

CABINET

MINUTES OF MEETING Tuesday 30th March 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Brett (Chair); Councillors Daalat Ali, Blundell, Neil Emmott, Emsley, Heakin, Rowbotham and Wardle

OFFICERS: Steve Rumbelow (Chief Executive), Mark Widdup (Director of Neighbourhoods), John Searle (Director of Economy), Claire Richardson (Director of Strategic Commissioning/DASS), Asif Ibrahim (Assistant Director – Legal Governance and Workforce/Monitoring Officer), Julie Murphy (Chief Finance Officer/ Section 151 Officer), Mark Robinson (Assistant Director – Economy, Planning and Development), Steve Kay (Assistant Director – Children’s Services, Early Help and Schools), Sohida Banu, Louise Egan, Chris Highton, Peter Maynard, Helen Walton and Caroline Wolfenden (Neighbourhoods Directorate), Peter Gregory (Economy Directorate) and Alison James (Resources Directorate)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public

116 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Iftikhar Ahmed

117 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Voting Co-Opted Members, declarations of interest were made as follows:

Councillor Blundell declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 15 – New Secondary School Littleborough Site.

118 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Chair indicated that he had accepted a late item onto the Agenda, Digital Experience Strategy – to be considered as Agenda Item 16a.

119 ITEMS FOR EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Cabinet were informed that there had been representations from the Littleborough Civic Trust that Agenda Item 22 – Land in Littleborough Village should be heard in public as the Trust is of the opinion that it would be in the public interest to disclose details of the location and intended use of the land in question.

The response from the Council was that the item had been restricted as it was likely to contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of both the authority and/or individuals. Furthermore, to be able to make an informed decision the confidential information would be required to be considered by Cabinet and could therefore not be left out of the report.

Cabinet were requested to determine whether the Item should be considered on the public or private Agenda.

Resolved:

1. That Agenda Item 22 – Land in Littleborough Village be considered on the Private Agenda.

120 MINUTES

Resolved:

1. That the Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 25th February 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.

121 FINANCE UPDATE REPORT P10

Consideration was given to a report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Delivery / Chief Finance Officer which advised Cabinet of the Council's forecast 2020/21 financial position as at the end of January 2021.

Alternatives considered:

Not reporting on financial performance puts at risk the achievement of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan. Effective budget management is critical to ensuring financial resources are spent in line with the budget and are targeted towards the Council's priorities. Monitoring enables the early identification of variations against the plan and facilitates timely corrective action.

Resolved:

1. That the forecast 2020/21 financial positions for Revenue, DSG, Capital, and the Collection Fund as at the end of January 2021, as detailed in section 4 of the report be noted;
2. That the forecast Health & Social Care Pool Budget position as detailed in section 4.2. of the report be noted;
3. That the Budget Pressure requests detailed in section 4.3 of the report be approved and that Cabinet note that any increased budget requirement in relation to the annual review of insurance provision will be funded from Public Contingency;
4. That the transfer of £7,451k of Covid 19 funding into 2 earmarked reserves, for use in 2021/22, and the transfer of £500k to the Development Fund Reserve as detailed in section 4.1.4. of the report be noted;
5. That the payment of Link4Life's Management Fee across the first 4 months of 2021/22 to support Link4Life to mitigate the financial impact of the Covid pandemic as detailed in section 4.1.4 of the report be approved;
6. That it be noted that, after accounting for agreed budget carry forwards any remaining in-year savings will be transferred to the Equalisation Reserve;
7. That the forecast unachieved Savings target in section 4.4. of the report be noted;
8. That the net Capital budget changes of £687k for 2020/21 and £3.000m in 2021/22 as detailed in section 4.6.1. of the report be noted;

9. That the Capital re-phasing of £7,568k detailed in section 4.6.3. of the report be noted;
10. That the use of the £170k compensation payment received relating to Middleton Arena be approved to be used to fund related Legal costs with the remaining balance used to replenish the Asset Management Capital Scheme for costs already incurred as detailed in 4.6.2. of the report.

