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CABINET
20/11/2017 at 6.00 pm



Present: Councillor Stretton (Chair)
Councillors Brownridge, Chadderton, Harrison, F Hussain,
Jabbar and Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Akhtar.

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 THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 23RD
OCTOBER 2017**

RESOLVED – That minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23rd
October be approved as a correct record.

6 **GREATER MANCHESTER STRATEGY**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Chief
Executive which provided Members with an update on the
refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) and the
development of a new Greater Manchester Strategy
Implementation Plan.

The refreshed strategy was approved by the Greater
Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) at its meeting on 28th
July 2017 and launched at an event at the Lowry Theatre on 29th
October 2017.

The report provided an overview of the GMS, the priorities within
it and the detailed implementation plan that accompanied it.

A copy of the full GMS was set out at appendix 1 to the report.

Options/Alternatives

Members were asked to note the report.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The launch of the new Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) be noted.
2. The publication of the Greater Manchester Strategy Implementation Plan be noted and the 6-monthly update and progress monitored against a performance dashboard be noted.
3. The receipt regular updates on the GMS Implementation Plan, given the Council's key role in delivering the actions set out in this document be agreed.

7

CLOSURE OF S.48 AGMA GRANT SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to close the current Section 48 AGMA grant scheme.

Following consultation over Summer 2017, and the recommendation of the Joint GMCA/AGMA Board on the 27th October 2017, Cabinet were asked alongside the other Greater Manchester Local Authorities, to close the Section 48 scheme in conjunction with the establishment of a new programme of culture under the GMCA in 2018/19 after year 3 of the current funding cycle closed in 2017/18.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – To approve closure of the S.48 AGMA grants scheme to be replaced with a similar GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund from April 2018.

Option 2 – Not to approve the closure of the scheme.

RESOLVED – That the closure of the current Section 48 AGMA grant scheme be approved and the establishment of a new programme for culture under the GMCA in 2018/19 be noted.

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GREEN DIVIDEND

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Economy Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval for the continuation of Green Dividend projects by allocating funding for a further two years, to allow for project planning, implementation and delivery.

The Green Dividend was an initiative that enabled Oldham residents to improve and create Green spaces in their communities and had provided many opportunities for community engagement and co-operative working to help to build stronger and healthier communities.

Options/alternatives

Option 1 – To extend the project for two years at with an estimated cost of £280,300.

Option 2 – To extend the project for one year with an estimated cost of £140,200.

Option 3 – To end the project within the initial project cost and timeframe.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The green Dividend programme to be continued for a further two years.
2. The amount of £200k be allocated for Green Dividend projects over the next 2 years (2017 – 2019), together with a total of £80,400 over the two years for staffing costs.

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CARRIAGEWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods, which sought approval of the initial spend Carriageway Improvement Programme for the financial years 2017/18 and 2018/19 totalling an estimated £6.2m.

The Carriageway Improvement programme Year 1 was detailed at appendix A to the report.

Options/Alternatives

Option 1 – Strategy 1 – Reactive Programme. The roads improved in this option would be an equal split of roads across the network and would be actual resurfacing schemes with a few carriageway treatment schemes.

Option 2 – Strategy 2 – Preventative Maintenance. Would not address the most deteriorated area of the network.

Option 3 – Strategy 3 – Capital/Revenue Balance Programme. This programme provided a balance and would priorities the most cost effective parts of all categories of the programme. Should option 3 be approved there would be a call on capital resource of approximately £6.4m. The profiling of year 1 spend was estimated to be across financial years.

RESOLVED – That the programme of works as detailed at appendix 1 to the report, 2017/18-2018/19 Highways Capital Investment Programme be approved and the associated investment of £6m be agreed.

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THE 2018/19 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2018/19 and to recommend the scheme to Council for approval.

It was reported that it was a requirement each year that a billing authority must formally consider revising its Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS).

To accord with the legislative timetable it was necessary for Full Council to agree the scheme before the 31st January 2018.

The report provided details of the current scheme:

- Limited the level of support at 85% of a Band A property as the maximum amount available; and removed second adult rebate for those of working age.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 - Maintain the present level of support ie. Limiting the level of support at 85% of a Band A property as the maximum amount available.

Option 2 - Align the Council Tax Reduction scheme to reflect some or all of the changes made to Housing Benefits since April 2016.

Option 3 - Limit the maximum level of support from 2018/19 to 82.5% of Band A property.

Option 4 - Change the method of assessment for Universal Credit Council Tax Reduction cases.

