to review and challenge planned expenditure and to maximise income has had to be continued in 2023/24. Although, the impact of this action has yet to take full effect in the current financial year, it is anticipated that by the year end, the current

outturn deficit position should be reduced. This should start to be demonstrated in the update reports which are to be presented to Cabinet at months 6, 8 and 9.

Information on the Quarter 1 position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Collection Fund is also outlined in the report.

The 2022/23 DSG outturn was a cumulative surplus of £0.899m; the first time that a surplus has been reported since 2016/17, representing the achievement of a major financial milestone for the Council. Future projections continue to improve with forecast surpluses of £2.517m and £2.765m in 2023/24 and 2024/25 respectively. Action will continue to be taken with the aim of mitigating cost pressures and delivering and maintaining the surplus position.

There are currently no significant issues of concern in relation to the HRA.

The Collection Fund is forecasting an in-year surplus of £1.638m, with the Council's proportion of this surplus being £1.700m. The Collection Fund is a particularly volatile area to forecast with many variables, including the impact of Government Business Rate reliefs, therefore, this area will be closely monitored over the remaining months. Information will be available later in the year to determine if / how a surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund will impact on the 2024/25 Council budget.

Capital Position

The report outlines the most up to date capital spending position for 2023/24 to 2027/28 for approved schemes. The revised capital programme budget for 2023/24 is £103.748m at the close of Quarter 1, a net decrease of £6.557m from the original budget approved at Council on 1 March 2023 of £110.305m. Actual expenditure to 30 June 2023 was £12.405m (11.96% of the forecast outturn).

It is likely that the forecast position will continue to change throughout the year with additional re-profiling into future years.

Recommendations

That Cabinet approves the:

1. Forecast revenue outturn for 2023/24 at Quarter 1 being a £12.104m adverse variance and action being taken to manage expenditure
2. Forecast positions for the Dedicated Schools Grant, Housing Revenue Account and Collection Fund
3. Revised capital programme for 2023/24 and the forecast for the financial years to 2027/28 as at Quarter 1.

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2023/24 Quarter 1 – June 2023**1 Background**

- 1.1 The Authority's 2022/23 revenue budget and capital programme was approved by Council on 1 March 2023. Under established budget procedures, all services are required to monitor and review their approved revenue and capital budgets during the financial year. This is reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis with an additional report at month 8 which is used to inform the budget setting process for the following financial year.
- 1.2 As part of the budget monitoring process, the forecast year-end position for revenue and capital has been prepared by all services as follows:
- a) The revenue forecast is based on a comparison of profiled budgets to the actual position as at the end of Quarter 1 together with known commitments, issues and planned management actions.
 - b) The capital programme forecast has been based on notified revisions to the approved 2023/24 position including the final 2022/23 outturn, new grant notifications and an initial rephasing of the approved capital programme.
- 1.3 As the year progresses the outturn projections will reflect the evolving position and the impact of management actions put in place to mitigate in-year pressures, new developments and changes in the profile of planned expenditure and of course any additional support that the Government may provide.

2. Current position

- 2.1 The forecast revenue outturn for 2023/24 is an adverse variance of £12.104m after the application of £7.385m of reserves. Further details of the current revenue budget position and a full description of the forecast can be found in Annex 1. There are three areas which are forecasting pressures at Quarter 1, totalling £14.957m. There are pressures within Community Health and Adult Social Care of £0.518m, Place and Economic Growth of £3.553m and more significantly, Children's Services of £10.886m. Favourable variances totalling £2.853m which are offsetting these pressures are reported in Public Health at £0.250m, Communities at £0.128m, Corporate Services at £0.586m and Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting at £1.888m.
- 2.2 It should be noted that four of the approved 2023/24 Budget Reductions are classified 'Red' and are forecast not to be delivered, one within Communities, one within Place and Economic Growth and two within Corporate Services all with a combined value of £0.108m which has been factored into the forecasts. In addition, one Budget Reduction within Children's Services is rated 'Amber/Red' and will only deliver £0.020m of the approved £0.060m, therefore, £0.040m has been factored into the forecasts as undeliverable. A further seven Budget Reductions have been rated as 'Amber' with a combined value of £2.252m. These will continue to be monitored throughout the year with the aim of maximising deliverability. At Quarter 1, these have been assumed to deliver and so no impact has been built into the forecasts.

2.3 The projected net adverse variance is of concern and as a result, management action is required across all service areas to review and challenge planned expenditure and to maximise income to support the financial resilience of the Council. This management action replicates that which was introduced during previous financial years:

- the review and challenge of planned expenditure across all services and the maximisation of income;
- processes to monitor the recruitment of staff to vacant posts and significant items of expenditure; and
- ensuring non-essential expenditure is minimised.

2.4 There remains in 2023/24 a high degree of estimation with regard to emerging cost and demand pressures, particularly within Children's and Adult Social Care, together with the impact of cost of living pressures on pay awards and also increases in interest rates. The forecasting of the likely impact of all these factors on the Council's budget is based on both the actual expenditure and the income position recorded to date but also relies on a series of assumptions. These assumptions will be constantly updated in the light of national and indeed international influences. Future reports will advise of the progress of mitigating factors and management actions to control and reduce the forecast deficit.

2.5 As this financial monitoring report reflects the financial position at Quarter 1, it can be regarded as an early indication of the year end position if continued corrective action is not pursued. Every effort will be made to reduce the forecast variance by the year end to mitigate any potential impact on the 2024/25 budget. Members will be aware that as outlined at the Budget Council meeting on 1 March 2023, the forecast budget reduction requirement for 2024/25 is £10.224m. This assumes all approved budget reductions are delivered and is before any revisions to reflect further increases in demand pressures or higher than anticipated pay awards. If expenditure cannot be controlled in year and there is a consequent increased budget reduction requirement for 2024/25, it is likely that further reserves will have to be used to balance the budget and this will have an impact on the financial resilience of the Council.

2.6 The original capital programme for 2023/24 totalled £110.305m. The revised capital programme as at Quarter 1 taking account of approved carry forwards, approved new funding, new schemes and variations and proposed variations/ re-phasing gives projected revised expenditure of £103.748m. Actual expenditure at Quarter 1 was £12.405m (11.96% of the forecast outturn). Further details of expenditure and schemes within the capital programme can be found in Annex 2.

2.7 The Annual Review of the capital programme is now taking place as usual during the summer months. This is likely to lead to further reprofiling of planned expenditure and the realignment capital resources between schemes. Its findings and recommendations will be reported later in the financial year.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 The options that Cabinet might consider in relation to the contents of this report are;
- a) to consider the forecast revenue and capital positions presented in the report including proposed changes

b) to propose alternative forecasts

4 Preferred Option

4.1 The preferred option is that the Committee considers the forecasts and changes within this report; option (a) at 3.1.

5 Consultation

5.1 Consultation with the services within the Council and the Director of Finance.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The full financial implications are detailed in the report.

7 Legal Services Comments

7.1 There are no legal issues at this time.

8 Co-operative Agenda

8.1 Improving the quality and timeliness of the financial information available to citizens of Oldham supports the co-operative ethos of the Council.

8.2 The revenue budget and capital strategy/ programme have been prepared so that they embrace the Council's co-operative agenda with resources being directed towards projects that enhance the aims, objectives and co-operative ethos of the Council. Ongoing budget monitoring is key to ensuring this objective is met.

9 Human Resources Comments

9.1 There are no Human Resource implications.

10 Risk Assessments

10.1 The risk is that the proposed management actions are not achieved in full. Should this be the case then alternatives will be sought and implemented.

11 IT Implications

11.1 There are no IT implications.

12 Property Implications

12.1 There are no Property implications.

13 Procurement Implications

13.1 There are no Procurement implications.

14 Environmental and Health & Safety Implications

14.1 There are no Environmental and Health and Safety implications.

15 Equality, Community Cohesion and Crime Implications

15.1 There are no Equality, Community Cohesion and Crime implications.

16 Implications for Children and Young People

16.1 There are no direct implications for Children and Young People

17 Equality Impact Assessment Completed

17.1 An equality impact assessment has been included at Annex 3.

18 Key Decision

18.1 Yes

19 Key Decision Reference

19.1 FLC-04-23

20 Background Papers

20.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

File Ref: Revenue Background Papers are contained in Annex 1 including Appendices 1, 2 and 3

Officer Name: Andy Cooper
Contact: andy.cooper@oldham.gov.uk

File Ref: Capital Background Papers are contained in Annex 2 including Appendices A to I

Officer Name: Lee Walsh
Contact No: lee.walsh@oldham.gov.uk

21 Appendices

Annex 1 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2023/24 Quarter 1 - June 2023

Appendix 1 Financing of the 2023/24 Revenue Budget at Quarter 1

Appendix 2 Analysis of Grants

Appendix 3 Summary of 2023/24 Budget Reductions and Deliverability

Annex 2	Capital Investment Programme Report 2023/24 Quarter 1 - June 2023
Appendix A	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Community Health & Adult Social Care
Appendix B	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Children’s Services
Appendix C	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Communities
Appendix D	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Place and Economic Growth
Appendix E	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)
Appendix F	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 – Corporate/ Information Technology
Appendix G	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting
Appendix H	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Funds for Emerging Priorities
Appendix I	SUMMARY – Quarter 1 - Proposed Variations
Annex 3	Equality Impact Assessment- Financial Monitoring 23-24 (Q01)

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2023/24

Quarter 1 - June 2023

1 Background

1.1 The Authority's 2023/24 revenue budget was approved by Council on 1 March 2023 at a sum of £287.051m incorporating:

- The use of £4.130m of surplus Collection Fund resources to support the 2023/24 revenue budget;
- Budget Reductions approved in 2021/22 and 2022/23 resulting in a budgetary impact of £3.655m for 2023/24;
- £16.313m of Budget Reductions approved within the 2023/24 budget;
- £12.786m use of corporate and specific reserves with an offsetting transfer to reserves of £1.209m reflecting the requirement, under the Business Rates Retention Pilot scheme, to pay the Greater Manchester Combined Authority a share of Retained Business Rates income; and
- £2.600m of capital receipts in line with the flexibilities agreed by Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

1.2 Under established budget procedures all services are required to monitor and review their approved budgets during the financial year. As part of this process, a forecast of the year-end position has been prepared by all services. The forecast is based on a comparison of profiled budgets to the actual position as at the end of Quarter 1 together with known commitments, issues and planned management actions.

1.3 Unlike 2022/23 when £12.000m of corporate resources were held to offset costs arising from the legacy of the COVID-19 pandemic, the budget for 2023/24 has been prepared so that anticipated COVID legacy costs are consolidated within the mainstream budgets of Children's Social Care and Community Health and Adult Social Care.

2 Current Position

2.1 The current net revenue budget of £292.316m represents an increase of £5.265m against the originally approved budget of £287.051m. This is due an increase in the utilisation of capital grants of £1.838m reflecting the reporting arrangements when preparing the Statement of Accounts. In addition, a range of un-ringfenced Government grants totalling £3.427m have been received since the Budget was approved. Table 1 shows the movement in funding. A full funding analysis can be found at Appendix 1.

Table 1 – Movement in Funding

Movement in Funding	£000
Capital Grants	(1,838)
Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme Grant	(1,444)
Rough Sleeping Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant	(708)
Business Rates Top-up Grant – an allocation arising from the notification of Public Health Grant funding	(577)
Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Funding Grant	(497)
Individual Placement and Support Grant	(156)
Extended Rights to Free Travel Grant	(45)
Net Movement in Funding	(5,265)

2.2 The current position for 2023/24 at Quarter 1 is a projected adverse variance of £12.104m, a forecast of the year-end position has been prepared by all services. The table below shows the year-end forecast position against budget for each Portfolio.

Table 2 – Summary Forecast Revenue Outturn

	Budget	Forecast	In Year Use of Transfer To/ (From) Reserves	Variance Quarter 1
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	77,455	81,032	(3,059)	518
Children's Services	69,382	80,656	(388)	10,886
Public Health	25,425	26,553	(1,378)	(250)
Communities	6,707	7,722	(1,143)	(128)
Place and Economic Growth	59,823	64,292	(916)	3,553
Corporate Services	28,826	28,513	(274)	(586)
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	24,698	23,037	(227)	(1,888)
NET EXPENDITURE	292,316	311,805	(7,385)	12,104
FINANCED BY:				
Collection Fund Surplus	(4,130)	(4,130)	-	-
General Use of Reserves	(12,786)	(12,786)	-	-
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves - Business Rates Retention Pilot Gain	1,209	1,209	-	-
Other Financing	(276,609)	(276,609)	-	-
TOTAL FINANCING	(292,316)	(292,316)	-	-
NET FORECAST VARIANCE	-	19,489	(7,385)	12,104

2.3 The forecast outturn to the end of the year, after a predicted and proposed (net) in-year transfer from reserves totalling £7.385m is an adverse variance of £12.104m, section 8 provides more detail about the approved and planned use of reserves at Quarter 1.

2.4 There are significant variances contained within the projected net overspend. There are currently three areas which are forecasting pressures at Quarter 1;

- Children's Services is forecasting a pressure of £10.886m, the most significant contributing factor to the adverse variance;
- Place and Economic Growth is forecasting a pressure of £3.553m; and
- Community Health and Adult Social Care is forecasting a pressure of £0.518m.

Favourable variances totalling £2.853m which are offsetting these pressures are reported in Public Health at £0.250m, Communities at £0.128m, Corporate Services at £0.587m and Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting at £1.888m.

More information on these variances is provided in summary in the following paragraphs and in detail in Section 3.

2.5 Community Health and Adult Social Care (CHASC) is reporting a net adverse variance of £0.518m, after a £3.059m use of reserves. The adverse variance is due to an additional temporary team of Social Workers deployed to undertake emergency Care Act assessments together with operational pressures within the Learning Disability and Mental Health services.

2.6 Children's Services is forecasting a net adverse variance of £10.886m, after a £0.388m use of reserves. The main pressure is within Children's Social Care (CSC) which is showing an overspend of £10.820m. The adverse variance within CSC is in the main due to an increased demand for social care placements with many complex cases plus additional costs relating to the use of agency workers to reflect the increase in demand for services and hence case numbers. Education, Skills and Early Years is reporting an overspend of £0.066m and Preventative Services is showing a balanced position.

2.7 Public Health is forecasting an underspend of £0.250m after a net £1.378m use of reserves primarily related to the use of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund grant which was brought forward from 2022/23.

2.8 Communities is showing an underspend of £0.128m after utilising £1.143m of reserves.

2.9 The Place and Economic Growth Portfolio is forecasting an adverse variance of £3.553m net of a £0.916m use of reserves, in the main due to pressures within the Waste Management, Estates and Property Management and Strategic Housing services.

2.10 The Corporate Services Portfolio is forecast to underspend by £0.586m after the utilisation of £0.274m use of reserves. There are minor pressures totalling £0.247m HR and Organisational Development (£0.156m), Commissioning and Procurement (£0.089m) and Legal Services (£0.002m). The pressures are offset by favourable variances totalling £0.833m relating to; Chief Executive, Management and Executive Office (£0.063m), Finance (£0.442m), Communications and Research (£0.014m) and Customer, Digital and Transformation (£0.314m).

2.11 Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting is showing a favourable variance of £1.888m.

-
- 2.12 A more detailed analysis of the financial performance, the major variances and contributing factors can be found by Portfolio in Section 3.
- 2.13 The approved budget for 2023/24 included centrally held resources to fund the final pay award (£6.113m), contractual and general inflationary pressures (£2.520m) and the cost-of-living crisis (£1.790m). Reserves have also been set aside to fund any additional pressures over and above these sums. The approved budgetary funding is being utilised as follows:
- Funding for **pay awards** of £6.113m is to be retained centrally and reallocated to service budgets to reflect the costs of the pay award once agreed. There is a dedicated reserve that, together with any remaining balance of the inflationary pressures budget, will be used to fund the full impact of the pay award.
 - Funding for **inflationary pressures** including energy and contractual inflation has been allocated directly to services where appropriate leaving a balance of £2.520m to address additional cost pressures through the year. Any balance, as advised above, will be used to fund the pay awards in service budgets. The £2.520m budget is forecast as being fully spent.
 - The funding for **cost of living crisis** will be allocated to service budgets as required. The £1.790m budget is forecast to be fully spent.
- 2.14 It is important to note that four of the 2023/24 approved Budget Reductions, one within Communities (see section 3.4.5), one within Place and Economic Growth (see section 3.5.5) and two within Corporate Services (see section 3.6.10) with a combined value of £0.108m are currently forecast not to be achieved and are therefore rated 'Red - Will not/ is not expected be delivered in full' and have been factored into the forecast position.
- 2.15 There is currently one Budget Reduction with a value of £0.060m within Children's Services rated 'Amber/Red - Being closely monitored in year with elements expected not to be delivered'. It is expected that £0.040m will not be achieved and this has been factored into the forecast position.
- 2.16 In addition, there are a further seven Budget Reductions, two within Place and Economic Growth (see sections 3.5.5), three within Corporate Services (see section 3.6.10), one within Children's Services (see section 3.2.14) and one within Public Health (see section 3.3.5) with a combined value of £2.252m rated 'Amber - Being closely monitored but expected to deliver'. These will continue to be monitored for the remainder of the year with the aim of maximising deliverability. At Quarter 1, these have been assumed to deliver and so no impact has been built into the financial forecast. A schedule and assessment of all the 2023/24 Budget Reductions is attached as Appendix 3.
- 2.17 As this financial monitoring report reflects the financial position at Quarter 1, it can be regarded as an early warning of the position if no corrective action is taken.
- 2.18 In view of the projected adverse variance, it is important to ensure that measures are taken to address the overspending, namely:
- management actions across all service areas to review and challenge planned expenditure and to maximise income;
-

- processes to monitor the recruitment of staff to vacant posts and significant items of expenditure; and
- ensuring non-essential expenditure is minimised.

2.19 The effectiveness of management action and corporate procedures will continue to be closely monitored by Management Teams right up to the end of the financial year.

3 Portfolio Summaries

3.1 Community Health and Adult Social Care

3.1.1 The Portfolio provides social care support to adults and carers across Oldham with a key aim of integrating and aligning the work with health partners to achieve greater efficiency in service delivery and better outcomes for the resident or patient. This covers both the commissioning and the provision of services. The following table shows the forecast position for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 3 – Community Health and Adult Social Care- Forecast Outturn

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Clusters	3,016	3,013	(66)	(69)
Commissioning	17,656	18,385	(1,500)	129
Community Business Services	1,392	1,584	(251)	(59)
Community Health & Social Care	27,388	27,383	-	(5)
Director Adult Social Care	2,148	2,385	(242)	(5)
Learning Disability	15,650	16,887	(1,000)	237
Mental Health	9,192	9,481	-	289
Safeguarding	1,013	1,014	-	1
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	77,455	81,032	(3,059)	518

Summary

3.1.2 The Portfolio has a projected overspend of £0.518m and incorporates the use of reserves of £3.059m.

3.1.3 The minimum NHS contribution to the Better Care Fund (BCF) has increased by 5.66% with a total allocation of £13.638m for 2023/24. The BCF Plan has been agreed and submitted and contained within the Plan is the Local Authority Discharge Funding allocation of £1.568m. The Council is awaiting notification about the Integrated Care Board element of Discharge Funding and therefore no assumption to any potential additional share has been built into the budget at this stage.

Clusters

3.1.4 The Cluster service area is reporting an under spend of £0.069m. Employee budgets report an underspend of £0.190m due to vacant Social Worker posts. The position also

includes £0.066m of earmarked reserves projected to be drawn down for temporary staff employed on the Review Team to facilitate delivery of the budget reduction proposal of £1.255m.

Commissioning

- 3.1.5 The Commissioning service is reporting an overspend of £0.129m. An expected cost of £0.215m is for a temporary team of Social Workers deployed to undertake emergency Care Act assessments, this is offset by a favourable variance of £0.086m which relates entirely to vacant posts following a service restructure. Current vacant posts are assumed to be recruited to in month 4. Although not within the first quarter of the year, Members will be aware that Cabinet, at its meeting on 17 July 2023, approved action to stabilise the adult social care market within Oldham leading to the acquisition (out of administration) of a Care Home by a wholly owned Council company. It is expected that costs associated with the day to day operation of the home will be financed by the use of reserves in the first year but that any costs incurred will be less than the cost of finding alternative accommodation for residents of the Care Home.

Community Business Services

- 3.1.6 Community Business Services is forecasting an underspend of £0.059m, of which £0.073m relates to savings from vacant posts offset by an underachievement of income on Client Finance administration fees of £0.014m. The Reform and Improvement programme forms part of this Service Area and is fully funded from reserves with an expected drawdown in 2023/24 of £0.251m. An update report is currently being produced outlining the programme priorities and statutory reforms and will be presented to Management Board for consideration

Community Health and Social Care

- 3.1.7 The service is reporting a small underspend of £0.005m. Employee budgets are projecting to underspend by £0.026m with community care budgets, mainly within the Physical Support cohort, reporting a pressure of £0.014m due to an overspend on Direct Payments and an underachievement in Residential and Short Stay income contributions of £0.007m.

Director of Adult Social Care (DASS)

- 3.1.8 The DASS underspend of £0.005m is due to a vacant post within the Principal Social Worker Team and additional grant income of £0.019m for Adult Social Care data collections. The Oldham Place Based Lead has commissioned work to undertake a strategic analysis of the Borough's capacity and demand totalling £0.242m. This will be financed by one-off earmarked reserves.

Learning Disability

- 3.1.9 The Learning Disability service is forecasting an adverse variance of £0.237m after the use of £1.000m of one-off earmarked reserves to support highly complex packages of

care. Overspends are reported within Residential Care provision (£0.067m), Short Stay (£0.050m), Respite Care (£0.025m) and Shared Lives (£0.050m) combined with a projected under recovery of income of £0.045m from Direct Payment recipients.

Mental Health

3.1.10 The Mental Health service is projecting an overspend of £0.289m. Employee budgets are expected to underspend by £0.136m due to vacant posts offsetting an underachievement of Residential and Nursing income of £0.108m. Community care budgets, in particular Direct Payments, are forecast to overspend by £0.317m, predominantly due to three back-dated payments previously held in dispute and expected to be settled to ASC in month 4.

Safeguarding

3.1.11 Safeguarding is reporting a minor adverse variance of £0.001m with favourable variances within the Safeguarding Team of £0.029m and Safeguarding Board £0.009m counteracting a £0.039m overspend in the MASH Team.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.1.12 The Portfolio has approved Budget Reductions of £3.574m in 2023/24 all of which are rated 'Green - Has / is expected to be fully delivered'. To Quarter 1, £1.284m has been delivered with the remaining on track by the end of the financial year.

3.1.13 New Government grant funding, the Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund was notified to the Council on 27 July 2023. Of a national allocation of £365m in 2023/24, the Council has been awarded £1.707m. This is to support tangible improvement in Adult Social Care capacity. The impact of this grant has not been included in this monitoring report as the Council is still preparing the detailed delivery plan which needs to be agreed by Government.

3.2 Children's Services

3.2.1 The following table shows the forecast position after the approved and planned use of reserves for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 4 – Children's Services

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Children's Social Care	54,397	65,367	(150)	10,820
Education, Skills & Early Years	11,436	11,592	(90)	66
Preventative Services	3,588	3,736	(148)	-
Schools	(39)	(39)	-	-
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	69,382	80,656	(388)	10,886

Summary

- 3.2.2 The Portfolio has a projected overspend of £10.886m at Quarter 1 and incorporates the use of reserves totalling £0.388m. The principal underlying reasons are detailed in the following paragraphs.

Children's Social Care

- 3.2.3 This Directorate is projecting a £10.820m overspend at Quarter 1 and incorporates the use of reserves totalling £0.150m. The principal underlying reasons are detailed below.

Children in Care

- 3.2.4 The area is forecasting a pressure of £8.047m. There is a net pressure, after incorporating the application of Continuing Health Care funding of £6.302m relating to placements for Children Looked After within high-cost external residential packages with a further pressure against external semi-independent placements at £1.804m. These variances are partly being offset by a net £0.059m in relation to a number of minor variances across the remainder of the service.

Children's Fieldwork and Family Support

- 3.2.5 The area is forecasting a pressure of £3.123m. This is due to a net overspend of £2.550m on staffing costs, provisions of short breaks for children with disabilities at £0.308m, No Recourse to Public Funds (£0.067m), Assistance to Families of £0.063m and other small adverse variances totalling £0.133m.

Children's Safeguarding

- 3.2.6 The area is reporting a favourable variance of £0.350m due to delays in recruiting to established posts.

- 3.2.7 Against a backdrop of increased demand nationally and particularly in the North West, factors such as poverty, deprivation, the legacy of the pandemic, and cost of living crisis continue to have a significant impact on the ability of children and young people in Oldham to enjoy a happy, healthy, and safe childhood. The main pressures that have carried forward into 2023/24 and which are driving the current financial position are the number and cost of children placed out of borough and the continued reliance on agency staff to address additional demand and also to help maintain a fully established workforce. The hourly rates paid to staff engaged in this manner have significantly increased in the last two years. Disappointingly, the projected overspend is despite the significant additional funding of £14.700m that has been invested in the service for the current financial year; £11.800m intended to stabilise the financial position with further one-off, net investment of £2.900m funded from reserves to pump prime a number of invest to save initiatives aimed at improving services but also delivering budget reductions over the period to 2028/29.

- 3.2.8 Whilst it is acknowledged that demand cannot be wholly controlled, Senior Management is dedicated to addressing the issues affecting the service. The Children's Transformation

Programme (CTP) has been set up in order to drive forward the operational changes required and to facilitate delivery of the invest to save initiatives. Governance of the programme is through the CTP board, chaired by the Managing Director of Children and Young People. The programme consists of six strands of activity, as outlined below:

- Placement Sufficiency;
- Workforce;
- Early Intervention and Prevention;
- Children and Young People's Mental Health;
- Speech, Language and Communication; and
- SEND Improvement.

3.2.9 The overall impact of the transformation programme will be monitored throughout this financial year and into the future, however, it is important to note that should the current level of overspending remain unaddressed and continue throughout the rest of this financial year, it will have a budgetary implication for 2024/25 and beyond as well as reduce the financial resilience of the Council.

Education, Skills and Early Years

3.2.10 The area is reporting a £0.066m pressure at Quarter 1 and incorporates the use of reserves totalling £0.090m.

3.2.11 The main factor producing the adverse variance is within Learning Services where the Music Service is showing a pressure of £0.079m, Study Support is forecast to overspend by £0.016m and Central Education is forecasting a pressure of £0.040m. These pressures are partially being offset by underspends within the service of £0.069m.

3.2.12 There is a potential pressure in relation to Home to School Transport. However, the scale of this is unknown at this point of the financial year but will be re-evaluated once transport routes for the new academic year are finalised.

Preventative Services

3.2.13 The area is incorporating the use of reserves totalling £0.148m which brings the area to a balanced budget at Quarter 1.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.2.14 Budget Reductions for the Portfolio in 2023/24 total £1.131m of which £0.701m are rated 'Green – Has / is expected to be fully delivered'. One Budget Reduction with a value of £0.372m is currently rated 'Amber – Being closely monitored but expected to deliver'. The Budget Reduction 'School Support Services - Academisation' is rated as 'Amber/Red – off track and will only deliver part of the saving.' The full value of the option is £0.060m with only £0.020m expected to deliver with the remaining £0.040m contributing to the adverse variance within Education, Skills and Early Years.

3.3 Public Health

3.3.1 The following table shows the forecast position after the approved and planned use of reserves for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 5 – Public Health

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Public Health (Client and Delivery)	5,783	5,749	(40)	(74)
Heritage, Libraries and Arts	19,642	20,804	(1,338)	(176)
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	25,425	26,553	(1,378)	(250)

Summary

3.3.2 The Portfolio has a projected underspend of £0.250m and incorporates the use of reserves of £1.378m. The principal underlying reasons are detailed below.

3.3.3 Public Health (Client and Delivery) is showing an underspend of £0.074m which is wholly due to slippage on staffing costs. Use of reserves is in the main the continued use of the Contain Outbreak Management Fund first received in 2021/22. It has been possible to carry forward this grant into 2023/24 and in this regard, the Council has submitted a plan to Government outlining how it expects to utilise the resource in this financial year to comply with the eligibility requirements. The additional expenditure would not be incurred without the availability of this grant funding,

3.3.4 The Heritage, Libraries and Arts Service is reporting a favourable variance of £0.176m at Quarter 1, which relates to an overachievement of income within the Library Service and Oldham Theatre Workshop.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.3.5 Budget Reductions for the Portfolio in 2023/24 total £0.520m of which three are rated 'Green – Has / is expected to be fully delivered' and have been fully achieved at Quarter 1. One budget reduction - Young People's Substance Misuse & Sexual Health Service with a value of £0.075m is rated 'Amber – being closely monitored but expected to deliver'. The service is confident that if this can't be delivered as originally intended then it will be met from alternative savings within the service, therefore there is no anticipated impact on the financial forecast.

3.4 Communities

3.4.1 The following table shows the forecast position after the approved and planned use of reserves for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 6 - Communities

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Community Services	2,688	3,213	(775)	(250)
Leisure and Youth Services Client	4,019	4,509	(368)	122
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	6,707	7,722	(1,143)	(128)

Summary

3.4.2 The Portfolio has a projected underspend of £0.128m and incorporates a net use of reserves totalling £1.143m.

Community Services

3.4.3 The area is reporting an underspend of £0.250m which relates to vacancies within the District Partnerships Team.

Leisure and Youth Services Client

3.4.4 The area is reporting an adverse variance of £0.122m at Quarter 1. In the main, this is due to an underachievement of income within Outdoor Education and the School Swimming Service.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.4.5 Budget Reductions for the Portfolio in 2023/24 total £0.084m of which two budget reductions are rated 'Green – on track and will be delivered'. One further budget reduction – School Swimming Service with a value of £0.010m is rated 'Red – Off track and will not deliver' as negotiations with Oldham Community Leisure Ltd have not concluded favourably.

3.5 Place and Economic Growth

3.5.1 The following table shows the forecast position after the approved and planned use of reserves for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 7 – Place and Economic Growth

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Environmental Services	56,140	56,537	54	451
Economy	3,683	7,755	(970)	3,102
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	59,823	64,292	(916)	3,553

Summary

3.5.2 The Portfolio has a projected overspend of £3.553m and incorporates a net use of reserves totalling £0.916m. The principal underlying reasons are detailed below.

Environmental Services

3.5.3 The area is forecasting an overspend of £0.451m and after incorporating a transfer to reserves of £0.054m. The main reasons for the adverse variance are detailed below:

- There is an estimated pressure against the Waste Management Service of £0.365m. This is due to a general increase in service demand and pressures against the Bulky Waste contract totalling £0.739m which are being partially offset by an increase in income for the Trade Waste service of £0.374m;
- The Highways Service is expected to overspend by £0.356m which is due the utilisation of agency staff and an increase in the cost of materials.
- The Public Protection service is projecting an underspend of £0.168m principally as a result of vacant posts within the establishment. However, the service is planning to recruit to the vacant posts during the course of the year;
- The Street Lighting service is expecting to underspend by £0.078m due to expected deductions from the PFI contract which is separate from the Variable Lighting Strategy Budget Reduction; and
- The Environmental Management Service is expected to underspend by £0.024m, being a combination of pressures on supplies and services and vehicle costs totalling £0.328m, offset by vacant posts (£0.117m) and additional income in the Cemeteries and Crematoria service (£0.187m).