Reasons for the decision:

Cabinet Members should be kept updated on the financial position of the authority, as effective budget management is critical to ensuring financial resources are spent in line with the budget and are targeted towards the Council's priorities.

The report focuses on the forecast 2020/21 financial position as at the end January 2021.

Eligible for call in – no

122 THE FORMATION OF A COMMUNITY RAIL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CALDER VALLEY LINE

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for a Thriving Economy/Director of Economy which requested approval of the formation of a Community Rail Partnership (CRP) for the Calder Valley Line, which would include all five of the borough's railway stations along with seven railway stations in Calderdale.

Cabinet were advised that further to the report, that funding for the proposed post to support the CRP would be from a combination of revenue and capital funding.

Alternatives considered:

The alternatives considered were:

Calderdale Council acts as the accountable body for the CRP instead of Rochdale Borough Council

This would be very similar to the recommended approach although Rochdale Borough Council may have marginally less control in this scenario.

Establishing a CRP using an alternative model to the accountable body proposal

It would take much longer to establish a CRP as a company limited under guarantee or as a community interest company as these types of organisations are required to have their own legal status and so need to establish their own accounting, purchasing and employment functions.

Establishing a CRP with Rochdale Borough Council acting as the accountable body would enable the partnership to start work sooner, at a time when it is needed to help the railway recover after the Coronavirus pandemic. Once the

CRP is operating well, the intention is to assist the partnership to transition to a different format which better suits its aims, objectives and planned activities.

Not forming a CRP

This option would mean missing out on an opportunity to harness community support for the borough's railway line. Consultation to date shows there are local volunteers who would be willing to give their time to encourage greater use of rail services. As the rail industry works to recover from the impact of the pandemic, this would benefit residents, businesses, visitors and the rail industry.

By not forming a CRP, local organisations would also have less opportunity to influence timetabling decisions as one of the main ways in which rail operators consult local communities about timetabling changes is via CRPs.

Resolved:

1. That the formation of a CRP for the Calder Valley Line, in collaboration with Calderdale Council be approved;
2. That Rochdale Borough Council acting as the accountable body for the CRP be approved;
3. That the establishment of a part-time post to support the CRP be approved, to be funded from a combination of revenue and capital funding as appropriate.

Reasons for the decision:

It is proposed that the CRP for the Calder Valley Line is established and that Rochdale Borough Council acts as the accountable body.

The CRP requires an accountable body for finance and employment purposes.

Eligible for call in - yes

123 ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A JOINT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT 'PLACES FOR EVERYONE'

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for a Thriving Economy/Director of Economy which advised that on 11th December 2020, following the withdrawal of Stockport Council from the production of the Greater Manchester Plan for Jobs, Homes & the Environment, the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, the AGMA Executive Board agreed to consider producing a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) of the nine remaining Greater Manchester (GM) districts, and asked officers to report back on the implications of this.

The report provided further details on the next steps in relation to that joint plan of the nine GM districts, to be known as "Places for Everyone", including the required decisions by individual Districts to initiate this process.

Alternatives considered:

As set out in the report, if the appropriate governance arrangements are not in place to progress the joint plan 'Places for Everyone', then it will not be possible to proceed. Therefore, there are no reasonably practical alternatives to the setting up of this new committee and delegating decision to it to enable this important plan to progress.

Resolved:

1. It be noted that full Council has approved the making of an agreement with the other 8 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) to prepare a joint development plan document to cover strategic policies including housing and employment land requirements and, as appropriate, strategic site allocations and Green Belt boundary amendments and associated infrastructure across the nine districts.
2. That approval be given to delegate to the joint committee of the nine Greater Manchester councils the formulation and preparation of the joint development plan document to cover housing and employment land requirements including, as appropriate, strategic site allocations and Green Belt boundary amendments and associated infrastructure across the nine Greater Manchester districts insofar as such matters are executive functions.
3. It be noted that the following are the sole responsibility of full Council:
 - Responsibility for giving of instructions to the executive to reconsider the draft plan submitted by the executive for the authority's consideration;
 - The amendment of the draft joint development plan document submitted by the executive for the full Council's consideration;
 - The approval of the joint development plan document for the purposes of submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination;
 - The adoption of the joint development plan document.

