

CABINET Agenda

Date Monday 16th September 2024

Time 6.00 pm

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

- Notes
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Paul Entwistle or Constitutional Services at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
 2. CONTACT OFFICER for this agenda is 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 12.00 noon on Wednesday, 11th September 2024.
 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.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET

Councillors M 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 of Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 16)

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 19th August 2024, are attached for approval.

6 Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25 (Pages 17 - 46)

A report that provides 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.

7 Wireless Infrastructure Replacement (Pages 47 - 50)

A report that seeks capital funding to provide, install, implement and support a more modern, secure wireless infrastructure.

8 Purchase of Liquid Fuels (Pages 51 - 54)

A report seeking the authorisation of the purchase of liquid fuels to supply the Council's vehicle fleet.

9 High Street Accelerator Green Fund - Grant Acceptance (Pages 55 - 66)

A report that seeks approval to accept Oldham's pilot grant allocation of £500,000 from the Green Spaces Fund held by DLUHC.

10 Business Investment (Pages 67 - 78)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

11 Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following three items of business, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that discussions may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, under paragraph 3 as defined in the provisions of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

12 Wireless Infrastructure Replacement (Pages 79 - 102)

To consider confidential recommendations.

13 Purchase of Liquid Fuels (Pages 103 - 112)



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To consider confidential recommendations.

14 Business Investment (Pages 113 - 148)

To consider confidential recommendations

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

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brownridge and F. Hussain

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 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

6 **OLDHAM YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE PLAN 2024/2025**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Managing Director of Children & Young People. Each year the Youth Justice Service was required to submit an annual plan to the Youth Justice Board. This plan needed to be endorsed by the Youth Justice Management Board and the Council. The plan was presented to the Youth Justice Management Board on 17th June and submitted to the Youth Justice Board on 28th June to meet the submission date of 30th June 2024. The Annual Plan 2024/25 was presented to Cabinet for approval and comment before submission to full Council.

The focus of the plan for 2024/2025 was to move the service forwards in preparation for the new inspection process and to continue the services focus on reducing serious youth violence. The plan also focused on continuing partnership work across Oldham and Greater Manchester to ensure that the children that the service works with are getting the support they need. The report concluded that Oldham Youth Justice Service is in a strong position to continue to improve the outcomes for the children that it works with by continuing to focus on prevention whilst still meeting the needs of the children who do become part of the criminal justice system.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 – To approve the Youth Services Justice Plan - As it was a statutory duty for a local authority to produce a Youth

Justice Action Plan it was not possible to provide an alternative option to this plan.

Resolved:

That the Oldham Youth Justice Service Plan 2024/2025 and Action Plan be approved by submission to and approval by Council.

7

REVENUE MONITOR AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2024/25

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Finance providing Cabinet with an update as at 30 June 2024 (Quarter 1) of the Council's 2024/25 forecast revenue budget position at Annex 1 of the report and the financial position of the capital programme together with the revised capital programme 2024/25 to 2028/29 at Annex 2 of the report, and the Outturn position for 2023/24 at Annex 3 of the report.

The forecast overspend position based on the Quarter 1 profiled budget was £6.508m which if not addressed urgently would have a year-end forecast of £26.033m. As this financial monitoring report reflects the financial position at Quarter 1, it could be regarded as an early warning of the potential year-end position if no further action was taken to reduce net expenditure. The management action initiated in 2023/24 across all service areas had continued into 2024/25 and an enhanced programme of mitigations to reduce the in-year pressure had been commenced. Details were included in Annex 1 of the report. Those mitigations had been implemented with immediate effect, and it was anticipated that by the year end, the current outturn deficit position should reduce. Information on the Quarter 1 position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), and Revenue Funding and Collection Fund was also outlined in the report. An update on the Quarter 1 2024/25 position was detailed within Annex 1 of the report.

The 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 £101.680m at the close of Quarter 1, a net increase of £1.997m from the original budget approved at Council on 28 February 2024 of £99.683m. Actual expenditure to 30 June 2024 was £11.895m (11.70% of the forecast outturn). It was likely that the forecast position would continue to change throughout the year with additional re-profiling into future years.

The report provided confirmation of the outturn position for 2023/24. The information contained within Annex 3 of the report was reported in the Narrative section of the Council's draft Statement of Accounts 2023/24 which were published on 7 June 2024 and had been handed over to the Council's external Auditors Forvis Mazars, LLP.

Options/alternatives considered

Option 1 - To consider the forecast revenue and capital positions presented in the report including proposed changes

Option 2 - To propose alternative forecasts



Resolved -That

1. Forecast profiled budget, being an adverse position of £6.508m and the forecast potential adverse position by year end of £26.033m, with mitigations in place to reduce expenditure be approved.
2. The additional working capital provided for Oldham Total Care as detailed in Annex 1 of the report be approved.
3. Forecast positions for the Dedicated Schools Grant and Revenue Funding and Collection Fund be approved.
4. Revised capital programme for 2024/25 including the proposed virements and the forecast for the financial years to 2028/29 as at Quarter 1 as outlined in Annex 2 of the report be approved.
5. The Outturn position for 2023/24 as highlighted in Annex 3 of the report be approved.

8

LOCAL TAXATION AND BENEFITS DISCRETIONARY POLICIES 2024/25

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Finance seeking approval for a number of amended Local Taxation and Benefits Discretionary Policies.

The report provided full details of proposed updates to the discretionary policies used to support Local Taxation and Benefits administration i.e., Council Tax, Business Rates, Housing Benefits and Council Tax Reduction administration. The policies and proposed changes were:

The Discretionary Council Tax Discount Policy - To introduce the option to award a discretionary discount under the Exceptional Hardship Payment (EHP) scheme to Council Tax arrears accrued outside of the current financial year. The EHP scheme was the means by which the Council considered requests for discretionary discounts from residents in Exceptional financial hardship under Section 13A (1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act. - The proposed Discretionary Discount Policy was presented at Appendix 1 of the report.

The Discretionary Rate Relief Policy - Central Government had introduced additional discounts and reliefs for the 2024/25 financial year. They had been incorporated into the proposed Discretionary Rate Relief Policy 2024/25 which was presented at Appendix 2 of the report.

The Empty Property Premium Policy - The Council currently applied an empty property premium for property unoccupied and unfurnished for over 2 years. From April 2024, the premium would be applied for properties unoccupied and unfurnished for

at least 1 year. That would mean empty property premiums would be applied as followed.

- 100% premium on properties unoccupied and unfurnished for at least 1 year.
- 200% premium on properties unoccupied and unfurnished for at least 5 years.
- 300% premium on properties unoccupied and unfurnished for at least 10 years.

The policy had been amended to reflect the premium being applied to unoccupied and unfurnished after 1 year.

During the 2023/24 financial year, the Council had received ten applications for an exception to the premium. Decisions were made regarding these applications within an average of 10 working days. It was proposed that decisions regarding requests for an exception to the premium be delegated within the Council Tax team as followed:

- Any applications received from property owners are determined by the Revenues Manager or Revenues Team Leader(s).
- Any appeals are considered by the Exchequer Client Manager (Revenues) or the Assistant Director for Revenues and Benefits.

This was included at Appendix 5 of the report.

Local Welfare Provision - The policy had been amended to include the Council's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint. As part of this initiative, items awarded via the Local Welfare Provision scheme may be pre-loved. Any pre-loved items awarded are fully reconditioned and checked prior to being offered and would come with a 12-month warranty.

Discretionary Housing Payments - The Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) policy had been subject to an annual review. - No proposals for changing the policy had been identified for 2024/25.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 – Do Nothing

Option 2 - To approve the updated Local Taxation and Benefits Discretionary Policies 2024/25 financial year.

Resolved – That:

1. The proposed amendments to the existing Local Taxation and Benefits Discretionary Policies for 2024/25 be approved.
2. The Discretionary Policies presented as appendices 1-5 of the report be adopted for 2024/25.

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Finance seeking approval to the adoption of the proposed Corporate

Debt Policy and Debt Recovery policy for Adult Social Care Debt. It was reported that the collection of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (also known business rates) was a statutory responsibility of Oldham Council. The collection of sundry debts and commercial rent arrears, whilst not a statutory responsibility, were imperative to maintaining and maximising the Council's revenue stream. In undertaking income and debt recovery it was inevitable that the Council would be required to pursue the recovery of arrears from residents and businesses that may have trouble in paying. The policy aimed to set out how the Council manages and collects debts to ensure consistency and best practice in such situations.

The purpose of the proposed Debt Recovery policies was to establish:

- The best practice principles for charging our residents and businesses and the methods of payment which will be used.
- How the Council would deal with debt, should problems arise in collection.

The proposed policies would apply to all debt and income due to the Council excluding Parking fines.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 -Approve the Corporate Debt Policy and Debt Recovery policy for Adult Social Care Debt.

Option 2 Do Nothing

Resolved- That the proposed Debt Recovery Policies detailed in the report be approved.

10

THE FUTURE OF MENTAL HEALTH SOCIAL WORK

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Social Services on options for the how the Social Work statutory functions under the Care Act will be carried out within the field of Mental Health in the future.

It was reported that under the current arrangements, Pennine Care Foundation Trust (PCFT) support the Council to meet its statutory requirements by managing Council Social Work staff. There is currently no formal 'Section 75' agreement or 'Memorandum of Understanding' in place. Many years ago, care co-ordination was introduced to the field of Mental Health, which saw the combining of several professional roles into a single role of a care coordinator. While this was an ambitious step towards integrated working, over the years the professional roles have been become unclear. A new Community Mental Health Framework was developed in 2019, which recommends the separation of the professional roles, as it was now recognised that people would benefit from a multi-agency approach.

Following a recent review of how Mental Health Social Work is conducted within Oldham, there is concern that the Council's

functions are not being met in full. One of the main reasons for this is the inability to recruit social workers into care coordinator roles. The PCFT have the same recruitment concerns regarding Nurses and Occupational therapists. A Greater Manchester (GM) project with Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and the PCFT was currently underway, that aimed to bring about change and progress to the current arrangements. However, change was unlikely until at least summer 2025. PCFT in Oldham was currently in business continuity, due to significant workforce challenges, that was therefore having an impact on capacity to meet the demands the service.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 - Continue to work alongside the PCFT with no section 75 agreement or Memorandum of Understanding in place. No change to current arrangements. The report identified a number of disadvantages associated with this option. No advantages of this option were identified.

Option 2 - Continue with the current integrated arrangements and sign up to the new Section 75 agreement or Memorandum of Understanding moving forward. The report identified several disadvantages and one advantage associated with this option.

Option 3 – Decide to bring social work staff back under council management and reduce the level of integration currently in place. This was the recommended option. The report identified the advantages of this option which outweighed the disadvantages. There would still be a defined split in professional roles, the different professions would remain co-located, which would bring the majority of the benefits of integrated working. If the Council were to step away from the integrated arrangement with the PCFT, it would allow focus on statutory responsibilities and the introduction of a robust governance and accountability framework. This arrangement would align to the arrangements between the PCFT and the other social work teams within the council. The Council would remain committed to working in partnership with the PCFT to deliver the best outcomes for our residents.

Resolved- That Option 3 of the report to bring social work staff back under council management and reduce the level of integration currently in place be approved.