Economy

3.5.4 The area is forecasting an overspend of £3.102m after a £0.970m transfer from reserves. The main reasons are detailed below:

- The Estates and Property Management Services are currently expected to overspend by £1.270m due to pressures against repairs and maintenance (£0.892m), Business Rates (£0.103m) and security budgets (£0.275m);
- Strategic Housing is projecting a £1.600m overspend due to demand pressures for temporary accommodation totalling £1.960m which is being offset by the use of reserves of £0.170m. There are further offsetting underspends on professional fees and staffing budgets of £0.190m
- The Planning Service is showing an underachievement of Planning Fee income of £0.215m. The total Planning service income budget for 2023/24 is £0.994m;

- Facilities Management is projecting a minor overspend of £0.015m;
- The Town Centre and Markets Service area is expected be in line with budget following the approval of additional resources of £0.542m within the budget setting process to support the revenue costs identified for the relocation of Tommyfield Market into the Town Square Shopping Centre; and
- The Creating a Better Place service is expected to be in line with budget after application of £0.800m of reserves. Grant funding opportunities to reduce the reliance on reserves are being investigated by the service.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.5.5 Budget Reductions for the Portfolio in 2023/24 total £2.493m of which £0.868m are rated 'Green – Has / is expected to be fully delivered'. There are two Budget Reductions with a combined value of £1.600m rated 'Amber – Being closely monitored but expected to deliver'. One Budget Reduction of £0.025m, Reshape Bonfire Event has been rated red 'Will not/ is not expected be delivered in full.

3.6 Corporate Services

3.6.1 The following table shows the forecast position after the approved and planned use of reserves for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 8 – Corporate Services

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Chief Executive, Management and Executive Office	4,787	4,734	(10)	(63)
Commissioning and Procurement	557	646	-	89
Finance	7,172	6,730	-	(442)
Legal Services	3,768	3,770	-	2
Communications and Research	997	1,029	(46)	(14)
Customer, Digital and Transformation	7,344	7,160	(130)	(314)
Strategy and Performance	961	999	(38)	-
HR & Organisational Development	3,239	3,445	(50)	156
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	28,826	28,513	(274)	(586)

Summary

3.6.2 The Portfolio has a projected underspend of £0.587m and incorporates the use of reserves totalling £0.274m. The principal underlying reasons are detailed below.

Chief Executive, Management and Executive Office

- 3.6.3 The area is reporting an underspend of £0.063m which in the main relates to a pressure on professional fees being offset by vacant posts and reduced pension costs.

Commissioning and Procurement

- 3.6.4 The Division is reporting an overspend of £0.089m at Quarter 1. The service is continuing to experience difficulties in recruiting to permanent posts, this is resulting in a pressure of £0.520m due to the necessity of having to retain interims. This is being offset by vacant posts of £0.446m. The service is also reporting a pressure of £0.053m against the Early Payment scheme, with a corresponding favourable variance of £0.038m against non-pay budgets.

Finance

- 3.6.5 The Division is reporting an underspend of £0.442m at Quarter 1. The Finance Division has a number of vacant posts, underspends on non-pay budgets and increased income for staff time spent on European grant funded projects.

Legal Services

- 3.6.6 The service is reporting a minor overspend of £0.002m at month 3. There are staffing pressures in Legal Services due to staff absences which have led to the use of agency staff and there continues to be a pressure in relation to schools buy back income. This has been offset by increased income in Registrars and additional grant income received for the Election.

Communications and Research

- 3.6.7 The service is recording an underspend of £0.014m, primarily as a result of vacant posts.

Customer, Digital and Transformation

- 3.6.8 The Division is reporting an underspend of £0.314m at Quarter 1. There are vacant posts across the Division which is offset in part by agency costs in ICT and Customer Services (£0.505m). There are pressures relating to income receivable from the NHS and payments of third-party ICT costs which includes the non-achievement of budget reductions COR-BR1-621 & 622. This has been offset in part from increased fees charged to capital projects.

Human Resources (HR) and Organisational Development

- 3.6.9 The Division is reporting an overspend of £0.156m. There is an underspend of £0.368m against vacant posts which is offsetting an income pressure of £0.349m in relation to schools buy back and funding from the NHS which ceased in 2022/23. In addition, there is a pressure of £0.175m against non-pay which includes staff experience costs.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.6.10 Budget Reductions for the Portfolio in 2023/24 total £0.870m of which nine totalling £0.592m are rated 'Green – on track and will be delivered' and have been fully achieved at Quarter 1. Three budget reductions are currently rated 'Amber – Being closely monitored but expected to deliver', the total value of these options is £0.205m. The service is profiling deliverability of these options in the final two Quarters of the financial year. A further two budget reductions are rated 'Red – will not / is not expected to deliver' which are detailed below:

- MS Licences migration to Cheaper Licences for some staff; £0.050m not currently being achieved; and
- MS Licences Improved Starter / Leaver Process of £0.023m, not currently being achieved.

3.6.11 Therefore, a total of £0.073m of budget reductions across the Division are currently not expected to be achieved in the financial year.

3.7 Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting

3.7.1 The following table shows the forecast position for the Portfolio at Quarter 1.

Table 9 – Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting

	Revised Budget £000	Forecast £000	Use of Reserves £000	Variance £000
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	23,348	21,687	(227)	(1,888)
Corporate and Democratic Core	1,003	1,003	-	-
Parish Councils – Precepts and Grant Payment	347	347	-	-
Total Forecast Net Expenditure	24,698	23,037	(227)	(1,888)

Summary

Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting

3.7.2 The Portfolio holds the budgets associated with the Council's Treasury Management activities including interest payable on borrowing and interest receivable on investments and is reporting an underspend of £1.888m at Quarter 1.

3.7.3 There are favourable variances of £1.443m due to higher levels of interest receipts on external investments with further favourable variances of £0.107m against cash collections, bank charges and professional fees.

3.7.4 The Housing Benefit service is projecting a favourable variance of £0.594m at Quarter 1. This is based upon the Department for Work and Pensions Statement of Local Authority

claimed Entitlement to Housing Benefit Subsidy Form for the financial year ending March 2024. There will be an opportunity to revise this after the production of the mid-year estimates which are due at the end of August 2023.

3.7.5 The Procurement Framework income target is showing an in-year pressure of £0.256m. However, this will continue to be monitored throughout the year.

3.7.6 Additional income of £2.837m has been received from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), this being the Council's share of a £27.000m GM wide waste reserve refund. This has been transferred to Earmarked Reserves to support the future financial resilience of the Council.

Achievement of Budget Reductions

3.7.7 Budget Reductions for the Portfolio in 2023/24 total £11.295m, all of which are rated 'Green – Has / is expected to be fully delivered.

4 Other Grants and Contributions Received by the Council

4.1 The Council has received a number of specific grants from the Government or other organisations which have been ringfenced to Portfolios to be utilised on certain defined activities. At Quarter 1, excluding the DSG as outlined in Section 5.1, Portfolios are forecasting a total of £105.712m of ringfenced grants to be used for specific purposes which have been either new notifications for 2023/24 or grants received in prior years where terms and conditions allow for usage in the current and potentially future years. The table below shows the total grants forecast by Portfolios up to Quarter 1.

Table 10 – Grants Ringfenced to Portfolios

Portfolio	Govt. Grants	Other Grants	Forecast 2023/24
	£000	£000	£000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	(4,537)	(15,097)	(19,634)
Children's Services	(16,042)	(12)	(16,054)
Public Health	(1,803)		(1,803)
Communities	(227)	(620)	(847)
Place and Economic Growth	(4,070)		(4,070)
Corporate Services	(5,625)	(276)	(5,901)
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	(38,603)		(38,603)
Total Ringfenced Grants include within the Net Revenue Budget	(70,908)	(16,005)	(86,913)
Housing Revenue Account	(18,799)		(18,799)
Total	(89,707)	(16,005)	(105,712)

-
- 4.2 As highlighted in the table above, grants (excluding COMF and the DSG) received in previous years and carried forward into 2023/24 and new allocations for 2023/24, total £105.712m; of this sum, £86.913m is within the Net Revenue Budget and £18.799m within the Housing Revenue Account. Dependant on the terms and conditions of the individual grant, some of the above income could be carried forward into 2024/25 to be utilised in future financial years.
- 4.3 Of the £86.913m of General Fund allocations, the largest single category carries a value of £38.603m and relates to Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant which is included within the Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting Portfolio, comprising £33.511m for Rent Allowances and £5.093m for Rent Rebates. In addition, £15.097m relates to the Better Care Fund Grant which is awarded by NHS England and distributed by Integrated Care Boards which is included within the Community Health and Adult Social Care net revenue budget. A further £13.262m relates to PFI Credits received to support unitary charge payments across the Council's four General Fund PFI schemes. A further two PFI schemes, with grant totalling £18.799m operate within in the Housing Revenue Account.
- 4.4 A total of 43 additional Government Grants are included in the forecasts for 2023/24 totalling £89.707m; £70.908m is within the Revenue Budget and £18.799m relates to the Housing Revenue Account PFI Credits. A further 5 grants have been awarded from other sources and classed as 'other grants' totalling £16.005m.
- 4.5 Twenty nine of the grants have an individual value which is greater than £0.150m and total £104.281m. The remaining £1.431m relates to 19 grants with individual values less than £0.150m. A full list of these grants can be found at Appendix 2.

5 Schools

- 5.1 The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which is provided by the Department for Education. DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools' Budget, as defined in the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2022. The Schools' Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an Authority wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school. The total estimated Oldham funding allocation for 2023/24 is £321.458m, £179.362m after excluding the recoupment for academies and post 16 further education (FE) provision and is split across the four funding blocks that comprise the DSG as follows:
- Schools - £240.592m (£113.220m after excluding the recoupment for academies)
 - High Needs - £58.470m (£43.746m after excluding the recoupment for academies and Post 16)
 - Early Years - £19.935m
 - Central Schools Services - £2.461m
- 5.2 For a number of years there was a considerable financial pressure on the DSG, particularly in the High Needs Block which had been in a deficit position since 2016/17. This was historically due to expenditure exceeding the High Needs budget available each

year and is after approved transfers between the Schools and High Needs Blocks of £8.296m between 2016/17 and 2021/22. As shown in the table below, the High Needs Block Deficit, if taken as a stand-alone element without the transfers, was £11.508m at the start of 2023/24. Notwithstanding the emergence of the reducing deficit, there remain operational pressures which the serviced are working to address, these include:

- Increasing high needs population, such as special school places, resourced provision and post 16 Further Education provision;
- Increasing number of Education Health Care Plans (EHCP) requiring high needs top up funding within mainstream schools;
- Cost of providing local Pupil Referral Unit capacity to ensure that the Local Authority fulfils its statutory role;
- High cost of external placements.

5.3 In the first quarter of 2023/24 the High Needs Block is currently forecasting an in year surplus of £2.057m. Excluding the cumulative support from the Schools Block this reduces the forecast cumulative deficit forecast to £9.451m as at 31 March 2024. The deficit is offset by cumulative virements and savings from the Schools (£8.296m) and Early Years Blocks (£3.672m) to leave a net forecast, cumulative High Needs Block surplus outturn of £2.517m (as illustrated in the table below).

Table 11 – DSG High Needs Block

DSG High Needs Block	2023/24
Deficit Brought Forward 01/04/2023	11,508
2023/24	
Original High Needs Budget Allocation	(58,470)
Estimated Expenditure	56,413
Projected in Year (Surplus)	(2,057)
Cumulative Net Deficit to be Carried Forward	9,451
Offset by;	
- Virement from Schools Block- 2016/17 to 2021/22	(8,296)
- Savings in Schools and Early Years Block and Central Schools Services Block - 2015/16 to 2023/24	(3,672)
Projected High Needs Block (Surplus) 31/03/2024	(2,517)

Overall DSG Position and Recovery Plan

5.4 The DSG had been in a deficit position since 2016/17 and Oldham was supported by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in its monitoring and management of the DSG. As a consequence, the Council has been required to agree a DSG Financial Recovery Plan to demonstrate how, at least a balanced position could be achieved. The plan was first submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) in 2019. The financial elements of the Recovery Plan have been continuously updated to take account of estimated additional cost pressures, formal notifications of additional funding and the

agreed funding methodology including the transfer of DSG funding between the Schools and the High Needs Funding Blocks that has been undertaken in prior years.

- 5.5 The Schools Forum is regularly updated on the status of the Recovery Plan and it remains an appropriate and effective means of monitoring the DSG position. The last meeting of the Schools Forum on 14 June 2023 received an update in relation to the DSG outturn and Recovery Plan, which had again been updated to take account of the most recent funding announcements, the latest expenditure predictions and their impact on the projections from the current financial year through to 2024/25.
- 5.6 The table below shows the latest Recovery Plan as at June 2023, as agreed with the Schools Forum. First and foremost, it shows that the DSG deficit of £2.773m at the end of 2021/22 had become a surplus of £0.899m at the end of 2022/23. The achievement of a surplus for the first time since 2016/17 represents a major financial milestone for the Council. In year forecast surpluses of £1.618m and £0.248m in the current and following financial years deliver cumulative surpluses of £2.517m and £2.765m in each of 2023/24 and 2024/25 respectively. The sustained and improving position will be further assisted by the work undertaken as part of the DBV programme referred to earlier. The School Forum will be provided with a further update at the meeting scheduled for 27 September 2023.

Table 12 – Overall DSG Position

	2022/23 £k	2023/24 £k	2024/25 £k
Opening Balance brought forward – Deficit/ (Surplus)	2,773	(899)	(2,517)
Estimated Additional Pressures	2,904	6,278	7,449
2022/23 High Needs Block Increase	(4,852)	(4,852)	(4,852)
Additional High Needs Funding (announced December 2021)	(1,756)	(1,756)	(1,756)
Additional High Needs Funding (announced December 2022)		(2,178)	(2,178)
Reverse Indicative Transfer (initially planned but not required for 2022/23)	1,124		
Estimated change additional funding including Special Free School	(1,092)		
Estimated adjustment for Special Free School funding		252	252
Additional High Needs Funding 2023/24 - 6.7%		(4,294)	(4,294)
Estimated Additional High Needs Funding 2024/25 - 3%			(1,601)
Reduced High Needs Budgets (central) funded from General Fund		(446)	(446)
Contribution to Central Education Support Services including HI/VI Services		200	200
High Needs Funding (announced December 2022)- still to be allocated		2,178	2,178
Service Improvements Development Fund (SIDF)		2,150	4,800
SIDF one-off funding to support the Special Sector		850	
In Year (Surplus)	(3,672)	(1,618)	(248)
Current Net Forecast (Surplus)	(899)	(2,517)	(2,765)
Previously Reported Net Forecast (Surplus)	(514)	(2,438)	(2,701)

Delivering Best Value (DBV) in SEND

5.7 Launched in the autumn of 2022, Oldham was selected as one of the Local Authorities invited to take part in Wave 2 of the Delivering Best Value in SEND programme. With the aim of putting Local Authorities on a more sustainable footing so that they are better placed to respond to the forthcoming SEND Review reforms. The Department for Education (DfE) has provided external consultancy advice to enable participants to plan and agree improvements and a change programme. Core funding of £1.000m will be made available to the Authority on successful submission of a grant application, to the DfE. The Authority has participated in a series of workshops and undertaken a comprehensive stakeholder case review and evaluation to identify and develop solutions for the areas of highest need and most likely return/ benefit for inclusion in the grant /application. The application was submitted on 17 July 2023 with a focus on the following areas:

- Early identification and intervention to reduce EHCPs;
- Development of mainstream provision to create an alternative to special schools;
- Updating the resource allocation system;
- Post 16 pathways to ensure better progression;
- Developing and targeting support for;
 - autism
 - speech, language and communication needs
 - social, emotional and mental health

5.8 By taking part in this initiative and it is expected that it will assist the Council sustain DSG financial position and reduce the financial pressure within the High Needs Block.

6 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

6.1 The current HRA position is presented in Table 13 and compares the initially approved HRA position to the current estimated outturn. The actual closing balance for 2022/23 at £22.584m was £0.305m higher than the final estimate of £22.279m.

6.2 The original HRA forecast for 2023/24 was for a planned in-year decrease in balances of £1.427m arising from:

- The Council choosing not to implement rental increases of up to the maximum allowable of 11.1% for 2023/24. Instead, a much lower increase at just 5% was agreed leading to a call on balances; and
- A budgeted contribution of £1.000m to the capital programme.

6.3 The current forecast is for an in-year deficit against budget of £1.547m, a net adverse movement against HRA balances of £0.120m, attributable to higher than anticipated utility costs. The projected year end HRA balance of £21.037m, represents a net £0.185m favourable movement compared to the original budget.

Table 13 - Housing Revenue Account Forecast Position

HRA Income & Expenditure Account	Original Budget £000	Latest 2023/24 Forecast £000	Variance to Budget £000
HRA Balances Brought forward from 2022/23	(22,279)	(22,584)	(305)
(Surplus)/ Deficit on HRA Services for 2023/24	1,427	1,547	120
HRA Surplus Balances Carried Forward	(20,852)	(21,037)	(185)

7 Collection Fund

7.1 The tables below show the forecast outturn position for the Collection Fund (the technical account within which Council Tax and Business Rates (National Non-Domestic Rates (NDR)) are managed) and the forecast position in relation to the share of balances between the Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority precepting Authorities.

Table 14 - Collection Fund Forecast Position

Collection Fund Balance	Council Tax £000	NDR £000	Total £000
Balance Brought Forward	410	(4,127)	(3,717)
Release of estimated surplus carried forward from 2022/23	(48)	(4,131)	(4,179)
Prior Year Balance Brought Forward	458	4	462
(Surplus) /Deficit for the Year	74	(2,174)	(2,100)
Net (Surplus)/Deficit Carried Forward	532	(2,170)	(1,638)

Table 15 - Collection Fund – 2023/24 Share of Balances; Forecast Position

Collection Fund Balance	Council Tax £000	NDR £000	Total £000
Share - Oldham Council	448	(2,148)	(1,700)
Share – Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	58	-	58
Share – Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Mayoral General Precept (including Fire and Rescue Services)	26	(22)	4
Total Deficit/(Surplus)	532	(2,170)	(1,638)

7.2 Council Tax and Business Rates are a significant source of funding for Council services. However, income from these areas can be volatile. The 2023/24 financial year is no different with the on-going impact of the cost of living crisis having an impact on Council Tax collection. As such, the financial position of the Collection Fund is under constant review.

-
- 7.3 The Business Rates surplus brought forward from 2022/23 was due in part to collection rates returning to pre-pandemic levels and as can be seen, this healthy position continues into 2023/24.
- 7.4 The Greater Manchester 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot has continued into 2023/24. Any financial benefits arising from membership within the pilot scheme will continue to be monitored, any beneficial financial resource will be used if possible to support the Council's budget.
- 7.5 As highlighted in Table 14 and 15 above, current year end Collection Fund projections are showing an overall surplus of £1.638m, with the Council's proportion of this surplus being £1.700m. As advised previously, the Collection Fund is a particularly volatile area to forecast with many variables, including the impact of Government Business Rate reliefs, therefore, this area will be closely monitored over the remaining months. Information will be available later in the year to determine if/ how a surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund will impact on the 2024/25 Council budget.

8 Use of Reserves

- 8.1 Members will recall that at the Council budget meeting of 1 March 2023, it was agreed that Earmarked Reserves of £12.786m would be used to support the 2023/24 revenue budget and a further £3.932m of Earmarked Reserves were proposed to be utilised to support the 2024/25 revenue budget. The Earmarked Reserves to be utilised in 2023/24 and 2024/25 were to be met by fully utilising the specific Balancing Budget reserve of £16.718m.
- 8.2 In addition, there is an offsetting transfer to reserves of £1.209m reflecting the requirement, under the Business Rates Retention Pilot scheme, to pay the Greater Manchester Combined Authority a share of Retained Business Rates income.
- 8.3 As previously mentioned at paragraph 3.7.6, the Council has received £2.837m this year from GMCA, being the share of a £27.000m GM wide refund of reserves from the GM Waste Disposal Service. This unbudgeted income has been transferred to Earmarked Reserves to support the financial resilience of the Council.
- 8.4 At the beginning of 2023/24, reserves balances totalled £87.099m comprising of Earmarked Reserves of £79.130m and Revenue Grant Reserves of £7.968m.
- 8.5 Supplementary to the above transfers to and from reserves, the Quarter 1 position incorporates additional Portfolio/corporate use of reserves with a total (net) value of £10.223m, therefore the budget as a whole currently relies upon the application of a net £21.800m of reserves. The resultant impact, incorporating the additional £2.837m waste reserve refund is for an estimated combined closing value of £68.135m, comprising £61.653m of Earmarked Reserves and £6.482m of Revenue Grant Reserves, as illustrated in the table below. It is however anticipated that this position will change as the year progresses. Should the current adverse variance of £12.104m need to be addressed by the use of earmarked reserves at the year end the £68.135m will reduce to £56.031m.

Table 16 – Reserves Summary

	Earmarked Reserves £000	Revenue Grant Reserves £000	Total Reserves £000
Opening Balance as at 1 April 2023	(79,130)	(7,968)	(87,099)
Reserves applied to balance the Budget	12,786	-	12,786
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves - Business Rates Retention Pilot Gain	(1,209)	-	(1,209)
In Year Balance	(67,553)	(7,968)	(75,522)
Portfolio Transfers from Reserve			
Community Health and Adult Social Care	3,059	-	3,059
Children's Services	240	148	388
Public Health	40	1,338	1,378
Communities	1,143	-	1,143
Place and Economic Growth	970	-	970
Corporate Services	274	-	274
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	3,064	-	3,064
Total Portfolio Transfers from Reserve	8,791	1,486	10,277
Portfolio Transfers to Reserves			
Community Health and Adult Social Care	-	-	-
Children's Services	-	-	-
Public Health	-	-	-
Communities	-	-	-
Place and Economic Growth	(54)	-	(54)
Corporate Services	-	-	-
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	-	-	-
Total Portfolio Transfers to Reserve	(54)	-	(54)
Total Portfolio Use of Reserves	8,737	1,486	10,223
Return of Waste Disposal Reserve (GMCA)	(2,837)	-	(2,837)
Closing Balance as at Quarter 1	(61,653)	(6,482)	(68,135)

8.6 In line with the Council's reserves policy, the recommended use of reserves to fund spend during the year have been initially approved by the appropriate officers prior to consideration by Cabinet. However, as there is a need to minimise the use of reserves in order to support the financial resilience of the Council, only those reserves supporting essential business will be utilised this year.

8.7 The availability of reserves is a demonstration of the financial resilience of the Council and as such the reserves must be carefully managed. However, the use of reserves is also a means by which the Council can support the 2023/24 and future years budget setting processes and Medium-Term Financial Strategy. In addition to use in the current financial year, as part of the 2023/24 Budget setting process agreed by Council on 1 March 2023, Members approved a commitment of a further £3.932m of reserves for 2024/25. The continued reduction in the level of available reserves, will, however, reduce the financial resilience of the Council.

9 Flexible Use of Capital Receipts

9.1 Members will recall that at the Council meeting of 1 March 2023, it was approved that up to £2.600m of capital receipts would be used to underpin the revenue budget in line with the flexibilities agreed by Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government in March 2016. In April 2022, guidance on the flexible use of capital receipts was updated by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities which extended the flexibility that has been in place since 2016. This allows the freedom to continue up to 2024/25 to help Authorities plan for the long-term.

9.2 A number of schemes in support of the transformation programme which meet the qualifying expenditure requirements as detailed within the statutory guidance issued by the DLUHC have been identified and are itemised within the approved 2023/24 Capital Programme. The contribution to the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts is the first call on any receipts generated by the Council and processes are in place to monitor progress throughout the year. Annex 2 to this report which sets out the Capital Programme position confirms that receipts totalling £2.587m have been received to date. This is currently slightly below the amount required to underpin the revenue budget requirement of £2.600m, however, further receipts are anticipated during the remainder of the financial year.

10 Conclusion

10.1 At the start of 2023/24 there still remains uncertainty about the financial position created by the lasting impact of COVID-19. This is not simply the on-going effects of the pandemic but its continued impact on the demand for both Adults and Children's Social Care, the cost of care and in relation to the pressures being felt by certain areas of the provider market. In addition, the cost pressures in relation to utilities and fuel, the impact of cost of living crisis, the potential impact on pay awards and also interest rates continue to be of concern in 2023/24. The forecasting of the likely impact of all these factors on the Council's budget has been based on both the actual expenditure and the income impact recorded but also relies on a series of assumptions which will be reviewed and updated as the financial year progresses.

-
- 10.2 The current projected position, after adjustment for the use of reserves is an overspend of £12.104m. The financial pressure in Children's Social Care is especially concerning as there was significant additional funding included in the 2023/24 budget to stabilise Children's Services. Whilst the Council has previously faced in-year financial pressures during the first quarter of the year, this is the most severe (excluding pressures generated by the COVID-19 pandemic which were subsequently addressed by the receipt of Government grant support).
- 10.3 The pressure caused by failure to deliver or uncertainty about the delivery of Budget Reductions, as outlined in sections 2.14 to 2.16 is also of concern. However, there is time for the reductions to be delivered and/ or mitigations to be put in place, particularly in respect of the 7 options, with a value of £2.252m currently rated as 'Amber- Being closely monitored but expected to be delivered'
- 10.4 The reserves position is important in the context of financial resilience. Whilst the year started with relatively healthy balances of earmarked reserves (£79.130m) and Revenue Grants Reserves (£7.968m), as advised in this report, net earmarked reserves of £17.477m and net Revenue Grant reserves of £1.486m are forecast to be called into support the 2023/24 budget, after which there is an anticipated combined reserves balance of £68.135m. With a potential additional call of £12.104m to offset the current forecast deficit and an already approved use of £3.932m of reserves to balance the 2024/25 budget, the actual availability in 2024/25 could reduce to £52.099m. At this level of utilisation, it is vitally important to minimise the future use of reserves in year to maintain financial resilience of the Council.
- 10.5 In view of the projected adverse variance, it is important to ensure that measures are taken to address the overspending, namely:
- management actions across all service areas to review and challenge planned expenditure and to maximise income;
 - processes to monitor the recruitment of staff to vacant posts and significant items of expenditure; and
 - ensuring non-essential expenditure is minimised.
- In effect this is a continuation of actions that were initiated last year (and previous years), however, the variance at month 3 is much more significant than that at the same point in 2022/23. It is therefore essential that this approach is rigorously applied and where possible, any transformation programme projects linked to savings are accelerated
- 10.6 The effectiveness of management action and corporate procedures will continue to be closely monitored by Management Teams right up to the end of the financial year. Management action should ease the overall financial pressures but the impact of such action has not been included in the forecast as it has yet to be demonstrated.
- 10.7 The Council has already begun its preparation for budget setting for 2024/25. Members will recall that the forecast budget gap for 2024/25 presented at Budget Council on 1 March 2023 was £10.224m. This assumed all approved budget reductions are delivered and is before any revisions to reflect further increases in demand pressures or higher
-

than anticipated pay awards. If the financial pressures experienced in 2023/24 continue into 2024/25 and there is a consequent increased budget reduction requirement for 2024/25, it is likely that further reserves will have to be used to balance the budget and this will have an impact on the financial resilience of the Council.