Reasons for the decision:

To ensure that the appropriate governance arrangements are in place to support the production of a joint plan of the nine GM districts, to be known as "Places for Everyone".

Eligible for call in – no

124 ROCHDALE TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Inclusive Community/Director of Neighbourhoods which sought approval to the commencement of the process to extend and vary the existing Rochdale Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

Alternatives considered:

Members could agree to commencing the process to decide whether the existing PSPO should be extended, with the restrictions remaining unchanged, subject to the necessary consultation, EIA and legal thresholds being met;

Members could agree to discharge the PSPO or let the current PSPO lapse following the 23 July 2021.

Resolved:

1. That the commencement of the process to extend and vary the Rochdale Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order 2018 be approved.

This will include the following:

- Ensuring the Council is satisfied that the criteria for an extension and a variation has been met;
- The undertaking of a public consultation;
- The undertaking of an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA);
- A further report being submitted to Members to help inform the final decision as to approve the extension and variation or not.

Reasons for the decision:

On the 23 July 2018, Rochdale Borough Council introduced the 'Rochdale Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order 2018' following a public consultation. The Order remains in force for three years subject to any variation or extension of the Order.

Subject to a public consultation and the undertaking of an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA), it is proposed that the restrictions of the current PSPO will be extended for an additional three years and varied.

A further report will be produced for Members following the undertaking of the public consultation and full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to help inform the final decision as to approve the proposed extension and variation, or not.
Eligible for call in - yes

125 THE BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE (35 ROYLE BARN ROAD, ROCHDALE, OL11 3DT) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2021

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place/ Director of Neighbourhoods which sought authorisation to make The Borough of Rochdale (35 Royle Barn Road, Rochdale, OL11 3DT) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

Alternatives considered:

To continue unsuccessfully to establish the owner of the property – this is not considered to be likely to bring the building back into use.

To do nothing – this is not acceptable due to the negative amenity impact an Empty property in a prominent position within a local centre, particularly since the fire damage incidence and security issues of the site.

Resolved:

1. That the making of the Borough of Rochdale (35 Royle Barn Road, Rochdale OL11 3DT) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021, utilising powers granted under Section 17 Housing Act for the acquisition of land for the purpose of providing housing be approved;
2. That the Assistant Director of Resources (Legal, Governance and Workforce), and the Director of Economy be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures and associated action in relation to the Order;
3. That the Head of Service for Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place and Chief Finance Officer be authorised to proceed with the CPO process once an understanding of the financial implications has been determined;
4. That after considering the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998, Cabinet does not consider that there is a breach of the Act if compulsory acquisition of the land within the Order as described in the submitted report is authorised.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council should only make a CPO if it is satisfied that there is an overwhelming case in the public interest. The making of the proposed CPO is in the public interest because:

- The proposed intervention is likely to bring the property back into use.
- The provision of housing will contribute towards meeting housing need in the borough.
- A refurbished property would contribute to meeting housing need, improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty, help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through passive surveillance from the new residents, and generally improve the attractiveness and vitality of the area.

The private property 35 Royle Barn Road, Rochdale OL11 3DT is an unoccupied property.

Ownership of the property is uncertain as the title of the property is not registered with the land registry and there is a lack of title information and verification of ownership and insufficient evidence to pursue this in full.

The property is a source of nuisance to the neighbourhood which is evidenced by the number of complaints received by Council and the most recent incident which has resulted in significant fire damage to the property, the most appropriate course of action to bring this property back into use is Compulsory

Purchase Order (CPO). If acquired, the council intends to redevelop the site to bring it back into use as housing subject to a thorough options appraisal.

The view taken is that proceeding by way of a Compulsory Purchase Order in the absence of not being able to establish the correct ownership details then this is only way to ensure the property is brought back into use.