11

LAPTOP HARDWARE REFRESH

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive seeking approval to rejuvenate the existing laptop device estate for Council staff. This strategic initiative aimed to significantly enhance productivity, operational efficiency, and seamless compatibility with the existing suite of products across the Council.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: Do Nothing Under this option, the Council would continue to utilise the ageing laptops until the end of their usable life. This approach entailed several risks and disadvantages which were set out in the report.

Option 2: This option included financially sensitive information which was considered at Item 16 on the agenda.

Option 3: Procure New Laptops and Implement a new VPN Solution. This was the recommended option. The high number of requests for new hardware received by the IT department underpinned the urgency to procure laptops and VPN licenses and to reduce the reuse of outdated laptop devices, ensuring high customer satisfaction and operational excellence was maintained. A planned and phased procurement and deployment of new devices offered best value rather than relying on ad-hoc, break-fix replacement assets. Proactively replacing the laptops immediately would enable the Council to secure advantageous pricing.

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

12

MICROSOFT LICENCE ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive seeking approval to enter into a contract with Microsoft to provide for the Council's continued use of Microsoft Software, which was critical to the Council's workforce. Failure to procure and enter into a new contract would result in the expiry of all the essential licenses assigned to Oldham employees and all Microsoft applications no longer working. The consequence of this could be the issuing of fines for non-licence compliance. Oldham Council relied on the availability of Microsoft licences daily. Microsoft provided a secure online environment to enable Oldham Council to deliver services to Oldham residents and businesses. The ability to communicate internally and externally was central to the delivery of public and commercial services and to the Council's ability to communicate effectively to the residents of Oldham.

Options/alternatives considered:

Option A – Approve a Call-Off Contract via Crown Commercial Services Framework Agreement RM6098 Lot 3 (Software) for an Enterprise Agreement with Microsoft and for the continued use of Microsoft Software and support. The report recommended this option to the Cabinet.

Option B – Do not approve the proposed Call-Off Contract, Oldham Council were operating on Microsoft products, and without renewing, would become non-compliant and from a licensing model the Council would be unable to deliver digital

services effectively. Failure to renew the Microsoft Licenses would result in all Oldham digital solutions expiring and all digital offerings no longer working. Additionally, there would be potential fines for statutory agreements and non-licence conformity.

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

13

PROJECT SKYLINE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Cabinet considered a report of the Managing Director, Children and Young People, providing an update on Project Skyline (Greater Manchester proposal to create supply of children's homes to increase availability of Children Looked After placements in the Greater Manchester region for some of the most vulnerable young people) and approve entering into a Partnership Agreement with the remaining Local Authorities in Greater Manchester, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and NHS Greater Manchester (NHS GM) for delivery of the project.

The Partnership Agreement would build on the Memorandum of Understanding. It would be entered into between the ten local authorities, GMCA and NHS GM, and would govern the relationship of the parties, roles and responsibilities, and the sharing of liabilities. In particular the Agreement:

- includes the collaboration principles the parties are committed to (taken from the MoU that has already been signed);
- sets out governance arrangements for the project, including terms of reference for the Skyline Strategy Group;
- details arrangements regarding the Skyline Homes;
- states GMCA's commitment to pay Mobilisation Costs to the procured Care Providers, as required;
- sets out the role of GMCA and other parties in managing the procurement process for the identification of the most economically advantageous Care Providers;
- establishes principles regarding the management of each procured Care Provider's Agreement, including key decisions (e.g. termination) that the contracting party will need to bring to the partner authorities for approval;
- reflects the principle that the local authorities will share costs and underwrite any losses incurred by GMCA as a result of its investment in the Skyline homes.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option One - Recommended Option

- Approval for the council to negotiate and enter into a Partnership Agreement for Project Skyline, as detailed in the report.
- Delegate to the Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services in consultation with the portfolio holder for Children and Young People, Treasurer and Director of Legal Services to agree the terms of the Partnership Agreement.
- Delegate to the Director of Legal Services to execute and enter into the Partnership Agreement and any documentation required to effect the Partnership Agreement, as detailed within the report.

Option 2 - Do not enter the Partnership Agreement for Project Skyline, as detailed in the report. This option was not recommended as there was already significant pressure on the children's placement budget and placement sufficiency is a concern.

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

14

REPLACEMENT OF OLDHAM'S CREMATORS

The Cabinet considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive, Place, seeking delegated authority to approve a contract for the demolition and removal of three cremators and the supply, installation, and maintenance of three new Cremators at Oldham Crematorium, following a procurement exercise. This would ensure the result of the procurement can be enacted efficiently and implemented following the contract award.

It was reported that the current cremators components were now becoming obsolete and needed replacing to ensure that Oldham Council can continue to provide the option of cremation. In addition, given the age of the current cremators, and the lack of ongoing technical support, the current cremators were unlikely to meet future emission standards and the council could be subject to the risk of legal action.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 – Do nothing. The risk in not replacing the cremators could result in reputational damage to the Council through delays or refusal of cremations due to malfunction, loss of income, through residents being forced to use facilities outside the borough, and potential additional costs of cremators needing major repair. There was also the risk of legal action should emissions exceed standards.

Option 2 – To allow for delegated approval to procure the replacement cremators through the YPO framework and increase the capital allocation for the replacement cremators.

(commercially sensitive information in relation to this option was contained in a report considered at Item 19 on the agenda.

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

15 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:

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

16 **LAPTOP HARDWARE REFRESH**

Consideration was given to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 11 Laptop Hardware Refresh.

Resolved -that:

1. Approval is granted to progress the procurement of circa 3,000 laptops and FortiClient VPN licenses to be paid for and deployed on a phased basis to secure enhanced discounts and leverage Microsoft funding and that the budget detailed in this report is approved to fund the refresh project. This urgent action is critical to ensuring we meet the Windows 10 end-of-life deadline in October 2025 and maintain uninterrupted operations and service delivery.
2. Approval is delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive to scope the Council's requirements and to purchase all required hardware under Manchester City Council's Framework Agreement for End User Devices and Associated Peripherals (Ref TC821) and to purchase the required Fortinet VPN licenses via the YPO Framework Agreement for Network Connectivity and Telecommunications Solution (Ref: 976) in accordance with the terms and conditions of each Framework Agreement.
3. Approval is granted to the Director of Legal Services to approve and finalise any required contractual arrangements and to affix the Council's seal to any contract in order to formalise such arrangements. A single draw down Purchase Order will be raised for the procurement of the laptops. This will allow Oldham to pay for the laptops on demand as they are needed in cohorts. The laptops will be deployed to increase digital adoption

across council teams and priorities will be given to the needs of the Council services.



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MICROSOFT LICENCE ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

Consideration was given to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 12 Microsoft Licence Enterprise Agreement.

Resolved:

1. The procurement of a new Enterprise Agreement with Microsoft via the procurement compliant Crown Commercial Services Framework Agreement for Technology Products & Associated Services 2 (RM6098), Lot 3 – Software be approved.
2. Authority be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive in consultation with Cllr Jabbar, Deputy Leader and Value for Money and Sustainability Portfolio Holder, to approve the terms of the Call-Off Contract to be entered into under the CCS Framework and to build flexibility into the Call-Off Contract to allow for the purchase of additional licenses as and when required and the purchase of additional support in accordance with the Framework Agreement and the relevant pricing schedule, subject always to budget availability and approval.
3. Authority be delegated to the Director of Legal Services to formalise any relevant legal requirements in order to attach and attest the Council's seal to the Call-Off Contract.

18

PROJECT SKYLINE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Consideration was given to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 13 project Skyline Partnership Agreement.

Resolved that:

1. Approval be given for the council to negotiate and enter into a Partnership Agreement for Project Skyline, as detailed in the report.
2. Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services be given delegated authority in consultation with the portfolio holder for Children and Young People, Director of Finance and the Director of Legal Services to agree the terms of the Partnership Agreement.
3. The Director of Legal Services be given delegated authority to execute and enter into the Partnership Agreement and any documentation required to give effect to the Partnership Agreement, detailed within the report.

REPLACEMENT OF OLDHAM'S CREMATORS

Consideration was given to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 14 Replacement of Oldham's Cremators.

Resolved that:

1. The background to the current Cremators and options considered be noted and approval be given to the increase in the Capital allocation for the replacement cremators to £1.5m.
2. The Director of Environmental Services, be granted delegated authority to enter a contract following completion of the procurement process, in consultation with the Directors of Finance and Legal Services.

The meeting started at 4.00 pm and ended at 6.20 pm



Report to Cabinet

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25 Month 4 – July 2024

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Abdul Jabbar MBE, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Value for Money and Sustainability

Officer Contact: Sarah Johnston, Director of Finance

Report Author: Lee Walsh, Assistant Director of Finance

16 September 2024

Reason for Decision

The report provides Cabinet with an update as at 31 July 2024 (Month 4) of the Council's 2024/25 forecast revenue budget position (at Annex 1) and the financial position of the capital programme together with the revised capital programme 2024/25 to 2028/29 (at Annex 2).

Executive Summary

Revenue Position

The forecast overspend position based on the Month 4 profiled budget is £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 follows on from the position reported at Month 3 and should be used as a warning of the potential year-end position if no further action is 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.

An update on the Month 4 2024/25 position is detailed within Annex 1.

Capital Position

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

Recommendations

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the contents of the report.
2. 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. Approved 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 as outlined in Annex 2.

Revenue Monitor and Capital Investment Programme 2024/25 Month 4 – July 2024**1 Background**

- 1.1 The Authority's 2024/25 revenue budget was approved by Council on 28 February 2024 at a sum of £299.818m to be met by government grants, Council Tax, Business Rates, and the use of General Earmarked Reserves. This report sets out the updated revenue financial position at Month 4.
- 1.2 As the year progresses the monthly and outturn projections will reflect the evolving position of the impact of management actions put in place to mitigate in-year pressures, new developments and changes in the profile of planned expenditure and any additional grants that are announced from the Government.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 As with the monitoring report previously presented, a cautious approach has generally been taken when preparing the current forecasts. For this period however, the impact of management actions particularly around staffing and non-essential spending have been included.
- 2.2 This Month 4 revenue monitoring report can be used to give a general direction of travel and highlight any significant areas of concern which may not just impact on the current year, but also when preparing future budgets. A projected overspend based on the Month 4 profiled budget is £7.202m which if not addressed urgently has a year-end forecast of £21.065m (£26.033m at Month 3). This is an improved position of £4.968m from that reported at Month 3.
- 2.3 The main areas of concern identified in the Month 4 monitoring report (based on the month 3 profiled budget) are the same as those reported at Month 3 and are:
- Community Health and Adult Social Care an adverse position of £1.868m,
 - Children's Services estimated overspend of £4.400m; and
 - Strategic Housing, in particular Temporary Accommodation a forecast overspend of £1.767m.
- 2.4 The projected net adverse variance is of concern and as a result, management mitigations have been actioned and are contributing to the change in the forecast position reported along with the re-assessment on assumptions within the Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting and the work within Children's Services. Further detail on the mitigations implemented are detailed in Annex 1 and are essential to support the financial resilience of the Council.
- 2.5 Every effort will be made to reduce the forecast variance by the year end to mitigate any potential impact on the 2025/26 budget, together with the projected budget gap for the following year.
- 2.6 The original capital programme for 2024/25 totalled £99.683m. The revised capital programme as at Month 4 taking into account any approved carry forwards, approved new funding, new schemes and variations and proposed variations/ re-phasing gives projected revised expenditure of £103.935m (£101.860m as at Month 3). This revised

programme incorporates the impact of the updated Creating a Better Place programme as reported to Cabinet on 15 July 2024. Actual expenditure at Month 4 was £17.397m (16.74% 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 currently taking place. This is likely to lead to further reprofiling of planned expenditure and the realignment of capital resources between schemes. Its findings and recommendations will be reported in the month 6 report.