Appendix 1

FINANCING OF THE 2023/24 BUDGET	Original Budget	Additions to Quarter 3	Revised Budget
	£000	£000	£000
Net Expenditure Budget	(260,686)		(260,686)
Financed by:			
Business Rates Top-up Grant	(46,016)	(577)	(46,593)
Grant in Lieu of Business Rates	(25,987)		(25,987)
Social Care Support Grant	(21,454)		(21,454)
Improved Better Care Fund Grant	(11,188)		(11,188)
2022/23 Services Grant	(2,620)		(2,620)
Housing Benefit Administration Grant	(810)		(810)
New Homes Bonus Grant	(252)		(252)
Revenue and Benefits Service New Burdens Grant	(11)		(11)
Capital Grants		(1,838)	(1,838)
Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme Grant		(1,444)	(1,444)
Rough Sleeping Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant		(708)	(708)
Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Funding Grant		(497)	(497)
Individual Placement and Support Grant		(156)	(156)
Extended Rights to Free Travel Grant		(45)	(45)
Total Government Grant Funding	(108,338)	(5,265)	(113,603)
Council Tax Income - General (Including parish precepts)	(94,449)		(94,449)
Council Tax Income - Adult Social Care Precept	(14,874)		(14,874)
Council Tax Surplus	(4,130)		(4,130)
Retained Business Rates	(53,683)		(53,683)
Total Locally Generated Income	(167,136)	-	(167,136)
Total Grant and Income	(275,474)	(5,265)	(280,739)
Use of General Earmarked Reserves	(12,786)		(12,786)
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves - Business Rates Retention Pilot Gain	1,209		1,209
Total Use of Reserves	(11,577)	-	(11,577)
Total Financing	(287,051)	(5,265)	(292,316)

Appendix 2- Analysis of Grants		
Grant Name	Grant Type	Forecast £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care		
Better Care Fund	Other	(15,097)
Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	Govt.	(1,568)
ASC Data Collection Grant	Govt.	(19)
Changing Futures in GM	Govt.	(322)
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund	Govt.	(2,628)
Sub Total		(19,634)
Children's Services		
PFI Credits (2 contracts)	Govt. (x2)	(8,988)
Skills Funding Agency Adult Education Grant	Govt.	(2,805)
Holiday Activities and Food Grant	Govt.	(1,480)
Domestic Abuse Grant	Govt. (x2)	(762)
Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) Grant	Govt.	(536)
Youth Justice Board Grant	Govt.	(496)
Former UASC - Care Leavers Grant	Govt.	(287)
Staying Put Grant	Govt.	(201)
Balance: Grants less than £0.150m	Govt. (x6) Other (x1)	(500)
Sub-Total		(16,054)
Public Health		
PFI Credits	Govt.	(1,803)
Sub -Total		(1,803)
Communities		
Community Safety Grant	Other	(480)
Serious Violence Grant	Govt.	(150)
Balance: Grants less than £0.150m	Govt. (x2) Other (x1)	(217)
Sub-Total		(847)
Place and Economic Growth		
PFI Credits	Govt.	(2,471)
Homelessness Prevention Grant	Govt.	(578)
A Bed Every Night (ABEN) Grant	Govt.	(273)
Community Accommodation Services - Tier 3 Grant	Govt.	(247)
Balance: Other Government Grants less than £0.150m	Govt. (x5)	(501)
Sub-Total		(4,070)
Corporate Services		
Household Support Fund Grant	Govt.	(4,839)
Council Tax Rebate Grant	Govt.	(573)
European Regional Development Fund Grant	Other	(276)
Balance: Other Government Grants less than £0.150m	Govt. (x4)	(213)
Sub-Total		(5,901)
Capital and Treasury		
Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant - Rent Allowances	Govt.	(33,511)
Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant - Rent Rebates	Govt.	(5,093)
Sub-Total		(38,603)
Total Ringfenced Grants include within the Net Revenue Budget		(86,913)
Housing Revenue Account		
PFI Credits (2 contracts)	Govt. (x2)	(18,799)
Total		(105,712)

Appendix 3 - Summary of 2023/24 Budget Reductions

	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Green	Has / is expected to be fully delivered	(17,549)	(17,549)	0
Amber	Being closely monitored but expected to deliver (no impact of Financial Forecast)	(2,252)	(2,252)	0
Amber/Red	Being closely monitored in year with elements expected not to be delivered (Financial Forecast updated)	(60)	(20)	40
Red	Will not/ is not expected to be delivered in full (Financial Forecast updated)	(108)	0	108
		(19,969)	(19,821)	148

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care					
CSA-BR1-435	Residential Enablement Redesign (Medlock Court)	Green	(400)	(400)	0
ASC-BR1-548	Smarter Ways of Working	Green	(119)	(119)	0
ASC-BR1-552	Review Care and Support Plans	Green	(1,255)	(1,255)	0
ASC-BR1-601	Adult Social Care - Direct Payments	Green	(1,300)	(1,300)	0
ASC-BR1-602	Adult Social Care - Target Operating Model	Green	(500)	(500)	0
	Total		(3,574)	(3,574)	0

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Childrens Services					
CHS-BR1-445	Early Help Remodelling	Green	(300)	(300)	0
CHS-BR1-441	Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Education Provision	Amber	(372)	(372)	0
CHS-BR1-536	Oldham Learning reduced de-delegated funding	Green	(45)	(45)	0
CHS-BR1-543	Delete Post - Social Worker in Permanence	Green	(46)	(46)	0
CHS-BR1-547	Savings on Targeted Youth Lot 3	Green	(23)	(23)	0
CHS-BR1-603	Learning Services – School Improvement and Support, Virtual School	Green	(51)	(51)	0
CHS-BR1-604	Re-alignment of SEND Central Services & Support	Green	(200)	(200)	0
CHS-BR1-605	School Support Services - Academisation	Amber/Red	(60)	(20)	40
PEG-BR1-608	Employment & Enterprise - Economic Growth (Get Oldham Working)	Green	(36)	(36)	0
	Total		(1,133)	(1,093)	40

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Public Health					
PHT-BR1-612	Sexual Health	Green	(18)	(18)	0
PHT-BR1-613	NHS Health Checks	Green	(27)	(27)	0
PHT-BR1-614	Public Health Budget	Green	(400)	(400)	0
PHT-BR1-615	Young People's Substance Misuse & Sexual Health Service	Amber	(75)	(75)	0
	Total		(520)	(520)	0

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Communities					
COM-BR1-616	Reduction in Councillor Ward budgets	Green	(60)	(60)	0
COM-BR1-618	School Swimming Service	Red	(10)	0.0	10
COM-BR1-619	OCL Sports Development School Coaching Service	Green	(14)	(14)	0
	Total		(84)	(74)	10

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Place and Economic Growth					
PPL-BR1-401	Creating a Better Place - Projects & Assets	Amber	(800)	(800)	0
PPL-BR1-508	Increase External Customer Base - Trade Waste	Green	(10)	(10)	0
PPL-BR1-510	Public Protection Restructures - Env. Health & First Response	Green	(50)	(50)	0
PPL-BR1-504	Visit Oldham, Training Budget and Oldham Enterprise Trust	Green	(48)	(48)	0
PPL-BR1-505	Corporate Landlord and Facilities Management	Green	(100)	(100)	0
PEG-BR1-606	Capitalisation of Transport officers	Green	(80)	(80)	0
PEG-BR1-607	Increase Capitalisation of staff time on regeneration projects	Green	(79)	(79)	0
PEG-BR1-609	Employment & Enterprise - Economic Growth (Investment)	Green	(37)	(37)	0
PEG-BR1-635	Reshape Bonfire Event	Red	(25)	0.0	25
PEG-BR1-636	Don't Trash Oldham Betterment Programme	Green	(112)	(112)	0
PEG-BR1-638	Increase Fees in Cemeteries and Crematoria Service	Green	(228)	(228)	0
PEG-BR1-639	Increase Fees for Community Pitch Hire	Green	(4)	(4)	0
PEG-BR1-641	Income Generation – Trade Waste	Green	(120)	(120)	0
PEG-BR1-642	Variable Lighting Strategy	Amber	(800)	(800)	0
	Total		(2,493)	(2,468)	25

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Corporate Services					
CEX-BR1-517	Finance Service - Unity Contract	Green	(73)	(73)	0
PPL-BR1-512	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	Green	(15)	(15)	0
COR-BR1-610	Resource review of Research and Engagement	Green	(22)	(22)	0
COR-BR1-611	Realignment of Executive Assistants	Green	(17)	(17)	0
COR-BR1-617	Cease the Provision of a Meal prior to Council Meetings	Green	(10)	(10)	0
COR-BR1-620	HR and Organisational Development Service Restructure	Amber	(100)	(100)	0
COR-BR1-621	MS Licences migration to cheaper licences for some staff	Red	(50)	0.0	50
COR-BR1-622	MS Licences Improved Starter / Leaver Process	Red	(23)	0.0	23
COR-BR1-624	Reduction in Customer and Digital Experience	Green	(43)	(43)	0
COR-BR1-626	Review of CDTT Operating Model including ICT	Amber	(80)	(80)	0
COR-BR1-627	CDTT operating model review and implementation of Transformation changes	Green	(145)	(145)	0
COR-BR1-628	Democratic Services Review	Green	(85)	(85)	0
COR-BR1-631	Finance Service Restructure	Green	(182)	(182)	0
COR-BR1-634	Procurement - Reduction in non-pay budgets	Amber	(25)	(25)	0
	Total		(870)	(797)	73

Reference	Proposal Name	Rating	Approved Budget Reduction £000	Deliverable £000	Shortfall £000
Capital and Treasury					
COR-BR1-629	Reprofiling of the Minimum Revenue Provision	Green	(4,800)	(4,800)	0
COR-BR1-630	Service Inflation	Green	(6,350)	(6,350)	0
COR-BR1-633	PFI Insurance rebate/reduction in professional fees	Green	(145)	(145)	0
	Total		(11,295)	(11,295)	0
	Grand Total		(19,969)	(19,821)	148

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME REPORT 2023/24

Quarter 1 – June 2023

1 Background

- 1.1 The original capital programme for 2023/24 reflected the priorities outlined in the capital strategy as approved at Cabinet on 13 February 2023 and confirmed at the Council meeting on 1 March 2023.
- 1.2 The outturn position as at 31 March 2023 and the position at the end of Month 3 (June 2023) is highlighted in this report.
- 1.3 For the remainder of the financial year, the programme will continue to be monitored and revised to take account of any new developments and changes in the profile of planned expenditure.

Current Position

- 2.1 Table 1 below shows the capital programme for 2023/24 and a further four years to 2027/28, and reflects the priorities outlined in the capital strategy as approved at Cabinet on 13 February 2023 and confirmed at the Council meeting on the 1 March 2023.

Table 1 – 2023/28 Capital Strategy

Directorate Budget	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	Total £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	3,023	2,643	846	400		6,912
Children's Services	10,258	4,850	1,691	1,500	1,500	19,799
Communities	400	100	-	-	-	500
Place and Economic Growth	83,936	81,101	27,309	36,507	3,054	231,907
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	1,000	500	95	-	-	1,595
Corporate/Information Technology (IT)	5,958	3,960	2,650	2,150	-	14,718
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	4,238	2,738	234	10,120	-	17,330
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,492	12,486	13,836	4,885	-	32,699
Total Expenditure	110,305	108,378	46,661	55,562	4,554	325,460

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

Funding	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	Total £000
Grant & Other Contributions	(40,549)	(42,458)	(6,483)	(5,554)	(3,054)	(98,098)
Prudential Borrowing	(61,186)	(62,556)	(39,028)	(49,038)	(1,500)	(213,308)
Revenue Contributions	(1,000)	(500)	(95)	-	-	(1,595)
Capital Receipts	(7,569)	(2,865)	(1,056)	(970)	-	(12,460)
Grand Total	(110,305)	(108,378)	(46,661)	(55,562)	(4,554)	(325,460)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

2.2 Following the 2022/23 Month 9 report which was approved at Cabinet on 20 March 2023, the 2023/24 Capital Programme was revised to reflect anticipated reprofiling. Forecast expenditure therefore increased to £119.292m. Taking into account the 2022/23 months 10-12 approved movements of £8.964m and the outturn adjustment of £5.324m there is a revised budget of £122.931m, as presented below.

2.3 Following a detailed review of the capital programme in June 2023, it is suggested that a further £19.183m of planned expenditure is reprofiled into future financial years. Further detail about the movements is contained in Appendix F. Assuming all the movements are approved it would leave a revised budget of £103.748m for 2023/24 based on the latest information as at 30 June 2023.

Table 2 – 2023/24 Capital Programme

Directorate	2023/24 as at M09 2022/23 (restated) £000	Other Approved Budget changes after M09 £000	2022/23 Outturn Adjustment £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement/ Rephase £000	Revised Budget (M03) £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	3,023	299	(43)	3,279		3,279
Children's Services	11,058	7	(1,473)	9,592	(2,937)	6,655
Communities	542	11	37	590		590
Place and Economic growth	91,146	8,500	(2,751)	96,895	(14,617)	82,278
Housing Revenue Account	1,000	-	-	1,000		1,000
Corporate/Information Technology	6,792	155	(473)	6,474	(1,640)	4,834
Capital Treasury & Technical Accounting	4,238	-	(66)	4,172	11	4,183
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,492	(8)	(555)	929		929
Overall Total	119,292	8,964	(5,324)	122,931	(19,183)	103,748

2.4 Given that this is the position as at Quarter 1 and in view of the current challenges being faced including the pressure caused by the economic position, there must remain an element of uncertainty about the forecast position: that said the forecasts are based on the latest and most up to date information. A further breakdown of Table 2 on a service by service area basis is shown at Appendices A to H and the detailed breakdown of proposed virement/rephasing, both expenditure and financing, is shown in Appendix I.

2.5 Actual expenditure to 30 June 2023 was £12.405m (11.96% of the proposed forecast outturn). This spending profile is higher than in previous years (2022/23: 8.62%). The position will be kept under review and budgets will be managed in accordance with forecasts.

Re-profiling of the Capital Programme

- 2.6 The revised capital programme for 2023/24 to 2027/28, considering all the above amendments in arriving at the revised forecast position, is shown in Table 3 together with the projected financing profile.

Table 3 – 2023/4 to 2027/28 Current Capital Programme

Directorate Budget	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	TOTAL £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	3,279	2,643	320	400	-	6,642
Children's Services	6,655	3,730	4,058	3,182	1,500	19,125
Communities	590	100	-	-	-	690
Place and Economic Growth	82,278	88,977	34,551	33,954	3,054	242,814
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	1,000	500	95	-	-	1,595
Corporate/Information Technology (IT)	4,834	4,564	2,840	2,834	1,027	16,099
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	4,183	2,738	234	10,137	-	17,292
Funding for Emerging Priorities	929	8,118	13,836	4,884	-	27,767
Grand Total	103,748	111,370	55,934	55,391	5,581	332,024

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

Funding	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	TOTAL £000
Grant & Other Contributions	(39,962)	(50,140)	(10,469)	(4,602)	(3,054)	(108,227)
Prudential Borrowing	(54,427)	(57,433)	(43,966)	(49,913)	(2,527)	(208,266)
Revenue Contributions	(1,063)	(500)	(95)	-	-	(1,658)
Capital Receipts	(8,296)	(3,298)	(1,404)	(875)	-	(13,873)
Grand Total	(103,748)	(111,370)	(55,934)	(55,391)	(5,581)	(332,024)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

- 2.7 Following the approval of the Capital Strategy in March 2023, a number of year-end adjustments and new approvals have taken place. This leaves the revised 2023/24-2027/28 capital programme at £332.024m, an increase of £6.564m, which is broken down in the table below.

Table 4 – Capital Programme Movement

Expenditure movement	£000s
Net rephase from 2022/23	4,030
New Grant funded schemes	2,534
Total Expenditure Increase	6,564

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

- 2.8 Although not within the first quarter of the year, Members will be aware that Cabinet, at its meeting on 17 July 2023, approved action to stabilise the adult social care market within Oldham leading to the acquisition (out of administration) of a Care Home by a wholly owned Council company. Current expenditure has been incorporated within the forecast position.

- 2.9 The revised Funding for Emerging Priorities for 2023/24 to 2027/28, taking into account all the above amendments is shown at Table 5.

Table 5 - Provision for Emerging Priorities

	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	Total £000
Provision for Emerging Priorities	929	8,118	13,836	4,884	-	27,767

Compared to the allocation set out in the approved Capital Strategy there has been a reduction in available resources of £4.932m following the approval of additional funding for Alexandra Park Depot, the Spindles Refurbishment, Diggle Clock Tower and Replacement of Litter Bins schemes at the end of 2022/2023.

Capital Receipts

- 2.10 The capital programme requires the availability of £8.296m of capital receipts in 2023/24 for financing purposes. This includes £2.600m to support transformational activity in the General Fund using the flexibility allowed by Government.

The total net usable capital receipts currently received in year is £2.587m, the first call being the £2.600m outlined above (which as can be seen is almost fully covered).

- 2.11 The capital receipts position as at 30 June 2023 is as follows:

Table 6 – Capital Receipts 2023/24

	£000	£000
Capital Receipts Financing Requirement		8,296
Usable Capital Receipt b/fwd.	-	
Actual received to date	(2,587)	
Further anticipated capital receipt in year	(2,917)	
Further Required in 2023/24		2,792

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

- 2.12 Given the significant amount of capital receipts needed to finance the capital programme in this and future years it is imperative that the capital receipts/disposal schedule is adhered to. This is monitored at the monthly capital receipts meeting and will be subject to on-going review throughout the year. It is of course recognised that the ongoing economic instability with increasing interest rates and the impact on borrowing costs, coupled with the increase cost of living will continue to impact on business/economic activities making capital disposals more challenging.
- 2.13 The Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2023/28 incorporates an expectation of the level of receipts that is anticipated in each of the respective years and therefore an estimate as to the resultant level of over or under programming in order to present a balanced budget. As can be seen below, the most recent review has produced a forecast which is below the financing projections included in Table 3. Should the currently estimated position prevail then the position would be as illustrated in the table below:

Table 7 – Capital Receipts 2023/24 to 2027/28

Capital Receipts	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000
Capital Receipts Carried Forward	-	2,792	(887)	517	1,392
Estimated Capital Receipts	(2,917)	(6,977)	-	-	-
Received in year	(2,587)				
Total Receipts	(5,504)	(4,185)	(887)	517	1,392
Capital Receipts Financing Requirement	8,296	3,298	1,404	875	-
Over/(Under) programming	2,792	(887)	517	1,392	1,392

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

- 2.14 Although the capital receipts forecast is currently lower than the required amount, given that this is the month 3 position and there is the opportunity for the forecast to improve, at this stage it is considered appropriate to retain the original forecast and review this during the course of the current year. The consequence should the level of capital receipts fall is either, a corresponding increase in the level of prudential borrowing and hence an impact on the revenue budget, or a reduction in the overall capital programme.

Annual Review of the Capital Programme

- 2.15 In accordance with previous practice, there is once again a review of the capital programme over the summer months (the Summer Review). This is examining any further opportunities to reallocate, decommission or reprofile resources. It will also include an in-depth analysis of capital receipts to support a revised forecast.

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 Whilst the current projected position is showing the outturn to match the budget, a detailed review of the capital programme (the Annual Review) is being undertaken to establish if there are any surplus resources that can be realigned or any further re-profiling required. It is therefore likely that there will be some further rephrasing across all years to reflect developments relating to individual projects/schemes.
- 3.2 The capital programme is being continually monitored and is reported to Members on a regular basis.

4 Appendices

- 4.1 Appendix A - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Community Health and Adult Social Care
 Appendix B - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Children’s Service
 Appendix C - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Communities
 Appendix D - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Place and Economic Growth
 Appendix E - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)
 Appendix F - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Corporate/Information Technology
 Appendix G - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting
 Appendix H - SUMMARY – Qtr 1 - Funding for Emerging Priorities
 Appendix I – SUMMARY – Qtr 1 – Proposed Changes

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) - Community Health and Adult Social Care

APPENDIX A

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Adult Services	3,023	299	(43)	3,279	-	3,279	3,279	-
Community Health and Adult Social Care Total	3,023	299	(43)	3,279	-	3,279	3,279	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) – Children’s Service

APPENDIX B

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Children, Young People and Families (CYPF)	-	-	174	174	-	174	174	-
Schools - General Provision	4,266	421	(104)	4,583	(2,937)	1,646	1,646	-
Schools – Primary	1,250	273	545	2,068	-	2,068	2,068	-
Schools – Secondary	4,724	113	(2,086)	2,751	-	2,751	2,751	-
Schools – Special	18	0	(2)	16	-	16	16	-
Schools New Build	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Children’s Service Total	10,258	807	(1,473)	9,592	(2,937)	6,655	6,655	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) – Communities

APPENDIX C

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Local Investment Fund	400	153	37	590	-	590	590	-
Communities Total	400	153	37	590	-	590	590	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) – Place and Economic Growth

APPENDIX D

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Asset Mgt - Asset Management	7,419	1,807	(93)	9,133	-	9,133	9,133	-
Asset Mgt - Education Premises	1,749	857	15	2,621	-	2,621	2,621	-
Boroughwide Developments	24,455	2,988	(2,897)	24,546	(5,453)	19,093	19,093	-
Development	-	-	11	11	(11)	-	-	-
Boroughwide Projects	-	233	-	233	-	233	233	-
Cemeteries and Crematorium	37	9	-	46	-	46	46	-
Countryside	100	25	66	191	-	191	191	-
Parks	35	311	34	380	-	380	380	-
Playing Fields & Facilities	-	-	2	2	-	2	2	-
Parks & Playing Fields	-	13	-	13	-	13	13	-
Private Housing - HMRF	150	50	49	249	-	249	249	-
Private Housing - Non-HMRF	-	85	63	148	-	148	148	-
Public Realm	50	75	-	125	-	125	125	-
Strategic Acquisitions	2,000	250	(9)	2,241	(1,241)	1,000	1,000	-
Town Centre Developments	33,888	5,464	(1,908)	37,444	(6,000)	31,444	31,444	-
Accident Reduction	198	181	776	1,155	464	1,619	1,619	-
Bridges & Structures	4,589	427	1,351	6,367	(663)	5,704	5,704	-
Fleet Management	298	-	451	749	-	749	749	-
Highway Major Works/Drainage schemes	7,659	1,609	(423)	8,845	(1,667)	7,178	7,178	-
Minor Works	781	481	(71)	1,191	94	1,285	1,285	-
Miscellaneous	528	846	(168)	1,206	(141)	1,065	1,065	-
Street Lighting	-	1,807	-	9,133	-	-	-	-
Place and Economic Growth Total	83,936	15,710	(2,751)	96,895	(14,617)	82,278	82,278	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**APPENDIX E**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Housing Revenue Account	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	-
HRA Total	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) – Corporate/Information Technology (IT)**APPENDIX F**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Information Technology	5,958	989	(473)	6,474	(1,640)	4,834	4,834	-
Information Technology Total	5,958	989	(473)	6,474	(1,640)	4,834	4,834	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) – Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting**APPENDIX G**

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Cross Cutting /Corporate	4,238	-	(66)	4,172	11	4,183	4,183	-
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting Total	4,238	-	(66)	4,172	11	4,183	4,183	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) - Funding for Emerging Priorities

APPENDIX H

Service area	Original Budget £000	Approved Changes /Virements £000	2022/23 Rephasing/ Acceleration £000	Revised Budget 2023/24 £000	Proposed Virement £000	Revised Budget (M3) £000	Forecast £000	Year End Variance £000
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,492	(8)	(555)	929	-	929	929	-
Funding for Emerging Priorities Total	1,492	(8)	(555)	929	-	929	929	-

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

SUMMARY – Quarter 1 (June 2023) Proposed Changes

APPENDIX I

EXPENDITURE BUDGETS TO BE REPROFILED AS AT 30 JUNE 2023		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
Children's Services							
Education Basic Need General Provision		(295)	-	368	295	-	368
School Places- Greenfield Primary- temporary classroom & playing fields block		(368)	-	-	-	-	(368)
SEND - Special Provision Capital Fund (SPCF) General Provision 2018-2021		(2,274)	(1,112)	2,000	1,387	-	-
Children's Services Total		(2,937)	(1,112)	2,368	1,682	-	-
Place and Economic Growth							
2021/22 HIP Schemes Amber		(53)	-	-	-	-	(53)
2022/23 – Highway Maintenance Schemes (Red)		35	-	-	-	-	35
2023/24 Highway Maintenance Schemes		1,337	-	-	-	-	1,337
A62 Huddersfield Road, Scouthead (Near Doctor Lane)		20	-	-	-	-	20
A669 Oldham Road, Grasscroft Pedestrian Safety Improvements		(25)	25	-	-	-	-
The Causeway Bridge, The Causeway off Gateway Crescent		(47)	-	-	-	-	(47)
Union Street West Footbridge		(47)	47	-	-	-	-
Denshaw Bridge, Delph Road		(24)	100	-	-	-	76
Laurel Avenue Bridge		17	375	-	-	-	392
Shaws Lane Footbridge		27	-	-	-	-	27
Street Bridge Road Bridge		38	350	-	-	-	388
Bridge Work - King Street Roundabout Footbridge		(76)	76	-	-	-	-
Capital Programme Management		(20)	20	-	-	-	-
Chew Valley Road		40	-	-	-	-	40
Church Road, Shaw - Highway Improvements		19	-	-	-	-	19
DFT ATF - School Streets		121	-	-	-	-	121
DFT ATF T2 Oldham Town Centre - Lees - Grotton Linear Park		6	-	-	-	-	6
DFT ATF T2 Wellington Street		(31)	-	-	-	-	(31)
DFT CF Waterloo & Wellington Bridges		(600)	600	-	-	-	-

Place and Economic Growth cont'd						
Disabled Access Improvements	30	-	-	-	-	30
Disabled Bays	16	-	-	-	-	16
Eastern Gateway Improvements (Prince's Gate)	(121)	121	-	-	-	-
Featherstall Road Roundabout (Signalisation and Provision of Pedestrian Facilities)	(2)	-	-	-	-	(2)
Footway Improvements	100	-	-	-	-	100
Green Shoots (Rhodes Bank)	(2,005)	2,005	-	-	-	-
Higher Turf lane	35	-	-	-	-	35
Honeywell Lane	40	-	-	-	-	40
Hunt Lane Railway Bridge	(4)	224	-	-	-	220
Integrated Minor highways & Traffic Management Schemes	80	-	-	-	-	80
Jubilee Park (Town Centre)	(1,000)	1,000	-	-	-	-
Leisure Review - Boroughwide Sports Provision	-	-	-	(16)	-	(16)
Manchester Street Viaduct refurbishment	(273)	273	-	-	-	-
Chadderton Pedestrian & Cycle Access Improvements	(75)	75	-	-	-	-
Park Bridge NCN 626 to Ashton	(10)	10	-	-	-	-
Park Road NCN 626 to Town Centre	(437)	437	-	-	-	-
Royton Town Centre Connection	(557)	557	-	-	-	-
Minor Drainage Works	50	-	-	-	-	50
Minor Structures Works	125	95	-	-	-	220
Northern Roots	(2,798)	-	2,798	-	-	-
Obligations under Sec 39 Road Traffic Act	70	-	-	-	-	70
Oldham Magistrates Court	(11)	-	-	-	-	(11)
Oldham Town Centre - Rock Street_Lord Street	(1,195)	1,195	-	-	-	-
Oldham Town Centre- Cheapside/West Street	(224)	152	72	-	-	-
Preliminary assessment and design of priority structures	75	-	-	-	-	75
Principal Bridge Inspections	49	-	-	-	-	49
Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Improvements	25	-	-	-	-	25
River Irk Bridge	26	74	-	-	-	100
Safety Barrier Enhancement (Boroughwide)	80	-	-	-	-	80

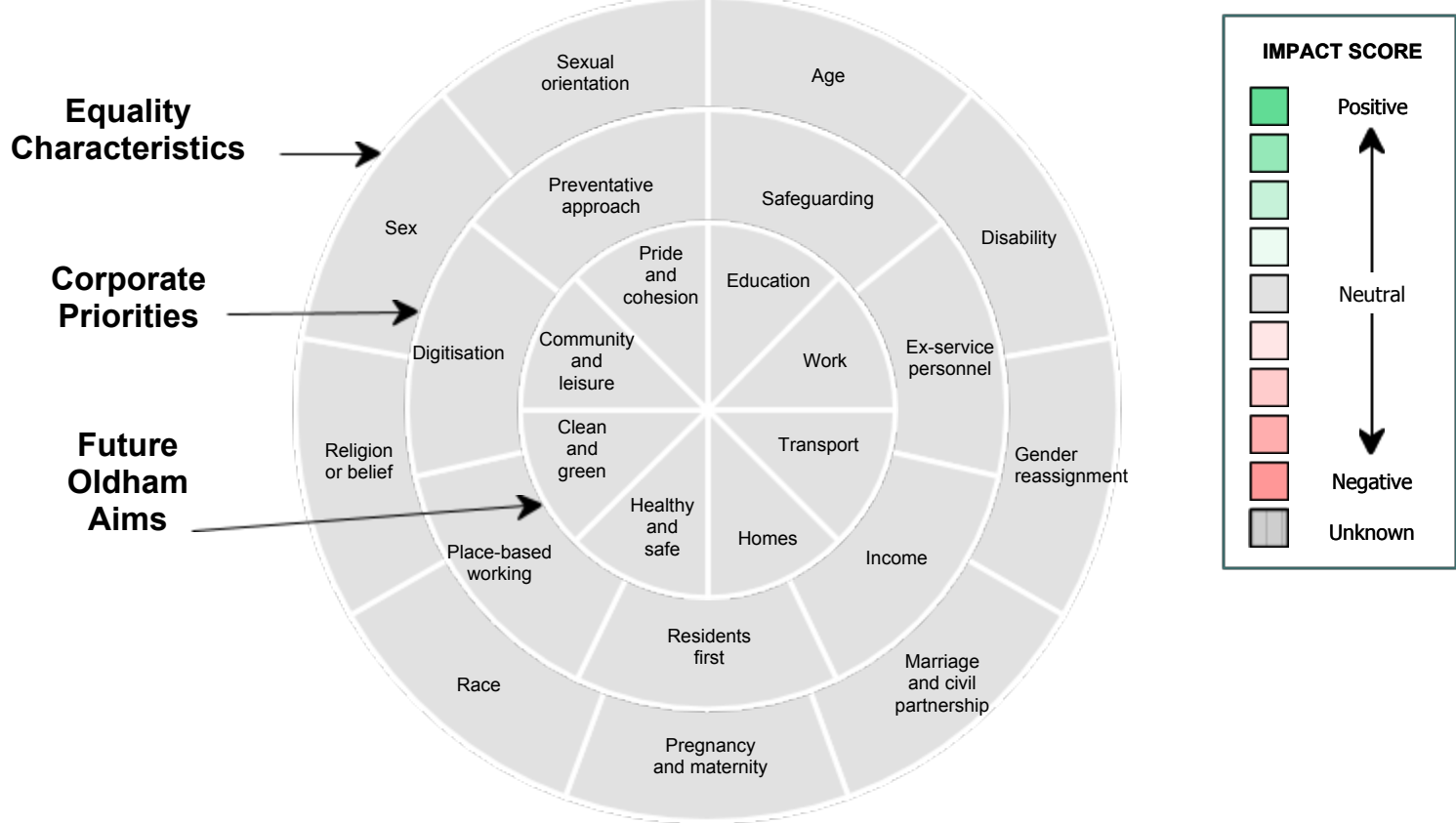
Place and Economic Growth cont'd						
Spindles Redevelopment	(5,000)	-	5,000	-	-	-
St Marys Primary, Greenfield - School Safety Zone	7	-	-	-	-	7
Strategic Acquisitions- General Provision	(1,241)	-	1,241	-	-	-
Tame Bridge	(9)	229	-	-	-	220
Traffic calming of 20mph, Uppermill, Dobcross	170	-	-	-	-	170
Transport Investment	(672)	(371)	(371)	(2,500)	-	(3,915)
Width Restriction, Wrigley Head, Failsworth	(49)	49	-	-	-	-
Wrigley Head Solar Farm	(650)	650	-	-	-	-
Place Total	(14,617)	8,367	8,739	(2,516)		(27)
Corporate/Information Technology						
Application Portfolio Management Line of Business Systems	30	-	-	-	-	30
Digital Communities Business Insight Performance, Strategy & Policy Foundations	(341)	(600)	(600)	(500)	-	(2,041)
Digital Leadership Business Support HR/OD Foundations	(100)	(50)	150	-	-	-
Digital Services Customer Experience	(1,377)	(109)	(500)	(350)	527	(1,809)
Technology Roadmap Digital and Technology Foundations	(106)					(106)
Data - Theme 3	254	909	950	1,534	500	4,147
Corporate/Information Technology Total	(1,641)	150	-	683	1,027	220
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting						
Provision for CPOs	11	-	-	16	-	27
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting Total	11	-	-	16	-	27
Grand Total	(19,183)	7,404	11,107	(135)	1,027	220

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

FINANCING BUDGETS TO BE REPROFILED AS AT 30 JUNE 2023		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
Grant & Other Contributions		11,159	(7,845)	(4,499)	965	-	(220)
Prudential Borrowing		7,028	1,069	(6,241)	(829)	(1,027)	-
Revenue Contributions		-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Receipts		996	(629)	(368)	-	-	-
Grand Total		19,183	(7,404)	(11,107)	135	(1,027)	(220)

(subject to rounding – tolerance +/- £1k)

Annex 3- EIA: Financial Monitoring 23/24 (Q01)



Annex 3- EIA: Financial Monitoring 23/24 (Q01)				
	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Equality Characteristics				
Age	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	The report considers the 2023/24 financial position of the Council at Quarter 1 (30 June 2023) and as such, in isolation has no direct impact on Equality
Disability	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Race	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Religion or belief	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Sex	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Corporate Priorities				
Safeguarding	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	The report considers the 2023/24 financial position of the Council at Quarter 1 (30 June 2023) and as such, in isolation has no direct impact on Equality
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Income	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Residents first	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Place-based working	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Digitisation	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Preventative approach	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Future Oldham Aims				
Education	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	The report considers the 2023/24 financial position of the Council at Quarter 1 (30 June 2023) and as such, in isolation has no direct impact on Equality
Work	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Transport	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Homes	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Healthy and safe	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Clean and green	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Community and leisure	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above
Pride and cohesion	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	As Above

This page is intentionally left blank



Report to CABINET

Grant Acceptance: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) – Oldham Mumps Corridor Improvement Scheme

Portfolio Holder (s):

Councillor Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Reform & Regeneration

Officer Contact:

Emma Barton, Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth

Report Author:

Eleanor Sykes, Strategic Transport Team Leader

21st August 2023

Reason for Decision

Oldham Council has secured capital funding for the development of an outline/full business case (OBC/FBC) to support a highways improvement scheme in the Mumps and surrounding area of Oldham, via:

- City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS)

The purpose of this report is to confirm the value of the grant available to Oldham Council and notify Cabinet of the intention to bring this additional resource into the transport capital programme to commence detailed development and the full business case for the scheme.

The report will also outline the steps that Oldham Council will need to take to procure the necessary support to develop the scheme in the appropriate timescales and to meet the funding requirements for both development and future delivery of the scheme.

Executive Summary

The Greater Manchester CRSTS programme business case was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in September 2021 by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) on behalf of themselves and all 10 GM districts.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) received confirmation of the full regional CRSTS allocation of £1.07bn for spend across 2022/23-2026/27 on the 1st April 2022.

On the 29th July 2022, the DfT, as the funders of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement, confirmed the delivery plans and funding allocations to each city region and sent a funding letter to each City Region Mayor.

One scheme included in the delivery plan is improvements to the Oldham Mumps corridor (A669 Lees Road, A62 Bottom O' Th' Moor/Huddersfield Road, B6194 Cross Street) to the east of Oldham town centre.