Eligible for call in - yes

126 THE BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE (20 OLIVE STREET, HEYWOOD OL10 4EQ) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2021

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place/ Director of Neighbourhoods which sought authorisation for the making of The Borough of Rochdale (20 Olive Street, Heywood OL10 4EQ) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

Alternatives considered:

To continue unsuccessfully to engage with the owner of the property – this is not considered to be likely to bring the building back into use.

To do nothing – this is not acceptable due to the negative amenity impact an empty property has on the local area.

Resolved:

1. That the making of The Borough of Rochdale (20 Olive Street, Heywood OL10 4EQ) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021, utilising powers granted under Section 17 Housing Act for the acquisition of land for the purpose of providing housing be approved. This power includes the acquisition of empty properties where there appears to be no other prospect of those empty properties being brought back into use;
2. That the Assistant Director of Resources (Legal, Governance and Workforce), and the Director of Economy be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures and associated action in relation to the Order;
3. That the Head of Service for Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place and Chief Finance Officer be authorised to proceed with the CPO process once an understanding of the financial implications has been determined;
4. That after considering the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998, Cabinet does not consider that there is a breach of the Act if compulsory acquisition of the land within the Order as described in the submitted report is authorised.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council should only make a CPO if it is satisfied that there is an overwhelming case in the public interest. The making of the proposed CPO is in the public interest because:

- The proposed intervention is likely to bring the property back into use.

- The provision of housing will contribute towards meeting housing need in the borough.
- A refurbished property would contribute to meeting housing need, improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty, help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through passive surveillance from the new residents, and generally improve the attractiveness and vitality of the area.

The private property 20 Olive Street, Heywood OL10 4EQ, is an empty property which has deteriorated and has fallen into disrepair.

Ownership of the property is uncertain as the title to the property is not registered with Land Registry. The Empty Property Team has attempted to engage with the person believed to have a beneficial interest in the property since 2015 with little progress.

The property by virtue of its dilapidated condition causes significant visual harm to the local area. If acquired, the council intends to refurbish the property and to bring it back into use as housing. Various options exist for renovation and redevelopment, pending a thorough options appraisal.

The view taken is that proceeding by way of a Compulsory Purchase Order is a last resort but the only way to ensure the property is brought back into use. Officers will continue to keep dialogue open with the beneficial owner in the hope of coming to an agreement for the future of the property without the need for CPO.

Eligible for call in - yes

127 THE BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE (THE NAVIGATION INN, DRAKE STREET, ROCHDALE, OL16 1PN) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2021

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place/ Director of Neighbourhoods which sought authorisation for the making of The Borough of Rochdale (The Navigation Inn, Drake Street, Rochdale, OL16 1PN) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

In considering the submitted report, Cabinet had received a written representation from Mr M Percy and verbal representations from Mr S Sadiq who was present at the meeting.

Alternatives considered:

To continue to try to assist the owner to refurbish/redevelop the property – this was not considered feasible for the reasons outlined within the report.

Resolved:

1. That the making of the 'Borough of Rochdale (Former Navigation Inn Public House, Drake Street, Rochdale OL16 1PN) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021' utilising powers contained in Section 226, 1(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 be approved;

2. That the Assistant Director of Resources (Legal, Governance and Workforce), and the Director of Economy be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures and associated action in relation to the Order;
3. That the Head of Service for Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place and Chief Finance Officer be authorised to proceed with the CPO process once an understanding of the financial implications has been determined;
4. That after considering the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998, Cabinet does not consider that there is a breach of the Act if compulsory acquisition of the land within the Order as described in the submitted report is authorised.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council should only make a CPO if it is satisfied that it is a last resort and there is a compelling case in the public interest. The making of the proposed CPO is in the public interest because:

- The proposed intervention is likely to bring the property back into use;
- The provision of housing will contribute towards meeting housing need in the borough on a brownfield site;
- A refurbished property would contribute to meeting housing need, improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty, help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through passive surveillance from the new residents, and generally improve the attractiveness and vitality of a main road into the town centre.