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 Implications

7.1 There are no legal issues at this time.

8 Equality Impact – Including Implications for Children and Young People

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

9 Key Decision

9.1 Yes

10 Key Decision Reference

10.1 FCR-16-24

11 Background Papers

11.1 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

Officer Name: Lee Walsh

Contact: lee.walsh@oldham.gov.uk

File Ref: Capital Background Papers are contained in Annex 2 including Appendices 1 and 2A to 2H

Officer Name: James Postle

Contact No: james.postle@oldham.gov.uk

12 Appendices

Annex 1 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2024/25 Month 4 - July 2024

Appendix 1 Directorate Summary Financial Position

Annex 2 Capital Investment Programme Report 2024/25 Month 4 - July 2024

Appendix 1 Proposed Changes

Appendix 2A SUMMARY – Month 4 - Community Health and Adult Social Care

Appendix 2B SUMMARY – Month 4 - Children’s Service

Appendix 2C SUMMARY – Month 4 - Communities

Appendix 2D SUMMARY – Month 4 - Place and Economic Growth

Appendix 2E SUMMARY – Month 4 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Appendix 2F SUMMARY – Month 4 - Corporate/Information Technology

Appendix 2G- SUMMARY – Month 4 - Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting

Appendix 2H- SUMMARY – Month 4 - Funding for Emerging Priorities

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REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2024/25**Month 4 - July 2024****1 Background**

- 1.1 The Authority's 2024/25 revenue budget was approved by Council on 28 February 2024 at a sum of £299.818m to be met by government grants, Council Tax, Business Rates, and the use of General Earmarked Reserves. This report sets out the updated revenue financial position at Month 4.
- 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 reported based on a comparison of profiled budgets as at the end of Month 4 which in turn forecasts a potential year end position. The services forecasts include all known commitments, issues, and planned management actions.

2 Outlook and Budget Context

- 2.1 The budget for 2024/25 was set against a backdrop of challenging economic and fiscal conditions, with inflationary pressures, high interest rates and low levels of economic growth impacting on local and national finances. The lingering impact of the Covid 19 pandemic and the ensuing cost of living crisis has meant that locally demand for services and the cost of providing those services has been increasing over the last couple of years which has placed further strain on the Council's budgetary position. In addressing these pressures, the Council sought to deliver savings of £19m and apply £10.8m of usable reserves to help balance the need to provide services and to set a balanced budget. In setting the budget it was acknowledged that significant financial pressures remained on the Council over the medium term due to the longer-term impacts of high inflation and demand.
- 2.2 At the August Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting, the Bank of England voted to cut the Base rate by 0.25% to 5%, making this the first reduction in Base Rate for four years. Whilst this brings a slight relief to households and business within the borough, that have been struggling with higher mortgage costs and debt repayments, future interest rate cuts in the short term remain uncertain. Moreover, the impact of high inflation on the cost of utilities, fuel and food is such that these costs remain significantly higher than they were a couple of years ago which presents an ongoing challenge in boroughs like Oldham where high levels of deprivation are widespread. The pressures are unlikely to reduce, and the impact is such that these will continue to impact on budget setting for 2025/26 and beyond.
- 2.3 Following the recent change in Government it is hoped that the budget in October 2024 will provide the Local Government sector with some positive indications for short term funding, however, with the settlement is expected to be for one year only, which means uncertainty over the funding landscape still persists. A multi year spending review

announced for Spring 2025 is welcomed and should more certainty for future budget planning.

3 Current Position

3.1 The current net revenue budget of £302.677m represents an increase of £1.909m against the revised budget of £300.768m reported at Month 3. This is due to the notifications of two additional Government grants received during this reporting period.

3.2 Following the Month 3 report, the details within this revenue monitoring report outline the general direction of travel for the financial year and highlight any significant areas of concern which may not just impact on the current year, but also when preparing future budgets. An overspend position based on the Month 4 profiled budget is £7.022m which if not addressed is projected to lead to a year-end deficit of £21.065m. This is an improved position of £4.968m from that reported at Month 3 which was a forecast adverse variance for the year of £26.033m.

3.3 The forecast position at Month 4 is detailed in the table below. The projected outturn position is clearly improved from Month 3 which demonstrates that Management actions are helping reduce the deficit. Whilst the quantum of the gap is reducing and Officers continue to seek out and implement further actions to reduce this gap, there remains a significant projected budget overspend which will impact on the size of the budget gap in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy for 2025/26 and the level of Earmarked Reserves.

Table 1 – Summary of Month 4 Profiled Budget Position

Directorate	Profiled Budget at Month 4 £000	Profiled Forecast at Month 4 £000	Profiled Variance at Month 4 £000	Outturn based on Month 4 Variance* £000
Adult Social Care	25,367	27,235	1,868	5,605
Children's Services	24,368	28,768	4,400	13,200
Public Health	7,855	7,751	(103)	(310)
Place and Economic Growth	22,407	25,127	2,720	8,160
Corporate Services	10,899	9,927	(972)	(2,915)
NET DIRECTORATE EXPENDITURE	90,896	98,809	7,913	23,740
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	9,997	9,105	(892)	(2,675)
NET COUNCIL EXPENDITURE	100,893	107,914	7,022	21,065

Notes: * Forecast Outturn figures assume reserves movements shown in Table 3.

3.4 The forecast outturn based on the Month 4 position is an adverse variance of £21.065m based on the profiled budget forecast as at Month 4.

Significant revenue variances by Directorate

- 3.5 There are significant variances contained within the projected net overspend position.
- 3.6 As reported at Quarter 1, there are currently three areas which are forecasting significant pressures;
- Adult Social Care is reporting a pressure of £1.868m at Month 4 with an estimated adverse year end position of £5.605m (£5.616m at Month 3).
 - Children's Services is reporting a pressure of £4.400m and is forecast to be overspent by £13.200m at the year-end (£14.187m at Month 3), this continues to be the most significant contributing factor to the Council's adverse variance.
 - Within Place and Economic Growth, Strategic Housing and in particular Temporary Accommodation is reporting a pressure of £1.767m for Month 4 and an outturn forecast of £5.301m (£5.059m at Month 3).

Adult Social Care adverse variance at Month 4 of £1.868m, estimated Year End adverse position of £5.605m (£5.616m at Month 3)

- 3.7 The Community Health and Adult Social Care service continues to report significant pressures forecast to be £4.648m (£4.785m at year end). This is mainly people with physical disabilities accessing care at home and direct payments and is a £0.137m reduction from the previous position reported.
- 3.8 The Mental Health service is reporting an adverse position of £1.048m (£0.906m at Month 3). This is a £0.142m adverse movement in the forecast position between the two reporting periods and is due to an increase in homecare packages alongside a reduction in anticipated income. These areas are being offset by a reduction in the number of nursing packages, cost reductions and staff vacancies.
- 3.9 The Learning Disability service is reporting an overspend position of £0.269m (£0.273m at Month 3) due to the cost of care packages particularly within care at home, supported living and short stay care. This is a slight reduction of £0.004m from the position previously reported.
- 3.10 These overspends are offset by favourable variances across the remainder of the Directorate of £0.276m, largely as a result of vacant posts.

Children's Services adverse variance at Month 4 of £4.400m, estimated Year End adverse position of £13.200m (£14.187m at Month 3)

- 3.11 As highlighted at Month 3, Children's Services demand and cost pressures have continued from previous financial years into this year. Increases in the number of Children Looked After have resulted in increased pressures for differing placements particularly residential, where costs for this provision are significant. Alongside Children Looked After placement costs, the continued reliance on agency staff and an increase in demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision is having an impact on the services' financial position.

3.12 The pressures relating to Children Looked After, children in residential placements and Children's Social Care, has had an adverse impact on the forecast of £12.261m (£13.145m at Month 3). This improved position from that previously reported is due to a reduction in forecasts for staffing costs including agency and additional income.

3.13 The Education Skills and Early Years service is projected a year end adverse variance of £0.956m (£1.068m at Month 3). The largest contributing pressure within this service remains Home to School Transport at £0.910m (previously £1.022m) due to the continued increase in Education Health Care Plans (EHCP's) issued and the ongoing increase in SEND demand. The reduction in the projected position between reporting periods is mainly as a result of aligning expenditure to funding sources.

Public Health favourable variance of £0.103m as at Month 4, estimated favourable variance at year end of £0.310m (£0.187m at Month 3)

3.14 Public Health is showing a favourable movement in year-end position of £0.123m from that which was reported at Quarter 1. This change in position is due to staff vacancies and is as a direct result of the management actions implemented to the service to address the previously reported position.

Place and Economic Growth adverse variance at Month 4 of £2.720m, estimated Year End position at an adverse variance of £8.160m (£8.850m at Month 3)

Communities

3.15 The Communities service area is projecting an adverse position of £5.302m (£4.609m at Month 3) of which Strategic Housing and in particular Temporary Accommodation are the main driver for this overspend. The forecasted year end pressure reported for this area of spend has increased by £0.242m to £5.301m at Month 4. This increase is due to demand which continues to rise.

3.16 As part of the Housing Recovery programme the Council is reviewing its income maximisation opportunities. As part of those opportunities, the Council will implement a policy whereby residents will be asked to contribute towards the cost of their temporary accommodation following an affordability assessment. More cost-effective delivery models of temporary accommodation are also being looked at which will also better meet our resident's needs.

Economy

3.17 Within Economy the Estates service area is the main reason for the reported adverse position. This is due to unachieved budget reductions, pressures within repairs and maintenance contracts and the impact of delays in the disposal of assets. Projections at Month 4 indicate that there will be an adverse variance by the end of the financial year of £2.474m (£2.450m at Month 3). Mitigations to reduce the projected overspend are being developed and it is expected that these mitigations will reduce the adverse position currently being projected in the coming months.

Environment

- 3.18 The Environment service is forecast to be in an adverse position of £1.278m (£1.804m at Month 3) by year end. The reasons, for this adverse variance continues to be due to agency costs, underachievement of income and other related costs. The reduction in the projected position between reporting periods is due staff vacancies across the whole service.

Corporate Services – favourable variance at Month 4 of £0.972m and estimated favourable position at year end of £2.915m (£2.433m at Month 3)

- 3.19 Corporate Services is projecting a favourable variance at Month 4 which has increased by £0.482m from that reported previously due to the implementation of corporate management actions around staff vacancies.

Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting – favourable variance at Month 4 of £0.892m and estimated favourable position at year end of £2.675m (on budget at Month 3)

- 3.20 Following a review of the Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting, and the assumptions for the remainder of the financial year, it is anticipated that there will be a favourable variance totalling £2.675m by year end. The main reasons, for favourable variance is a £0.500m reduction on the interest costs the Council is expected to pay and following an assessment on inflationary costs a reduction of £2.175m which includes pay and external contracts.
- 3.21 A detailed revenue table is attached at Appendix 1.

4 Mitigation of Current forecast Budget Position

- 4.1 The Local Government Act 1988 specifies that a Local Authority must set and maintain a balanced budget. Failure to do so results in the Council's Section 151 officer having to issue a Section 114 notice to indicate that a Council's forecast income is insufficient to meet its forecast expenditure for that year.
- 4.2 As detailed in the Month 3 report, in response to the phased overspend and projected outturn position, a series of management actions were implemented to identify options for reducing the projected overspend. The Council's Senior Leadership has been working within their service areas to reduce the in-year pressure through the introduction of a recruitment freeze, and through additional controls on discretionary expenditure. Alongside this, services have been reviewing their ways of working, structures and costs to reduce spend based on a thematic approach:
- Centralising, restructuring and reducing corporate and support services;
 - Reviewing and reducing management and administration;
 - Reviewing service operations and processes;
 - Income maximisation; and
 - Reviewing placements, contracts and commissioned services.

The changes identified to date will drive both in year savings and contribute to reducing the budget gap in future years.

4.3 The effectiveness of management action and corporate procedures will continue to be closely monitored by Management Teams throughout the financial year. Management action should ease the overall financial pressures and the impact of these actions will be reported to Members through the regular financial monitoring reports submitted to Cabinet during the year.

5 Progress on the delivery of the 2024/25 Approved Budget Savings

5.1 Table 2 below presents the progress on the delivery of the 2024/25 approved Budget savings which has been updated to reflect the position at Month 4. For savings rated as Amber, work is ongoing to achieve the saving or alternative delivery and in year mitigations are being identified to cover any potential shortfalls which may occur. The Red savings are included in the adverse forecast revenue Month 4 outturn position for 2024/25. If these Red rated budget savings are mitigated downwards, it would have a favourable impact on the forecast position for 2024/25. In addition, savings rated as Red are also impacting the work on the Budget setting process for 2025/26 and work is ongoing to try to mitigate the impact in the current and future years.

5.2 In terms of savings, £16.542m of the £20.379m (£16.587m in Quarter 1) approved budget reduction targets are either delivered or on track to be delivered (Green & Amber), representing 81% of the total savings target with a further 19% or £3.837m with a high risk of not being achieved within this financial year. The table below summarises the progress by Directorate:

Table 2 – Summary on progress on delivery of 2024/25 Approved Budget Reductions

2024/25 Impact of Approved Budget Reductions	Green £000	Amber £000	Red £000	Total £000
Adult Social Care	(3,950)	(3,500)	0	(7,450)
Children’s Services	(1,095)	(907)	(2,219)	(4,221)
Public Health	(175)	0	0	(175)
Place & Economic Growth	(3,054)	(200)	(1,618)	(4,872)
Corporate	(3,397)	(264)	0	(3,661)
TOTAL	(11,671)	(4,871)	(3,837)	(20,379)

Significant Budget reduction variances by Directorate

5.3 As can be seen in the table above, £2.219m of Children’s Services budget reductions are rated Red which is an increase of £0.145m from the figure reported at Month 3. This change relates to a budget reduction for social care placements including fostering and is due to demand in this area alongside an increase in price affecting its achievability.

5.4 At Month 4, the Place & Economic Growth Directorate budget reductions rated Red are reported at £1.618m which is 33% of its total with 67% either achieved or on target to achieve.

- 5.5 Mitigations for the Red budget reductions continue to be explored with updates to be provided within future reports.
- 5.6 There has been a £0.700m increase in those budget reductions now rated as Green between reporting periods and it is expected that as the year unfolds, those budget reductions currently rated as Amber will continue to move to Green. Delivery Board will continue its work on the unachieved budget reductions to mitigate the impact on 2024/25 and future years.

6 Reserves and Balances

- 6.1 On 1 April 2024, Reserves totalled £72.540m, split between Earmarked Reserves of £49.646m and other reserves such as Revenue Grant Reserve, Schools Reserve and DSG Surplus reserves totalling £22.894m. The General Fund Balance stood at £18.865m. Of the total Earmarked Reserves, approximately 29% are forecast to be spent in 2024/25.

Table 3 – Summary on Reserves Position

Directorate	Opening Balance £000	Use of Reserves £000	Contribution to Reserves £000	Anticipated Year End Position £000
Adult Social Care	(3,766)	2,366	-	(1,400)
Children's Services	(814)	-	-	(814)
Public Health	(1,114)	242	(385)	(1,257)
Place & Economic Growth	(3,057)	952	(50)	(2,155)
Corporate	(4,530)	437	-	(4,094)
Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting	(19,712)	597	(2,115)	(21,230)
Balancing Budget 2024/25	(10,753)	10,753	-	-
Health & Social Care Integration Pooled Fund	(5,900)	1,491	-	(4,409)
Total Earmarked Reserves	(49,646)	16,838	(2,550)	(35,359)
Revenue Grant Reserves	(7,799)	1,610	(138)	(6,327)
Total Reserves	(57,446)	18,448	(2,688)	(41,686)

- 6.2 Since Quarter 1, there has been a slight movement in the use of reserves bringing the current forecast to £35.359m of Earmarked Reserves and £6.327m of Revenue Grant Reserves by the end of the financial year 2024/25.
- 6.3 There are significant management actions being implemented to address the projected in year deficit which should help reduce the overall gap by the year end, however to the extent that mitigations do not cover the deficit, there would need to be a further call on reserves. Any additional call on reserves to offset any unmitigated forecast deficit in year will adversely impact the financial resilience of the Council.
- 6.4 One of the management actions being undertaken since the last reporting period has been a full review of reserves looking at the council's policy and financial strategy, including the proposed use. This review is currently ongoing and will be reported back to Members once complete. The aim is to review all reserves and their use and consider the current and future impact on the financial resilience of the council.

7 2025/26 Revenue Budget

- 7.1 At the budget council meeting held in February 2024, a budget gap for 2025/26 of £11.305m was detailed. This gap was after the application of £11.178m of approved budget reductions and £1.432m of Earmarked Reserves. To address this gap, and considering the in-year financial position, early work began on a re-assessment of the 2025/26 revenue budget and how the gap could be bridged. Based on the presumption that much of the in-year pressure stems from continued demand for key Council services including adults and children social care and temporary accommodation, it is currently forecast that the unmitigated gap for 2025/26 could be between £26-30m. As detailed at 4.2, thematic work has been undertaken by Officers to identify both in year and ongoing options to reduce service spend and thus the potential budget gap in 2025/26.
- 7.2 At the time of writing this report, actions totalling £6.138m have been identified and potentially a further £1.543m is being investigated, which would reduce the forecast budget gap for 2025/26 to be between £20-24m. The table below shows the values by thematic area.

Table 4 – Summary on potentially identified thematic savings.

Thematic Area	Potential Savings Identified 2025/26 £000
Centralising, restructuring, and reducing corporate and support services	2,405
Reviewing and reducing management and administration	1,673
Reviewing service operations and processes	706
Reviewing placements, contracts and commissioned services	1,354
TOTAL POTENTIAL SAVING IDENTIFIED 2025/26	6,138

- 7.3 Alongside this the Council is currently consulting with employees around voluntary options for redundancy, retirement and changes to working hours. Other options continue to be looked at to ensure the Council can deliver a balanced budget.
- 7.4 Further details on the Council's funding are expected over the coming months with a Labour Budget scheduled for 30 October, and the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (PLGFS) expected at the end of the calendar year. The Spending Review scheduled for Spring 2025 is expected to provide more financial certainty over the medium term. The current iteration of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy is predicated on a

broadly unchanged funding landscape from 2024/25 however to the extent that changes are announced as part of either the October budget or PLGFS, these will be incorporated into further updates of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

8 Summary

- 8.1 The current projected position at Month 4 has improved since the last reporting period by £4.968m however, it still shows a potentially significant overspend position by the end of the financial year. The re-assessment on assumptions with the Capital, Treasury and Technical Accounting and the work within Children's Services has seen a reduction in the overall adverse position. The implementation of management actions particularly around staffing and essential spend can be seen and will continue to be monitored and implemented throughout the year. Whilst this improved position is a positive sign, the projected position is still of great concern for the Council and work must continue to reduce this further by the end of the financial year. Due to the significant overspend in 2023/24, the Council's ability to mitigate the in-year position through short term use of reserves is depleted.
- 8.2 Whilst 81% of savings are on track to be delivered or are delivered, given the overall financial pressures facing the Council, the uncertainty around the deliverability of the remaining 19% of savings is still of concern as this adds to the pressure on the budget. However, plans and mitigations are being developed and there is time for the reductions to be delivered and/ or mitigations to be put in place, and these will be closely monitored through the monthly Delivery Board meetings to ensure these targets are met.
- 8.3 Any use of reserves impacts on the financial resilience of the Council, and detailed within this report is the proposed net use of £14.288m of Earmarked Reserves and £1.472m of Revenue Grant Reserves. It is crucial that the use of reserves is kept to an absolute minimum. A review of the current proposed use of the reserves for 2024/25 is currently ongoing and will be reported back to Member at the earliest opportunity. The aim of the review is to look at the proposed use of reserves to protect the overall financial resilience of the Council.
- 8.4 In view of the adverse variance reported it is important that mitigations are continued to be found and implemented to address the in-year position but also to reduce the impacts in 2025/26. A further update on the financial position will be reported at Month 6.