This scheme has been developed over the past year and has now secured Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) assurance through TfGM processes to move to the next stage of scheme development, utilising some of the approved DfT CRSTS capital budget.

Recommendations

Cabinet members are asked to consider the following recommendations:

- That the grant offer from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) for delivery of an outline/full business case (OBC/FBC) for the scheme along the Mumps corridor be accepted.
- Approval is granted to enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development.
- That the intention to bring the additional resource into the transport capital programme in 2023/24 and complete development of the scheme in the appropriate timescales be noted.
- Approval to procure and make tender awards (in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules) relating to the necessary external support required to develop the outline/full business case (OBC/FBC) be delegated to the Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth or a nominated representative.
- Approval to use part of the grant funding to appoint temporary support to Council teams, as required, to progress design options, stakeholder engagement and production of the full business case to secure further capital funding for Oldham.
- That approval to the Director of Legal Services or his nominated representatives be granted to execute and complete any contractual documents.

Grant Acceptance: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) – Mumps Corridor scheme**1 Background**

- 1.1 The City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) programme is a £5.7 billion investment in local transport networks by the Department for Transport (DfT) focusing on improving sustainable transport such as walk/cycle networks. It provides consolidated, long-term capital funding to 8 city regions across England through a 5-year period between 2022/2023 and 2026/2027. As part of this, Greater Manchester received a total of £1,07bn to be split across schemes throughout the region.
- 1.2 The Mumps Corridor is heavily dominated by motorised traffic and as a result this severs walking and cycling routes from the south and east of Oldham, and also hinders bus movements to the Interchange. In addition, there are road safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists at the junctions along the route. Through reshaping these highway links, accessibility by active travel modes and public transport will be enhanced. This improved accessibility and revitalised urban realm will support redevelopment in the town centre and multimodal journeys through Mumps Interchange. This reflects GM's and Oldham's transport policies and "Right Mix" targets.
- 1.3 The Mumps Corridor is the eastern gateway to Oldham Town Centre and provides key connections to the Metrolink and Bus Interchange. This scheme involves delivering key improvements to the Corridor including high quality pedestrian / cyclist links, bus priority and urban realm improvements to the interchange area including an improved cycle parking hub.
- 1.4 The concept design of the Mumps corridor improvements (to be developed further at the next stage) includes the following:
- Reconfiguration of highway layout to accommodate improved pedestrian/cycle/bus priority at the Oldham Way/Lees Road junction.
 - Inclusion of a bus lane and footway widening to accommodate improved pedestrian facilities along Lees Road.
 - Reconfiguration of the highway layout on A62 Bottom O' Th' Moor to include a bus only lane, two-way cycle track and improved lane configuration.
 - Reconfiguration of highway layout to accommodate improved pedestrian/cycle/bus priority at the Huddersfield Road/Cross Street junction.
 - Traffic calming measures along Greenacres Road.
- 1.5 The Portfolio Holder (Reform and Regeneration) and relevant senior management have had a presentation from Council officers and/or external consultants Jacobs on the scheme during development of the Strategic Outline Business Case. This gave a high-level overview of the scheme and its objectives, and both the Portfolio Holder and Senior Officers were supportive to see the scheme progress to this next stage.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The GM Delivery Group endorsed the recommendation to approve the SOBC for the Mumps corridor scheme on the 27th June 2023.

2.2 The next steps now include:

- The scheme will be included in a report to GMCA in July 2023 where TfGM request capital funding drawdown from the CRSTS allocation for the scheme of £675,000. This is for Oldham Council costs to develop the scheme to the FBC stage. This report will also highlight that this £675,000 is part of the overall funding of £4.5m required to deliver the scheme in full (the rest of the funding will be drawn down after the FBC is approved).
- Oldham Council accept the grant offer of £675,000 for scheme development of the Mumps corridor scheme).
- Oldham Council enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development.
- Oldham Council to bring the additional resource into the transport capital programme in 2023/24 and commence design development.
- Oldham Council to complete combined Outline/Full Business Case, including detailed schemes designs and procurement, with a target date of December 2024.

External Support

2.3 The £675,000 ask prepared by Oldham Council to TfGM for development costs includes the following work:

- Officer time on developing the scheme to preliminary/detailed design, consultation and engagement with Members and key stakeholders, communications, finance, legal and procurement input.
- Traffic Modelling.
- Signal design.
- Topographical surveys.
- Intrusive surveys and site investigation.
- Landscape architect input.

2.4 The elements of the above work that we require external support to deliver (topographical surveys, intrusive surveys, site investigation and landscape architect input etc.) will be discussed with procurement and the most appropriate procurement methods selected. It is proposed that the approval for any procurement activity, including the award of contracts for any of these works will be delegated to the Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth (who may delegate further if appropriate to ensure procurement and delivery in a timely manner).

Strategic Partnership Agreement (Delivery Model)

2.5 For Oldham Council to meet the expectations and delivery timescales required under CRSTS we need to adopt a pro-active approach to procurement of a contractor to deliver works.

2.6 The Council has previously procured and entered into a Strategic Partnership Agreement – 'Accessible Oldham' - with a medium-sized local contractor who are successfully delivering several works packages across the town centre to meet timescales put in place by funders. This agreement is working well and evidence that, once established, in conjunction with legal, procurement and finance colleagues, a Strategic Partnership Agreement can be used to negate the need for lengthy procurement exercises of up to 3-4 months for each package of works.

2.7 This successful model for the development and delivery of highway works is to be repeated for this town centre scheme (and other schemes coming forward through CRSTS allocations) and means that individual projects will be procured via a Call Off procedure under the Strategic Partnership Agreement. The Call-Off procedure would be governed by the overarching agreement and each order for works (Call-Off) would be approved at Director level (in liaison with the Directors of Finance and Legal Services) rather than through individual Cabinet reports for each element of work over £400k.

2.8 This Strategic Partnership Agreement is currently being progressed and will be in place by the end of 2023. Having a Strategic Partner in place will assist the Delivery Team at key stages of the development of schemes and business cases through Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) and fast-track, where applicable, the construction of projects, to meet the expectations demands of the overseeing organisations.

3 **Options/Alternatives**

3.1 Option 1:

- That the grant offer from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) for scheme development of the Mumps corridor scheme be accepted.
- That approval is granted to enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development.
- That approval for all procurement and tender award activity carried out in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and any resulting decisions relating to the necessary external support required to develop the scheme (examples listed in the report) be delegated to the Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth or a nominated representative.
- That approval to use part of the grant funding to appoint temporary support to Council teams, as required, to progress design options, stakeholder engagement and production of the full business case to secure further capital funding for Oldham.
- That approval to the Director of Legal Services or his nominated representatives be granted to execute and complete any contractual documents.

3.2 Option 2:

- That the grant offer from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) for scheme development of the Mumps corridor scheme is not accepted.
- That approval to enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development is not granted.
- That all procurement and tender award activity and decisions relating to the necessary external support required to develop the scheme (examples listed in the report) shall not be delegated.
- That approval to use part of the grant funding to appoint temporary support to Council teams, as required, to progress design options, stakeholder engagement and production of the full business case to secure further capital funding for Oldham is not granted.

4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 This report recommends 'Option 1' is taken forward enabling the Council to develop the Mumps corridor scheme in the appropriate timescales to meet the funding requirements for both the development and future delivery of the scheme.

4.2 The alternative, 'Option 2' would be reputationally damaging. We have committed to develop and implement these types of schemes as part of the GM 2040 Transport Strategy (<https://tfgm.com/2040-transport-strategy>).

4.3 This scheme will make the Mumps area a more attractive option for travel by bus and active travel modes for both local, short, and onward journeys.

5 Consultation

5.1 The Portfolio Holder (Reform and Regeneration) and Senior Management were briefed in February and June 2023 and introduced to the Mumps corridor scheme as part of a wider briefing on the Oldham-led CRSTS Streets for All schemes.

5.2 Engagement with senior stakeholders and ward members will continue as the scheme develops and will be supported with a detailed stakeholder engagement plan.

5.3 The stakeholder engagement plan will also take into account wider stakeholders including Council colleagues, residents, businesses, visitors, bus operators, taxi association and specific groups such as those that represent people with disabilities.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The acceptance of the £675,000 CRSTS capital grant funding will enable delivering the scheme development of the Mumps corridor scheme, which is detailed in the body of the report, on behalf of TfGM. The overall cost of the scheme will need to be contained within the available funding.

6.2 The Councils 2023/24 capital programme will be amended to reflect the receipt of the £675,000 additional grant and planned programme of expenditure.

(John Edisbury)

7 Legal Services Comments

7.1 Subject to Cabinet approval to accept the grant, the Council will be required to enter into a grant funding delivery agreement with TfGM in order to secure the grant award. It is essential that the draft funding agreement is reviewed by Legal Services prior to the formal acceptance of funds to ensure all obligations imposed by TfGM can be complied with and so that any risks can be addressed and, where possible, mitigated. All matters of note and risks will be communicated to relevant officers for consideration. The Subsidy Control Act 2022 has been considered within Legal Services and it has been concluded that the grant funding does not fall within the definition of "subsidy".

7.2 The procurement activity proposed in the report must be undertaken in consultation with the Commercial Procurement Unit and with Legal Services, who will supply suitable forms of contract. Provided all procurement activity is undertaken in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules (incorporating national procurement legislation) and that the award processes are in accordance with the advertised evaluation and scoring criteria, there are no known legal implications linked to the procurement recommendations.

(Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor)

8. **Co-operative Agenda**

- 8.1 Development of the Mumps corridor scheme in Oldham is part of the collaborative approach to public transport and active travel schemes which sees the 10 Greater Manchester councils, including Oldham, working in partnership with GMCA and TfGM to improve the city-region's active travel network.

The proposals will assist Oldham to meet the mode share targets we have supported as part of the GM 'Right Mix Vision' – for 50% of all journeys in Greater Manchester to be made by walking, cycling and public transport by 2040.

They will also encourage travel by active and sustainable modes, reduce road danger in Oldham and improve the environment and air quality for people living and working in Oldham.

(Jonathan Downs – Corporate Policy Lead)

9 **Human Resources Comments**

- 9.1 None

10 **Risk Assessments**

- 10.1 The Council in accepting this grant must determine whether it can comply with the grant conditions and deliver the project. The risks in accepting this grant award are assessed as minimal.

(Mark Stenson)

11 **IT Implications**

- 11.1 None

12 **Property Implications**

- 12.1 None

13 **Procurement Implications**

- 13.1 The appointment of consultants to undertake topographical surveys, intrusive surveys, site investigation and landscape architecture including any general consultancy for business case development will require early engagement of procurement to ensure most appropriate procurement methods are selected and in full compliance with public contract regulations; contract procedure rules; and funding conditions. A strategic partner for works will be procured and awarded by Q1 2024 and will be procured in full compliance with public contract regulations.

(Dan Cheetham)

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1 None

15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

15.1 None

16 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

16.1 The Equality Impact Assessment for 'Creating a Better Place', carried out in August 2023 adequately covers the aims and objectives of this scheme and is included at Appendix A.

17 **Key Decision**

17.1 Yes

18 **Key Decision Reference**

18.1 ESR-27-23

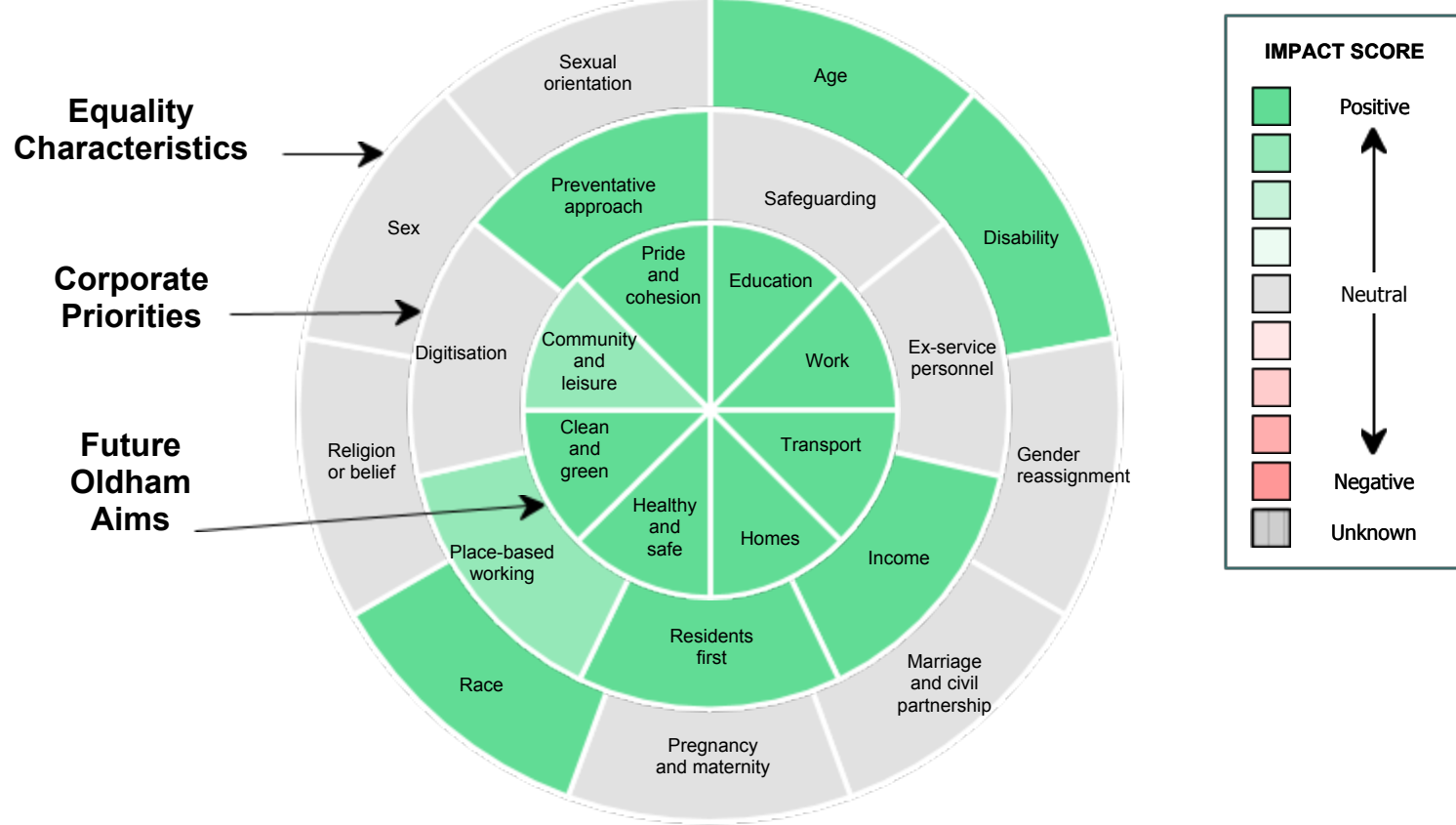
Appendix A



Creating a Better Place 2023				
	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Equality Characteristics				
Age	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy does draw from the demographic information captured in the local housing needs assessment evidence base. The Housing Strategy does not present any negative impact on people due to their age.
Disability	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place includes supported housing and advises disabled people and families on access and the locality of adapted properties. The Street Charter Working Group will be engaged to develop the Town Centre Vision to ensure consideration is given to blind or partially sighted people.
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Race	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	The ethnic diversity of Oldham's residents is acknowledged and addressed throughout the Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy. Ethnicity related demographics form part of the local housing needs assessment which in turn inform the key themes set out within the Housing Strategy.
Religion or belief	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Sex	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact

Corporate Priorities				
Safeguarding	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Income	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	The income levels of Oldham's residents is acknowledged and addressed throughout Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy. Income and housing affordability form part of the Local Housing Needs Assessment which in turn inform the key themes set out within the Housing Strategy.
Residents first	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy aims to increase the choice, quality and access to housing for all residents in the Borough and for people wishing to move into Oldham. The Housing Strategy aims to be cohesive and support people from all groups and backgrounds.
Place-based working	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	Creating a Better Place is supported through Place Based Working through our strategic accommodation approach.
Digitisation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact
Preventative approach	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy aims to increase the choice, quality and access to housing for all residents in the Borough and for people wishing to move into Oldham. The Housing Strategy aims to be cohesive and support people from all groups and backgrounds.
Future Oldham Aims				
Education	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills
Work	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place aims to provide opportunities to grow local businesses and create 1,000 new jobs and 100 new opportunities for apprenticeships across the borough.
Transport	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Reviewing and updating transport links across the Borough.
Homes	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place will focus on building 2,000 new quality homes in the town centre designed for a range of different budgets and needs.
Healthy and safe	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Improving life-chances and the health / well-being of our residents and local communities.
Clean and green	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Oldham's Green New Deal is part of Creating a Better Place and will embed sustainability, energy efficiency and low (zero) carbon to ensure that Oldham is the greenest borough.
Community and leisure	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	Creating a Better Place will create a town centre park, performance space within Spindles and new theatre which will provide new space in which to exercise, play, or spend time with friends, family and colleagues outdoors.
Pride and cohesion	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place will focus on building more homes for our residents, creating new jobs through town centre regeneration, and ensuring Oldham is a great place to visit with lots of family friendly and accessible places to go.

Creating a Better Place 2023



Click to refresh Table					Creating a Better Place 2023				
	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment					
Equality Characteristics									
Age	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy does draw from the demographic information captured in the local housing needs assessment evidence base. The Housing Strategy does not present any negative impact on people due to their age.					
Disability	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place includes supported housing and advises disabled people and families on access and the locality of adapted properties. The Street Charter Working Group will be engaged to develop the Town Centre Vision to ensure consideration is given to blind or partially sighted people.					
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Race	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	The ethnic diversity of Oldham's residents is acknowledged and addressed throughout the Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy. Ethnicity related demographics form part of the local housing needs assessment which in turn inform the key themes set out within the Housing Strategy.					
Religion or belief	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Sex	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Corporate Priorities									
Safeguarding	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Income	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	The income levels of Oldham's residents is acknowledged and addressed throughout Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy. Income and housing affordability form part of the Local Housing Needs Assessment which in turn inform the key themes set out within the Housing Strategy.					
Residents first	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy aims to increase the choice, quality and access to housing for all residents in the Borough and for people wishing to move into Oldham. The Housing Strategy aims to be cohesive and support people from all groups and backgrounds.					
Place-based working	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	Creating a Better Place is supported through Place Based Working through our strategic accommodation approach.					
Digitisation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	No adverse impact					
Preventative approach	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place and the Housing Strategy aims to increase the choice, quality and access to housing for all residents in the Borough and for people wishing to move into Oldham. The Housing Strategy aims to be cohesive and support people from all groups and backgrounds.					
Future Oldham Aims									
Education	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Providing opportunities to learn and gain new skills					
Work	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place aims to provide opportunities to grow local businesses and create 1,000 new jobs and 100 new opportunities for apprenticeships across the borough.					
Transport	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Reviewing and updating transport links across the Borough.					
Homes	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place will focus on building 2,000 new quality homes in the town centre designed for a range of different budgets and needs.					
Healthy and safe	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Improving life-chances and the health / well-being of our residents and local communities.					
Clean and green	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Oldham's Green New Deal is part of Creating a Better Place and will embed sustainability, energy efficiency and low (zero) carbon to ensure that Oldham is the greenest borough.					
Community and leisure	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	Creating a Better Place will create a town centre park, performance space within Spindles and new theatre which will provide new space in which to exercise, play, or spend time with friends, family and colleagues outdoors.					
Pride and cohesion	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Creating a Better Place will focus on building more homes for our residents, creating new jobs through town centre regeneration, and ensuring Oldham is a great place to visit with lots of family friendly and accessible places to go.					



Report to CABINET

Grant Acceptance: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) – Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss Improvement Scheme

Portfolio Holder (s):

Councillor Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Reform & Regeneration

Officer Contact:

Emma Barton, Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth

Report Author:

Eleanor Sykes, Strategic Transport Team Leader

21st August 2023

Reason for Decision

Oldham Council has secured capital funding for the development of an outline/full business case (OBC/FBC) to support the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss Improvement Scheme, via City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS)

The purpose of this report is to confirm the value of the grant available to Oldham Council and notify Cabinet of the intention to bring this additional resource into the transport capital programme to commence detailed development and the full business case for the scheme.

The report will also outline the steps that Oldham Council will need to take to procure the necessary support to develop the scheme in the appropriate timescales and to meet the funding requirements for both development and future delivery of the scheme.

Executive Summary

The Greater Manchester CRSTS programme business case was submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in September 2021 by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) on behalf of themselves and all 10 GM districts.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) received confirmation of the full regional CRSTS allocation of £1.07bn for spend across 2022/23-2026/27 on the 1st April 2022.

On the 29th July 2022, the DfT, as the funders of the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement, confirmed the delivery plans and funding allocations to each city region and sent a funding letter to each City Region Mayor.

One scheme included in the delivery plan is the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss Improvement scheme, directly to the south of Shaw town centre.

This scheme has been developed over the past year and has now secured Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) assurance through TfGM processes to move to the next stage of scheme development, utilising some of the approved DfT CRSTS capital budget.

Recommendations

Cabinet members are asked to consider the following recommendations:

- That the grant offer from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) for delivery of an outline/full business case (OBC/FBC) for the scheme at Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss be accepted (subject to GMCA approval in September 2023).
- Approval is granted to enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development.
- That the intention to bring the additional resource into the transport capital programme in 2023/24 and complete development of the scheme in the appropriate timescales be noted.
- Approval to procure and make tender awards (in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules) relating to the necessary external support required to develop the outline/full business case (OBC/FBC) be delegated to the Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth or a nominated representative.
- Approval to use part of the grant funding to appoint temporary support to Council teams, as required, is granted to progress design options, stakeholder engagement and production of the full business case to secure further capital funding for Oldham.
- That approval to the Director of Legal Services or his nominated representatives is granted to execute and complete any contractual documents.

Grant Acceptance: City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) – Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss Improvement scheme**1 Background**

- 1.1 The City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) programme is a £5.7 billion investment in local transport networks by the Department for Transport (DfT) focusing on improving sustainable transport such as walk/cycle networks. It provides consolidated, long-term capital funding to 8 city regions across England through a 5-year period between 2022/2023 and 2026/2027. As part of this, Greater Manchester received a total of £1,07bn to be split across schemes throughout the region.
- 1.2 Beal Valley and the adjacent Broadbent Moss are two sites within the Places for Everyone plan which collectively will bring forward 1,930 new homes and 21,720sqm of employment floorspace. This CRSTS package aims to provide supporting infrastructure which will ensure high quality sustainable transport links are in place to enable new residents and employees to travel by active travel and public transport for everyday journeys. The CRSTS package includes upgrading the 'Big Lamp' roundabout to a CYCLOPS junction and incorporation of bus priority, a segregated cycle link alongside Crompton Way linking to Shaw Town Centre and upgrades to bus stops on key routes to Shaw and Oldham Town Centre.
- 1.3 The collective schemes will support the delivery of the Beal Valley and Broadbent Moss allocation sites, bringing economic growth through the provision of new employment and good quality homes as supported in the Places for Everyone plan. A key tool for this would be through providing enhanced transport connectivity (through the schemes which this SOBC relates to), alongside improvements delivered by the developer(s) of the sites, and the proposed complementary Cop Road Metrolink stop and Travel Hub which is at the feasibility stage. This will ensure that the new employment and housing is accessible by sustainable means, realising the "Right Mix" mode share targets.
- 1.4 The concept design of the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss improvements (to be developed further at the next stage) includes the following:
- Upgrade the 'Big Lamp' roundabout to a CYCLOPS junction to incorporate pedestrian/cycle crossing facilities, enhanced signal timings to give priority to public transport etc. Further design to be included in next stage.
 - New footway and segregated cycle lane on Manchester Road and Oldham Road approaches to 'Big Lamp' junction.
 - New footway and segregated cycle lane to continue along Crompton Way towards Shaw town centre to junction with Kershaw Street East.
 - Reconfiguration of highway layout at the junction between Crompton Way and High Street to also consider improved pedestrian/cycle crossing points (design to be furthered in next stage).
 - Improvement to bus priority between the 'Big Lamp' junction and the junction with High Street to incorporate a right turn only bus lane into High Street with bus only signal and a dedicated bus lane on the approach to the 'Big Lamp' junction along Crompton Way with bus only signal.
- 1.5 The Portfolio Holder (Reform and Regeneration) and relevant senior management have had a presentation from Council officers and/or external consultants Jacobs on the scheme during development of the Strategic Outline Business Case. This gave a high-level overview of the scheme and its objectives and both the Portfolio Holder and Senior Officers were supportive to see the scheme progress to this next stage.

2 Current Position

2.1 The GM Delivery Group endorsed the recommendation to approve the SOBC for the Beal Valley / Broadbent Moss Improvement scheme on the 15th August 2023.

2.2 The next steps now include:

- The scheme will be included in a report to GMCA in September 2023 where TfGM request capital funding drawdown from the CRSTS allocation for the scheme of £855,000. This is for Oldham Council costs to develop the scheme to the FBC stage. This report will also highlight that this £855,000 is part of the overall funding of £5.7m required to deliver the scheme in full (the rest of the funding will be drawn down after the FBC is approved).
- Oldham Council accept the grant offer of £855,000 for scheme development of the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss improvement scheme (subject to GMCA approval in September 2023).
- Oldham Council enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development.
- Oldham Council bring the additional resource into the transport capital programme in 2023/24 and commence design development.
- Oldham Council completes a combined Outline/Full Business Case, including detailed schemes designs and procurement, with a target date of December 2024.

External Support

2.3 The £855,000 ask prepared by Oldham Council to TfGM for development costs includes the following work:

- Officer time on developing the scheme to preliminary/detailed design, consultation and engagement with Members and key stakeholders, communications, finance, legal and procurement input.
- Traffic Modelling.
- Signal design.
- Topographical surveys.
- Intrusive surveys and site investigation.
- Landscape architect input.

2.4 The elements of the above work that we require external support to deliver (topographical surveys, intrusive surveys, site investigation and landscape architect input etc.) will be discussed with procurement and the most appropriate procurement methods selected. It is proposed that the approval for any procurement activity, including the award of contracts for any of these works will be delegated to the Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth (who may delegate further if appropriate to ensure procurement and delivery in a timely manner).

Strategic Partnership Agreement (Delivery Model)

2.5 For Oldham Council to meet the expectations and delivery timescales required under CRSTS we need to adopt a pro-active approach to procurement of a contractor to deliver works.

-
- 2.6 The Council has previously procured and entered into a Strategic Partnership Agreement – ‘Accessible Oldham’ - with a medium-sized local contractor who are successfully delivering several works packages across the town centre to meet timescales put in place by funders. This agreement is working well and evidence that, once established, in conjunction with legal, procurement and finance colleagues, a Strategic Partnership Agreement can be used to negate the need for lengthy procurement exercises of up to 3-4 months for each package of works.
- 2.7 This successful model for the development and delivery of highway works is to be repeated for this town centre scheme (and other schemes coming forward through CRSTS allocations) and means that individual projects will be procured via a Call Off procedure under the Strategic Partnership Agreement. The Call-Off procedure would be governed by the overarching agreement and each order for works (Call-Off) would be approved at Director level (in liaison with the Directors of Finance and Legal Services) rather than through individual Cabinet reports for each element of work over £400k.
- 2.8 This Strategic Partnership Agreement is currently being progressed and will be in place by the end of 2023. Having a Strategic Partner in place will assist the Delivery Team at key stages of the development of schemes and business cases through Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) and fast-track, where applicable, the construction of projects, to meet the expectations demands of the overseeing organisations.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 There are two options:

Option 1:

- That the grant offer from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) for scheme development of the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss scheme be accepted (subject to GMCA approval in September 2023).
- That approval is granted to enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development.
- That approval for all procurement and tender award activity carried out in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and any resulting decisions relating to the necessary external support required to develop the scheme (examples listed in the report) be delegated to the Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth or a nominated representative.
- That approval is granted to use part of the grant funding to appoint temporary support to Council teams, as required, to progress design options, stakeholder engagement and production of the full business case to secure further capital funding for Oldham.
- That approval to the Director of Legal Services or his nominated representatives is granted to execute and complete any contractual documents.

Option 2:

- That the grant offer from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) for scheme development of the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss improvement scheme is not accepted.
- That approval to enter into a Funding Delivery Agreement with TfGM in relation to the proposed scheme development is not granted.
- That all procurement and tender award activity and resulting decisions relating to the necessary external support required to develop the scheme (examples listed in the report) shall not be delegated.

-
- That part of the grant funding shall not be used to appoint temporary support to Council teams, as required, to progress design options, stakeholder engagement and production of the full business case to secure further capital funding for Oldham is not granted.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 This report recommends 'Option 1' is taken forward enabling the Council to develop the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss improvement scheme in the appropriate timescales to meet the funding requirements for both the development and future delivery of the scheme.
- 4.2 The alternative, 'Option 2' would be reputationally damaging. We have committed to develop and implement these types of schemes as part of the GM 2040 Transport Strategy (<https://tfgm.com/2040-transport-strategy>).
- 4.3 This scheme will provide a more attractive option for travel by bus and active travel modes for both local, short, and onward journeys.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 The Portfolio Holder (Reform and Regeneration) and Senior Management were briefed in February and June 2023 and introduced to the Beal Valley scheme as part of a wider briefing on the Oldham-led CRSTS Streets for All schemes.
- 5.2 Engagement with senior stakeholders and ward members will continue as the scheme develops and will be supported with a detailed stakeholder engagement plan.
- 5.3 The stakeholder engagement plan will also take into account wider stakeholders including Council colleagues, residents, businesses, visitors, bus operators, taxi association and specific groups such as those that represent people with disabilities.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 The acceptance of the £855,000 CRSTS capital grant funding will enable delivering the scheme development of the Beal Valley/Broadbent Moss improvement scheme, which is detailed in the body of the report, on behalf of TfGM. The overall cost of the scheme will need to be contained within the available funding.
- 6.2 The Councils 2023/24 capital programme will be amended to reflect the receipt of the £855,000 additional grant and planned programme of expenditure.

(John Edisbury)

7 Legal Services Comments

- 7.1 Subject to Cabinet approval to accept the grant, the Council will be required to enter into a grant funding delivery agreement with TfGM in order to secure the grant award. It is essential that the draft funding agreement is reviewed by Legal Services prior to the formal acceptance of funds to ensure all obligations imposed by TfGM can be complied with and so that any risks can be addressed and, where possible, mitigated. All matters of note and risks will be communicated to relevant officers for consideration. The Subsidy Control Act 2022 has been considered within Legal Services and it has been concluded that the grant funding does not fall within the definition of "subsidy".
- 7.2 The procurement activity proposed in the report must be undertaken in consultation with the Commercial Procurement Unit and with Legal Services, who will supply suitable forms of contract. Provided all procurement activity is undertaken in accordance with the Contract

Procedure Rules (incorporating national procurement legislation) and that the award processes are in accordance with the advertised evaluation and scoring criteria, there are no known legal implications linked to the procurement recommendations.

(Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor)

8. **Co-operative Agenda**

- 8.1 Development of the Beal Valley / Broadbent Moss Improvement scheme in Oldham is part of the collaborative approach to public transport and active travel schemes which sees the 10 Greater Manchester councils, including Oldham, working in partnership with GMCA and TfGM to improve the city-region's active travel network.

The proposals will assist Oldham to meet the mode share targets we have supported as part of the GM 'Right Mix Vision' – for 50% of all journeys in Greater Manchester to be made by walking, cycling and public transport by 2040.