The former Navigation Inn public house on Drake Street, Rochdale, is an empty property which has been empty since 2009 and is showing signs of neglect and extensive deterioration.

The building is located on a main frontage opposite Central Retail Park and near Wet Rake Gardens, highly visible to anybody walking from Rochdale Railway station to the town centre down Drake Street, and its long term vacancy has a negative effect on the reputation of the town centre and the borough.

The property by virtue of its poor and neglected condition causes significant visual harm to the local area. There have been reported incidents of unauthorised entry into the building. If acquired, the Council intends to redevelop the site to bring it back into use as housing. Various options exist for renovation or demolition and redevelopment, pending a thorough options appraisal.

Given the long-term dereliction of the building and the lack of progress on the part of the owner to bring the site back into productive use, a Compulsory Purchase Order is considered to be a last resort and the only mechanism available to the Council to facilitate development of the site.

Eligible for call in - yes

128 THE BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE (255 ROOLEY MOOR ROAD, ROCHDALE OL12 7EA) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2021

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place/ Director of Neighbourhoods which sought authorisation to make The Borough of Rochdale (255 Rooley Moor Road, Rochdale OL12 7EA) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

In considering the submitted report, Cabinet had received a written representation from Mr N Doggett.

Alternatives considered:

To continue unsuccessfully to try to engage with the beneficial owners of the property – this is not considered to be likely to bring the building back into use.

To do nothing – this is not acceptable due to the negative amenity impact an empty property in a prominent position, particularly since the fire damage incidence and security issues of the site.

Resolved:

1. That the making of the Borough of Rochdale (255 Rooley Moor Road, Rochdale OL12 7EA) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021 utilising powers granted within Sections 226, 1(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 be approved;
2. That the Assistant Director of Resources (Legal, Governance and Workforce), and the Director of Economy be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures and associated action in relation to the Order;
3. That the Head of Service for Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place and Chief Finance Officer be authorised to proceed with the CPO process once an understanding of the financial implications has been determined;
4. That after considering the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998, Cabinet does not consider that there is a breach of the Act if compulsory acquisition of the land within the Order as described in the submitted report is authorised.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council should only make a CPO if it is satisfied that there is an overwhelming case in the public interest. The making of the proposed CPO is in the public interest because:

- The proposed intervention is likely to bring the property back into use.
- The provision of housing will contribute towards meeting housing need in the borough.
- A refurbished property would contribute to meeting housing need, improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty, help to reduce

crime and anti-social behaviour through passive surveillance from the new residents, and generally improve the attractiveness and vitality of the area.

The private property 255 Rooley Moor Road, Rochdale, OL12 7EA, is an empty property which has suffered significant fire damage and has fallen into disrepair.

The property by virtue of its dilapidated condition causes significant visual harm to the local area. If acquired, the Council intends to bring it back into use as housing including looking at options for renovation or demolition and redevelopment, pending a thorough options appraisal.

The view taken is that proceeding by way of a Compulsory Purchase Order is the only way to ensure the property is brought back into use. Officers will continue to keep dialogue open with the beneficial owners in the hope of coming to an agreement for the future of the property without having to use CPO powers.

Eligible for call in - yes

129 THE BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE (3 CROFT STREET ROCHDALE OL12 9AD) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2021

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place/ Director of Neighbourhoods which sought authorisation to make The Borough of Rochdale (3 Croft Street Rochdale OL12 9AD) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021.

Alternatives considered:

To continue unsuccessfully to attempt to establish ownership of the property – this is not considered to be likely to bring the building back into use.

To do nothing – this is not acceptable due to the negative amenity impact an empty property has on the local area.