APPENDIX 1 - Directorate Summary Financial Positions

DIRECTORATE	SERVICE AREA	2024 Mth 4 Profiled Budget £000	Month 4 Profiled Forecast £000	M4 Profiled Variance £000	Annual Forecast Variance £000
Adult Social Care	Commissioning	5,335	5,337	2	7
	Community Business Services	387	310	(77)	(232)
	Clusters	1,031	999	(32)	(97)
	Community Health & Social Care	9,243	10,792	1,549	4,648
	Director Adult Social Care	549	538	(10)	(31)
	Learning Disability	5,160	5,250	90	269
	Mental Health	3,324	3,674	349	1,048
	Safeguarding	338	336	(2)	(6)
Adult Social Care Total		25,367	27,235	1,868	5,605
Children's Services	Children in Care	13,767	17,796	4,029	12,087
	Childrens Safeguarding	967	919	(49)	(146)
	Fieldwork & Family Support	3,872	4,096	224	673
	Children's Services Intergration	1,141	1,024	(118)	(353)
	Central Education Services	262	262	0	0
	Community / Adult Learning	99	99	(0)	(0)
	Inclusion Service	(37)	(37)	0	0
	Learning Services	98	113	15	46
	Learning Services - Early Years	380	380	0	0
	Post 16 Service	13	13	0	0
	School Support Services	6	6	0	0
	SEND Services	2,450	2,753	303	910
	Skills and Employment	216	216	(0)	(0)
	Early Help	1,151	1,145	(6)	(17)
	Schools	(17)	(17)	0	0
	Children's Services Total		24,368	28,768	4,400
Public Health	Public Health (Client and Delivery)	6,623	6,541	(82)	(245)
	Leisure Services	1,231	1,210	(22)	(65)
Public Health Total		7,855	7,751	(103)	(310)
Place & Economic Growth	Business Growth	69	68	(1)	(4)
	Creating a Better Place	(75)	(75)	0	0
	Estates	(133)	691	825	2,474
	Facilities Management	(212)	(347)	(135)	(406)
	Planning	96	88	(7)	(22)
	Property Management	(730)	(745)	(16)	(47)
	Strategic Housing	92	63	(29)	(86)
	Town Centre and Markets	416	399	(16)	(49)
	Building Control	11	61	50	150
	Environmental Management	2,469	2,597	128	384
	Fleet Management	(108)	(108)	0	0
	Highways	1,354	1,406	52	157
	Public Protection	367	517	149	447
	Strategic Transport	5,757	5,757	0	0
	Street Lighting	1,426	1,411	(15)	(45)
	Waste Disposal Authority	5,963	5,963	0	0
	Waste Management Service	1,483	1,544	62	185
	Heritage, Libraries and Arts	2,035	2,040	5	14
	Community Safety	160	143	(18)	(53)
	District Partnerships	517	433	(85)	(254)
	Strategic Housing	1,135	2,902	1,767	5,301
	Stronger Communities	65	65	(0)	(0)
	Youth Services Client	250	255	5	14
Place & Economic Growth Total		22,407	25,127	2,720	8,160

DIRECTORATE	SERVICE AREA	2024 Mth 4 Profilled Budget £000	Month 4 Profilled Forecast £000	M4 Profilled Variance £000	Annual Forecast Variance £000
Corporate Services	Partnership Support (Borough and GM)	681	655	(27)	(81)
	Strategic Customer Service	183	183	0	0
	Chief Executive Management	650	555	(95)	(286)
	Communications and Research	312	292	(20)	(60)
	Customer Services	694	563	(131)	(392)
	ICT	1,679	1,575	(105)	(314)
	Executive Support	181	171	(10)	(30)
	Audit	1,209	1,119	(90)	(270)
	Commissioning and Procurement	189	133	(56)	(167)
	External Funding	19	19	0	0
	Finance	885	751	(134)	(403)
	Housing Benefit Payments	131	131	0	0
	Revenues and Benefits	1,289	1,381	92	276
	Transformation and Reform	105	(99)	(204)	(611)
	HR Strategy	1,008	919	(89)	(267)
	Organisational Development	93	44	(50)	(149)
	Democratic and Civic Services	567	555	(12)	(37)
	Elections	142	137	(5)	(15)
	Legal	567	596	29	87
	Registrars	7	(37)	(44)	(131)
Strategy and Performance	308	286	(22)	(66)	
Corporate Services Total		10,899	9,927	(972)	(2,915)
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting	Corporate Expenses	7,274	6,549	(725)	(2,175)
	Interest and Investment Expenditure and Income	2,268	2,102	(167)	(500)
	Corporate and Democratic Core	334	334	0	0
	Parish Precepts	120	120	0	0
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting Total		9,997	9,105	(892)	(2,675)
Grand Total		100,893	107,914	7,022	21,065

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CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2024/25 MONITORING REPORT Month 4 – July 2024

1 Background

- 1.1 The original capital programme for 2024/25 reflected the priorities outlined in the capital strategy as approved at Cabinet on 12 February 2024 and confirmed at the Council meeting on 28 February 2024.
- 1.2 The position at the end of Month 4 (July 2024) 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.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 Table 1 below shows the capital programme for 2024/25 and a further four years to 2028/29, and reflects the priorities outlined in the capital strategy as approved at Cabinet on 12 February 2024 and confirmed at the Council meeting on the 28 February 2024.

Table 1 – 2024/29 Capital Strategy

Directorate Budget	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	Total £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	4,443	1,000	-	-	-	5,443
Children's Services	4,724	5,058	3,188	2,000	-	14,970
Communities	100	173	-	-	-	273
Place and Economic Growth	83,226	68,621	26,601	17,859	1,000	197,307
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	628	95	-	-	-	723
Corporate/Information Technology (IT)	2,919	2,809	2,039	3,661	1,000	12,428
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	2,600	-	125	10,120	-	12,845
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,043	3,318	2,885	2,000	-	9,246
Total Expenditure	99,683	81,076	34,838	35,640	2,000	253,237

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

Funding	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	Total £000
Grant & Other Contributions	(43,834)	(28,633)	(6,494)	(4,054)	-	(83,015)
Prudential Borrowing	(49,638)	(51,646)	(27,851)	(31,494)	(2,000)	(162,629)
Revenue Contributions	(630)	(95)	-	-	-	(725)
Capital Receipts	(5,581)	(702)	(493)	(92)	-	(6,868)
Grand Total	(99,683)	(81,076)	(34,838)	(35,640)	(2,000)	(253,237)

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

The estimated additional costs (annualised) associated the prudential borrowing are outlined below:

Estimated annual additional Interest costs associated with prudential Borrowing	2,234	2,582	1,393	1,575	100	7,883
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2024/25 – 2028/29 Capital Programme

- 2.2 Following the approval of the Q1 Capital Investment programme 2024/25, there has been a Creating a Better Place (CaBP) update report presented and approved at Cabinet 15 July 2024 along with new approvals due to new grant offers, details of which area shown below.
- 2.3 The CaBP report approved the reduction to the overall capital programme 2024/25 - 2028/29 of £35m across all years. The reduction to the current year 2024/25 Capital Programme as a result of the CaBP review is £3.012m.

CaBP Reduction £35m

Service Area / Scheme	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	Grand Total
Corporate Property					
Royton Town Hall	380				380
Corporate Property Total	380	-	-	-	380
Corporate					
Funding for Emerging Priorities	3,010	5,000			8,010
Corporate Total	3,010	5,000	-	-	8,010
Regeneration					
Strategic Acquisitions- General Provision	(3,000)	(5,000)			(8,000)
Performance Space (formerly Oldham Coliseum Theatre - Phase C)	(4,842)	(2,636)	(6,522)		(14,000)
Alexandra Park Depot	750				750
Northern Roots	800				800
Flexible Housing Fund	-	(3,484)	(10,000)	(9,346)	(22,830)
Spindles Redevelopment	2,000	5,000			7,000
Old Library Refurbishment - Phase 2	1,000				1,000
Wrigley Head Solar Farm	700				700
Green Shoots (Rhodes Bank)	(3,810)	(5,000)			(8,810)
Regeneration Total	(6,402)	(11,119)	(16,522)	(9,346)	(43,390)
Grand Total	(3,012)	(6,119)	(16,522)	(9,346)	(35,000)

- 2.4 In addition to this there have been a number of new grant offers totalling £14.75m over the life of the programme circa £5.25m in 2024/25, £9.4m in 2025/26 and £0.1m in 2026/27. Details of these are provided in appendix I and shown in Table 3 for consideration and request for approval.
- 2.5 Following the approved changes since Q1 and assuming grant offers are approved, the revised Capital Programme 2024/5 to 2028/9 is a net reduction of £20.24m since the last reporting period (Q1). (This being the reduction in Prudential Borrowing Schemes of £35m offset by additional external grant of £14.75m).

- 2.6 Following the approval of grant offers the in year Capital Programme 2024/25 will be revised to £103.95m.
- 2.7 The In year proposed changes relates to the request to accept the grant offers totalling £5.256m shown by scheme in Appendix 1.
- 2.8 In addition to this there has been a small amount of additional DFG contributions totalling £11k for adaptations. It should be noted that there are inflationary pressures in relation to the DFG budget, the costs of delivering the adaptations are now nearly 50% higher than last year. Officers are currently reviewing the overall impact of the pressures, including any mitigating actions, and will report the outcome to the September CIPB meeting.

Table 3 – 2024/25 Capital Programme

Directorate Budget	Capital Strategy 2024-29 £000	Approved Virements to M03 £000	Approved Virements M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Current Budget M04 £000	Spend to M04 £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	4,443	(1,353)	11	-	3,101	867
Children's Services	4,724	1,611	-	1 65	6,500	205
Communities	100	116	-	-	216	32
Place and Economic Growth						
- Corporate Property	8,574	692	380	746	10,392	935
- Environment	343	753	-	252	1,348	604
- Housing	150	377	-	-	527	296
- Regeneration	57,781	(6,072)	(6,402)	3,760	49,067	11,486
- Transport	16,378	3,550	-	333	20,261	2,723
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	628	700	-	-	1,328	-
Corporate/Information Technology (IT)	2,919	1,739	-	-	4,658	249
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	2,600	-		-	2,600	-
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,043	(116)	3,010	-	3,937	-
Grand Total	99,683	1,997	(3,001)	5,256	103,935	17,397

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

- 2.10 Given that this is the position as at Month 4 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. Proposed virements are detailed at Appendix 1 and a further breakdown of Table 3 on a service-by-service area basis is shown at Appendix 2 (A to H).
- 2.11 Actual expenditure to 31 July 2024 was £17.397m (16.74% of the proposed forecast outturn). This spending profile is similar to last year's (17.65%). As would be expected the majority of this spend is within the Place & Economic directorate which amounts for 78% of the total 2024/25 Capital Programme. The position will be kept under review and budgets will be managed in accordance with forecasts.

2.12 The revised capital programme for 2024/25 to 2028/29, considering all the above amendments in arriving at the revised forecast position, is shown in Table 4 together with the projected financing profile.

Table 4 – 2024/25 to 2028/29 Current Capital Programme

Directorate Budget	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	TOTAL £000
Community Health and Adult Social Care	3,101	1,000	-	-	-	4,101
Children's Services	6,500	5,058	3,188	2,000	-	16,746
Communities	216	173	-	-	-	389
Place and Economic Growth						
- Corporate Property	10,392	3,203	1,101	-	1,000	15,696
- Environment	1,347	100	1,070	100	-	2,617
- Housing	528	5,677	-	-	-	6,205
- Regeneration	49,067	50,894	942	6,359	-	107,262
- Transport	20,262	6,835	7,067	2,054	-	36,218
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	1,328	95	-	-	-	1,423
Corporate/Information Technology (IT)	4,658	2,700	2,039	3,661	1,000	14,058
Capital, Treasury & Technical Accounting	2,600	-	126	10,120	-	12,846
Funding for Emerging Priorities	3,937	8,318	2,884	2,000	-	17,139
Grand Total	103,936	84,053	18,417	26,294	2,000	234,700

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

Funding	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000	TOTAL £000
Grant & Other Contributions	(49,054)	(44,532)	(6,494)	(4,054)	-	(104,133)
Prudential Borrowing	(46,805)	(38,726)	(11,430)	(22,147)	(2,000)	(121,108)
Revenue Contributions	(1,358)	(95)	-	-	-	(1,453)
Capital Receipts	(6,719)	(702)	(493)	(92)	-	(8,006)
Grand Total	(103,936)	(84,053)	(18,417)	(26,294)	(2,000)	(234,700)

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

Estimated annual additional Interest costs associated with prudential Borrowing (cumulative)	1,053	3,074	4,328	5,186	5,771	
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2.13 The reduction of the Capital programme funded by Prudential Borrowing shows that by 2028/29 there will be an estimated reduction in annualised interest costs of approximately £2.1m from £7.9m (see Table 1) to £5.8m. This excludes further savings from a reduction in the amounts required to be set aside to repay the additional debt in accordance with the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision Policy.

