

# Public Document Pack

## CABINET

10/07/2017 at 4.30 pm



**Oldham**  
Council

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

1           **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Chadderton and  
Jabbar.

2           **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3           **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4           **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5           **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on  
the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017 be approved.

6           **OLDHAM TOWN CENTRE MASTER PLAN AND DELIVERY  
OPTIONS**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of  
Economy and Skills which sought approval to progress a formal  
exercise on options for the preferred route to market, to deliver  
the redevelopment of the Town Centre in the context of  
Cabinet's 2035 regeneration vision for Oldham.

The regeneration vision was set in the context of future major  
development opportunity within Oldham Town Centre, the major  
projects portfolio and the Greater Manchester Spatial  
Framework challenge facing Oldham.

The 2035 regeneration vision was centred on:

- A vibrant borough where people want to relocate to live;
- An economy where businesses want to invest, with high  
skilled residents they can employ;
- Thriving town centres where residents want to live and  
spend time with excellent cultural and shopping facilities;
- A redeveloped night time economy with enhanced  
attractions for all and recognised as a destination across  
the City Region;
- Ambitious town centre schemes with housing, schools  
and neighbourhood regeneration reflecting of the needs  
of our communities;
- New developments that feature high quality design as  
standard with sustainability at its core.

Part of the exercise involved consideration of a substantial  
master planning exercise on the Town Centre prepared over the  
last 12 months. (Master Plan was detailed at appendix A to the  
report).

Officers and external advisors had considered a range of delivery agreements and specialist development and investment vehicles that could potentially be used to deliver major development ranging from contract based to independent legal entities.

Further investment in due diligence and market testing was now required in order to determine the best option for the Council and to progress the delivery of the masterplan.

Options Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do approve the recommendations detailed within the report.

Option 2 – Not to approve the recommendations as detailed within the report.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet would consideration the commercially sensitive information detailed at Item 9 of the agenda before making a decision.

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### **FREE SCHOOL WAVE 12 - OASIS ACADEMY**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval to allocate a site for a new Free School for Oldham sponsored by Oasis Academy Trust.

Wave 12 of the Free School Programme was announce in April 2017 and one of the successful applications was for a second Oasis Academy secondary school in Oldham, expected to be a 10 form entry school accommodating 1,500 pupils when full.

Due to the current pressures on school places and the need for additional secondary school places, council officers had welcomed the proposed investment to create additional places and it was noted that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) would fund, procure a site and manage the construction project to build the new school and were looking for co-operation in finding a suitable site.

Options Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do nothing. OASIS Academy 2 was now a formally approved Free School project and the Education Funding Agency had initiated a project to develop the proposed school in Oldham. The do nothing approach was not an acceptable option as if the Council did nothing the EFA would proceed and carry out the project without Council involvement.

Option 2 – To work with the EFA to identify potential sites. By pursuing this option the Council would be able to influence site selection and to a lesser extent the design.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would considered the commercially sensitive information contained at Item 10 of the agenda before coming to a decision.

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### **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

## **OLDHAM TOWN CENTRE MASTER PLAN AND DELIVERY OPTIONS**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 6 – Oldham Town Centre Master Plan and Delivery Options.



RESOLVED – That:

1. The Town Centre Masterplan as detailed at appendix A to the report be endorsed in principle.
2. Officers progress a formal exercise to consider options for the preferred route to market to deliver the redevelopment of the town centre in the context of Members 2035 regeneration vision in order to report the outcomes of this exercise to Cabinet by late 2017.
3. The appointment of specialist external advisors in accordance with the Officer Scheme of Delegations which are required to progress the exercise be approved.
4. An initial revenue allocation of £200k representing a fees budget for this next stage of work be approved.
5. The Director of Legal Services or his nominated representative be authorised to sign and affix the Common Seal of the Council to all contractual documentation necessary to give effect to the above authorisations and delegations.

## **FREE SCHOOL WAVE 12 - OASIS ACADEMY**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 7 – Free School Wave 12.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The recent announcements in relation to a new Free School for Oldham be noted.
2. The Director of Legal Services or his nominee be authorised to enter into all necessary documentation contracts and legal commitments to arrange for the direct disposal to the Education Funding Agency the agreed site.

The meeting started at 4.30pm and finished at 4.40pm

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