

**Oldham Borough Council
Decision Notice – Cabinet
Monday, 16th September 2024**

Key Decision Number	Date of Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
FCR-16-24	16 September 2024	26 September 2024

1. Title: Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25

2. Purpose of the report

The report provided the Cabinet with an update, as at 31st July 2024 (Month 4), of the Council's 2024/25 forecast revenue budget position and the financial position of the capital programme together with the revised capital programme 2024/25 to 2028/29.

3. Reasons for the Decisions:

a. Revenue Position

The forecast overspend position based on the Month 4 profiled budget was £7.202m which if not addressed would result in a year-end overspend of £21.065m (£26.033m at month 3). This financial monitoring report followed on from the position reported at Month 3 and was considered a warning of the potential year-end position if no further action was taken to reduce net expenditure. The management actions already implemented for 2024/25 have been factored into the Month 4 forecasts and this has resulted in a reduction in the position previously reported. Work continues across the organisation to address this position and it is anticipated that by the year end, the current outturn deficit position should reduce even further.

b. Capital Position

The submitted report outlined the most up to date capital spending position for 2024/25 to 2028/29 for approved schemes. The revised capital programme budget for 2024/25 is £103.935m at the close of month 4 (£101.680m at Month 3), a net increase of £2.255m. Actual expenditure to 31 July 2024 was £17.397m (16.74% of the forecast outturn). It was likely that the forecast position will continue to change throughout the year with additional re-profiling into future years.

4. Options/Alternatives

The options that Cabinet considered in relation to the submitted report were:

- a. To consider the forecast revenue and capital positions presented in the report including proposed changes.
- b. To propose alternative forecast

The preferred option was that the Cabinet Committee considers the forecasts and changes within this report; option (a).



5. Decisions:

- 1. Cabinet notes the contents of the report.
- 2. Cabinet approves forecast profiled budget, being an adverse position of £7.202m at Month 4 and the forecast potential adverse position by year end of £21.065m, with mitigations in place to reduce expenditure.
- 3. Cabinet approves the revised capital programme for 2024/25 including the proposed virements and the forecast for the financial years to 2028/29 as at Month 4.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Documents considered:

- 6. Cover report - Month 4 Financial Monitor 2024-25
- 6. Annex 1 - Revenue Monitor: 2024-25 M04 Cabinet - Leadership
- 6. Annex 2 - Capital Programme and Strategy - Leadership

Key Decision Number	Date of Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
ESR-06-24	16 September 2024	26 September 2024

1. Title: High Street Accelerator Green Fund - Grant Acceptance

2. Purpose of the Report

- a. Government announced the High Street Accelerator Programme in September 2023 and invited Oldham Council to submit an expression of interest in participating due to the high level of vacant premises in the town centre.
- b. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities confirmed ten towns to participate in a High Street Accelerator pilot. Our High Street Nomination Form was completed for Union Street and Yorkshire Street as the pilot high streets for this funding based on existing data, notably.
- c. In 2019, Oldham town centre was identified as one of the top 20 town centres in the country most 'at risk' from key consumer trends (Oldham Economic Review). Geographically, Oldham struggles with leakage of jobs, visitors and spending to central Manchester and surrounding towns, and employment has fallen consistently in recent years, leading to vacant retail and eatery units; according to CACI Retail Footprint Data, the flows to Oldham town centre have retracted significantly and the spend profile for Oldham reduced from £170m in 2010 to £156m in 2017.

3. Reasons for the Decisions:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to accept Oldham's pilot grant allocation of £500,000 from the Green Spaces Fund held by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), and to approve the programme of spend for the various projects it will fund.



4. Options/Alternatives Considered:

- Option 1: accept the Green Spaces Fund grant of £500,000 from DLUHC, progress the proposed projects detailed in this report and expend the grant monies as detailed in the funding breakdown.
- Option 2: do not accept the Green Spaces Fund grant of £500,000 from DLUHC and do not progress the proposed projects detailed in this report.

The preferred option was option 1.

5. Decision

1. To accept an external Green Spaces Fund grant and to expend the funding on progressing the proposed High Street Accelerator programme projects.
2. To delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer to finalise and formalise a Memorandum of Understanding with DLUHC with regard to the Green Spaces Fund grant funding arrangements and any other documentation required by DLUHC.
3. To delegate authority to the Borough Solicitor to carry out all necessary legal formalities.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Documents considered: 5. Part A - Cabinet report - High Street Accelerator Green Fund - Grant Acceptance
5. Appendix 1 - High Street Accelerator Green Funding Grant IAR report_MariaCotton_01_

Key Decision Number	Date of Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
FCR-06-24	16 September 2024	26 September 2024

1. Title: Wireless Infrastructure Replacement

2. Purpose of the report

The Purpose of the report was to request £293K capital funding to provide, install, implement and support a more modern, secure wireless infrastructure across the Oldham locale. This cost is for a five-year contract, with expected annual costs of circa £12k thereafter.