Capital Receipts

- 2.14 The capital programme requires the availability of £6.719m of capital receipts in 2024/25 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 £0.244m, the first call being the £2.600m outlined above.

- 2.15 The capital receipts position as at 31 July 2024 is as follows:

Table 6 – Capital Receipts 2024/25

	£000	£000
Capital Receipts Financing Requirement		6,719
Usable Capital Receipt b/fwd.	-	
Actual capital receipts received to date	(244)	
Identified in year capital receipts remaining	(4,510)	
Further Required in 2024/25		1,965

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

- 2.16 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 high 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.
- 2.17 The Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2024/29 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 2024/25 to 2028/29

Capital Receipts	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000
Capital Receipts Carried Forward	-	2,238	(5,950)	(6,897)	(9,382)
Identified Capital Receipts	(4,725)	(8,890)	(1,440)	(2,577)	
Received in year	244				
Total Receipts	(4,481)	(6,652)	(7,390)	(9,474)	(9,382)
Capital Receipts Financing Requirement	6,719	702	493	92	-
Over/(Under) programming	2,238	(5,950)	(6897)	(9,382)	(9,382)

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

- 2.18 Although the capital receipts forecast is currently lower than the required amount, given that this is the month 4 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

- 2.19 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 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 further rephasing across all years to reflect developments relating to individual projects/schemes. Again, this will be reported to CIPB in September, which will then make appropriate recommendations to Cabinet.
- 3.2 The capital programme is being continually monitored and is reported to Members on a regular basis.

4 Appendices

- 4.1 Appendix 1 - PROPOSED CHANGES
Appendix 2A - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Community Health and Adult Social Care
Appendix 2B - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Children’s Service
Appendix 2C - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Communities
Appendix 2D - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Place and Economic Growth
Appendix 2E - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)
Appendix 2F - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Corporate/Information Technology
Appendix 2G - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting
Appendix 2H - SUMMARY – Month 4 - Funding for Emerging Priorities

APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) Proposed Changes

EXPENDITURE BUDGETS TO BE REPROFILED AS AT 31 JULY 2024	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Comments
Directorate / Scheme	£000	£000	£000	
People				
Castleshaw Centre - Roof Replacement	165			New grant
People – TOTAL	165			
Place and Economic Growth				
Gallery Oldham – Priority Maintenance Work	807	440	460	New grant / Realignment
Corporate Property - Major Repair Works (Priority 1)	(61)	(1,000)	(359)	Realignment
Oldham Green New Deal Delivery Partner	3,300	4,400		New grant
Oldham Mumps/Princes Gate - New Homes		5,552		New grant
CRSTS Bus Pinch Point - Grampian Way / Trent Road, Shaw	12			New grant
CRSTS BPP - Ashton Road West	61			New grant
CRSTS – EVCI Resource Funding	110			New grant
ATF - Frederick Street	150			New grant
Northmoor Library - ACE Project	152			New grant
Oldham Library - ACE Project	308			New grant
Renovation of Tennis Courts	252			New grant
Place and Economic Growth TOTAL	5,091	9,392	101	
TOTAL	5,256	9,392	101	

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

FINANCING BUDGETS TO BE REPROFILED AS AT 31 JULY 2024	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Fund Source	£000	£000	£000
Grants and Contributions	(4,647)	(10,096)	
Prudential Borrowing	(603)	704	(101)
Revenue Contribution	(7)		
Capital Receipts			
TOTAL	(5,256)	(9,392)	(101)

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

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF CHANGES

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) - Community Health and Adult Social Care

APPENDIX 2A

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Adult Services	4,443	(1,353)	11	-	3,101	867
Community Health and Adult Social Care Total	4,443	(1,353)	11	-	3,101	867

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) – Children’s Services

APPENDIX 2B

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Children, Young People and Families (CYPF)	-	682	-	165	847	33
Schools - General Provision	3,545	(221)	-	-	3,324	47
Schools – Primary	1,084	506	-	-	1,590	9
Schools – Secondary	85	630	-	-	715	113
Schools – Special	10	15	-	-	25	3
Children’s Service Total	4,724	1,611	-	165	6,500	205

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) – Communities

APPENDIX 2C

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Local Investment Fund	100	116	-	-	216	32
Communities Total	100	116	-	-	216	32

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) – Place and Economic Growth

APPENDIX 2D

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Asset Management – Corporate Premises	5,705	(172)	380	746	6,659	929
Asset Management - Education Premises	2,869	864			3,733	6
Corporate Property Total	8,574	692	380	746	10,392	935
Boroughwide District Projects	17	10			27	-
Cemeteries and Crematorium	-	46			46	-
Countryside	91	38			129	81
Parks	235	491			726	191
Playing Fields & Facilities	-	157		252	409	332
Parks & Playing Fields	-	11			11	-
Environment Total	343	753	-	252	1,348	604
Private Housing	150	377			527	296
Housing Total	150	377	-	-	527	296
Boroughwide Developments	18,868	4,173	(560)	460	22,941	4,439
Strategic Acquisitions	4,669	478	(3,000)		2,147	133
Town Centre Developments	34,244	(10,723)	(2,842)	3,300	23,979	6,914
Regeneration Total	57,781	(6,072)	(6,402)	3,760	49,067	11,486
Accident Reduction	516	549			1,065	97
Bridges & Structures	3,926	1,488			5,414	551
Fleet Management	370	298			668	981
Highway Major Works/Drainage schemes	11,188	627			11,815	1,013
Minor Works	227	280		223	730	22
Miscellaneous	151	308		110	569	59
Transport Total	16,378	3,550	-	333	20,261	2,723
Place and Economic Growth Total	83,226	(700)	(6,022)	5,091	81,595	16,044

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) - Housing Revenue Account (HRA)**APPENDIX 2E**

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Housing Revenue Account	628	700	-	-	1,328	-
HRA Total	628	700	-	-	1,328	-

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) – Corporate/Information Technology (IT)**APPENDIX 2F**

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Information Technology	2,919	1,739	-	-	4,658	249
Information Technology Total	2,919	1,739	-	-	4,658	249

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) – Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting**APPENDIX 2G**

Service area	Capital Strategy £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Cross Cutting /Corporate	2,600	-	-	-	2,600	-
Capital Treasury and Technical Accounting Total	2,600	-	-	-	2,600	-

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

SUMMARY – Month 4 (July 2024) - Funding for Emerging Priorities

APPENDIX 2H

Service area	Capital Strategu £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M03 £000	Approved Changes /Virements to M04 £000	Proposed Virements M04 £000	Revised Budget (M04) £000	Expend to M04 £000
Funding for Emerging Priorities	1,043	(116)	3,010	-	3,937	-
Funding for Emerging Priorities Total	1,043	(116)	3,010	-	3,937	-

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



Part A - Report to CABINET

Wireless Infrastructure Replacement

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Abdul Jabbar, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Value for Money & Sustainability

Officer Contact: Shelley Kipling, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author: John Craig, Senior IT Project Manager

16th September 2024

Reason for Decision

Currently, the Council operates 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 is to replace #1 & #2 with #3 across the board after the successful implementation at the Spindles site.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek 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 thereafter.

Recommendations

This information is contained in the confidential PART B section of this report

Wireless Infrastructure Replacement

1. Background

Capital funding is sought to provide, install, implement and support a more modern, secure wireless infrastructure across the Oldham locale.

2 Current Position

Currently, the Council operates 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 is to replace #1 & #2 with #3 across the board after the successful implementation at the Spindles site.

3 Options/Alternatives

This information is contained in the confidential PART B section of this report.

4 Preferred Option

This information is contained in the confidential PART B section of this report.

5 Consultation

5.1 None

6 Financial Implications

This information is contained in the confidential PART B section of this report.

7 Legal Implications

This information is contained in the confidential PART B section of this report.

8 Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People

8.1 This information is contained in PART B of this report

9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

10.1 FCR-11-24

11 **Background Papers**

11.1 None

12 **Appendices**

12.1 Wireless Infrastructure Replacement Business Case: This information is contained in PART B of this report.

12.2 Appendix 2 – Oldham Equality Impact Assessment: This information is contained in PART B of this report.

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Report to CABINET

Purchase of Liquid Fuels

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor C Goodwin, Cabinet Member for Don't Trash Oldham

Officer Contact: Emma Barton, Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Report Author: Dave Durham, Fleet and Workshop Manager
Ext. 1563

16th September 2024

Reason for Decision

The Fleet Management Service required authorisation to utilize the YPO framework for Liquid Fuels and Associated Products.

Executive Summary

The Council requires the supply of liquid fuel on site to ensure the vehicle fleet are fully operational.

Recommendations

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.

Purchase of Liquid Fuels

1 Background

- 1.1 Greater Manchester authorities over the years have combined buying power and consumption/volumes to purchase liquid fuels with the outcome of savings being achieved. The procurement for this collaboration whilst driven by the GM Authorities is undertaken by YPO (Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation) using a framework of their own establishment.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 Council requires the supply of liquid fuel on site to ensure that the vehicle fleet is fully operational.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 This information is contained in the confidential PART B version of this report.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 This information is contained in the confidential PART B version of this report.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 None.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 This information is contained in the confidential PART B version of this report.

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 This information is contained in the confidential PART B version of this report.

8 Oldham Equality Impact Assessment, including implications for Children and Young People

- 8.1 Yes – this is included at Appendix A, detailed in the Part B version of the report.

9 Key Decision

- 9.1 Yes

10 Key Decision Reference

10.1 NEI-12-24

11 **Background Papers**

11.1 none

12 **Appendices**

12.1 Appendix A – Equality Impact Assessment (detailed in the Part B version of the report).

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Report to CABINET

Grant Acceptance - High Street Accelerator Green Space Fund

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr Arooj Shah, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Building a Better Oldham

Officer Contact: Emma Barton, Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Report Author(s): Paul Clifford, Director of Economy

16th September 2024

Reason for Decision

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 DLUHC, and to approve the programme of spend for the various projects it will fund.