Resolved:

1. That the making of the Borough of Rochdale (3 Croft Street, Rochdale OL12 9AD) Compulsory Purchase Order 2021 utilising powers granted under Section 17 Housing Act for the acquisition of land for the purpose of providing housing be approved. This power includes the acquisition of empty properties where there appears to be no other prospect of those empty properties being brought back into use;
2. That the Assistant Director of Resources (Legal, Governance and Workforce), and the Director of Economy be authorised to undertake the necessary legal procedures and associated action in relation to the Order;
3. That the Head of Service for Housing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place and Chief Finance Officer be authorised to proceed with the CPO process once an understanding of the financial implications has been determined;

4. That after considering the implications of the Human Rights Act 1998, Cabinet does not consider that there is a breach of the Act if compulsory acquisition of the land within the Order as described in the submitted report is authorised.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council should only make a CPO if it is satisfied that there is an overwhelming case in the public interest. The making of the proposed CPO is in the public interest because:

- The proposed intervention is likely to bring the property back into use.
- The provision of housing will contribute towards meeting housing need in the borough.
- A refurbished property would contribute to meeting housing need, improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty, help to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour through passive surveillance from the new residents, and generally improve the attractiveness and vitality of the area.

The private property 3 Croft Street, Rochdale OL12 9AD, is an empty property which has deteriorated and has fallen into disrepair.

Ownership of the property is uncertain as title to the property is not registered with Land Registry. The Empty Property Team has attempted to establish ownership of the property but, despite attempts to engage with the Solicitors acting for the Duchy of Lancaster, no progress has been made.

The deteriorating condition of the property causes significant visual harm to the local area. If acquired, the council intends to refurbish the property to bring it back into use as housing. Various options exist for renovation and redevelopment, pending a thorough options appraisal.

The view taken is that proceeding by way of a Compulsory Purchase Order in the absence of being able to establish ownership of the property is a last resort and the only way to ensure the property is refurbished and brought back into use.

Eligible for call in - yes

130 CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN SCHOOLS 2021/2023

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Getting a Good Start/Director of Children's Services which sought approval for proposed expenditure on various schemes in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. These regulations provide that Cabinet approval should be obtained before new expenditure can be incurred. This report requests approval and tender acceptance, where necessary, for the outlined and reserve schemes proposed, contingency and other specified budgets.

Alternatives considered:

Proposals are put forward in line with priorities and commitments approved in previous Cabinet reports. Major priorities for the forthcoming year are

additional pupil place planning and a school building condition works programme to address the highest priority issues.

Resolved:

1. That the following future capital allocations be noted:
 - School Condition Allocations £1,808,000 - (indicative figure for receipt in each of years 2021/22 and 2022/23);
 - Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) £480,000 - (indicative figure for receipt in each of years 2021/22 and 2022/23);
 - Basic Need Allocations £4,749,871 - (DfE confirmed figure for 2020/21);
2. That approval be given to the expenditure on the proposed final programmes as detailed within the report (Appendix A), for invitations to tender to be issued and accepted and for the supporting contracts, PFI deeds of variation (where necessary) and any incidental and ancillary documentation, to be signed in order to deliver the development schemes outlined in the appendices, in accordance with Financial Regulations:
 - Basic Need Programme of £22,941,817 as set out in Appendix A;
 - Capital Programme of £3,527,500 as set out in Appendix A;
3. That the Director of Children's Services be authorised to invite and evaluate tenders for the projects described in the report and enter into the appropriate contracts and incidental and ancillary documentation in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder and Assistant Director Legal Governance & Workforce, as per the Council Constitution;
4. That the Council's Section 151 officer be authorised to allocate and vire funding to Children's Services to support the programme when it is received.

Reasons for the decision:

The Authority has received confirmation of allocations for Basic Need for 2020/21, this is less than in previous years to reflect the DfE's provision of the new Secondary Free Schools, rather than the LA demand on, and proposals for, extra school places previously reported to Cabinet on 29th September 2020, will be followed by further phases as identified. Repairs to the school estate have considered all commitments and urgent demands before making recommendations to address the most significant issues, in conjunction with continued DFC allocations to schools.