They will also encourage travel by active and sustainable modes, reduce road danger in Oldham and improve the environment and air quality for people living and working in Oldham.

(Jonathan Downs – Corporate Policy Lead)

9 **Human Resources Comments**

- 9.1 None

10 **Risk Assessments**

- 10.1 The Council in accepting this grant must determine whether it can comply with the grant conditions and deliver the project. The risks in accepting this grant award are assessed as minimal.

(Mark Stenson)

11 **IT Implications**

- 11.1 None

12 **Property Implications**

- 12.1 None

13 **Procurement Implications**

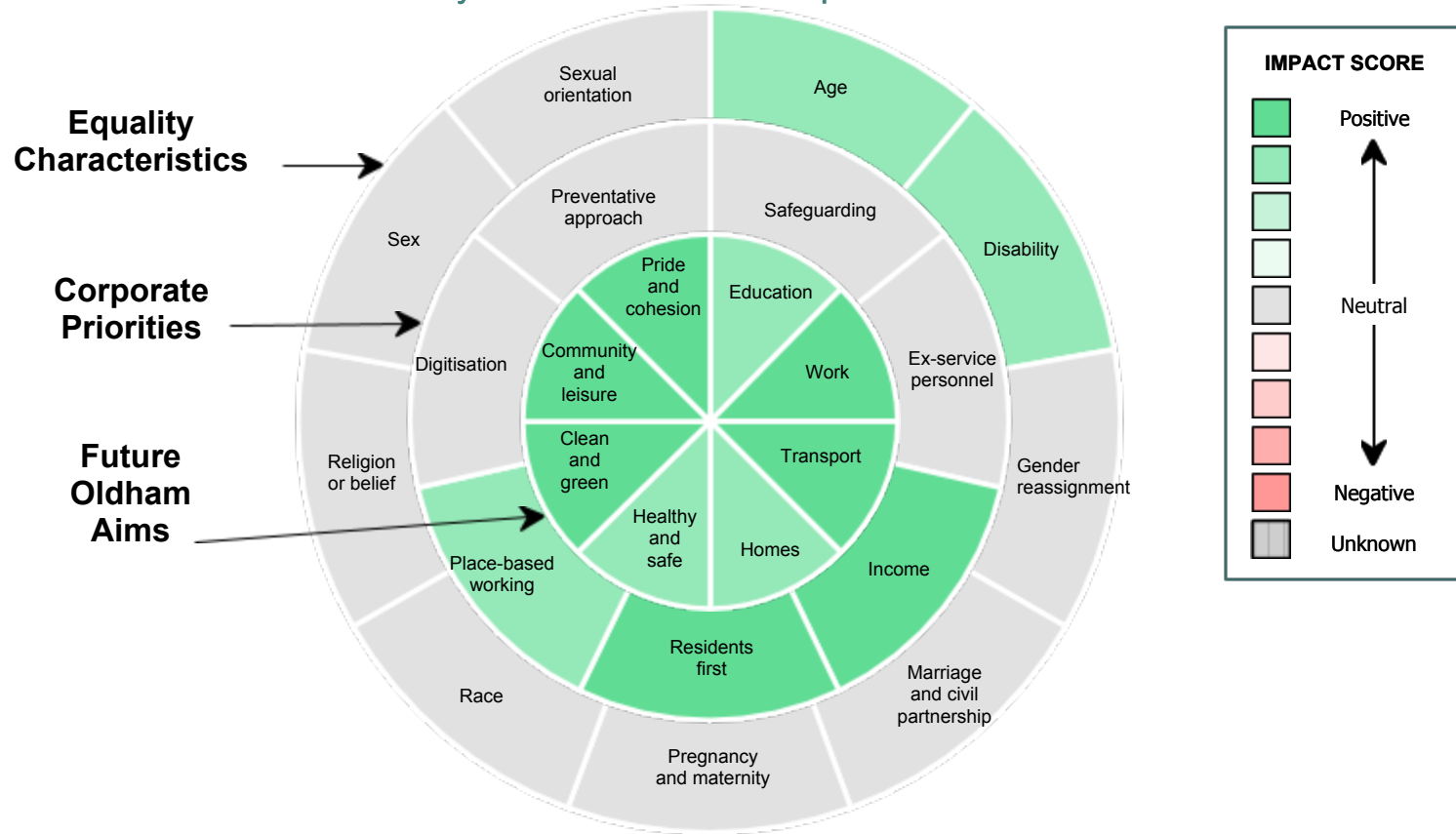
- 13.1 The appointment of consultants to undertake topographical surveys, intrusive surveys, site investigation and landscape architecture including any general consultancy for business case development will require early engagement of procurement to ensure most appropriate procurement methods are selected and in full compliance with public contract regulations; contract procedure rules; and funding conditions. A strategic partner for works will be procured and awarded by Q1 2024 and will be procured in full compliance with public contract regulations.

(Dan Cheetham)

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

-
- 14.1 None
 - 15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**
 - 15.1 None
 - 16 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**
 - 16.1 Yes – ‘Appendix A – Impact Assessment (CRSTS Beal Valley-Broadbent Moss)’
 - 17 **Key Decision**
 - 17.1 Yes
 - 18 **Key Decision Reference**
 - 18.1 ESR-28-23

Beal Valley / Broadbent Moss Improvement Scheme



Beal Valley / Broadbent Moss Improvement Scheme				
Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment	
Equality Characteristics				
Age	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	This package of highways works aims to provide supporting infrastructure which will ensure high quality sustainable transport links are in place to enable residents and employees to travel by active travel and public transport for everyday journeys.
Disability	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	This package of highways works aims to provide supporting infrastructure which will ensure high quality sustainable transport links are in place to enable residents and employees to travel by active travel and public transport for everyday journeys.
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Race	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Religion or belief	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Sex	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Corporate Priorities				
Safeguarding	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Income	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Active Travel or travel on public transport is free or capped fares so likely to be accessible to a higher proportion of our residents.
Residents first	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Stakeholder consultation will be undertaken as part of the scheme development.
Place-based working	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	
Digitisation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Preventative approach	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	
Future Oldham Aims				
Education	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Access to education improved.
Work	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Access to employment opportunities.
Transport	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	This package of highways works aims to provide supporting infrastructure which will ensure high quality sustainable transport links are in place to enable residents and employees to travel by active travel and public transport for everyday journeys.
Homes	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Makes new and existing homes more attractive in terms of AT and PT accessibility.
Healthy and safe	Moderate Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Improved access to services.
Clean and green	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Assists with clean air and 'right mix' targets for sustainable journeys.
Community and leisure	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	Provides opportunities for people to exercise for health, leisure and socialising.
Pride and cohesion	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	The scheme aligns to the 'Creating a Better Place' vision.



Report to CABINET

Approval to utilise the GMCA Contract for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Reform & Regeneration

Officer Contact:

Emma Barton, Executive Director for Place & Economic Growth

Report Author: Paul Osbaldiston, Corporate Facilities Manager
Ext. 3938

21st August 2023

Reason for Decision

To call-off under the GMCA (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) contract for the supply & delivery of groceries, chilled and frozen foods and enter into a call-off contract with Dunsters Farm Ltd who, following a competitive tender process, were identified as the winning bidder.

Executive Summary

Trafford Council on behalf of GMCA led on the retender of the contract for the supply and delivery of the groceries and chilled and frozen foods. The procurement process undertaken by Trafford was carried out in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and identified Dunsters Farm Ltd as the most economically advantageous tenderer. Oldham Council was named as a purchaser in all the tender documentation and within the Contract Notice advertised on the Chest Portal, Contracts Finder and Find a Tender. Trafford Council will enter into an overarching contract with Dunsters and Oldham Council will have the right to access this contract and place orders for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods.

During this financial year, Trafford Council are intending to undertake the re-procurements of the following contracts to ensure continuous and stable service delivery and value for money:

-
- Supply & Deliver of Fresh Produce and Chilled Prepared Produce
 - Supply & Delivery of Fresh and Freshly Frozen Meat, including Halal, Cooked Meats and Bacon
 - Supply and Delivery of Milk, Bread, and Dairy Products

Each of the above will be procured in accordance with Trafford Council's contract procedure rules and the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the tender processes will be managed via STaR procurement. Oldham Council will be named as a purchase in the tender documents.

Oldham Council have made a commitment to source supplies under these contracts which may bring multiple benefits including greater efficiency, economies of scale and reduced costs. To maximize the implementation period from contract award to the start date delegated approval is requested as detailed in the recommendations.

Recommendations

- To utilise the contract which Trafford Council will put in place and to enter into call-off contracts with Dunsters Farm Ltd for Oldham's required supplies as and when needed
- To delegate authority to Emma Barton (Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth] to approve and enter into all call-off contracts under the Trafford Council contract for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods and to approve and enter into call-off contracts with the appointed suppliers in respect of the following once Trafford Council have procured and entered into overarching contracts for the:
 - Supply & Deliver of Fresh Produce and Chilled Prepared Produce
 - Supply & Delivery of Fresh and Freshly Frozen Meat, including Halal, Cooked Meats and Bacon
 - Supply and Delivery of Milk, Bread and Dairy Products

Approval to utilise the GMCA Contract for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods

1 Background

- 1.1 Trafford Council have had the position as lead authority on all contracts for the supply and delivery of food for several years and Oldham Council has consistently been a participating authority, taking advantage of the rewards collaboration brings such as economies of scale, greater efficiencies and reduced spend.

For many years Brakes Foodservice have held the contract for the Supply & Delivery of Groceries, Chilled and Frozen Foods, which has been modified and extended due to various events such as the coronavirus pandemic and Brexit; this contract is now due to expire on 31st August 2023.

Oldham Council have commissioned supplies via the GMCA food contract through Trafford Council for several years and have benefitted from good food services from Brakes, providing quality food to use in the Oldham School meal service at a realistic price knowing its part of a large GMCA contract. It is recommended that Oldham Council continues to take advantage of the lead authority model being utilized by Trafford Council and that it continues to use the shared service moving on from September this year.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 Trafford Council on behalf of GMCA ran an open tender process and advertised the opportunity on the Chest e-procurement portal, Contracts Finder, and Find a Tender Service. Oldham Council was a named participant in the tender documents. The tender was viewed by 14 organisations and tenders were received by 4 organisations.

The tenders were evaluated on the following criteria:

Quality – Relevant Experience & Expertise	5%
Quality – Contract Mobilization	5%
Quality – Methodology, Resources & Management	15%
Quality – Quality Assurance & Source of Supply	5%
Social Value	15%
Price	50%

The outcome of the evaluation process identified Dunsters Farm Ltd as the most economically advantageous tenderer.

The contract is to start on 1st September 2023 until 31st August 2029, however a break point has been included at 31st August 2026.

It is intended that the prices will be reviewed 6 monthly for years 1-3 of the contract then on an annual basis for years 4-6.

Several other food related contracts are due to expire on 31st December 2023:

Contract
Supply & Deliver of Fresh Produce and Chilled Prepared Produce
Supply & Delivery of Fresh and Freshly Frozen Meat, including Halal, Cooked Meats and Bacon
Supply and Delivery of Milk, Bread and Dairy Products

Trafford Council are again taking position as lead authority in the re-procurement process, of which Oldham Council have made a commitment to be included. Should a different supplier be appointed, maximizing the implementation period is essential in ensuring systems and procedures have been agreed prior to the start date. Therefore, delegated authority to Emma Barton (Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth)] to place orders and enter into call-off contracts under the contracts which Trafford Council will put in place for the above following completion of a compliant procurement process, is requested to enable this.

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 **Option 1** – Do nothing. This would leave Oldham Council with no formal contract in place. This runs the risk of a further increase in costs, unstable service delivery and nonadherence of the Public Contract Regulations 2015. Due to the spend associated with this contract an alternative procurement process would need to be completed which would not guarantee any savings and may be less attractive to the market due to the lack of economy of scale.

Option 2 – Undertake a procurement process targeting local businesses to solely supply to Oldham Council. This is not a viable option at present as a review has not taken place on the local market position.

Option 3 – To utilise the GMCA framework and enter into a call-off contract with Dunster Farms Ltd. This would provide stability in the service area ensuring continuous delivery and fixed prices. Furthermore, a robust and compliant procurement process has been undertaken to identify Dunster Farms Ltd, reducing risk further to the Council.

Option 4 – On completion of a compliant procurement process by Trafford Council via STaR Procurement, to allow for delegated approval to enter into call-off contracts for:

- Supply & Deliver of Fresh Produce and Chilled Prepared Produce
- Supply & Delivery of Fresh and Freshly Frozen Meat, including Halal, Cooked Meats and Bacon
- Supply and Delivery of Milk, Bread and Dairy Products

This will allow the implementation period to be fully maximized ensuring that all systems are up to date, delivery schedules agreed and specific service requirements to be considered prior to the contract start dates.

4 Preferred Option

4.1 The preferred options are **Option 3 and Option 4.**

5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 GMCA Catering Group
Catering Managers from nearby Councils
Oldham Council Procurement

6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 Contained within the Part B Report (James Postle)

7 **Legal Services Comments**

- 7.1 Rule 4 of the Contract Procedure Rules allows for the provision of supplies via a compliant framework agreement which another contracting authority has put in place. All call-offs made under the framework would need to be in accordance with the terms of the framework agreement and in the form of contract prescribed by the framework agreement. Advice from the Commercial Procurement Unit and Legal Services should be taken as and when required to ensure procedures are followed. Regarding the future contracts which Trafford intends to advertise and put in place, confirmation of compliance by Trafford with relevant procurement procedures would be given to the officer with delegated authority prior to any call-off contracts being put in place.
(Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor)

8. **Co-operative Agenda**

- 8.1 Through the application of the GMCA Social Value requirements the tender aligns with the Council's Co-operative values. (Amanda Richardson – Policy Manager)

9 **Human Resources Comments**

- 9.1 None

10 **Risk Assessments**

- 10.1 No specific risk comments on this report (Mark Stenson)

11 **IT Implications**

- 11.1 In general, IT do not have any major comments about this. However, it is understood that the Council procured the CYPAD Catering system back in June 2018, used in school kitchens etc. This was without ICT involvement and is not a supported system by ICT and is presumed to still be operational. I would expect that catering / kitchen managers place orders for food using this system. It is therefore a question as to how new pricing under this GMCA agreement gets uploaded into the CYPAD system. This would need to be investigated by the 3rd party supplier of CYPAD which may involve interface costs unless all pricing is currently manually updated and is expected to continue to be done in the same manner. (Lindsey Al-Basri)

12 **Property Implications**

- 12.1 None

13 **Procurement Implications**

- 13.1 The Commercial Procurement Unit support the recommendation outlined in the report. The procurement exercise led by Trafford Council (via STaR Procurement) on behalf of other Greater Manchester authorities has been carried out compliantly in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 achieving both high quality and value for money. (Emily Molden)

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

- 14.1 Health & Safety - Project manager to ensure suitable and sufficient risk assessments are in place for the chosen catering provider and ensure the chosen provider has an adequate food safety management system in place and necessary monitoring procedures for the storage and transport of chilled foods. Recommend a copy of the last food hygiene inspection report is obtained from the relevant Local Authority Food Safety Team. (For example, Dunsters Farm, Rochdale Environmental Health Team) (Lauren Wood)

- 14.2 Environment - The winning bidder, Dunsters Farm, is a local business based in Rochdale, which means that the environmental impact of supplying food to Oldham will be minimised. Dunsters also use local suppliers wherever possible and require their supply chain to work in line with their requirements for continuous improvement on sustainability. They have committed to use of sustainable packaging and employ “backhauling” (non-use of empty trucks) with 5 suppliers each week. They have a carbon reduction (Journey to Net Zero) plan and avoid using single-use plastics and polluting refrigerants. 100% of their profits from sales of water are being donated to City of Trees and have donated a piece of land to Life for Life, a memorial tree-planting service. Dunsters are aiming to achieve Carbon Literacy Bronze organisation status in 2023. They also have a Sustainability Roadmap for 2023 with monthly actions and will share their annual plans with the Council at the beginning of every year.

[Andrew Hunt, Green Energy & Sustainability Manager]

15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

- 15.1 None

16 **Oldham Impact Assessment Completed?**

- 16.1 Yes

17 **Key Decision**

- 17.1 Yes

18 **Key Decision Reference**

- 18.1 NEI-10-23

19 **Background Papers**

- 19.1 All the background papers are held within Trafford Council and they have procured the new contract in line with GMCA. Oldham council will reap the benefits of the tender

20 **Appendices**

- 20.1 Appendix 1 - Impact assessment attached for reference



Report to Cabinet - Part A

Corporate Furniture

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Reform & Regeneration

Officer Contact:

Emma Barton, Executive Director of Place and Economic Growth

Report Author:

Katy Webster, Assistant Director, Property & Projects

21 August 2023

Reason for Decision

In order to complete the transition phases of a number of projects relating to corporate accommodation under the Creating a Better Place programme and ensure that New Ways of Working are adopted, the Council requires much of the corporate furniture to be relocated, repurposed and recycled. This will allow the new workspaces to become functional allowing staff to decant out of the Civic Centre over the next six months and members over the next 2 years into new accommodation. New furniture will also be required to allow the new spaces to operate effectively.

This report seeks approval to enter into a new contract with a furniture supplier following the completion of a mini tender process. The framework will operate for a four-year period in order to meet the timescales set out within the programme.

Recommendations

The Cabinet are requested to agree the following;

- Note the contents of this report
- Approve the repurposing and recycling proposals in this report regarding the existing corporate furniture to support the transformation of corporate accommodation under the Creating a Better Place Programme and delegate authority to the Executive Director for Place and economic Growth to finalise and implement the disposal, recycling and repurchasing recommendations in section 1 below.

-
- Delegate approval to the Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth to approve the award of and the entering into of a call-off contract for the supply, delivery, and installation of office furniture as and when required over a 4 year term for the new Spindles Workspace Project following the completion of the procurement exercise set out in section 2 below.
 - Delegate authority to the Director of Legal Services and his nominated representatives to carry out all necessary legal formalities.

Corporate Furniture

1 Background

- 1.1 To strengthen our “new ways of working”, the Council is introducing a more flexible and modern office environment to strengthen service delivery and meet the expectations of our workforce, partners, members and residents. The approach will enable us to reduce our corporate estate, repurpose sites for development, release efficiencies whilst retaining at the forefront our ‘Resident First’ focus including increased local delivery, for example through the roll out of Family Hubs and Place Based Community Hubs across the borough.
- 1.2 Cabinet will be aware that within the Creating a Better Place programme, there are a number of accommodation projects in delivery and form part of our significant investment in key assets across Oldham ensuring utilisation is maximised and they remain sustainable for the future.
- 1.3 The table below details the key assets currently undergoing refurbishment and are programmed to complete within the next two years.

Project	Estimated Completion Date
Beever Family Hub	July 2023
Alexandra Park Eco Centre	Late 2023
Town Centre Workspace (Spindles)	January 2024
Royton Town Hall (Community Hub)	Spring 2024
Chadderton Town Hall (Community Hub)	Spring 2024
Market, Events and Archive	Spring 2025
The Old Library	Spring 2025

- 1.4 Aligned to the capital works underway we have a requirement to invest in new office furniture and as detailed within the main body of the report any existing furniture will be repurposed and recycled wherever possible. Furniture is a corporate resource that is managed by the Facilities Management team.

Impact of New Ways of Working

To strengthen our “new ways of working”, the Council is introducing a modern flexible office environment aligned with the expectations our workforce and partners that retains our Resident First approach at the forefront.

The new design of our accommodation has been informed by our workforce and partners including consultation events and feedback on their experience within the Spindles accommodation trial space. The feedback received has been assessed and where appropriate incorporated into the design of the wider Spindles accommodation scheme due to complete at the end of December 2023 with the accommodation principles being rolled out across our corporate estate moving forward.

Our workforce has adapted well to the new ways of working with a large proportion no longer working from a dedicated desk within an office environment for the majority of their working week. This has helped to foster a positive organisation of collaboration and cross organisational working within the Council. In consultation with services and partners we are

vastly reducing the number of 'traditional desks' and increasing collaboration and hot desking provision. The approach enables our staff to make informed choices on the most suitable location and setting to complete a task for the benefit of our residents.

Staff could for example work at various times in the new Spindles workspace, at home and potentially at one of the Place Based Community hubs across Oldham. In addition, there will be more modern, flexible options for staff to work from depending on the type of tasks they may be completing. These include:

- Collaborative spaces, to encourage increased cross team and partnership working
- Informal flexible seating, an alternative to more formal settings
- Hot-desking, to allow staff space to 'touch down' if they need to catch up quickly on emails
- Single Person meeting pods to concentrate on writing a report or make a confidential call
- In addition, there will be desks to allow staff to work in a traditional manor when in the office for longer periods of time

The new design will strengthen welfare facilities, encouraging staff to take regular breaks to help build resilience and support health and well-being. The new workspaces respond to the changes in work practices locally, nationally, and internationally that that council has embraced to ensure that it can offer a positive environment ensuring it offers a modern, comfortable and inspiring environment to retain and attract a talented workforce.

Existing Furniture Stock

- 1.5 The current furniture within the Civic Centre was purchased as part of a refurbishment project over 11 years ago supporting a very different and now outdated way of working. The majority of the furniture (desks, office chairs, storage units and associated meeting room furniture) is traditional, functional, and compliant with Health and Safety requirements. However, some of the furniture is now tired after extensive use over many years and reaching end of life, for example gas canisters in office chairs are beginning to fail.
- 1.6 There is also a significant amount of larger "spider" style desks that do not make the optimum use of the space within new and refurbished buildings and are too large to fit into the new workspaces.
- 1.7 The majority of the existing furniture will not support new ways of working or compliment the significant refurbishment investment underway. Therefore, it is proposed to invest in new quality furniture to support our new ways of working and to safeguard staff against potentially musculoskeletal injury where possible and managing the council's liability. Investment of this nature will also mitigate future cost exposure with the majority of existing furniture considered to be at 'end of life'.
- 1.8 Over the last six months an inventory of all the existing furniture within the Civic Centre has taken place and each piece of furniture has been identified and numbered. The furniture has also been measured and a quality assessment carried out. This inventory has informed where some of the existing furniture can be reused in schemes including the Spindles Workspace, Old Library, Alex Park Eco Centre and Royton Town Hall. This approach has reduced the amount of new furniture needed to be purchased on each of the projects.
- 1.9 Redundant furniture from the Civic Centre has already been repurposed into other schemes including Placed Based Community hubs and Family Hubs such as Failsworth Town Hall, Chadderton Town Hall, and Beaver Children's Centre.
- 1.10 As the refurbishment projects progress, the Facilities Management (FM) team will seek to repurpose as much of the existing furniture as possible. However, it is anticipated that there

will be a significant amount of furniture that is surplus to requirements. There are a number of options for disposing of this furniture which include:

- Seeking to donate furniture to other public sector organizations, such as schools and NHS partners.
- Seeking to donate furniture to local (Oldham based) community groups / charities
- Potentially sell any good quality furniture on the second-hand market to offset some of the costs. (Though it is noted this is unlikely to bring in a significant receipt)
- Working with other national charities who can recycle furniture at home or abroad for good causes.
- Offering furniture to staff to use when working from home.

1.11 If there are any damaged, stained or furniture surplus after the above measures have been actioned, furniture will be dismantled into all recyclable components, i.e. wood, metal, plastic to ensure it can be recycled and disposed of in the correct manner.

2 Current Position

2.1 To complete the projects set out in 1.3 above there is a requirement to invest in some new furniture and to maintain and replace in the future as time goes on, to ensure that the council has a resilient and consistent approach in procuring furniture as a corporate resource. As such the project managers have worked closely with the FM team and Procurement colleagues to undertake a comprehensive mini tender process under an existing Framework Agreement to select a suitable supplier for a period to cover the next four years.

2.2 The tender competition is being run using the YPO framework for Office Furniture Solutions and Associated Services (1074) under there are 10 suppliers; all of which have the opportunity to submit a tender. The specification details requirements for the following projects as well as the general corporate contract for ad hoc requirements:

- Town Centre Workspace
- Royton Town Hall
- The Old Library

2.3 The opportunity was advertised via the Chest on 28th June 2023 with a return date of 28th July 2023. The following criteria has been published as a means of evaluating the submissions:

Quality	20%
Social Value	10%
Price	70%

2.4 The current timescales indicate that for a 'ready to go live' date for the Spindles Workspace project of 1st January 2024, orders will need to be placed at least 12 weeks prior; this puts an order date of August 2023 at the latest. In order to achieve these timescales and obtain the necessary approvals it is requested that delegated approval is to be given for the award and entering into of a call-off to the Executive Director for Place and Economic Growth. The Council's requirements would be met by drawing down from the call-off contract as and when furniture is required over the 4 year term.

2.5 The table below details the current procurement timetable:

Activity	Date
Publish Further Competition	28 th June 2023
Clarification Deadline	12 th July 2023
Further Competition Deadline	28 th July 2023
Evaluation	4 th August 2023
Moderation Meeting	3 rd August 2023
Internal Approval	25 th August 2023
Contract Award	29 th August 2023

3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 Option 1: Accept the recommendations: To approve the proposals regarding existing furniture stock and proceed with the contract arrangements for a preferred furniture supplier for the next for years will allow the objectives around corporate accommodation within the Creating a Better Place programme to be realized. This includes decant staff and services from the Civic Centre into the new workspaces at Spindles, Old Library as well as PBI Community Hub sites across the borough, which aligns to the council's residents first approach.

Option 2: Do nothing - Not to approve the proposals regarding existing furniture stock and purchase the new furniture requirement would not allow the council to achieve all the required desks within the new Spindles workspace and the objectives would not be achieved with the existing corporate furniture. New furniture would be bought on an "ad-hoc" basis reacting to failures without a certain consistency of supply in place.

4 Preferred Option

4.1 Option 1 – To approve the proposals regarding existing furniture stock and proceed as set out in the Recommendations of the report and approve the repurposing and recycling of furniture to staff, community and charity groups, and the contract award to purchase the required furniture to support New Ways of Working to facilitate the corporate accommodation changes under the Creating a Better Place Programme.

5 Consultation

5.1 The types of furniture required for the Spindles project has been specified by Interior Design Consultants and has been review and amended by the Project Team and FM team following feedback from staff who have been using the phase 1 "trial" workspace within Spindles. Feedback has been given by staff on the overall look and feel of the space, as well as its operational functionality. Lessons learned have been incorporated into the phase 2 Spindles workspaces. (Chris Lewis – Strategic Lead for Creating a Better Place)

6 **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The procurement of an Office Furniture supplier should ensure that the Council achieves Value for Money on any necessary purchases of furniture for planned office moves and other more ad hoc replacements as necessary.
- 6.2 Where the furniture replacement forms part of an initial fit-out (such as Spindles), costs will be Capital Expenditure and will need to be funded from within the existing Capital Budget for each of the relevant assets.
- 6.3 Ad hoc routine replacements will generally be Revenue expenditure and the costs will need to be met from within the Corporate Landlord Revenue Budget.

(James Postle)

7 **Legal Services Comments**

- 7.1 The YPO Framework Agreement for Office Furniture Solutions and Associated Services (1074) commenced on 22 June 2021 for an initial term of 2 years with the option to extend the expiry date twice, each time by 1 year. The first extension has been applied. The Framework Agreement has been designed to provide customers with a fully tailored office furniture solution. Therefore, the 10 suppliers appointed under the Framework Agreement are all office furniture companies.
- 7.2 The Council is in the process of undertaking a mini competition with all interested framework suppliers taking part in order to achieve the most economically advantageous offer in respect of the Council's requirements. The mini tender process is being carried out in accordance with the process laid down in the Framework Agreement. Further, the mini competition is subject to the advertised form of call-off contract and call-off terms and conditions, which were reviewed by Legal Services prior to the commencement of the mini competition.
- 7.3 A mini competition and subsequent call-off contract is a viable route to market under Rule 4 of the Contract Procedure Rules provided the Framework Agreement is procurement compliant. Legal Services has confirmed it is compliant.
- 7.4 If the mini competition process is concluded in compliance with the terms of the mini competition and the advertised award and scoring criteria are applied correctly, the legal implications of the proposed recommendations should be minimal. Legal Services should be instructed to ensure the call-off contract is populated and completed correctly.

(Sarah Orrell – Commercial and Procurement Solicitor)

8. **Co-operative Agenda**

- 8.1 Relocating, repurposing and recycling existing furniture in the Civic Centre aligns with the Council's Co-operative agenda as this proposal will make financial savings by supporting Council Services and community organisations by providing high-quality, professional furniture, allowing services and organisations to continue delivering high quality services. It is a good example of partnership working.

(Mahmuda Khanom, Policy Support Officer)

9 **Human Resources Comments**

9.1 Not applicable

10 **Risk Assessments**

10.1 The Council is required to ensure workplace furniture particularly seating complies with The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992. Reviewing the existing furniture and reusing where appropriate and purchasing new where it is damaged or out of date complies with this requirement. The mini tender process under an existing Framework Agreement provides adequacy from a procurement perspective in relation to the purchase of the new workplace equipment. The reuse and recycling of existing furniture is in line with the Council's Environmental Policy.

(Vicki Gallacher, Head of Insurance and Information Management)

11 **IT Implications**

11.1 IT Implications are relevant to the wider workspace project, and council furniture has been specified in line with the IT provision currently available to staff. This will include electric power to desks to support the use of IT Equipment.

(Lindsey al Basri)

12 **Property Implications**

12.1 Furniture is treated as a corporate resource and is managed by the Council's Facilities Management Service, which sits within the portfolio of Property & Projects. Although furniture itself has no implications for the use of property itself, the move to Spindles and subsequent decant of the Civic Centre cannot be achieved without the recycling of old furniture and purchase of new.

(Katy Webster - AD Property & Projects)

13 **Procurement Implications**

13.1 The Commercial Procurement Unit supports the recommendation outlined in the report. The process undertaken so far has been done in line with the framework conditions and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and will continue to do so.

(Emily Molden)

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1 As part of the procurement process, all new suppliers have been scored on their green credentials and ability to supply a sustainable product. The majority of furniture is seeking a new home where possible. Those items which are broken and are not able to be repurposed will be broken down and recycled where possible.

(Andy Hunt)

15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

15.1 None

16 **Oldham Impact Assessment Completed?**

16.1 No – an EIA is not required, as this proposal does not affect any vulnerable residents or groups. However, assistive / adapted furniture items have been included within the specification to support staff with various physical / mental health requirements.

-
- 17 **Key Decision**
 - 17.1 Yes
 - 18 **Key Decision Reference**
 - 18.1 NEI-11-23
 - 19 **Background Papers**
 - 19.1 None
 - 20 **Appendices**
 - 20.1 None

This page is intentionally left blank



Report to CABINET
Approval to delegate authority to award contract following an open tender process for Advocacy Services

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Barbara Brownridge, Lead Member for Health and Social Care

Officer Contact: Jayne Ratcliffe, Director of Adults Social Services

Report Author:
Clare Bamforth, Contracts and Quality Manager, Working Age Adults, ASC Commissioning and Market Management

Cabinet – 21st August 2023

Reason for Decision

This report requests approval to award the contract for delivery of the Oldham Advocacy Hub service to the successful provider following an open procurement exercise, from 1st November 2023 until 31st October 2026, with the option to extend for a further 12 months.

Executive Summary

The current contracts for delivery of Advocacy services, ends on 31st October 2023. It is essential to continue delivery of these services for some of our most vulnerable adults in Oldham. Advocacy is a statutory requirement for the Council to commission, based on an individual's needs under the relevant legislative framework.