Option 5 – Introduce a minimum income floor for self-employed Council Tax Reduction claimants.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The 2017/18 Council Tax Reduction scheme was to remain the same as the scheme in operation for 2017/18 with no changes.
2. The 2017/18 Council Tax Reduction scheme be commended to Full Council for approval so that it was not changed from that operating in 2017/18.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEAR REVIEW 2017/18

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which provided the Cabinet with details of the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the first half of 2017/18 and provided a comparison of performance against the 2017/18 Treasury Management Strategy and prudential indicators.

The Council was required to consider the performance of the Treasury Management function in order to comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Revised Code of Practice.

The report set out:

- An economic update for the first six months of 2017/18;
- A review of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy;
- The Council's capital expenditure (prudential indicators);
- A review of the Council's investment portfolio for 2017/18;
- A review of the Council's borrowing strategy for 2017/18;
- Why there has been no debt rescheduling undertaken during 2017/18;
- A review of compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits for 2017/18.

Options/Alternatives

In order that the Council complied with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management the Council had no option other to consider and approve the contents of the report.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Treasury Management activity for the first half of the financial year 2017/18 and the projected outturn position be approved.
2. The amendments to both Authorised and Operational Boundary for external debt as set out in the table at Section 2.4.5 of the report be approved.
3. The amendments to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as set out in table at section 2.4.5 of the report be approved.
4. The report be commended to Council for approval.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Finance which sought approval for the Council to provide a shareholder loan to the Manchester Airport Group (MAG) along with other Greater Manchester Authority shareholders.

The loan would allow the Manchester Airport Group to support the transformation projects which would allow the business to continue to grow and enable future anticipated dividends to be paid.

The report set out investment proposals for MAG companies and the requirement for a shareholder loan which would secure

future business plan growth and the longer term sustainability of the business.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Not to agree the funding package.

Option 2 – To agree the funding package.

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

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**CHALLENGE FUND: A62 OLDHAM WAY - A669
MIDDLETON ROAD BRIDGE STRENGTHENING – TENDER
ACCEPTANCE REPORT**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval for the award of a civil engineering contract in excess of £400,000 to the contractor of choice for the A62 Oldham Way- A669 Middleton Road Bridge strengthening following a tender selection process.

The report provided details of the scheme, cost and tendering process.

Option /Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Agree to appoint the contractor of choice and enable a purchase order for the works value to be raised.

Option 2 - Do not appoint the contractor of choice. This would mean the funding available for Middleton Road Bridge strengthening scheme could not be utilised in the timescales the Department for Transport had set out.

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

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**DISPOSAL OF LAND AT FORMER BYRON STREET
SCHOOL AND FORMER POLICE STATION, CARDIGAN
STREET, ROYTON**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Economy and Skills which sought approval to accept an offer for the Land at former Byron Street School and former Police Station, Cardigan Street Royton following an 8 week tender exercise.

Options/Alternatives

Option 1 – Do Nothing.

Option 2 – Accept any of the offers submitted.

Option 3 – Accept the most economically advantageous offer.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information at Item 18 of the agenda before making 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.



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STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 12 – Strategic Investment.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The proposals set out in the report, and in particular the recommendations for financial support to the Manchester and Stanstead transformation and Stanstead transformation programme through the form of further shareholder loans;
2. The Transformation Programme outlined in the report is fully aligned to the strategic, economic and regeneration objectives for the City region be noted.
3. The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Legal Services be authorised to negotiate and finalise the detailed arrangements in respect of the shareholder loan and to progress the financial and legal work associated with it.
4. The increase in capital expenditure to finance the shareholder loan be approved and the Director of Finance in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and HR be authorised to finalise the financing arrangements at the time the local transaction is undertaken.
5. All other recommendations as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

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CHALLENGE FUND: A62 OLDHAM WAY - A669 MIDDLETON ROAD BRIDGE STRENGTHENING – TENDER ACCEPTANCE REPORT

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 17 – Challenge Fund: A62 Oldham Way – A669 Middleton Road Bridge Strengthening – Tender Acceptance report.

RESOLVED – That the contract for the A62 Oldham Way – A669 Middleton Road Bridge Strengthening works, following the tender selection process, be awarded to the preferred bidder as detailed within the commercially sensitive report.

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DISPOSAL OF LAND AT FORMER BYRON STREET SCHOOL AND FORMER POLICE STATION, CARDIGAN STREET, ROYTON

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 14 - Disposal of land at former Byron Street School and former Police Station, Cardigan Street, Royton.

RESOLVED – That the resolution as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.15pm