As well as on-going support for the current phases of capital works already committed, a new programme of works is proposed to address major condition needs based on Asset Management information, recently commissioned and prioritised full building condition survey information and priority place planning demands in order to ensure that the LA's statutory obligations are satisfied for the provision of school places and continued education. The full recommendations for inclusion in this year's capital programme were outlined in Appendix A, including costs estimated by the Council's Property Services Team.

Eligible for call in - yes

131 NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL LITTLEBOROUGH SITE

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Getting a Good Start/Director of Children's Services which advised that to move forward on the delivery of the new Star Academies' Littleborough Secondary school, agreement is needed to dispose of the land at Littleborough Playing Fields.

Any conditions required either before disposal of the land, during the process of building the school or after occupation of the school are to be agreed within the Heads of Terms agreement and the report sought approval to delegate final sign off of the document.

Alternatives considered:

Secondary school places have been under pressure in the north Pennines area for several years and it continues to be a challenge to place families in their preferred schools in the area. A decision to not dispose of this land for the school would mean more children travelling to central Rochdale for their Secondary schooling with more families possibly opting to move out of borough.

Resolved:

1. That the disposal of the Littleborough Playing Field site edged red in Appendix 1 of the report be approved;
2. That the provision of a Section 151 letter from the Council to the Department for Education to cover the expenditure on offsite highways costs up to a maximum of £1,000,000, as required by the Heads of Terms agreement, with the understanding that further funding may be requested be approved. These costs will be met from school's Basic Need funding.
3. That the Director of Economy and the Director of Resources, acting jointly, be given delegated authority for final sign off of the Heads of Terms for the disposal of site;
4. That the Assistant Director of Resources (Legal, Governance & Workforce) be authorised to advise appropriate Council Services, to review and prepare the appropriate legal documents and execute such documents on behalf of the Council as required.

Reasons for the decision:

The local authority has a statutory duty to offer every child living in the borough, and who applies, a school place. Birth rates have been increasing for the last 15 years and secondary schools in Rochdale have reached capacity. The area of north Pennines has continued to see increasing new housing, and has seen continued and sustained rises in pupil numbers. Numbers of pupils are expected to continue to rise until 2027/28.

In June 2019 the government announced north Pennines had received a successful bid from the Star Academies trust to open a new Secondary school

in the area. Previously in June 2018, Cabinet had approved Littleborough Playing fields as the site for the new school.

The Star Academies trust have had 14 new schools opened through the governments free school programme that have all had “Outstanding” with their first Ofsted rating. The Trust is committed to working with all stakeholders in the local community and want to deliver a school that continues to uphold its reputation for excellence and leadership.

Legal and commercial details related to disposal of the Littleborough Playing Fields site are contained in Appendix 3. Because of the complicated nature of the site location for the Secondary school, the Department for Education requires a commitment from the Council with regards to sharing costs of a Planning Authority compliant plan for highways works for access to the site.

Eligible for call in - yes

132 DIGITAL EXPERIENCE STRATEGY

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Delivery/Director of Neighbourhoods which presented the digital experience strategy for approval. The strategy sets out a clear vision to improve our place and people’s lives through digital transformation. It includes clear priorities to be a digital place that utilises new technologies and systems and digital people which aims to ensure our residents are able to take advantage of those new technologies and better their lives.

The report also set out the next steps following approval of the strategy. This includes establishing a partnership working group which will be tasked initially with developing a delivery plan which will sit behind the strategy and this will be brought back to Cabinet for approval later this year.

Alternatives considered:

The draft digital strategy does show that we can already point to achievements in all of the thematic areas proposed, therefore an alternative could be to continue as we are, without a strategy.

This option has been discounted as it is considered that by setting a clear vision, priorities and outcomes that we want to achieve, a strategy will help us to better focus our resources and prioritise work in the areas that most need to be addressed. In addition it will provide a clear narrative for us to be able to engage and collectively work with our partners and communities.

Resolved:

1. That The Digital Experience Strategy, appended to the report, be approved for consultation and as a basis for developing a delivery plan;
2. That the proposed next steps, which includes establishing a digital strategy working group, involving key stakeholders from the Council, CCG, wider health, education, VCFSE and business sector in the development of a partnership delivery plan to enable us to deliver the digital priorities set out in the strategy be approved.