Recommendations

- (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

High Street Accelerator Green Fund Acceptance

1. Background

- 1.1 The 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.
- 1.2 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:
 - 1.2.1 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.
 - 1.2.2 The economic challenges facing Oldham have led to increases in anti-social behaviour on the high street and Metrolink network (Union Street). Oldham Town Centre Police Beat has reported the highest level of crime in the Borough (c.1,100 incidents per year), with 51% of incidents identified as violent crime. Between 2021 and 2022, 15.31% of violent crimes are recorded on Union Street and 10.93% on Yorkshire Street, with the majority occurring during the night-time economy hours but some peaks reported during the late afternoon during the week. This is associated with a noticeable lag between the end of the trading day and start of the night-time entertainment offer, and declining footfall, with a fear of crime being cited by citizens.
- 1.3 The High Street Accelerator Programme was formally launched in December 2023 and the two key principles are:
 - A High Street Accelerator is a partnership, it should bring together residents, local businesses, and community organisations to work with the local authority to develop and deliver a long-term vision to regenerate a high street in the area.
 - A High Street Accelerator is a pilot. It is an opportunity to test and trial new ways of working to revitalise the high street and to tackle vacancy.
- 1.4 The High Street Accelerator pilot projects are asked to test two theories:
 - There is High Streets Task Force research and qualitative evidence which indicates a lack of partnership working can be a potential barrier to the success and resilience of a high street. This pilot seeks to test whether the High Street Accelerator model can facilitate partnership working and subsequently support the long-term revival and regeneration of declining high streets.
 - Each accelerator will receive the opportunity to access Green Spaces grant funding. It is evidenced that greening high streets can help to increase their vibrancy and visual appeal. New projects, like a parklet, can provide new social spaces, increasing customers dwell time in the location.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 A requirement of the High Street Accelerator grant funding was the establishment of a High Street Accelerator Partnership. This is to ensure the pilot can test the value of partnerships in driving forward high street improvements. The initial partnership had to comprise of four members: a property owner, a business representative, a community organisation representative and a local authority representative.
- 2.2 During the inaugural meeting in February, the partnership for Oldham appointed Maggie Hughes, a local business and property owner, as its independent chair. This appointment is complementary to the individual's existing role as vice-chair of the Oldham Town Centre Board (the public-facing structure to which the partnership will report).
- 2.3 The partnership has made good initial progress, confirming governance arrangements, committing to expanding the membership base, and submitting the successful expression of interest for a grant to be awarded to Oldham from the £5m Green Spaces Fund.
- 2.4 The partnership received confirmation in May of the award of £500k from the Green Spaces Fund, to be spent by 31 March 2025 and to fund two projects:
- 2.4.1 The first is to introduce planting by encouraging high street businesses on Yorkshire Street and Union Street to take ownership of their immediate public realm – where appropriate. For businesses with the space to have outdoor seating, barrier planters will be provided, ready planted, with guidance and support on caring for the plants. The seating and barriers will be provided to the business with a requirement on them to maintain the planting and ensure the area used is also well kept. Businesses with smaller public realm footprints will be encouraged to apply for hanging planters and green walls, again with the requirement for ongoing maintenance resting with the business / property owner. This will provide some quick wins in terms of improving the look and feel of the streets.
- 2.4.2 The second project is developing options to create a flexible 'green' structure that can be used as a seating space but with the ability to place trading boards into the structure so they can be used as market stalls. Whilst this is part of the accelerator pilot, we proposed this to allow us to test options for integrating market stalls as part of linear park.
- 2.5 Funding breakdown:

Item of Expenditure	CDEL (in £) forecast expenditure	RDEL (in £) forecast expenditure
Barrier planters	£55,000	
Initial planting		£10,000
Design / prototype of multifunctional stall, seating unit	£60,000	
Production of multifunctional units	£300,000	
Install of multifunctional units	£35,000	
Staffing resource		£40,000
Total:	£450,000	£50,000

3. Options/Alternatives

3.1 There are two options:

- 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.

4. Preferred Option

4.1 The preferred option is option 1.

5. Consultation

5.1 The High Street Accelerator activity is being driven by the High Street Accelerator Partnership who are being informed by data gathered and feedback from partners and stakeholders.

5.2 Portfolio holders have been briefed and support the acceptance and expenditure of the grant award.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Revenue Implications

The acceptance of the High Street Accelerator Grant award of £50,000 revenue will have no adverse financial implications for the Council. The works and staffing elements of the bid total £50,000 with no requirement for any Council match funding. Therefore, all listed revenue costs can and will be fully funded from within the revenue grant allocation.

(John Hoskins)

6.2 Capital Implications

The acceptance of the High Street Accelerator Grant award of £450,000 capital will have no adverse financial implications for the Council.

The works elements of the bid totaling £450,000 will be a charge the Place capital programme and defrayed in by 31 March 2025, with no requirement for any Council match funding. Therefore, will be fully funded from within the capital grant allocation.

(Jit Kara)

7 Legal Implications

7.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules do not govern grant awards; however, they must be followed, in part, if a grant agreement is to be put in place with the funder. In this matter a Memorandum of Understanding is to be put in place and signed by the Council's Section 151 Officer.

7.2 Advice from Legal Services should be taken as required in respect of the terms and conditions of the above referenced MoU prior to its completion.

7.3 The Council must be satisfied that it can meet the requirements of DLUHC in respect of the grant funding, including any milestones and delivery dates. This must be confirmed prior to accepting the grant funding.

7.4 In addition, the Council must be satisfied that the subsidy control regime has been satisfied prior to expending any awarded grant funding. Legal Services should be engaged with to confirm all requirements have been met and complied with.

Sarah Orrell – Commercial & Procurement Solicitor

8 **Oldham Equality Impact Assessment, including implications for Children and Young People**

8.1 Yes – see Appendix 1

9 **Key Decision**

9.1 Yes

10 **Key Decision Reference**

10.1 ESR-06-24

11 **Background Papers**

11.1 None

12 **Appendices**

12.1 Appendix 1 – Equality Impact Assessment

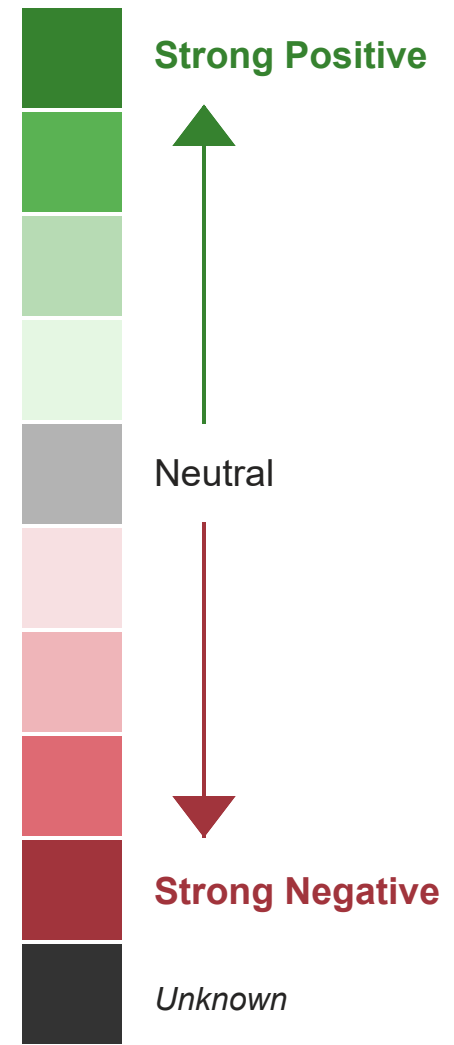
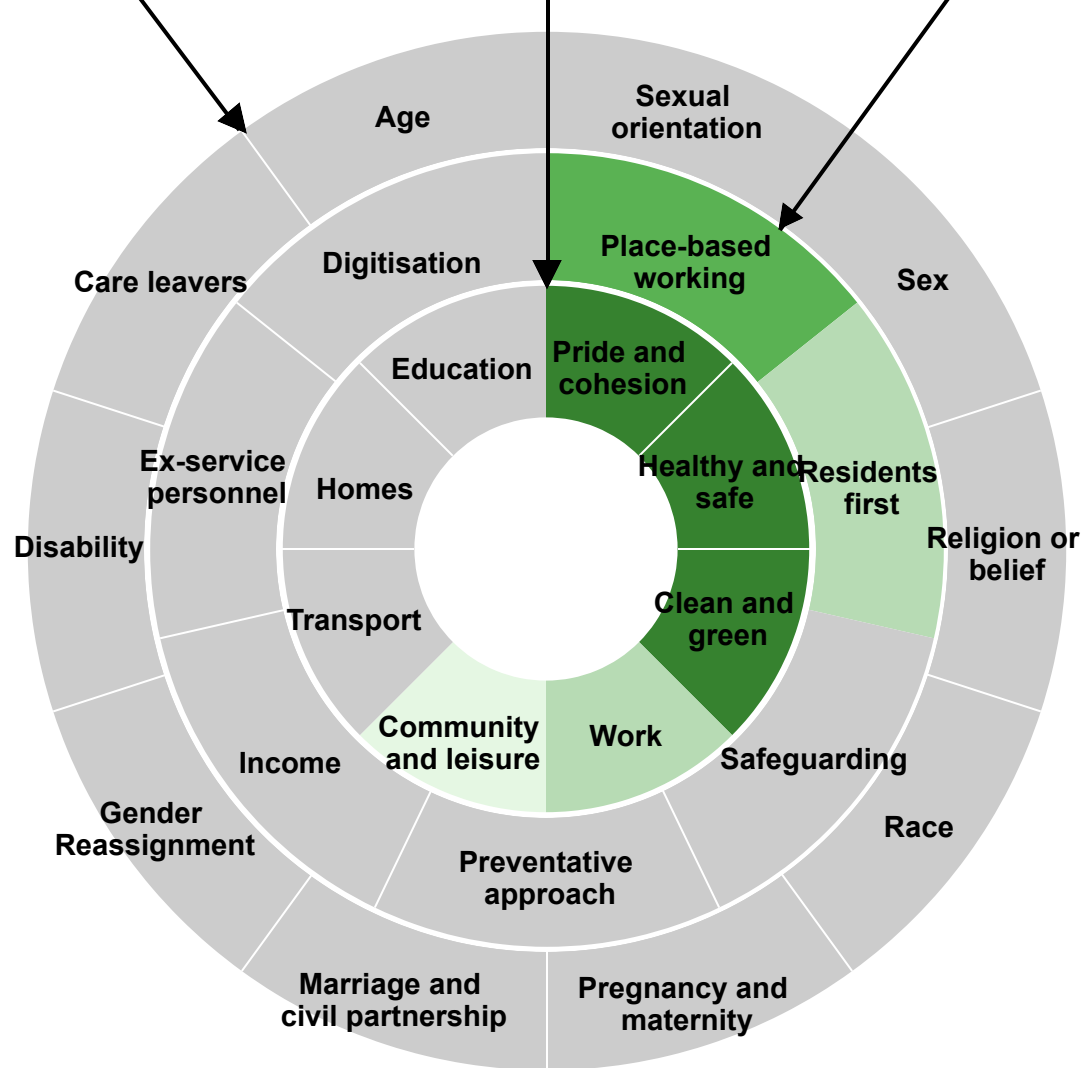
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High Street Accelerator Green Funding Grant Acceptance

completed/last updated by Maria Cotton on 09/07/2024

Portfolio	
Regeneration and Housing	
Directorate	
PEG (Place and Economic Growth)	
Service/Team	
PEG - Economy	
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	<input type="button" value="No"/>

Equality Characteristics Future Oldham Aims Corporate Priorities



Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Age	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Care leavers	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Disability	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Race	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Religion or belief	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Sex	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	

Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Digitisation	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Income	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Preventative approach	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Safeguarding	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Residents first	Strong Positive	Possible	Short Term	2	Positive Impact.
Place-based working	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Short Term	4	Positive Impact.

Future Oldham Aims

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Education	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Homes	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Transport	Neutral	Possible	Short Term	0	
Community and leisure	Moderate Positive	Possible	Short Term	1	Positive Impact.
Work	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	2	Positive Impact.
Clean and green	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Positive Impact.
Healthy and safe	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Positive Impact.
Pride and cohesion	Strong Positive	Very Likely	Long Term	8	Positive Impact.