Recommendations

That the decision to award the contract to deliver the Oldham Advocacy Hub service is delegated to the Director of Adult Social Services, following completion of an open procurement exercise, from 1st November 2023 until 31st October 2026, with the option to extend for a further 12 months.

Approval to delegate authority to award contract following an open tender process for Oldham Advocacy Services

1. Background

- 1.1 Oldham Council currently commissions a range of Advocacy Services, 5 of which are detailed in this report, as listed below:

	Service Area	Provider
1	Independent Mental Capacity Act (IMCA)	Voiceability
2	Independent Mental Health Act Advocacy (IMHA)	VoiceAbility
3	Care Act Independent Advocacy (CAA)	VoiceAbility
4	Learning Disability Advocacy (LDA)	OPAL
5	Triage service – for services 2 – 4 above	VoiceAbility

- 1.2 The current contracts for delivery of these Advocacy services ends on 31st August 2023. As a result of a delay in the internal Governance process to delegate contract award, we also need to extend the current delivery arrangements for 2 months - until 31st October 2023.
- 1.3 This report requests approval to extend the current contractual arrangements by a further 2 months and to delegate the authority to approve the contract award for delivery of Oldham's Advocacy Services Hub to the DASS, in consultation with the Lead Member, following the open tender process which is underway.
- 1.4 The advocacy services listed above are all statutory requirements which the Council must deliver, with the exception of the Learning Disability Advocacy and the triage element
- Independent Mental Health Act Advocacy (IMHA) is a statutory function under the Mental Health Act 1983/2007.
 - Independent Care Act Advocacy (CAA) is a statutory function under the Care Act 2014.
 - Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) is a statutory function under the Mental Capacity Act 2005.
 - Learning Disability Advocacy is not a statutory function for Councils to provide. However, having access to a specialist learning disability independent advocacy service is valuable to Oldham and its residents and we are keen to continue offering this service.
- 1.5 The triage element of these services was an addition at the last tender opportunity in 2020, intended to ensure a smooth process of referrals and to make the links between provider easier at the point of referral

-
- 1.6 The Triage element has proved beneficial in ensuring a more cohesive approach to referrals received and has helped shape the future commissioning approach through a single Advocacy Hub model.
- 1.7 Oldham Council commissions a range of advocacy services, however, for the purpose of this report, we refer only to the to five service areas detailed in the table above, of which are the responsibility of Adult Social Care, which are currently commissioned to two external providers.
- 1.8 The NHS Complaints Advocacy (NHS ICA) and Healthwatch Oldham were recently procured separately and are therefore not included in this report.
- 1.9 The contract for each service area is due to end in October 2023, having been recently extended as part of the original contractual arrangement and to align the contract end dates
- 1.10 Under the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, an open procurement exercise must be undertaken in order to secure a new provider for delivery of each service area.
- 1.11 In order to ensure the continuation of these advocacy services, the Council is undertaking a full open procurement exercise to secure a new, single provider for all advocacy services, through a Hub model
- 1.12 This would align Oldham to the majority of GM Commissioning Authorities who also have a single advocacy hub model in place
- 1.13 This approach will ensure a more streamlined service to Oldham residents requiring Advocacy services as well as providing opportunity to reduce management and overhead costs currently experienced across a number of providers and ensure maximum value for money on the direct provision of advocacy services.
- 1.14 It will also ensure a more streamlined referral process for frontline staff who are often confused about which advocacy service to refer to, meaning a repeat referral is made to all services causing additional resource requirements
- 1.15 **Increase in Demand**
- 1.16 Currently, local commissioners are aware that the demand for advocacy services is rising and that capacity across the services is limited, hence the intention to deliver these through a hub model in the future
- 1.17 In the new Oldham Advocacy Hub approach, the model has been designed to triage referrals effectively and will have multi skilled advocates working across all areas of the service to provide a consistent and comprehensive service.
- 1.18 As part of the existing quarterly monitoring process in place, both current providers have reported an increase in demand for advocacy services over the last 2 years, which is detailed in the listed DMT report from August 2022.
- 1.19 It is acknowledged that the allocated budget may still be insufficient to meet the demand of each service area. However, this will be reviewed regularly through the quarterly monitoring process, to assess impact and if need be to review the allocated budget.

- 1.20 The contracts do not have referral targets applied to them, and monitoring is carried out using both a quantitative and qualitative approach.
- 1.21 **Increase in funding**
- 1.22 The contract with each provider is based on a block funding arrangement as detailed below and is therefore not based on a volume delivery model.
- 1.23 In August 2022, DMT approved an additional 5.3% funding for each advocacy area as a result of the increase in demand and also pressures across the service delivery model in place. This was in line with inflationary pressures and benchmarking with neighbouring GM authorities.
- 1.24 The 2023/24 contract values are detailed below, and it should be noted that the purchase orders have only been raised for half year costs at this stage due to the new contract commencement date.

Service	2023/24 Contract Value
IMHA	49,000
CAA	21,000
IMCA	63,000
LDA	41,000
Triage	5,500
TOTAL	179,500

2. Current Position

- 2.1 Earlier this year, a virtual project group was established to oversee the procurement process to establish a new provider for delivery of these services
- 2.2 The project group includes representation from the following internal teams:
 - Procurement
 - Finance
 - Legal
 - Commissioning
 - MH Operational Colleagues
- 2.3 A project plan is in place to monitor progress against the agreed actions and is reviewed and updated regularly. Updates are provided electronically to members of the working project group.
- 2.4 As part of this work, the service specifications for each area of advocacy have been reviewed and updated to reflect current needs and legislative requirements.
- 2.5 In May 2023, the Invitation to Tender documents (ITT) were published on The Chest, which is the North West Procurement Portal.
- 2.6 The ITT details the intention to commission for an initial 3 years, with the option to extend for a further 12 months. The maximum total contract value for this tender is £720,000

-
- 2.7 The opportunity is due to close on 3rd July 2023 following which a full evaluation and moderation process will commence.
- 2.8 It is the Council's intention to complete the evaluation process by the end of July and to award the contract to the successful provider towards the end of August 2023.
- 2.9 This will then allow a period for the implementation of the new provider before the new contract commences on 1st November 2023.

3. Options/Alternatives

3.1 Option 1

Details - To cease all commissioning arrangements with the current providers for all areas of advocacy included in this report.

Risks - As the majority of advocacy services are a statutory requirement, this is not a viable option and the Council must seek a new provider for these services going forward in order to maintain its statutory duty.

3.2 Option 2

Details - Cease commissioning arrangements for the delivery of the LDA Learning Disability Advocacy service as this is not a statutory requirement but retain the other element

Risks - The Council is proud to commission a non statutory service for residents with Learning Disabilities and feels that this is important to continue as part of a wider advocacy hub model. Reputationally, there would be a risk to the Council if this was not continued and so this option is not viable.

3.3 Option 3

Details - To seek an alternative provider of advocacy services through the ongoing Procurement Process, to delegate the contract award decision to the DASS and to extend the current contractual arrangements by a further 2 months

Risks - This is the preferred option as it allows the Council to complete the open procurement process to seek an alternative provider who is able to deliver all areas of advocacy through a Hub model approach, and to delegate the contract award decision to the Director of Adult Social Services.

The preferred option is Option 3 - To seek an alternative provider of advocacy services through the ongoing Procurement Process, to delegate the contract award decision to the DASS and to extend the current contractual arrangements by a further 2 months

- 3.4 As a result of a delay in receiving all relevant department comments relating to this contract, we have agreed a further 2 month extension with the current providers of the Advocacy services to ensure continued service delivery for Oldham residents.
- 3.5 The existing contracts will now end on 31st October 2023, and the new provider will commence delivery from 1st November 2023.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 Consultation with service users is difficult as we do not hold individual records to make direct contact.
- 4.2 Feedback received through the quarterly monitoring process evidences people's experience of services as positive and supportive and providing advice and guidance to residents at what can often be difficult and challenging times.

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The commissioning department are seeking authorisation to procure a single provider for the Learning Disability and Mental Health Advocacy service. The advocacy service is a statutory requirement for the council.
- 5.2 There are currently two providers who deliver the service. However, for a more streamlined service for the customer and Oldham Council, it would be preferential to procure a single provider. The current contracts for both providers end on the 31st October and a new provider is therefore required from the 1st November.
- 5.3 The request from the commissioning team is for the current £180k annual budget allocation for the advocacy service to be retained and used as the contract sum for the forthcoming procurement. The expected spend for the current contracts is £105k with the remaining £75k budget available between November 2023 and March 2024. Budget of £180k per year will be made available in future financial years. (Sophie Eade)

6.1 Legal Services Comments

- 6.2 Legal Services supports Option 3 and the recommendation to award a new contract to a new provider that better meets the needs of patients. A compliant procurement process is being followed in line with the Council's CPR's and Public Procurement Regulations. Sukie Kaur - Solicitor

7. Co-operative Agenda

- 7.1 Fairness – we will champion fairness and equality of opportunity and ensure working together brings mutual benefits and the greatest possible added value. We will enable everyone to be involved.
- 7.2 Openness – we will be open and honest in our actions and communications. We will take decisions in a transparent way and at the most local level possible.
- 7.3 Responsibility – we take responsibility for, and answer to our actions. We will encourage people to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. Mutual benefits go hand-in-hand with mutual obligations.
- 7.4 Working together – we will work together and support each other in achieving common goals, making sure the environment is in place for self-help.
- 7.5 Accountability – we recognise and act upon the impact of our actions on others and hold ourselves accountable to our stakeholders.
(J Downs 01.07.23)

8 **Human Resources Comments**

8.1 There are no Oldham Council Human Resources implications for this report as the services are all commissioned to an external provider, who will manage their own HR process.

9 **Risk Assessments**

9.1 Any risks identified within this project have been managed through the risk management plan as part of the project group and addressed accordingly.

10 **IT Implications**

10.1 There are no IT implications for this report.

11 **Property Implications**

11.1 There are no property implications for this report

12 **Procurement Implications**

12.1 A competitive tendering exercise is currently underway to commission the service in compliance to the Council's CPRs and PCR2015. The submissions date is 03/07/2023 via the Chest portal. The new contract will start on 1st November 2023. Mohammad Sharif 19/06/2023.

13 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

13.1 There are no environment and health and safety implications for this report. The commissioned provider will manage their own risks and this will be monitored by the Contracts and Quality manager going forward.

14 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

14.1 The services included within this tender are inclusive of everyone within the Borough, as per the agreed criteria within the service specification.

14.2 There are no implications on any equality groups identified by the Government

14.3 There are no implications on race or community relations

14.4 Oldham's Supported Living Services are available to everyone who meet the relevant criteria, up to the age of 65

14.5 There are no implications on crime or fear of crime.

15 **Oldham Impact Assessment Completed?**

15.1 Yes

16 **Key Decision**

16.1 Yes

17 **Key Decision Reference**

17.1 HSC-09-23

18 **Background Papers**

18.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act :

Name of File : Briefing to DMT – contract extension report – IMHA, CAA and LDA
August 2022

Records held in S: Drive, ASC Commissioning and Market Management

Officer Name : Clare Bamforth, Quality and Contracts Manager

Name of File : Briefing to DMT – IMCA service – interim delivery arrangements
February 2023

Records held in S: Drive, ASC Commissioning and Market Management

Officer Name : Clare Bamforth, Quality and Contracts Manager

19 **Appendices**

19.1 None

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Equality Characteristics				
Age	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Disability	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Race	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Religion or belief	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Sex	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly.
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Possible	Long	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Sexual orientation			Term	range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Corporate Priorities				
Digitisation	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Income	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Place-based working	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Preventative approach	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Residents first	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Safeguarding	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly, ensuring the safety of people at all times

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Future Oldham Aims				
Clean and green	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Community and leisure	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Education	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Healthy and safe	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Homes	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Pride and cohesion	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Transport	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly
Work	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	Oldham Advocacy Services will be provided for people aged 16+ across a range of statutory needs and will ensure that people receive the right advocacy support for their particular needs using the relevant legislative framework and guidance accordingly

Negative impacts : further detail

Category

Impact

Likelihood

Duration

--	--	--	--

What are the potential negative impacts of this policy/decision?

What action can be taken to mitigate the potential negative impacts?

What action(s) will be taken?

Action Owner

Timeline

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

If the negative impacts can't be mitigated, why should the project/decision proceed?

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category

Impact

Likelihood

Duration

--	--	--	--

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

What action(s) will be taken?

Action Owner

Timeline

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Where the Impact Assessment has no Positive Impacts : further detail

If there are no identifiable positive impacts, why should the project/decision proceed?

This page is intentionally left blank



Report to CABINET
Approval to delegate authority to award contract following an open tender process for Mental Health Supported Living Services

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Barbara Brownridge, Lead Member for Health and Social Care

Officer Contact: Jayne Ratcliffe, Director of Adults Social Services

Report Author:
Clare Bamforth, Contracts and Quality Manager, Working Age Adults, ASC Commissioning and Market Management

Cabinet – 21st August 2023

Reason for Decision

This report requests approval to award the contract for delivery of Mental Health Supported Living Services to the successful provider following an open procurement exercise, from 1st December 2023 until 30th November 2026, with the option to extend for a further 24 months.

Executive Summary

The current contract for delivery of Mental health Supported Living services, ends on 30th November 2023. It is essential to continue delivery of these services for some of our most vulnerable adults in Oldham. This is a statutory support service, based on the assessed Care Act needs for the individuals residing in the supported living accommodation

Recommendations

That the decision to award the contract to deliver Mental Health Supported Living Services is delegated to the Director of Adult Social Services, following completion of the ongoing open procurement exercise from 1st December 2023 until 30th November 2026, with the option to extend for a further 24 months.

Approval to delegate authority to award contract following an open tender process for Mental Health Supported Living Services

1. Background

- 1.1 Oldham Council currently commissions an external provider, Turning Point, to deliver supported living services for people with complex mental health needs.
- 1.2 The contract for this service sits under Oldham Council's Supported Living framework approach which has expired. It is therefore timely and a contractual obligation to complete an open procurement process to seek a new provider to continue delivery of these services.
- 1.3 Known locally as Oldham Dispersed Accommodation (ODA), the service is commissioned to deliver care and support to people with complex needs who are living in their own tenancies, commonly known as 'Supported Living services'.
- 1.4 Oldham Council only commissions the care for these services and therefore does not have a relationship with the housing provider/landlord in place for this service.
- 1.5 Oldham Council operates a core and flex pricing model for delivery of Supported Living Services. This is based on a core number of hours delivered within each of the main properties linked to the services being commissioned.
- 1.6 The allocated annual budget for the service is £390,000. The 2023/24 annual contract value for this service is circa £320,000 based on the number of core hours currently being delivered by the incumbent provider.
- 1.7 The Core element of supported living is shared with the other individuals living in the supported living property and as such should be utilised by staff to meet basic needs of a service user
- 1.8 The flex support is the 1:1 support needed for an individual as per their Care Act 2014 eligibility and assessed needs. The Flex support is not to be used as shared support for the properties – it is specifically for the individual as per their assessed needs. Flex support provides individuals with any additional hours of support required in order to maintain their independence and increase their community skills
- 1.9 The funding for this service area is processed via a block contract arrangement and core hours are processed using a quarterly invoice system on Agresso.
- 1.10 In addition, any individually assessed needs are processed using the Flex model on Mosaic which does not feature financially within this tender.
- 1.11 The formula for the block contract is based on the Learning Disability Supported Living framework model and is calculated on a daily rate per calendar month.
- 1.12 Through the open tender process, the number of core and flex hours required will be confirmed, meaning there could be an increase in need for flex hours.
- 1.13 There are three properties within the service model, and the social landlord is Places for People.
- 1.14 ODA was developed in 2015 in partnership with the Turning Point following the decision to close Edward House, a residential service in Oldham for adults under the

age of 65 with mental health needs. Many of the residents of Edward House moved to the dispersed accommodation under the supported living model. The aim of the ODA services was to move away from residential “social” and “health” care and focus on prevention and integration and a more person centred model of holistic care, offering a supported living style service within the community to support service users to become more independent.

- 1.15 The overall aim of the service is to ensure as many people as possible are enabled to stay healthy and actively involved in their communities for longer and delay or avoid the need for targeted services, increasing the potential for them to move into their own tenancies.
- 1.16 Key aims of the service are to make a positive difference to the lives of service users by maintaining a clear focus on promoting people’s quality of life and enhancing their experience of care and support, and by providing care and support that is both personalised, preventative and reables skills and abilities
- 1.17 The current service is not a CQC registered provision and is there to provide support to people living independently. As such the current provider is not regulated to deliver any personal or clinical care or administer medication.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 In August 2022, a project group was established to oversee the procurement process to establish a new provider for delivery of these services.
- 2.2 The project group includes representation from the following internal teams:
- Procurement
 - Finance
 - Legal
 - Commissioning
 - MH Operational Colleagues
- 2.3 A project plan is in place to monitor progress against the agreed actions and is reviewed through the ongoing fortnightly project meetings.
- 2.4 As part of this work, the service specification has been reviewed and updated to reflect current needs and legislative requirements.
- 2.5 In May 2023, the Invitation to Tender documents (ITT) were published on The Chest, which is the North-West Procurement Portal.
- 2.6 The ITT details the intention to commission for an initial 3 years, with the option to extend for a further 24 months. The maximum total contract value for this tender is £1,950,000
- 2.7 The opportunity is due to close on 15th June 2023 following which a full evaluation and moderation process will commence.
- 2.8 It is the Council’s intention to complete the evaluation process by the end of July and to award the contract to the successful provider towards the end of September 2023.
- 2.9 This will then allow a period for the implementation of the new provider before the new contract commences on 1st December 2023.

3. Options/Alternatives

3.1 Option1

Details - To continue with the current provider, Turning Point, for delivery of supported living services for people with complex Mental Health needs

Risks - This option is not viable. The contract for this service has expired and it is recommended to 'test the market' ensuring that current terms and conditions are in place.

3.2 Option 2

Details - To de-commission the services with Turning Point and cease delivery of supported living services for people with complex Mental Health needs.

Risks - This option is not viable. This statutory service currently supports 13 of our most vulnerable adults and has potential to increase this service to support more individuals with the right model in place. Without this service, we would need to find alternative placements for each of the service users as they are not able to live independently without support.

3.3 Option 3

Details - To seek an alternative care provider via an open Procurement Process, and to delegate the contract award decision to the DASS

Risks - This is the preferred option as it allows the Council to complete the open procurement process to seek an alternative provider who is better able to meet the needs of our service users, and to develop supported living services for people with complex mental health needs, and to delegate the contract award decision to the Director of Adult Social Services.

3.4 The preferred option is Option 3 - To seek an alternative care provider via an open Procurement Process, and to delegate the contract award decision to the DASS

3.5 This option will ensure minimal disruption to the service users and would provide a level of continuity in that they can remain in their current homes.

3.6 It is intended that the new provider will be able to deliver a more flexible and dynamic service model following the revised and updated service specification, and that some people may be able to live independently in the future

3.7 The Council will be able to work with a new provider to develop the model for supported living services for people with complex mental health needs, locally.

3.8 As a result of a delay in receiving all relevant department comments relating to this contract, we have agreed a further 2 month extension with the current providers of the Advocacy services to ensure continued service delivery for Oldham residents.

3.9 The existing contracts will now end on 30th November 2023, and the new provider will commence delivery from 1st December 2023.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 As part of the procurement process, all 13 service users have been visited to have their assessed needs reviewed and their wishes and feelings gathered.
- 4.2 These will be fed into the development of the service going forward with the successful provider

5.0 Financial Implications

- 5.1 The commissioning team is requesting authorisation to procure a new care provider for the Mental Health Supported Living (MHSL) contract. The current provider's contract ends on 30 November 2023 and a new provider is required from 1 December 2023.
- 5.2 There is £372k in the commissioning budget for 2023/24 allocated for the MHSL contract. The total budget available for an initial 3-year contract period plus the 2 optional years is therefore £1,860k.
- 5.3 In the current financial year £206k has been allocated to the current provider; Turning Point, from 1 April 2023 up to the cessation of the contract on 30 November 2023. This value is based on the number of hours Turning Point has committed to deliver.
- 5.4 A budgeted contract sum of £166k will be available for the new provider for the period 1 December 2023 to 31 March 2024. This is based on the new provider being able to flexibly increase provision as required.
- 5.5 There is potential for the service to realise a financial saving should the providers not be able to fulfil the maximum number of contracted hours. An annual budget of £372k will be made available for the remaining term of the contract and will be closely monitored to ensure service provision aligns to available resources.

(Sophie Eade, Senior Accountant)

6 Legal Services Comments

- 6.1 Legal Services supports Option 3 and the recommendation to award a new contract to a new provider that better meets the needs of patients. A compliant procurement process is being followed in line with the Council's CPR's and Public Procurement Regulations. Sukie Kaur - Solicitor

7. Co-operative Agenda

- 7.1 Fairness – we will champion fairness and equality of opportunity and ensure working together brings mutual benefits and the greatest possible added value. We will enable everyone to be involved.
- 7.2 Openness – we will be open and honest in our actions and communications. We will take decisions in a transparent way and at the most local level possible.
- 7.3 Responsibility – we take responsibility for, and answer to our actions. We will encourage people to take responsibility for themselves and their actions. Mutual benefits go hand-in-hand with mutual obligations.
- 7.4 Working together – we will work together and support each other in achieving common goals, making sure the environment is in place for self-help.

7.5 Accountability – we recognise and act upon the impact of our actions on others and hold ourselves accountable to our stakeholders.
(J Downs 01.07.23)

8 **Human Resources Comments**

8.1 There are no Oldham Council Human Resources implications for this report as the services are all commissioned to an external provider, who will manage their own HR process.

9 **Risk Assessments**

9.1 Any risks identified within this project have been managed through the risk management plan as part of the project group and addressed accordingly.

10 **IT Implications**

10.1 There are no IT implications for this report.

11 **Property Implications**

11.1 There are no property implications for this report

12 **Procurement Implications**

12.1 A competitive tendering exercise currently underway to commission the service in compliance to the Council's CPRs and PCR2015.
Raj Ahuja 14.06.2023

13 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

13.1 There are no environment and health and safety implications for this report. The commissioned provider will manage their own risks and this will be monitored by the Contracts and Quality manager going forward.

14 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

14.1 The services included within this tender are inclusive of everyone within the Borough, as per the agreed criteria within the service specification.

14.2 There are no implications on any equality groups identified by the Government

14.3 There are no implications on race or community relations

14.4 Oldham's Supported Living Services are available to everyone who meet the relevant criteria, up to the age of 65

14.5 There are no implications on crime or fear of crime.

15 **Oldham Impact Assessment Completed?**

15.1 Yes

16 **Key Decision**

16.1 Yes

17 **Key Decision Reference**

17.1 HSC-10-23

18 **Background Papers**

19.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act :

Name of File : Briefing to DMT – termination of contract for delivery of Supported Living for people with complex Mental Health Needs – 13th February 2023
Records held in S: Drive, ASC Commissioning and Market Management
Officer Name : Clare Bamforth, Quality and Contracts Manager

19 **Appendices**

20.1 None

This page is intentionally left blank

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Equality Characteristics				
Age	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, and as per their Care Act assessed needs, up to the age of 65
Disability	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. This service could positively support people with disabilities
Gender reassignment	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis.
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis.
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis
Race	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis
Religion or belief	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis
Sex	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Corporate Priorities				
Digitisation	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. We are looking for a provider who can offer innovative solutions and suggestions to improving digital access to care management and record keeping
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis
Income	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis
Place-based working	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs, and are delivered in their homes. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. The tender process takes into account the Council's SVP.
Preventative approach	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. The service model aims to reduce the need for high level, higher cost services
Residents first	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. The service model will ensure service users in Oldham receive a good and effective level of care and support through a person centred approach
Safeguarding	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. Safeguarding is an integral element of the service model

Impact Rating and Comment

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration	Comment
Future Oldham Aims				
Clean and green	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. There will be no direct impact on the clean and green agenda
Community and leisure	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. The service model will encourage and enable service users to engage in leisure activities
Education	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. There will be no impact on education
Healthy and safe	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. The service model will encourage service users to be healthy and safe.
Homes	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. There will be no direct impact on homes
Pride and cohesion	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. It is intended that the service will promote positivity for service users
Transport	Neutral	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. There will be minimal impact on travel.
Work	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	The Mental Health Supported Living Services are open to residents who meet the required eligibility criteria, as per their Care Act assessed needs. Individual needs would be assessed on a case by case basis. Whilst some will not be able to work, they will be encouraged to pursue positive engagement

Negative impacts : further detail

Category

Impact

Likelihood

Duration

--	--	--	--

What are the potential negative impacts of this policy/decision?

What action can be taken to mitigate the potential negative impacts?

What action(s) will be taken?

Action Owner

Timeline

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

If the negative impacts can't be mitigated, why should the project/decision proceed?

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Community and leisure	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

The services will ensure that residents are encouraged to actively participate in positive community engagement and activities to maintain their independent lifestyle

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1	Regular reviews through care act assessments		
2			
3			
4			
5			

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Healthy and safe	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

The services will ensure that residents are supported to remain safe, health and well, and encouraged to live their best, independent life. They will be supported to access preventative services as required

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1	Regular service user reviews through care act assessments		
2			
3			
4			
5			

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Digitisation	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

We will work with the new successful provider to ensure the use of digital approaches are maximised within the new model, and that innovative solutions are considered

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1	Identified and monitored through the tender process		
2			
3			
4			
5			

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Place-based working	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

The service model will be delivered in residents own homes to encourage them to maintain their independent lifestyle and own tenancy

What action(s) will be taken? Action Owner Timeline

1	Regular review of service uses through care act assessment		
2			
3			
4			
5			

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Preventative approach	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

The service model ensures service users are supported to maintain an independent life and to engage in community activities, without the need of higher, more targeted services

What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1 Regular service users reviews		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Residents first	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

These services will ensure that the needs of service users are foremost in the delivery and that this is done through a person centred approach at all times.

What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1 Regular review of service uses needs through care act assessments		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Positive impacts where likelihood is possible : further detail

Category	Impact	Likelihood	Duration
Safeguarding	Strong Positive	Possible	Long Term

What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?

Any safeguarding issues will be managed through the providers safeguarding policy and procedures, and using the Council's OSAB.

	What action(s) will be taken?	Action Owner	Timeline
1	Safeguarding policies and procedures will be checked as part of the tender due diligence process		
2			
3			
4			
5			

Where the Impact Assessment has no Positive Impacts : further detail

If there are no identifiable positive impacts, why should the project/decision proceed?

Not applicable



Report to CABINET

UKSPF Skills Funding (15 – 19 NEET)

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Ali, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Officer Contact: Gerard Jones, Managing Director of Children's services

Report Owner: Matthew Bulmer, Director Education, Skills and Early Years

Report Author: Amanda Youlden, Post 16 Lead

21 August 2023

Reason for Decision

To approve acceptance of a portion of the skills UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funding, to be provided via a direct grant agreement with GMCA, and to secure service delivery of the funded activities from September 2023 up until 31 March 2025 in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.

Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to request approval to accept and enter into a grant agreement with GMCA for a portion of the UKSPF Skills grant funding which has been allocated for 15 – 19 NEET support total funding of £720,000. The report also seeks approval for the delivery arrangements, as detailed in this report.

The primary goal of the UKSPF Fund is building pride in place and increasing life chances across the UK, while recognising the acute challenges town centres and communities have faced during the Covid pandemic. UKSPF will enable improvements to the places people live, as well as enabling support to individuals and businesses.

To focus delivery of the UKSPF GM NEET programme on locally driven priorities, informed by local knowledge, Local Authorities have been granted funding via GMCA to deliver NEET activity in their boundaries, using direct delivery, current provision or by commissioning new activity. The main aim of the programme is to mitigate the impacts on those young people most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, those who are experiencing disadvantage, and those not engaged with other provision.

The proposal is that this will be delivered through a comprehensive engagement and transition offer that will enable these young people to successfully engage in a positive learning or work destination and develop the skills and confidence to continue into a sustainable career pathway.

Oldham Council has been allocated £720,000 from GMCA to deliver or secure the delivery of the 15 – 19 NEET support programme in 2023/24 and 2024/25. The previous programme for NEET support was commissioned directly by GMCA.

With the funding confirmed for 18 months, we are keen to develop a delivery programme that builds on the existing arrangements currently in place and aligns with the strategic vision for our NEET support in the future.

To establish the programme delivery, a decision is required on the method of implementation.

The existing programme (ESF NEET) commissioned by GMCA, is delivered locally via Positive Steps Oldham.

The services to be delivered using the awarded grant monies align with and complement our current arrangements for NEET provision which are delivered by Positive Steps Oldham following the multi lot tender for Integrated Support and Services for Oldham's Young People.

The contract between the Council and Positive Steps Oldham commenced on 1 April 2020 for an initial term of 2 years and relates to the provision of Support for Vulnerable Young People under Lot 3. The contract allowed for an extended term of 1 year and is due to end on 31 March 2024. Oldham is currently reviewing the future delivery arrangements following the expiry of the contract and, therefore, we need to build some contingency into this funding to ensure the funding is flexible enough to fit in with the new arrangements when agreed.

To allow for flexibility, we are recommending that the funding and outcomes profiling is split across two financial years:

- (a) the current contract in place between the Council and Positive Steps Oldham would be modified with effect from September 2023 to include the provision of a comprehensive engagement and transition offer that will enable young people to successfully engage in a positive learning or work destination and develop the skills and confidence to continue into a sustainable career pathway at a cost of £200,000;
- (b) activities to be delivered using grant funding over the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 would be built into a new contract, which would be commissioned in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and the remaining funding for 2024/25 would be incorporated into the new arrangements for NEET provision delivery.

Recommendations

- 1 To approve acceptance of the funding for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund via GMCA for the 15 – 19 NEET support and to delegate authority to the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years to approve and enter into a grant agreement with GMCA
- 2 To approve the service delivery arrangements in respect of the grant funded activities, as detailed in this report, from September 2023 up until 31 March 2025 in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and to delegate authority to the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years to approve and formalise any necessary commissioning activity or contractual arrangements.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund NEET Support Funding

1 Background

- 1.1 The full impact of Covid-19 and of Brexit on education and the labour market will become clearer over time, but we do know that young people aged 15 – 24 have been most affected economically and are at greater risk of long-term scarring and reduced earnings as a result. The Institute for Fiscal Studies reported in 2021 that the substantial loss of learning in schools due to lockdowns is likely to be followed by lower skills and qualifications for children at school during the pandemic, resulting in permanently lower incomes during their careers.
- 1.2 The risk of becoming NEET is not just about lost/disrupted learning but about other opportunities that help young people take their first steps on their career pathway: research has found that young people who have four or more employer encounters with the world of work whilst at school are five times less likely to become NEET, and on average will go on to earn 16% more than their peers who did not have such opportunities.
- 1.3 Many of these young people have personal barriers around motivation and confidence which hampers engagement, attendance and outcomes and the programme is designed as a “bridge” to address poor or fluctuating engagement, where local delivery and accessibility is a priority taking the needs and history of the young person into account to establish a strong and positive transition pathway into education, work and skills support.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 Oldham’s NEET rate, in line with the national picture but at a faster rate, has increased significantly since the pandemic.
- 2.2 The position in June 2023 for our NEET and unknown Y12 and Y13 are shown below:

Progress	Year 12	Year 13	Total
Not Known %	1.53%	2.63%	2.06%
In Learning %	92.39%	84.21%	88.41%
NEET %	3.44%	6.47%	4.91%
NEET & Not Known %	4.96%	9.10%	6.98%

- 2.3 The June position above highlights the elevated rates of NEET and Not Known for our Y13 cohort. We know that this is the cohort that went into lockdown in Year 10 and missed most of both Year 10 and Year 11 of school, missing out on vital learning and social interaction required to successfully transition into Post 16 EET.
- 2.4 The UKSPF funding outlined in this report is replacing the previous ESF NEET programme, which funds delivery of this activity in Oldham. The ESF NEET programme is locally referred to as “Connect to Your Future” and runs from January 2022 to September 2023.
- 2.3 Connect to Your Future was commissioned directly by GMCA to deliver in GM localities. The contract was delivered in Oldham by two prime contractors, Career Connect who delivered the 15 – 19 portion of the programme; delivery in Oldham was sub-contracted to Positive Steps.