3. Reasons for the Decisions:

Currently, the Council operated three different wireless infrastructures:

1. Legacy on-premises Cisco, utilising the 5508 wireless LAN controllers (“WLC”)
2. Current Cloud-managed Meraki solution
3. New FortiGate-managed access points in Spindles, utilising the FortiGate



wireless LAN controllers (“WLC”)

The intention was to replace #1 & #2 with #3 across the board after the successful implementation at the Spindles site.

To facilitate this, it is proposed that Fortinet APs are purchased.

The intention was to mix these approaches for deployment:

- Straight swap of Cisco AP for Fortinet AP across a whole site
- Swap out Meraki APs across a whole site with Fortinet AP
- Redeploy existing Meraki APs to the Civic Centre (NB: once the Civic Centre is vacated, the Meraki Wireless Infrastructure will be decommissioned)

This would achieve the aim of completely removing the Cisco solution harmonising wireless access point infrastructure to a single vendor and management overlay once the Civic Centre is vacated. Until then, we will re-utilise the Meraki solution so as not to overbuy the new Fortinet solution for a site we know is closing.

4. Options/alternatives considered:

Option 1: Do Nothing. Not a viable option due to the out-of-support Cisco equipment and potential security vulnerabilities.

Option 2: Replace all the existing Cisco and Meraki Wireless AP’s with the Fortinet Range of Wireless AP’s.

Option 3: Replace the existing Cisco Wireless AP’s with the Fortinet Range of Wireless AP’s and redeploy the appropriate number of Meraki Wireless AP’s Points at the Civic Centre to replace existing Cisco Wireless AP’s.

The preferred option was Option 3.

5. Decision

Cabinet authorises the replacement of the existing Cisco Wireless AP’s with the Fortinet Range of Wireless AP’s and redeploy the appropriate number of Meraki Wireless AP’s Points at the Civic Centre to replace the existing Cisco Wireless AP’s. The old Cisco Wireless Infrastructure can then be decommissioned. By utilising the FortiNet solution this gives a significant saving compared to equivalent Cisco wireless infrastructure, which is currently circa £430K for hardware alone without installation, implementation and support. Additionally, by redeploying the existing Meraki Wireless AP’s at the Civic Centre this also reduces costs further.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Documents considered: Part B - Wireless Infrastructure Replacement
Appendix 1 - Wireless Infrastructure Replacement
Appendix 2 - Wireless Infrastructure Replacement EIA



Key Decision Number	Date of Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
NEI-12-24	16 September 2024	26 September 2024

1. Title: Purchase of Liquid Fuels

2. Purpose of the report

The Fleet Management Service required authorization to utilise the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) framework for Liquid Fuels and Associated Products.

3. Reasons for the Decisions:

The Council required the supply of liquid fuel on site to ensure that its vehicle fleet is fully operational. The YPO operates a mini competition of behalf of AGMA (Association of Greater Manchester Authorities) obtaining continuity of supply and value for money.

4. Options/alternative considered.

- Option 1: To approve the use of the YPO framework to purchase liquid fuels from the rank 1 supplier (Standard Oil Fuels) because of the tender process.
- Option 2: To not approve the use of the YPO framework and the purchase of liquid fuels from the rank 1 supplier. Oldham Council, in this instance, would need to undertake its own tender process without the advantage of the buying power YPO and AGMA bring which may result in higher costs.

Option 1 was the preferred Option.

Decision

To purchase liquid fuels using the YPO framework for the Supply of Liquid Fuels and Associated Products. The Council will contract with the rank 1 supplier as per the outcome from the tender process undertaken by YPO.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

**7. Document considered: Purchase of Liquid Fuels - Part B
4. Appendix A - Purchase_of_Liquid_Fuels**

Key Decision Number	Date of Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
ESR-12-24	16 September 2024	26 September 2024

1. Title: Business Investment

2. Purpose of the report

The report outlined the progress already made and the remaining works due to be completed on both Joint Venture partnerships. When completed the Joint Ventures

will deliver:

- 680 new homes including 300 affordable.
- 2,720 Full Time Equivalent Employment Opportunities
- Over 790,000 Sq Ft of new industrial and employment space.
- £7.47 Million Financial Return to the Council.
- 5 new retail outlets including supermarkets, cafes and garage.
- Annual Business Rates of circa £2.1 Million.
- Estimated annual Council Tax Income of £1 Million.
- Creation of a new 20-acre linear park.

3. Reasons for the Decisions:

The report updates the Cabinet on the progress of two Joint Venture (JV) Regeneration Projects that the Council is completing with Grasscroft Seddons at Broadway Green and Langtree at Hollinwood Junction.

4. Options/alternatives considered:

None reported.

5. Decisions:

1. That Cabinet notes the progress made and outcomes achieved to date.
2. That Cabinet approves the acceptance of the final JV profit share to the Council from Broadway Green of £526,320 to be received in October 2024.
3. That Cabinet approves the financial subsidy control agreement to secure the inward investment into Plot369 at Broadway Green by Inspired Global Cuisine, and the creation of 700 jobs.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Documents considered: Business Investment - Sept 16 - Part B
Inward Investment EIA (003) part b
Business Investment - Oldham_IGC - FINAL
Agreement 6 Sept 24 private