Reasons for the decision:

To approve a clear strategy and way forwards for digital transformation across the borough, ensuring that our people and places are able to benefit from the opportunities that digital technologies and skills create.

Eligible for call in – no

133 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:

That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following four items of business, in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

Reason for the Decision:

Should the press and public remain during the debate on the following items, there may be a disclosure of information that is deemed to be exempt under Parts 1 and 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

134 CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN SCHOOLS 2021/2023 - APPENDIX A

Resolved:

1. That Appendix A to the report on the public Agenda – Capital Investment in Schools 2021/2023 be noted and approved.

Eligible for call in – yes

135 NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL LITTLEBOROUGH SITE - APPENDIX 3

Resolved:

1. That Appendix 3 to the public report New Secondary School Littleborough Site be noted and approved.

Eligible for call in – yes

136 PUBLIC SECTOR DECARBONISATION SCHEME

Consideration was given to the report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Sustainability/Director of Neighbourhoods which provided an update on update Cabinet on the grant award to Rochdale Borough Council under the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) and to seek approval to accept the grant award through the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) for Salix grant funding under the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS).

Alternatives considered:

No alternatives were outlined within the report.

Resolved:

1. That acceptance of the grant award under the PSDS be approved and authorisation be granted for the procurement and delivery of capital works as detailed in Appendix 1 of the submitted report;
2. That the acceptance and approval to spend be delegated to the Director of Neighbourhoods and Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Corporate Delivery once the formal grant funding offer has been received and that the Chief Finance Officer be

- authorised to sign the Grant Funding Agreement between Rochdale Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority;
3. That the Assistant Director (Legal, Governance and Workforce) be authorised to progress and sign any legal agreements necessary to enable the delivery of the projects detailed within the submitted report, subject to agreement with other key officers as necessary.

Reasons for the decision:

The PSDS programme in Rochdale is likely to lead to significant expenditure across the Council. Under the Council's constitution this is a key decision.

The PSDS programme represents a significant investment in decarbonising the public estate and will involve the delivery of a complex and time dependent programme of works in order to draw down the PSDS grant funding from GMCA.

Eligible for call in - yes

137 SECURITY CONTRACT

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for Quality of Place/Director of Neighbourhoods relating to the extension of contracts for security at the specified Council buildings and to the modification of the contract to add CCTV as detailed within the submitted report.

Alternatives considered:

No alternatives had been considered.

Resolved:

1. That the contract extension for security in the specified Council buildings as detailed within the submitted report be approved for a further 12 months before re-tendering the contract in 2022 noting that a further report will be produced prior to re-tendering and that Star Procurement will be fully involved in the tender process.
2. That approval be given to the inclusion of CCTV within the contract as detailed within the report.

Reasons for the decision:

To facilitate the extension of the security contract in the specified Council buildings for 12 months and to modify the contract to include CCTV as detailed within the report.

Eligible for call in - no

138 LAND IN LITTLEBOROUGH VILLAGE

Consideration was given to the report of the Cabinet Member for a Thriving Economy/ Director of Economy seeking approval for the Council to acquire land and property in Littleborough Village as shown on the plan appended to the submitted report.

Alternatives considered:

The Council could turn down the opportunity to acquire the interest at this point in time. Should the Council adopt this course of action, it will be unable to implement any regeneration proposals for this area of the Village, unless it follows compulsory acquisition procedures or acquires the land and property interests in advance of any proposed CPO.

Resolved:

1. That the acquisition of the land and property in Littleborough Village on the terms set out within the submitted report be approved;
2. That the Assistant Director, Legal, Governance & Workforce be authorised to complete all necessary legal formalities in order to give effect to the acquisition of the land and property on the terms set out within the submitted report.

Reasons for the decision:

The Council is unlikely to be able to achieve its regeneration objectives for Littleborough Village unless it acquires the property interests in question.

Eligible for call in – yes