-
- 2.4 The 19 – 25 programme was delivered in Oldham via Ingeous.
- 2.5 The request to approve grant funding in this report relates purely to the delivery of support for 15 – 19-year-olds. Support via the Skills UKSPF funding adults will be commissioned via GMCA directly.

3 **Options/Alternatives**

3.1 Delivery of the grant funded activities

Option 1:

- (a) modify the current contract in place between the Council and Positive Steps Oldham with effect from September 2023 to include the provision of a comprehensive engagement and transition offer that will enable young people to successfully engage in a positive learning or work destination and develop the skills and confidence to continue into a sustainable career pathway at a cost of £200,000; and
- (b) build the activities to be delivered during the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 into a new contract, which will be commissioned in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules with the remaining grant funding for 2024/25 (and any future funding awarded) to be incorporated into the new arrangements for NEET provision delivery.

This option provides us with the shortest gap in delivery of the programme, but still allows the flexibility to align the funding to any new arrangements that may be in place on 1 April 2024.

Option 2: To commission grant funded activities for the full grant period in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.

This option presents the risk of a gap in service delivery and support for young people at a critical time (Autumn term) in their transition to Post 16 provision.

4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 **Option 1:**

- (a) modify the current contract in place between the Council and Positive Steps Oldham with effect from September 2023 to include the provision of a comprehensive engagement and transition offer that will enable young people to successfully engage in a positive learning or work destination and develop the skills and confidence to continue into a sustainable career pathway at a cost of £200,000; and
- (b) build the activities to be delivered during the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 into a new contract, which will be commissioned in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules with the remaining grant funding for 2024/25 (and any future funding awarded) to be incorporated into the new arrangements for NEET provision delivery.

5 **Consultation**

- 5.1 Consultation on the ESF NEET programme has been undertaken by GMCA, and demonstrates the successes and learning which Oldham can learn from and implement going forward.

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The report is seeking two approvals:

1. To accept funding in the sum of £720k for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund via GMCA for the 15 – 19 NEET support and to delegate authority to the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years to approve and enter into a grant agreement with GMCA.
 - *The funding is for an 18 month period expiring on 31 March 2025. The aim of the funding is to focus delivery of the programme on locally driven priorities, informed by local knowledge, using direct delivery, current provision or by commissioning new activity. Under the previous arrangements the services were commissioned directly by the GMCA on behalf of the participating Authorities, the current provider is Positive Steps.*
2. To approve the service delivery arrangements in respect of the grant funded activities, as detailed in this report, from September 2023 up until 31 March 2025 in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules and to delegate authority to the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years to approve and formalise any necessary commissioning activity or contractual arrangements.
 - In the first instances services will be continue to be provided by the currently commissioned GMCA provider (Positive Steps). This will be for the period 1 October 2023 to 31 March 2024 at an agreed sum of £200k. Positive Steps will be procured directly by the Authority as a modification to the existing Positive Steps Oldham Lot 3 contract Support for Vulnerable Young People.
 - The balance of £520k (plus any future funding that may be awarded subsequently) is therefore available to fund the activities that will be delivered during the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. This will be delivered by entering into a new contract, which will be commissioned in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules.

7 Legal Services Comments

- 7.1 Acceptance of the UKSPF grant funding should have negligible legal implications, provided the terms of the GMCA grant agreement are reviewed via Legal Services and it is confirmed the terms can be complied with. The subsidy control regime has been considered and it has been determined that the grant will not amount to a subsidy; the Council will not be acting as an economic operator in the delivery of the grant requirements.
- 7.2 Rule 17 of the Contract Procedure Rules governs modifications to contracts which have a value which is below the financial threshold for the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) and Regulation 72 of PCR 2015 governs contract modifications for above threshold contracts. Rule 17 largely mirrors Regulation 72.
- 7.3 The proposed modification would extend the scope of the currently commissioned services from Positive Steps Oldham to include the grant funded activities referenced in this report. The modification would have a value of £200,000 for the period commencing in September 2023 and expiring at the end of the contract term, which is 31 March 2024.
- 7.4 A modification of this nature would be in line with Rule 17.1(b) and Regulation 72(1)(b) of PCR 2015 which allows for a contract to be modified to include additional services that have become necessary and were not included in the initial procurement, where a change of contractor (i) cannot be made for economic or technical reasons such as requirements of interchangeability or interoperability with existing equipment, services or installations procured under the initial procurement, and (ii) would cause significant inconvenience or

substantial duplication of costs for the contracting authority. Regulation 72(1)(b) has a financial limit of 50% of the value of the original contract. Legal Services should be instructed to ensure that any modification to the contract with Positive Steps Oldham is formalised correctly.

- 7.5 The proposed arrangements for 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 would be built into the commissioning programme for the services being delivered under the current contract with Positive Steps Oldham. Provided any commissioning activity is in accordance with Contract Procedure Rules, the Commercial Procurement Unit is fully engaged and a suitable form of contract is supplied via Legal Services, there should be minimal legal implications to the proposal.

Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor

8. **Co-operative Agenda**

- 8.1 The investment in and further development of skills and capacity to support young people facing disadvantage, aligns with the Council's Co-operative Agenda in relation to supporting us championing fairness and equality of opportunity and better life chances in the borough

9 **Human Resources Comments**

- 9.1 No specific HR implications identified for Oldham Council employees. Should Option 2 be preferred there may be TUPE implications for providers

Kate Jolley
HR Strategic Lead

10 **Risk Assessments**

- 10.1 [NONE]

11 **IT Implications**

- 11.1 [NONE]

12 **Property Implications**

- 12.1 [NONE]

13 **Procurement Implications**

- 13.1 These contracts are subject to the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 (PCR 15). The contracts are currently with Positive Steps for Lot 3. There is a provision in Public Procurement Regulations 2015 (PCR 15) circumstances where services are proposed are need for the Modification has been brought and it does not alter the overall nature of the contract and its value. On this basis Commercial Unit acknowledges the requirement of the services, in accordance to Regulation 72(1)(c) provides: (1) Contracts and framework agreements may be modified without a new procurement procedure in accordance with this Part in any of the following cases:-
where all of the following conditions are fulfilled:-
(i) the need for modification has been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen;
(ii) the modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract;

(iii) any increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract or framework agreement. The value of the proposed modification is £200,000 until 31/03/2024 as per report this needs to be procured and advertised via the Chest portal.

The Commercial Procurement Unit recommends the following future actions:

a. The setting up of a working group involving the Procurement Team at an early stage ensuring no further requests will be made to extend this contract in the future.

b. Service review work to begin immediately.

c. Ensure appropriate consultation is undertaken. (Mohammad Sharif) 17/7/2023

14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1 [NONE]

15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

15.1 [NONE]

16 **Implications for Children and Young People**

16.1 The funding outlined will directly support Oldham young people aged 15 – 19 who are currently not in education, employment and training.

17 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

17.1 No

18 **Key Decision**

18.1 Yes

19 **Key Decision Reference**

19.1 EDS-01-23

20 **Background Papers**

20.1 1.GMCA Service Specification

2. GMCA Report relating to UKSPF funding for skills

3. ESF NEET Interim Evaluation

21 **Appendices**

21.1 None

This page is intentionally left blank



Report to CABINET

Oldham Youth Justice Plan 2023/2024

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Shaid Mushtaq, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Officer Contact: Gerard Jones, Managing Director of Children & Young People (DCS)

Report Author: Clare Griffiths

Cabinet – 21st August 2023

Reason for Decision

The Oldham Youth Justice Plan requires sign off by Cabinet. This plan has previously been approved by Gerard Jones, Managing Director of Children and Young People's Services and the Youth Justice Management Board.

Executive Summary

The Oldham Youth Justice Plan sets out the strategic direction for youth justice in Oldham, taking a partnership approach to reducing re-offending, reducing the number of first-time entrants into the criminal justice system and reducing the use of custody.

There is acknowledgment that the plan is significant in length. However, this is dictated by the template provided by the national Youth Justice Board. The Service Development Plan can be found in Appendix 4.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet consider the Oldham Youth Justice Plan 2023/24.

Oldham Youth Justice Plan 2023 – 2024

1 Background

- 1.1 Local authorities have a statutory duty to submit an annual youth justice plan relating to their provision of youth justice services. Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out the youth justice partnership’s responsibilities in producing a plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan, setting out how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded, how they will operate, and what functions will be carried out.
- 1.2 The plan should equally address the functions assigned to a youth justice service, including how services will prevent offending behaviour and reduce reoffending

2 Current Position

- 2.1 This plan has previously been approved by Gerard Jones, Managing Director of Children and Young People’s Services and the Youth Justice Management Board.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 As this is a statutory duty for the local authority, it is not possible to provide an alternative option to this plan.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 The preferred option would be for the Youth Justice Plan to be considered and endorsed by Cabinet.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 Staff from Oldham Youth Justice Service have been consulted in the formulation of this plan, as well as members of the Youth Justice Management Board.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 Each youth justice service must have an annual plan in place, in this format, as part of the requirements of the youth justice core grant.
- 6.2 Section 7 of the plan outlines Resources and Services and Appendix 3 presents Budget and Contributions for 2023/24 at a total of £1.359m. The budget is based on an assumed Youth Justice Board Practice Grant of £0.604m although this has yet to be confirmed. Therefore, the budget may vary in accordance with a confirmed notification. The other major funder is the Council with £0.383m of planned contributions in 2023/24. The activities set out in the Youth Justice Plan

for 2023/24 will be contained within the funding available (Anne Ryans – Director of Finance).

7 Legal Services Comments

7.1 None.

8. Co-operative Agenda

8.1 N / A

9 Human Resources Comments

9.1 None.

10 Risk Assessments

10.1 Challenges, risks and issues are documented within the body of the plan.

11 IT Implications

11.1 None.

12 Property Implications

12.1 None.

13 Procurement Implications

13.1 None.

14 Environmental and Health & Safety Implications

14.1 Positive Steps, who are commissioned by the local authority to deliver the youth justice service in Oldham, have the relevant health and safety policies and procedures in place.

15 Equality, community cohesion and crime implications

15.1 Oldham Youth Justice service provides a fair and equitable service for the children and families we work with. We recognise the groups which are over-represented in the criminal justice system and this plan sets out what we have in place to reduce this and further strategies that need to be implemented.

16 Oldham Impact Assessment Completed?

16.1 No

17 Key Decision

17.1 No

18 **Key Decision Reference**

18.1 N / A

19 **Background Papers**

19.1 N / A

20 **Appendices**

20.1 Appendix A. Oldham Youth Justice Plan 23/24.



POSITIVE STEPS

SUPPORT | CHALLENGE | CHANGE

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN

2023/24

Oldham Youth Justice Service Plan 2023-2024

Head of Service

Clare Griffiths

Chair of Youth Justice
Management Board

Gerard Jones, Director of
Children's Services

Contents

1. Introduction, vision and strategy
 2. Child First
 3. Voice of the child
 4. Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements
 5. Board development
 6. Progress on previous plan
 7. Resources and services
 8. Performance
 9. National key performance indicators
 10. Priorities
 11. Children from groups which are over- represented
 12. Prevention
 13. Diversion
 14. Education
 15. Restorative approaches and victims
 16. Serious violence and exploitation
 17. Detention in police custody
 18. Remands
 19. Use of custody
 20. Constructive resettlement
 21. Standards for children in the justice system
 22. Workforce development
 23. Evidenced based practice, innovation and evaluation
 24. Evaluation
 25. Service development plan
 26. Challenges, risks and issues
 27. Sign off, submission and approval
- Appendix 1: Youth Justice Management Board Membership
Appendix 2: Staffing Structure
Appendix 3: Budget Costs and Contributions
Appendix 4: Service Development Plan

1. Introduction, vision and strategy

Oldham is in a unique position in that it is one of the only areas in England and Wales whereby the statutory Youth Justice Service (YJS) is commissioned out by the local authority and delivered by an independent charitable trust - Positive Steps. Positive Steps delivers a range of services including: Careers Advice and Guidance; Connect to Your Future Mentoring; Positive Futures Alternative Provision; Early Intervention and Prevention (formerly Early Help); Oldham Young Carer's Project and the Missing from Home Return Interview Service. As such, children and their families are able to access an integrated, holistic and non-stigmatising offer, delivered from our newly refurbished base in Oldham town centre, as well as in community hubs across the borough. Furthermore, this arrangement allows for innovation and creativity through the ability to access a range of additional funding streams to provide added value and to lead practice in specific areas of practice.

This plan has been written in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and national guidance from the Youth Justice Board (YJB). Following consultation with Oldham Youth Justice Management Board, YJS practitioners and children with lived experience, this plan seeks to inform the strategic direction of the service and outlines how it will achieve primary its functions of:

- Reducing the number of first- time entrants (FTE) into the criminal justice service
- Reducing re-offending by children subject to statutory Court Orders or Out of Court Disposals
- Reducing the use of custody for

children While additionally:

- Effectively safeguarding the children we work with
- Effectively protecting the public from harm
- Enhancing the voice and experience of victims of crime committed by children

The Oldham Youth Justice Plan 2023 – 2024 is consistent with the ambition of the Oldham Children, Young People and Families Plan which states,

“In Oldham, we want all children and young people to have a safe, happy and healthy life and access to a great education giving them the best possible start in life.”

As a partnership in Oldham, we have already taken great strides to improve the experience and outcomes for children living in the borough and we endeavor to continuously build upon these. We recognise that much of what we can do can only be done in collaboration with others, be that partners from the local authority, Greater Manchester Police, health, Probation, education or the voluntary sector and therefore a significant focus will be given to ensuring robust joint arrangements are in place to successfully deliver this plan and produce real and lasting results. As such, this plan will be governed through the existing structure of the Youth Justice Management Board.

The vision of Oldham Youth Justice Service is to provide a service that is:

- Child First in its effective partnership approach
- Ambitious and inspirational for the children and families it works with
- Truly collaborative and led by the voice of the child
- Pursuing excellence in governance and leadership

- Achieving outstanding outcomes in inspection programmes

Oldham is one of the ten boroughs in the conurbation Greater Manchester. It is a complex and challenging place to deliver youth justice, with, according to the 2021 Census Data, a population of 242,100, a figure which represents an overall growth rate of 7.3% within the last 10 years. Of this, 54,800 children live in Oldham and this percentage in recent years has been rising. While a youthful population undoubtedly has many advantages, the impact on health services, education and employment opportunities cannot be ignored. Adding to this, while the borough has pockets of prosperity, the English Indices of Deprivation shows levels are ranked amongst the highest in the country and Oldham is positioned 19th worst out of 317 Local Authorities. Further analysis evidences a number of wards are placed within the bottom 1% nationally in terms of income deprivation attending children, which is concerning given that the ongoing cost of living crisis is having the biggest impact on those already experiencing poverty. The ethnic composition of Oldham is changing dramatically with the proportion of residents of Pakistani and Bangladeshi heritage increasing to 10.1% and 7.3% respectively. Further growth can also be observed within Polish and Romanian heritage communities. It is well evidenced that individuals from black and minority ethnic backgrounds are over-represented within the criminal justice system and in Oldham this is true of children from Asian, Black or “Other” heritages at most stages. This diversity is a strength to be valued and promoted, although some people experience discrimination and disadvantage, requiring change to champion fairness and equality.

An increase in recorded crime across the whole of Greater Manchester can be observed and arrests were up by almost 20,000 in the year between February 2022 and 2023. This can be attributed to Greater Manchester Police having made significant progress in improving the forces’ response to incidents and investigation of crime. In Oldham, incidents of violence remain a concern and consequently this affects children physically, psychologically or emotionally. The increase in arrests has had an impact on the number of first-time entrants into the criminal justice system which has promoted a partnership response in relation to early intervention, including a review of the Prevention and Diversion Panel.

2. Child First

Child First principles permeate all aspects of service delivery in youth justice in Oldham and this is explicitly set out in our vision.

1. See children as children – all staff actively use the term “child” in assessments, reports and conversations, staff have received training on Child First and deliver this across the partnership, staff have received training and challenge other agencies on appropriate use of language, staff acknowledge maturity and how various life experiences, such as trauma, can impact on this through ensuring plans are bespoke and developmentally tailored.
2. Developing a pro-social identity – the service has moved away from consequential interventions, ensuring that instead a focus is given to the child’s strengths. There is a real emphasis on education, training, and employment. Alongside this, we provide access to activities which broaden horizons and allow children opportunities to see places outside of Oldham they have previously not experienced. This can be visiting National Trust sites with some children have volunteered as Park Rangers.

3. Collaborating with children – all children create their intervention plan alongside their Case Manager and contribute to the activities they carry out. They also have the opportunity to shape service delivery through “Your Opinion Matters” with their parents or carers. This collaboration reaches far wider than Oldham, with children being involved in work with courts and the legal system to ensure that their needs are met in this context.
4. Promoting diversion – the importance of diversion is appreciated across the partnership through a well-established Prevention and Diversion Panel. The partnership is well represented and engaged in decision making. A revised policy and procedure is in place following the implementation of Turnaround to ensure children receive the correct response at the earliest opportunity.

In August 2022, two Case Managers completed the “Child First Effective Practice Certificate”, delivered by Unitas and have shared learning with the wider team through Practitioner Forums. Staff also deliver training on Child First as part of the Oldham Children’s Safeguarding Partnership calendar, as well as to various forums upon request such as the Designated Teachers Meeting.

In March 2023, Oldham YJS underwent a Peer Review, co-ordinated by the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Programme, with one of the Key Lines of Enquiry being, “are governance and partnership arrangements Child First?” The final report stated that,

“The PRT (Peer Review Team) observed a passionate, motivated, and skilled practitioner group who were able to demonstrate how their individual practice was child first and we saw/heard about specific child examples; this energy was shared across the partnership at an operational level. It was clear from the PRT’s time in Oldham that there was a practitioner workforce who were clearly proud of the work that they do and really striving for the best outcomes for children; this was exemplified through the feedback from children:

*‘everyone I met has been sound, they’re great people and I haven’t got a bad word to say’
(Child A)”*

While there is clearly Child First practice in action in Oldham, the Peer Review still identified some inconsistencies at all levels regarding specifically what this means for the children, and in particular, those in the justice system. It was recommended that the Youth Justice Management Board prioritises ensuring that we understand and promote these principles across the partnership, aligning other relevant plans to these.

3. Voice of the child

The voice of the child continues to be a central part of practice across the partnership in Oldham. In the most recent inspection of Oldham Youth Justice Service in 2019, this was identified as a key strength with the report noting:

“children and young people are at the heart of everything this service does”.

The Peer Review also highlighted a number of areas of good practice in relation to this, with children of course being involved through focused sessions throughout.

Internally, all children and their parents, carers, or significant adults working with Oldham YJS are offered the opportunity to engage with “Your Opinions Matter”, a resource completed independently from their Case Manager alongside the Engagement Worker with a lead for participation. This covers areas such as feeling included in decision making, meeting cultural needs, feeling safe, and how well we work with other services. A report is produced bi-annually on collated feedback and presented to the Youth Justice Management Board. Examples of how this has impacted on practice are shown below:

Feedback	Action
“Less worksheets”, “be more fun”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing resources was introduced as a standard agenda item to team meetings in January 2023.
“Appointments later in the day”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff are encouraged through team meetings, supervision and group supervision to focus on “twilight working” to accommodate the needs of children.
“Don’t assume we are ready to move to Probation when we are 18, because we aren’t always ready”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oldham Transitions Protocol has been reviewed and shared with practitioners to ensure this process is led by the needs of the child,
	<p>adapted to suit individual need, documents and a clear exit plan is in place.</p>
“Air con in the meeting rooms”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion took place with Strategic Group to make a decision if this was possible.

Locally, the Strategic Youth Partnership in Oldham has developed the “Children and Young People’s Participation Framework” which is the first cross system participation framework, spanning the period 2023-2030. It sets out our Oldham approach to support, nurture and celebrate a culture of participatory practice in both Oldham Council and Oldham Council funded services. The document is designed to introduce organisations to the approach and ensure there is a shared understanding of participation and best practice.

Alongside this, Manchester Youth Justice Service, in collaboration with Manchester Centre for Youth Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University, have authored the “Participatory Youth Practice Framework”, designed to support enhancing participatory practice with children involved in the criminal justice system. This used children’s lived experiences, supported by academic theory and trauma informed research evidence to suggest a new approach. While we are confident our practice is already completely aligned to these frameworks, they will both be used to inform a service level Participation Strategy for Oldham YJS.

We also encourage participation at local and national level. In September 2022, children from Oldham YJS were invited to create a video for the Youth Justice Board Workforce Development Council on, “what makes a good youth justice worker”. Five children engaged with this through creating posters or being interviewed, and this was presented at a national meeting to inform delivery plans and is now available on the

Youth Justice Resource Hub for other areas to reference in their own work.

4. Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

As highlighted earlier in this plan, Oldham Youth Justice Service is in a distinctive position in that it is commissioned out to be delivered by an independent charitable trust, Positive Steps, which is governed through a Board of Trustees, comprised of elected members and community representatives.

In its own right, the Youth Justice Service meets statutory requirements, and maintains oversight from the Local Authority through the Youth Justice Management Board, chaired by the Managing Director for Children and Young People (Director of Children's Services) who reports to the Chief Executive Officer of Oldham Council. Quarterly meetings ensure that the Board is pro-active in taking responsibility for all aspects of youth justice, leading strategically across relevant partners, and ensuring a high-quality service is provided to all children. The full membership of the Youth Justice Management Board can be found in Appendix 1.

Working with the Director of Children's Services is the Head of Service (HoS) for Youth Justice and Missing from Home who was new in role as of January 2023 following a restructure but has been part of Oldham YJS since 2012. Alongside this responsibility, they take the strategic lead for resettlement and youth violence across Greater Manchester, through a secondment to the Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit as the Youth Justice Lead, providing expertise on children and adolescents.

Oldham Youth Justice Service comprises of one Head of Service, three Operational Managers, eight Case Managers (one vacant), eight Engagement Workers (one vacant), one Restorative Justice Co-Ordinator, one Education and Resettlement Co-Ordinator and two Service Support Assistants. The staffing structure and record of ethnicity, sex and known disability of staff can be found in Appendix 2.

Oldham Youth Justice Service benefits from specialist support from a seconded Police Officer, Nurse, Speech and Language Therapist and Mental Health Coach with all being well embedded into the service. From July 1st, a full time Probation Officer will also be in post. At present, Oldham Youth Justice Service do not have a seconded Child and Adolescent Mental Health Practitioner or an expedited pathway into the service, but this is being raised by the DCS and HoS as an urgent issue to resolve. It is also a priority to find a resolution to short term funding agreements for this post and the Speech and Language Therapist so that longer term commitment from commissioners can be promoted. Oldham YJS employs an Education and Resettlement Co-Ordinator who closely liaises with the relevant persons within the local authority such as the Virtual School, Inclusion and SEND teams, as well as schools, colleges and training providers.

There is a strong tradition of partnership working in Oldham and Greater Manchester, both strategically and operationally, with Oldham YJS engaged in the following:

- Oldham Children's Assurance Board
- Oldham Reducing Re-Offending Board (Co Chair)
- Oldham Partnership Performance Board
- Oldham Learning Review Hub
- Oldham Complex and Contextual Safeguarding Board

- Oldham Strategic Youth Partnership
- Oldham Corporate Parenting Partnership
- Oldham Missing from Home Working Group
- Child Exploitation Working Group
- Prevention and Diversion Panel (Chair)
- Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Board
- Greater Manchester Serious Violence Duty Steering Group
- Greater Manchester Youth Justice Transformation Board
- Greater Manchester Resettlement Consortium (Chair)
- Greater Manchester Youth Justice Senior Lead Meeting

5. Board development

While visiting Oldham in March 2023, the Peer Review Team observed,

“some passionate board members, who championed children’s needs. There was clear evidence that this championing transcended into their own agencies, demonstrating the sphere of influence of the board and some system impact”.

There are already a number of well-established members who have been involved in securing funding for the Speech and Language Therapist and responding to specific incidents of violence, namely the implementation of the GRIP Project (Group Response Intervention Project), a contextual safeguarding project following two murders in the local community. Meetings take place on a quarterly basis and minutes are readily available to be accessed by YJS practitioners and partners.

Board development will be a key focus of the plan for 2023/2024 to ensure that responsibilities, in relation to, leadership and oversight of justice services for children, contributing to local multi- agency strategies and work with local and national criminal justice organisations and safeguarding children who receive youth justice systems, are effectively discharged to ensure an integrated approach to crime prevention and supporting victims. A review of membership has already taken place to ensure each agency is represented at the required level of seniority with a development day planned for July 2023, to be attended by YJS and members, with the Regional YJB Head providing a presentation on governance and leadership, a session focused on getting to know each other, and an input on Child First Youth Justice being delivered by two Case Managers.

In addition to this we will:

- Review the Terms of Reference and Induction Process for the Youth Justice Management Board
- Ensure that the Strategic Plan is jointly owned by members who will be accountable for their relevant actions, and which will be monitored through YJMB
- Set the minimum agenda for each of the quarterly meetings for a 12 month period to ensure the board have access to information about the operation of Oldham YJS to enable it to scrutinise activity effectively
- Convene Task and Finish Groups as and when required in relation to specific actions to ensure these are successfully completed and do not drift
- Ensure board members are invited and attend the YJS Team Meeting to cascade information from the board and promote relationships

- Develop profiles for YJS practitioners and board members which can be accessed by all to get to know the board and team

6. Progress on previous plan

The table below sets out performance in relation to the previous plan.

Action	Progress
Embed strategic and operational improvements in health resources, specifically the Speech and Language Therapist.	The Speech and Language Therapist has been in post since October 2022. This remains a short-term funding commitment and is recognised as a priority for the board to address in the coming year with ongoing conversations taking place between health, the local authority and Head of Service. YJS do not currently have a CAMHS Practitioner seconded, and again this is a priority for the board with a meeting set up in June to address this with Chair, Head of Service and the Chief Officer in the NHS. The board also continue to focus efforts on ensuring health are represented consistently at meetings.
Commission specific mental health support through partnership with Mind.	The partnership between YJS MIND began in January 2023, seconding Mental Health Coaches into the service. Due to the success
	of this, funding will continue for another 12 months until June 2024.
Work across Oldham to reduce the unnecessary criminalisation of children looked after.	The “Oldham Protocol on Reducing the Unnecessary Criminalisation of Children Looked After and Care Leavers” was launched across the partnership in March 2023. It represents a multi-agency partnership commitment to reducing the unnecessary criminalisation of children looked after and care leavers. The impact of this will be able to be observed in data sets over the forthcoming year. Briefings have taken place in various forums, and training has been delivered in residential settings on The 10 Point Checklist and Restorative Justice. See section 10.
Implement the recommendations of the experiences of black and mixed heritage boys HMIP review.	This remains outstanding.
Implement the recommendations of the MoJ national remand review.	The Greater Manchester Resettlement Consortium is in place to improve the outcomes for children in custody. Staff have undertaken training with Just for Kids Law on Bail and Remand. YJS present alternatives to remand at Court for all cases, with evidence of this on the system.

Implement findings of the YJB led governance and leadership development sessions.	This is due to take place on July 10 th 2023.
Completion of a Peer Review.	The Peer Review took place in March with an improvement plan being implemented following receipt of the final report.
Audit and update all YJS policies and procedures.	There are new policies in relation to Missing from Home, Risk Management, Quality Assurance and Management Oversight, Resettlement, and Prevention and Diversion. This activity will continue into next year.
Continue programme of internal quality assurance.	A number of audits have taken place this year and will continue into next year.
Review appraisal analysis and implement training plan.	Appraisals were reviewed and a training plan was developed following this. This has also been completed for 2023/24. See section 12.

7. Resources and services

Oldham Youth Justice Service are committed to ensuring value for money via robust budget management and effective service delivery. The service ensures that resources are deployed appropriately to meet the needs of a smaller, convicted cohort, with increased Out of Court disposals and early preventative interventions.

The youth justice budget comprises in the main from Local Authority funding, the Youth Justice Board Grant and, as of December 2023, the Turnaround Grant from the Ministry of Justice, which primarily supports the core staffing of the service, with some allocation provided for training and a small activity budget to provide positive activities to children.

The staffing structure has been described in section 4 of this plan, along with the partnership contribution in terms of the secondment arrangements for police, health and speech and language, highlighting concerns around the lack of arrangement with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service.

The commissioning arrangement with Positive Steps is advantageous as it allows YJS to express an interest in and apply for funding streams that traditional local authority based services would not be able to. In 22/23 this included, a partnership project with Mind to support the emotional wellbeing of children working with YJS and a collaborative project with Complex Safeguarding, taking a contextual safeguarding approach to serious violence, both funded through the Community Safety Partnership Grant. In addition to this, YJS obtained monies from the Community Renewal Fund to host Skill Mill, an employment programme for children involved with criminal justice or social care services to develop what will be the largest urban farm in the country. The service was also successful in securing funding from Greater Manchester Combined Authority to host the Greater Manchester Resettlement Consortium, which improves the outcomes for children in custody across the conurbation.

Moving into 23/34, the funding for the Mind partnership and Greater Manchester

Resettlement Consortium will continue. Building on a previous project, Getting out for Good, there will also be a 12 month project for girls and young women at risk of involvement in serious violence, funded by the Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit. YJS have also applied for and been awarded money from Police Proceeds of Crime to broaden the horizons of children working with the service giving them opportunities to engage in activities they otherwise would not be able to, such as visiting local attractions, sightseeing and trying new sports.

We use our grant, partnership contributions, additional funding, and available resources to achieve the primary functions of the Youth Justice Service and demonstrate excellent performance. Our performance will be improved in 2023/2024 by:

- Ensuring an outstanding governance and leadership structure, aligning this to other local authority children’s plans, and having shared aims and understanding of the priorities for children in the criminal justice system
- Ensuring children from over- represented groups have a fair experience of the criminal justice system
- Ensuring children working with Oldham YJS have access to relevant and consistent health support at the earliest opportunity
- Ensuring children working with Oldham YJS are afforded the opportunity to engage with diversionary activities as an alternative to prosecutions
- Continuing to provide innovative approaches to support desistance through sourcing additional funding streams

8. Performance

Despite Oldham being a complex and challenging place to deliver youth justice due to a large youth population, levels of deprivation and crime rates, the youth justice service performs above comparative groups in a number of areas. At times, Oldham has reported one of the lowest re-offending rates nationally, which given the demographic is inspiring. It is obvious that the service strives to continue with these high levels of performance and so continuous monitoring and challenge from the board when required will be imperative, along with further work with the management information team to ensure there is a clear understanding of the cohort will be key.

9. National key performance indicators

Oldham Youth Justice Service continues to perform well against the nationally measured targets. Over the past 12 months the service has continued to report, on a quarterly basis, on the existing key performance indicators (KPIs).