Negative Impacts

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	What action can be taken to mitigate the potential negative impacts?	Action(s)	Owner(s)	Timescale(s)	If the negative impacts can't be mitigated, why should the project/decision proceed?
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Strong Positive Impacts that are Possible

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	What action can be taken to increase the likelihood that positive impacts are realised?	Action(s)	Owner(s)	Timescale(s)
Residents first	Strong Positive	Possible	Short Term	2	Ensure residents are engaged with the planned activity in the town centre.	Brief communications team on the grant funding and associated activity.	M Cotton	Upto 31/3/25



Report to CABINET

Business Investment: Broadway Green and Hollinwood Junction

Portfolio Holder: Cllr A Shah – Leader and Cabinet Member for Building a Better Oldham

Officer Contact: Emma Barton – Deputy Chief Executive (Place)

Report Author:

Paul Clifford – Director of Economy

16 September 2024

Reason for Decision

To update 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.

Executive Summary

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

Recommendations

- Cabinet to note the progress made and outcomes achieved to date.
- Acceptance of the final JV profit share to the Council from Broadway Green of as set out in Part B of this report, and note that it is to be received in October 2024.
- Approve the legal / commercial recommendation as set out in the Part B report.

Broadway Green and Hollinwood Junction Joint Venture Update

1 Background

- 1.1 The Council entered into Joint Venture Projects to drive forward the regeneration of two key strategic sites within the borough to drive growth, create employment opportunities and provide new homes.
- 2.2 Broadway Green is now nearing completion with the third and final employment phase underway and the last residential phase due to be submitted to Planning. Hollinwood Junction is entering the latest construction phase with work due to commence on 192,000 sq ft industrial/employment space, a Planning Application for a new supermarket due to be considered in October and the marketing of the residential site to go live in the Autumn.
- 2.3 When completed and fully operational, the two 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

2. Current Position

Broadway Green

- 2.1 The Broadway Green Joint Venture between the Council and Grasscroft Seddons includes the delivery of 600,000sq feet of employment space, creating up to 2,000 new jobs and over 500 new homes. The development is clear evidence of the private sector investing in Oldham with the recent addition of an ALDI and Costa Coffee on the site.



- 2.2 Two commercial phases have been completed at Plot 3000 and Broadway 369 have which will deliver up to 760 FTE job opportunities and 480,000 sq. ft of employment space. The third commercial phase, Plot 2000, is being developed by Chancerygate and will create 18 small industrial units specifically aimed at SMEs totalling 120,000 sq. ft and up to 200 FTE job opportunities.



- 2.3 Alongside the employment land delivering valuable jobs for our residents of Oldham, the final housing phases are due to be finalised and on-site within the next few months. This will deliver a further 132 homes in addition to the 397 already built.



- 2.4 R1 and R2 have been completed by Countryside Properties (140 homes) and Redrow (97 homes). A further 160 units have almost been completed at R5/6 – again by Countryside. Stonebond are on site at R4 delivering 42 homes which will be ready for occupation in early 2025. Contracts are due to be exchanged on the final residential phase, R3, that will see Stonebond deliver the final 90 homes. The residential element has delivered a true mix of tenures with almost 245 being affordable rent or shared ownership and the remainder being open market sale.
- 2.5 Additionally, the JV has delivered around £23M of infrastructure works on-site, including the construction of a new spine road (Lydia Becker Way), plus off-site highways and junction improvements costing over £1M.



3.5 The former Kaskenmoor School Site at Hollinwood Junction is a key residential site for the Council in its response to the housing crisis with capacity for around 150 zero/low carbon homes. Bids will be sought later in 2024, with the delivery of a minimum 40% of affordable homes including a mix of truly affordable/social rented properties.



3.6 The Hollinwood Board recently agreed to changes in the structure of the JV partnership with the Council and this will finally allow the original intentions of the partnership to be delivered and highlight the high-level outputs that will be achieved, including:

- 720 Full Time Equivalent jobs to be created
- £600k per annum additional Business Rates income generated
- 150 new low carbon homes to be built (at least 40% of which will be affordable).
- Further estimated capital receipt to the Council in the order of £2.5M.

4 **Consultation**

4.1 Various public consultations have taken place as the projects have progressed through the planning stages.

5 **Financial Implications**

5.1 As set out in the part b report.

Sarah Johnson, Director of Finance

6 **Legal Implications**

6.1 As set out in the part b report.

Alex Bougatef (insert new job title)

7 **Equality Impact, including implications for Children and Young People**

7.1 Yes – appended to this report

8 **Key Decision**

8.1 Yes

9 **Key Decision Reference**

9.1 ESR-12-24

10 **Appendices**

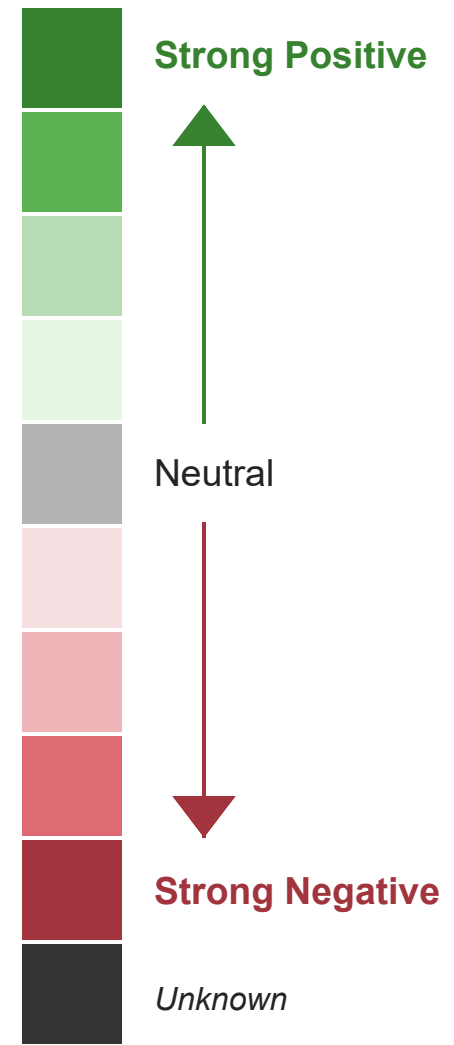
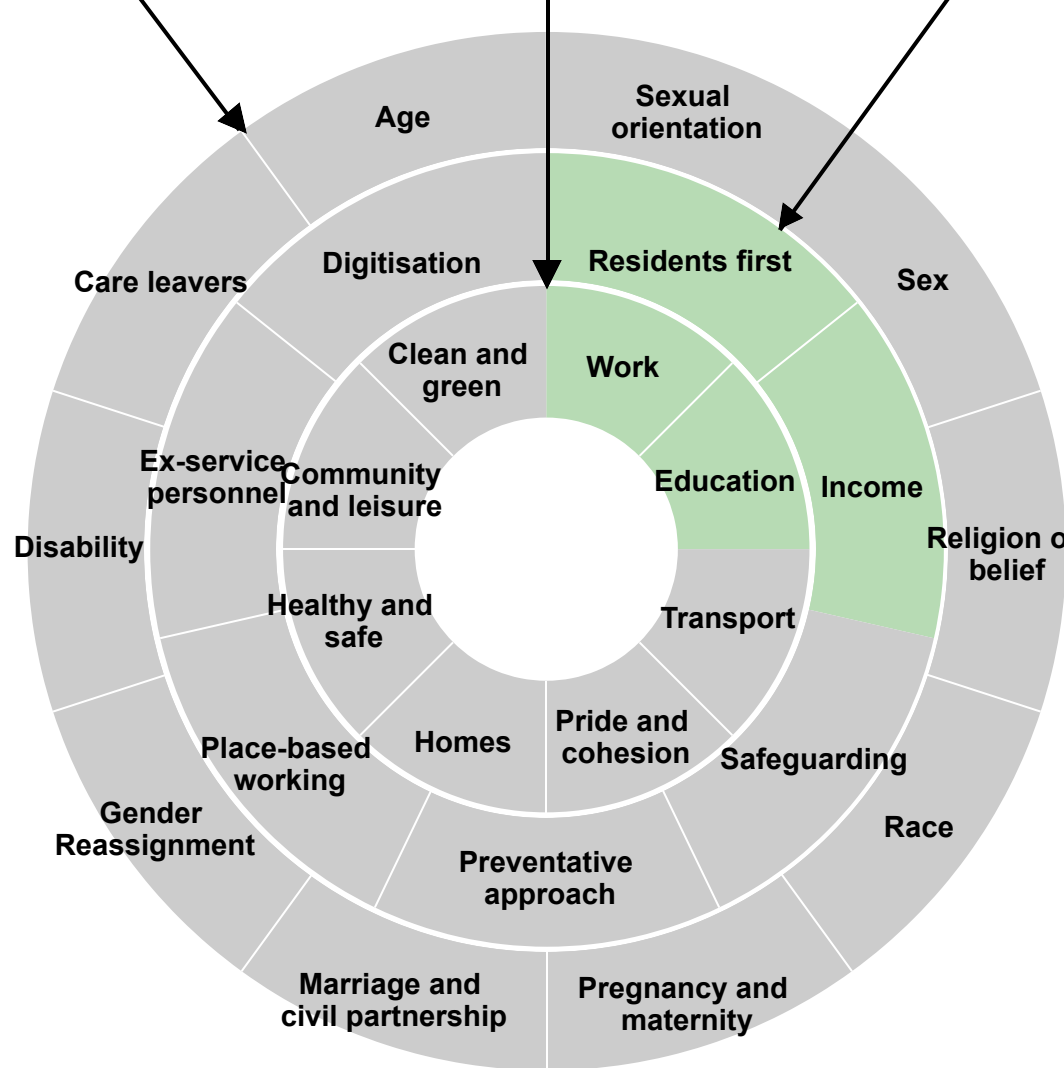
1 EIA

Inward Investment

Gail Aspinall : in progress

Portfolio	
Regeneration and Housing	
Directorate	
PEG (Place and Economic Growth)	
Service/Team	
PEG - Economy	
Is this IA related to a Budget Reduction proposal?	<input type="button" value="No"/>

Equality Characteristics Future Oldham Aims Corporate Priorities



Equality Characteristics

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Age	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Care leavers	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Disability	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Gender Reassignment	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Race	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Religion or belief	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Sex	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Sexual orientation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact

Corporate Priorities

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Digitisation	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Ex-service personnel	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Place-based working	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Preventative approach	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Safeguarding	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Income	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	2	Potential employment for residents would improve their income.
Residents first	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	2	Engagement with residents regarding potential jobs.

Future Oldham Aims

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	Comment
Clean and green	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Community and leisure	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Healthy and safe	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Homes	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Pride and cohesion	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Transport	Neutral	Very Likely	Long Term	0	No adverse impact
Education	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	2	Potential for residents to improve/develop their skills.
Work	Moderate Positive	Possible	Long Term	2	Potential for residents to secure work.

Negative Impacts

Category	Impact	Likely	Duration	Impact Score	What action can be taken to mitigate the potential negative impacts?	Action(s)	Owner(s)	Timescale(s)	If the negative impacts can't be mitigated, why should the project/decision proceed?
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Strong Positive Impacts that are Possible

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