Reoffending rates

Reoffending - binary rate	Oldham	North West	Greater Manchester	YJS family	England
Binary Rate - Jan 21 to Mar 21	16.7%	32.2%	27.5%	30.1%	31.0%
Binary Rate - Oct 20 to Dec 20	46.2%	29.7%	25.9%	27.4%	29.0%
Binary Rate - Jul 20 to Sept 20	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Binary Rate - Apr 20 to June 20	12.5%	33.5%	33.0%	32.2%	32.3%

Reoffences- frequency rate per reoffender	Oldham	North West	Greater Manchester	YJS family	England
Binary Rate - Jan 21 to Mar 21	1.67	4.25	4.36	3.97	3.80
Binary Rate - Oct 20 to Dec 20	3.83	3.66	4.08	3.70	3.71
Binary Rate - Jul 20 to Sept 20	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Binary Rate - Apr 20 to June 20	1	3.5	3.5	3.69	3.44

Reoffending - frequency rate	Oldham	North West	Greater Manchester	YJS family	England
Binary Rate - Jan 21 to Mar 21	0.28	1.37	1.20	1.20	1.18
Binary Rate - Oct 20 to Dec 20	1.77	1.09	1.06	1.01	1.08
Binary Rate - Jul 20 to Sept 20	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Frequency Rate - Apr 20 to June 20	0.13	1.17	1.15	1.19	1.11

Oldham Youth Justice Service performs exceptionally well in terms of re-offending with rates being well below all comparative groups. An increase up to 46.2% was observed in one quarter but this was agreed to be an anomaly, taking into consideration that the data was not available in the previous quarter. Given the levels of deprivation in Oldham, this is a figure that we are incredibly proud of, and is most definitely attributed to the Child First, trauma informed approach taken by the motivated and dedicated team and multi-agency partnership.

First time entrants

FTE PNC rate per 100,000 of 10-17 population	Oldham	North West	Greater Manchester	YOT family group	England
Oct 21 - Sep 22	167	151	180	176	148
Jul 21 - Jun 22	179	143	181	176	144
Apr 21 - Mar 22	202	139	171	166	143
Jan 21 - Dec 21	194	133	161	168	146

The number of first-time entrants in Oldham sits at a rate that is elevated to that of the comparative groups, aside from those figures from Greater Manchester, in which they are aligned. The YJB have confirmed that Greater Manchester is the only area to observe an increase in this number which correlates to a 50% increase in overall arrests by GMP over the past three years. There is work ongoing at a Greater Manchester level, in which the Head of Service is involved, to embed the Child Centred Policing Strategy and ensure that the work is led by the same guiding principles as youth justice. Oldham YJS is working closely with the Oldham Police Prevention Hub to ensure children are identified at the earliest opportunity to receive intervention and be referred to the Prevention Panel for a multi-agency response, including offering Turnaround.

Use of custody

Custody Rate per 1,000 of 10-17 population	Oldham	North West	YJS family	England
Jan 22 - Dec 22	0.21	0.16	0.19	0.11
Oct 21 - Sept 22	0.11	0.16	0.20	0.11
Jul 21 - Jun 22	0.15	0.16	0.19	0.11
Apr 21 to Mar 22	0.15	0.15	0.2	0.12

On the whole, Oldham's use of custody remains low, with the children included in these figures

being sentenced for the most serious offences of Murder and S. 18 Wounding. The increase in the final quarter is due to one offence which included four children. All Pre-Sentence Reports go through a robust management oversight process to check content and language and following sentence a Custody Debrief Panel is held to review any learning for individual staff or the service.

Oldham YJS also report on locally agreed performance targets agreed by the Youth Justice Management Board.

Accommodation

Accommodation upon release from custody	Number released from custody	Number with <u>appropriate</u> accommodation arrangements	Number with <u>suitable</u> accommodation arrangements	Percentage in suitable accommodation
2021/22	2	N/A	2	100%
Qtr 1 2022/23	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Qtr 2 2022/23	1	1	1	100%
Qtr 3 2022/23	1	1	1	100%

Although numbers of children in and leaving custody are small, all are released with appropriate and suitable accommodation in place. All authorities have now signed up the to “Greater Manchester Accommodation Standard”, to ensure that an address is agreed at least 6 weeks in advance and where this is not, an escalation pathway is in place to find resolution.

Education, training and employment

Percentage of Young People engaged with the Youth Justice Service who are in suitable education, employment or training.	Number of YP with Interventions ending	Number in ETE	Outcome	Improvement on 77% target in percentage points
2022/23	168	162	96%	19%age points
Apr - Jun 2022	49	43	88%	11%age points
July - Sep 2022	25	22	88%	11%age points
Oct -Dec 2022	40	39	97%	20%age points

The percentage of children completing their youth justice intervention with education, training or employment in place in Oldham is high and above the average. The service benefits from an Education and Resettlement Co-Ordinator who works with schools, colleges and training providers to build relationships and break down barriers to ensure there is a wide variety of resources available. The service has developed a specific risk assessment to ensure that context, likelihood, imminence, and victim type of risk is understood by education providers to promote and sustain engagement.

Children Looked After

Likelihood of Childen Looked After receiving a substantive outcome compared with non CLA 10-17 population	
Jul 20 to Jun 21	10.49%
October 20 to Sept 21	12.71%
Jan 21 to Dec 21	15.38%
April 21 to March 22	16.03%
Jul 21 to Jun 22	21.93%
Oct 21 to Sept 22	21.70%
Jan 22 to Dec 22	20.91%

The number of children looked after working with Oldham YJS has increased. In response to this, the “Oldham Protocol on Reducing the Unnecessary Criminalisation of Children Looked After and Care Leavers” was launched across the partnership in March 2023. This protocol reflects the principles and ambitions set out nationally which describes “what” needs to happen across the country. Locally, Oldham complement this by setting out “how” we will do it and is reflective of service structure, stakeholders, and governance. It represents a multi-agency partnership commitment to reducing the unnecessary criminalisation of children looked after and care leavers. The impact of this will be able to be observed in data sets over the forthcoming year.

Diversity

Ethnicity	Post court		Pre court		Custody		Total YJS caseload		*Oldham 10-17 Population
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Percentage
Young people worked with during Jan 22 to Dec 22									
White/White other	24	45%	43	75%	0	0%	67	61%	58%
Asian or Asian British	15	28%	9	16%	4	67%	24	22%	32%
Mixed Parentage	4	8%	3	5%	0	0%	7	6%	1%
Black or Black British	4	8%	2	4%	1	17%	6	5%	6%
Chinese or other ethnic group	6	11%	0	0%	1	17%	6	5%	3%
Total	53		57		6		110		100%

Children from black and minority ethnic backgrounds are over-represented at all stages of the criminal justice system. All children from groups which are over-represented have additional management oversight on Pre-Sentence Reports to ensure they are balanced and free from bias. The inclusion of data in reports to the Court is encouraged to highlight over-representation.

Developing a Disproportionality Strategy to guide practice will be a priority going forward and staff will receive training on Cultural Competence.

It is a requirement of all youth justice services to report on new key performance indicators from April 2023, with the first submission due in August. Therefore, this information is not available at the time of submitting this plan. The first time this data set will be presented to Youth Justice Management Board will be September. All youth justice staff been introduced to the KPIs by way of a Practitioner Forum.

The primary risk is perceived to be in relation to the system, Core+, being in a position to extract the data and for this to provide an accurate reflection on performance without glitch. The ICT Operational Manager has been working closely with the system provider to alleviate this. Of course, reporting on new measures may highlight performance issues that were not currently known and should this occur, an action plan will be agreed by the board in relation to specific data sets which may require focus at any given time.

10. Priorities

10.1 Children from groups which are over-represented

Children from black and minority ethnic backgrounds are over-represented at all stages of the criminal justice system in Oldham, and there are a high number of children looked after in the current cohort, although this is decreasing.

All children from groups which are over-represented have additional management oversight on Pre-Sentence Reports to ensure they are balanced and free from bias. The

inclusion of data in reports to the Court is encouraged to highlight over-representation. Developing a Disproportionality Strategy to guide practice will be a priority going forward and staff will receive training on Cultural Competence.

In March 2023, the “Oldham Protocol on Reducing the Unnecessary Criminalisation of Children Looked After and Care Leavers” was launched across the partnership. It represents a multi-agency partnership commitment to reducing the unnecessary criminalisation of children looked after and care leavers. This now needs to be reflected across the relevant strategies such as Corporate Parenting to ensure shared aims.

10.2 Prevention

Oldham is committed to preventing children from entering the criminal justice system and this can be observed by the partnership commitment to the Prevention and Diversion Panel. While in Oldham this has been established for a number of years, with positive levels of attendance and engagement, this has been reviewed to ensure services are intervening at an even earlier opportunity to prevent escalation of concerns. Now known as the Oldham Prevention Panel, this continues to focus on referrals from agencies who have concerns about a child in relation to anti- social behaviour or criminality, but also includes children screened through a weekly police report who have been named on a crime or arrested. In-depth background checks are completed on all of these children and presented at the panel for multi-agency decision making on the correct service to provide support. This may be from their school, School Engagement Officers, social care, complex safeguarding, Early Help, youth service or voluntary organisations, in addition to youth justice Turnaround or Prevention.

Turnaround has been established in Oldham YJS since January 2023 with 13 children and their families having engaged in the first quarter. The main intervention types included, emotional wellbeing, mentoring, recreational activities and restorative justice. Oldham YJS remains on track to meet the targets set by the Ministry of Justice for 2023/2024.

An updated policy and procedure is now in place to guide practice. Oldham YJS also deliver training to the partnerships on the importance of prevention, diversion and Child First youth justice to raise the profile of this.

Implementing the use of Outcome 22 is a priority for Oldham YJS and we are awaiting working guidance from GMP in relation to this. There are strategic meetings taking place to progress this so that children are afforded the opportunity for an education intervention rather than a criminal justice outcome, which the Head of Service is engaged in.

10.3 Diversion

Out of Court Disposals make up the majority of the youth justice caseload at present. Following recommendations from the last HMIP Inspection and the Peer Review, Oldham have now implemented a weekly Joint Decision-Making Panel attended by YJS, social care and GMP to agree the disposal that a child should receive following assessment.

Oldham have received positive feedback for their processes and decision making from the Greater Manchester Police Out of Court Scrutiny Panel and as such, the way we have been reporting to the panel has been requested of all areas so this is not just a police led meeting but has a focus on Child First principles.

An updated policy and procedure is now in place to guide practice.

10.4 Education

The percentage of children who end their youth justice intervention with education, training or employment in place is high. An Education and Resettlement Co-Ordinator is employed by YJS to build relationships with schools, colleges and training providers, to break down barriers and provide expertise to the team on SEND processes. The risk assessment we have developed for education placements has been adopted by other authorities.

Due to the unique position of the Oldham YJS being commissioned into Positive Steps, there is an integrated offer with the careers service who are co-located and offers the opportunity for more joined up working to address any educational or employment issues. Positive Steps also run work experience programmes and training initiatives that children working with YJS can access.

10.5 Restorative approaches and victims

Oldham Youth Justice Service employs a Restorative Justice Co-Ordinator in line with the importance of enhancing the voice and experience of victims of crime committed by children. They go above and beyond national guidance, where consent is provided, to offer victims of those who receive Community Resolutions and above the chance to engage with the service through the completion of a My View questionnaire, the offer of direct or indirect Giving Back or Restorative Conferencing.

This year, the service delivered their first Restorative Conference for a sexual offence and the outcome from this was positive. Both parties wished to engage in this for “closure”. Feedback from the parent was:

“the meeting brought the closure we needed and xxx is doing well. Thanks again ● ”

Following this, the Restorative Justice Co-Ordinator, due to the trusted relationship developed, provided further intervention on alcohol misuse, social pressure and health and wellbeing.

Every child working with Oldham YJS will complete Giving Back as part of their intervention. Projects this year have included volunteering in the Foodbank, local cafes and churches, gardening, working with local charity “Street Angels” to provide gifts for the homeless at Christmas, and wrapping over 250 Christmas presents for children.

Moving forward, it will be a priority to review the policy and procedure in this area and improve the number of victims who the police gain consent to contact.

10.6 Serious violence and exploitation

Oldham as a partnership have taken great strides to address serious violence and exploitation. There is now a Complex and Contextual Strategy and Action Plan in place which the YJS Head of Service is actively involved in.

Oldham YJS has identified a lead worker for complex safeguarding who is the single point

of contact for sharing information and expertise with the Complex Safeguarding Hub and other agencies. Plans are in place to have this worker co-located one day per week to improve integrated working. A summary of the GRIP project and plans for legacy have been aforementioned.

In light of the Serious Violence Duty and through their role as Youth Justice Lead in the Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit, the Head of Service has been part of the development of the Greater Manchester Strategic Needs Assessment which provides an advantageous position to Oldham in terms of now writing their own localised paper. This will be imperative to guide practice and continue to reduce and prevent violence in the borough.

Oldham have now reconvened the Prevent and Protect Boarding, incorporating “Martyn’s Law” following the terror attack in Manchester in 2017. The Head of Service leads on this strategically, and training is underway for all staff either by way of an introduction or refreshers. An audit will then be completed to ensure this has been accessed by all. There is also a lead worker for Prevent who contributes to the local panel and shares expertise. Oldham YJS has also taken steps to raise the profile of mixed unstable ideologies and the impact of these on children.

10.7 Detention in police custody

Oldham YJS work closely with GMP and Children’s Social Care to prevent the detention of children in police custody. This involves ensuring that the PACE Beds, both safe and secure are utilised where a child is remanded to court the following day. Numbers in Oldham remain low, however, this is monitored on a monthly basis through GMP and where a child is not transferred, challenge is provided to the relevant service.

10.8 Remands

One child was remanded to custody in 2022/23. Although children from Oldham appear in Court in both Tameside and Manchester, where there is a Greater Manchester Youth Justice duty system in place, Case Managers from Oldham YJS are always present to support and advocate for children from our area in line with a Child First approach. Bail packages are always presented in line with risk and safety and wellbeing to prevent the use of remand. Training has taken place to augment practice in this area.

The service is aware that a high percentage of children who are remanded to custody do not then go on to receive a custodial sentence. Operational Managers are ensuring that children receive a review at their remand status, following re-assessment of risk, to allow them to be released on bail with the appropriate levels of support.

Priority will be given to a review of the Bail and Remand policy to guide practice.

10.9 Use of custody

In line with national trends, Oldham observes reductions of children in custody. The detrimental impact of being placed in the secure estate is better understood across the partnership more than ever due to multi-agency working and challenge on cases where this may be assessed as a risk.

The low number of children in custody, although quarterly reports are provided to the management board, means that a response to any trends can be responded to in real time following the Custody Debrief Panel that takes place each time a custodial sentence is implemented.

A reviewed Resettlement policy is in place to ensure that work begins at Pre Sentence Report stage to reduce the likelihood of this type of sentence being given. The planned work around disproportionality will ensure changes are made to reduce over-representation of black and minority ethnic children in custody.

10.9.1 Constructive resettlement

Oldham YJS employs an Education and Resettlement Co-Ordinator who works with children who receive a custodial sentence through their time in the secure estate, on license and for a period of time once this supervision finishes. This is in recognition of the unique set of needs this cohort has. The requirement to ensure resettlement begins at the point of sentence and planning for release and beyond remains a priority.

Oldham is in a strong position to influence resettlement practice across the town and Greater Manchester. Oldham has the strategic lead for resettlement across Greater Manchester youth justice services and is commissioned to deliver and chair the Resettlement Consortium. This is a national meeting, held at strategic and operational levels, to improve the outcomes of children in custody, implement findings from national reviews, promote best practice and ensure value for money in terms of existing resource.

Staff have been trained on Constructive Resettlement, and the use of this in practice and plans is monitored through management oversight. Further training will be sought for new staff to ensure consistent levels of practice across the service.

11 Standards for children in the justice system

Standards for children in the youth justice system define the minimum expectation for all agencies that provide statutory services to ensure good outcomes for children. Revised Standards for children in the youth justice system were implemented in 2019, and self-assessments against these standards were carried out by all local partnerships and submitted to the Youth Justice Board in 2020. At this time, Oldham Youth Justice Service was felt to be compliant in this process with “good” and “outstanding” outcomes being achieved. Following this, annual Operational Plans have been in place to address specific areas for improvement within “Court Work” and “Secure Settings”.

In the three years since the initial self-assessment, there has been a global pandemic and the service has seen a change in staffing at all levels and although not a formal requirement, Oldham Youth Justice Service will revisit this exercise to evaluate their current position and identify areas for development. The findings of this this will be presented to the Youth Justice Management Board in March 2024.

Oldham YJS gives high priority to quality assurance and has recently implemented a Quality Assurance and Management Oversight policy to guide practice. The YJS has a range of mechanisms to uphold the quality of the service including, a revised induction process, annual appraisals, management supervision, peer and group supervision, direct observations, audits and feedback on all assessments and reports, and bi-annual audits on

management oversight. There may also be partnership audits such as Brief Learning Reviews, Multi-Agency Case Evaluations, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Police Scrutiny Panels. Evaluations of these are fed back through Practitioner Forums or Team Meetings to be implemented in service delivery.

12 Workforce development

There is a recognition that the most important asset to the service is the staff team and there is significant focus on professional development and internal promotion. This can be observed through the Head of Service and two Operational Managers having progressed through different positions within the service.

Each member of staff undergoes a robust induction process, which was reviewed in early 2023, to not only the youth justice service, but the wider organisation of Positive Steps and the Oldham partnership. This includes the allocation of a “buddy”, meetings with key staff and teams both internally and externally, mandatory reading and training, the development of a personalised action plan, increased supervision, shadowing opportunities and joint case working.

Each member of staff has an annual appraisal to analyse performance, identify training needs and promote professional development. From this an annual training plan is developed. All staff, including those seconded, have access to training on offer through the Oldham Safeguarding Children’s Partnership (OSCP) with the calendar being visited during supervision, as well as external opportunities created through additional funding streams.

In 2022/23, staff received training on, Positive Relationships, Mental Health First Aid, Principles of CBT, and Professional Challenge, with two members of staff completing the Child First Effective Practice Award and five members of staff undertaking the Youth Justice Effective Practice Certificate (YJEP) via Unitas. The Restorative Justice Co-Ordinator also completed Restorative Justice Facilitation Skills as he was new in post as of May 2022. All staff at Positive Steps benefitted from the “Spring into Safeguarding” event earlier this year where briefings, workshops and training sessions were provided on various safeguarding topics such as domestic abuse, mixed unstable ideologies and trauma.

An analysis of appraisals has confirmed training for the next 12 months in, AIM3, YJEP, Neurodiversity, Professional Curiosity, and Cultural Competence. There is also a specific management training plan covering, Recruitment and Selection, Supervision and Appraisal, Finance and Project Management.

The workforce is supported through access to the Employee Assistance programme, and informal and formal supervision which can be in terms of both professional and personal issues. Staff say of their managers:

“my manager regularly checks in with me although we have supervision meetings.”

“my manager has been very active in supporting me on a professional level, both by providing hands on guidance discussions in supervision as well as instilling belief in me to act independently, something which I believe has been really beneficial to my learning and confidence in my role.”

“my manager is patient and understanding. always ensuring my mental health is priority so that I can continue progressing my caseload.”

Case Managers facilitate monthly Peer Supervision, and Engagement Workers have monthly Group Supervision led by an Operation Manager, giving the opportunity to discuss and reflect on case specific or thematic issues.

As part of workforce development, YJS also deliver training to the partnership as part of the OSCP calendar or upon request on a number of topics to enhance the knowledge of others working in Oldham. This includes, Understanding Exploitation (in conjunction with Complex Safeguarding), Prevention and Diversion, Principles of Child First, Missing from Home, Restorative Justice and Use of The 10 Point Checklist.

13 Evidence-based practice, innovation and evaluation

GRIP

In March 2023, the GRIP (Group Response Intervention Project) concluded. This was an 18 month collaborative project between Oldham Youth Justice Service and Complex Safeguarding, which built upon a previous contextual safeguarding pilot run by YJS, “Youth Now” and was implemented due to an escalation of concerns around social groups and violence in two specific geographical areas of the town. The full evaluation can be found below.

[GRIP Report](#)

It is important that there is a legacy of GRIP and that the learning and best practice are carried forward. There is an event planned for the partnership and although staff have returned to their substantive roles, the Youth Justice Engagement Worker will continue to lead this work, targeting the five “places” in Oldham, upskilling staff in various organisations and supporting them to take a contextual approach.

Skill Mill

Children from Oldham with experience of the criminal justice or social care system were afforded the opportunity to engage with Skill Mill. This was part of a wider project, Roots of Opportunity, which provided a graduated approach enabling children to contribute to the local environment and seek employment in the green economy. This was funded by a successful application to the Community Renewal Fund and ran from January 2022 to March 2023.

Skill Mill was the intensive level of the programme and provided paid employment for children to assist with the development of blue and green infrastructure, undertaking conservation, clearing vegetation, habitat management, pond creation, wildlife monitoring, tree planting and leading guided walks. Two Engagement Workers from Oldham YJS were seconded to this project to provide additional support to the children and remove any barriers they had to employment, while being overseen by an Environmental Manager from Northern Roots, the site under development.

This was the time Skill Mill had operated in Greater Manchester and two cohorts ran over

15 months, with eight children engaging in the first cohort and four in the second. In the first, three children were offered an apprenticeship following the programme and in the second, one child progressed to employment with Green Fingers, a landscaping firm in Oldham and one child returned to college to study construction. Children also gained health and safety qualifications and CSCS cards. For those who did not progress immediately into education, training or employment, they were supported to build relationships with their Careers Advisors to plan the next steps that they wished to take.

Mind Partnership

Oldham Youth Justice Service is currently working with Mind to support children with their emotional wellbeing. We know that many children present with concerns at varying levels in this area but that there are often structural barriers and stigma in place which prevent engagement with services. As such, Oldham YJS benefits from a Mental Health Coach being seconded into the service to provide more accessible mental health support, to support improvement in emotional wellbeing, enabling more effective engagement and to support children to explore reasons for offending. To date, 14 children have benefitted from this, and sessions have covered bereavement, court stress, family and peer relationships, exam pressure, confidence and self-esteem, and managing adversity. None of the children who have engaged have gone on to be charged with further offending.

Dignify

Youth justice services in Greater Manchester have positive links with the Violence Reduction Unit and through this have worked with Dignify on two initiatives. The first being a programme for children in care and care leavers moving from youth justice to adult services, to reduce the likelihood of involvement in violence and other offending, and to provide mentoring support at a critical transition point. As it is evidenced that a large number of individuals in the criminal justice system have witnessed domestic violence, Positive Relationships training was delivered to 250 members of staff to raise awareness and use intervention skills to reduce the risk of violence in children who have witnessed domestic violence.

14 Service development plan

A partnership Service Development Plan has been agreed in recognition that achieving the primary functions of Oldham Youth Justice is a shared responsibility. It contains both strategic and rational actions. This has been influenced by the YJB Strategic Plan 21-24, the recommendation for the recent Peer Review and engagement with Youth Justice Management Board and YJS practitioners.

Oversight will be provided on a quarterly basis at the Youth Justice Management Board meetings either through presentation or by exception.

This can be found in Appendix 4.

15 Challenges, risks and issues


Oldham Youth Justice Service is highly regarded across the partnership and the children and families we work with. We want to continue to provide an excellent offer and, as such, must acknowledge the potential challenges we may face over the next 12 months.

Gaps in the health offer provided to YJS have been highlighted in terms of having no seconded CAMHS Practitioner and short-term funding commitments. These are both being addressed by the Head of Service and Chair of YJMB at present to find resolution.

Children looked after, and those from black and minority ethnic backgrounds are over-represented in the cohort. We have already taken steps to reduce the unnecessary criminalisation of children looked after and care leavers and must now ensure this protocol is embedded and reflected in shared plans. A Disproportionality Strategy is going to be implemented to address the number of children from black and minority ethnic groups we observe.

Oldham Youth Justice Service is in a strong overall position in terms of performance and is proud of outcomes achieved despite the challenging demographic it serves. Should any performance issues arise through the introduction of new KPIs, a response will be provided by YJMB and time bound tasks and finish groups implemented to resolve these.

16 Sign off, submission and approval

Chair of Oldham Youth Justice Management Board	<u>Gerard Jones</u>
Signature	
Date	<u>30/06/23</u>
Council Representative	
Signature	
Date	

Appendix 1: Youth Justice Management Board Membership

Name	Role	Organisation
CHAIR- Gerard Jones Gerard.jones@oldham.gov.uk	Director of Children's Services	Oldham Council
Clare Griffiths claregriffiths@positive-steps.org.uk	Head of Service	Oldham YJS
Paul Axon paulaxon@positive-steps.org.uk	Chief Executive Officer	Positive Steps
Claire Hudson clairehudson@positive-steps.org.uk	Operational Manager	Oldham YJS
Nicola Holmes nicolaholmes@positive-steps.org.uk	Operational Manager	Oldham YJS
Kelly Rennie kellyrennie@positive-steps.org.uk	Operational Manager	Oldham YJS
Phil Hutchinson Phillip.Hutchinson@gmp.police.uk	District Superintendent	GMP
Julie Daniels Julie.daniels@oldham.gov.uk	Acting Director of Children's Social Care and Early Help	Oldham Council
Amy Poulson Amy.Poulson@justice.gov.uk	Head of Oldham Delivery Unit	National Probation Service
Lorraine Kenny Lorraine.kenny@oldham.gov.uk	Head of Violence Reduction and Community Safety Services	Oldham Council
Richard Lynch Richard.lynch@oldham.gov.uk	Director of Education Skills and Early Years	Oldham Council
Jennie Davies Jennie.davies@oldham.gov.uk	Head of the Virtual School	Oldham Council

Agnes Leopold Jones agnes.leopold-james@nca.nhs.uk	Assistant Director of Nursing and Children's Community Services	Northern Care Alliance
Kay Thomas Kay.thomas@nca.nhs.uk	District Schools Health Service	Bridgewater Community Healthcare
Janine Day jday@earlybreak.co.uk	Operations Director	Early Break Substance Misuse
Andrea Weir Andrea.Weir@oldham.gov.uk	Senior Commissioning and Partnerships Manager	Oldham Council
Angela Welsh angela.welsh@oldham.gov.uk	Senior Commissioning Business Partner, Children and Maternity	
Neil Consterdine Neil.consterdine@oldham.gov.uk	Assistant Director of Youth, Leisure and Communities	Oldham Council
Laura Windsor Welsh LauraWW@actiontogether.org.uk	Strategic Locality Lead	Action Together
Moira Fields Moira.fields@oldham.gov.uk	Senior Housing Officer	Oldham Council
Sue Walker susan.walker@yjb.gov.uk	Head of North West Region	Youth Justice Board

Appendix 2: Staffing

Type of Contract	<u>Strategic Manager</u>		<u>Operational Manager</u>		<u>Practitioners</u>		<u>Administration</u>		<u>Sessional</u>	<u>Students / trainees</u>
	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Full-time</u>	<u>Part-time</u>	<u>Full-time</u>		
<u>Permanent</u>		1		3		16		2		
<u>Fixed-term</u>										
<u>Outsourced</u>										
<u>Temporary</u>										
<u>Vacant</u>						2				
<u>Secondee Children's Services</u>										
<u>Secondee Probation</u>										
<u>Secondee Police</u>						1				
<u>Secondee Health (Substance misuse)</u>										
<u>Secondee Health (Mental health)</u>										
<u>Secondee Health (Physical health)</u>					1					
<u>Secondee Health (Speech/language)</u>					1					
<u>Other/Unspecified Secondee Health</u>						1				
<u>Secondee Education</u>										
<u>Secondee Connexions</u>										
<u>Secondee Other</u>										
Total	0	1	0	3	2	20	0	2	0	0
<u>Disabled (self-classified)</u>	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0

Ethnicity Group	<u>Managers Strategic</u>		<u>Managers Operational</u>		<u>Practitioners</u>		<u>Administrative</u>		<u>Sessional</u>		<u>Student</u>		<u>Referral Order Panel Volunteer</u>		<u>Other Volunteer</u>		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Asian or Asian British					2	3											2	3
Black or Black British																	0	0
Mixed					1												1	0
Chinese or Other																	0	0
White or White British		1		3	6	8		2									6	14
Total	0	1	0	3	9	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	17
Welsh Speakers*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Appendix 3: Budget Costs and Contributions

Agency	Staffing Costs (£)	Payments in Kind (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Police	0	0	0	0
Police and Crime Commissioner	0	0	0	0
Probation	0	0	5,000	5,000
Health	0	0	0	0
Local Authority	219,348	0	164,204	383,552
YJB*	604,256	0	0	604,256
Other	273,836	0	88,024	361,860
Total	1,097,440	0	257,228	1,358,668

*As of 20/06/2023 the Youth Justice Board Practice Grant for 2023/2024 had not been confirmed, therefore the funding settlement for 2023/2024 has been used as a projection for the current year's budget.

Appendix 4: Service Development Plan

Action	Lead	By when	How will this improve outcomes for children in Oldham	Progress
Continue to develop the effectiveness of the Youth Justice Management Board	Clare Griffiths and Gerard Jones	July 2023	Oldham YJS will have an outstanding governance and leadership structure	
Ensure that the Youth Justice Plan is aligned to other relevant plans in children's services and that there are shared priorities for children which reflect Child First principles	Clare Griffiths and Julie Daniels	August 2023	There will be a shared understanding of the priorities for children in the justice system, with a multi-agency response	
Improve reporting on specific performance measures and new KPIS	YJS Management and Garry O'Driscoll	August 2023	Performance issues will be better understood and will be able to be acted on in real time, to ensure outstanding outcomes are achieved	
Resolve lack of seconded CAMHS Practitioner in YJS	Clare Griffiths and Mike Baker	August 2023	Children will have access to mental health support to promote desistance	
Resolve concerns regarding short time funding commitment for seconded health roles	Clare Griffiths and Mike Baker	August 2023	Children will have access to speech and language support to promote desistance	
Develop and embed YJS Disproportionality Strategy	Clare Griffiths and Claire Hudson	September 2023	Children from black and minority ethnic groups will not have an unfair experience of the criminal justice system	

Review and embed outstanding policies	YJS Management	September 2023	Practice will be consistent with legislation, guidance and national standards, ensuring an outstanding service offer	
Develop and embed YJS Participation Strategy	Nicola Holmes and Harley Hegarty	December 2023	The voice of the child will be used further to enhance an outstanding service offer	
Embed the use of Outcome 22 as an alternative to prosecution	Clare Griffiths and Phil Hutchinson	December 2023	Children will have the opportunity to engage with early and educational interventions as an alternative to receiving an out of court disposal, reducing the number of first- time entrants into the justice system	
Complete full National Standards Audit and present findings to YJMB	YJS Management Team	March 2023	Practice will be measured against the required standards and any improvements made to ensure an outstanding service offer	
Challenge lack of attendance at YJMB and engagement should this occur	Gerard Jones	As and when	Oldham YJS will have an outstanding governance and leadership structure	
Convene Task and Finish Groups in relation to board actions, as and when required, to ensure these are successfully completed and do not drift, in particular	YJMB Members	As and when	Any improvements made to ensure an outstanding service offer	

following HMIP Thematic Inspections or Serious Case reviews and similar				
Seek funding opportunities to develop evidence- based practice and innovation	YJS Management Team	As and when	Children in Oldham will benefit from interventions that go above and beyond the usual requirements of YJS service delivery to promote desistence	

By virtue of paragraph(s) 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank