

CABINET, 9TH NOVEMBER 2020

PRESENT: Councillor T Swift MBE (Leader, In the Chair)
Councillors Dacre, Lynn, Metcalfe, Patient, Scullion and Wilkinson.

188 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

(The meeting closed at 21:05 hours).

189 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CABINET HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER 2020

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 5th October 2020 be noted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

190 QUESTION TIME

The Leader, Councillor T Swift MBE, invited members of the public and Councillors to ask questions of the Leader and of the other Cabinet Members. An oral response would, if possible, be provided at the meeting, but if this was not possible a written response would be provided to the questioner within 7 working days. The full details of questions asked, and answers provided would also be published on the Council's website.

(a) A question was asked by Councillor Evans

The Leader, Councillor T Swift MBE responded and advised that a written response would be provided to the question.

191 ANTI-POVERTY ACTION PLAN - ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Councillor Lynn, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Public Services and Communities presented a written report of the Director, Public Services, which updated Members on the work that had been undertaken across the borough to reduce poverty. The action plan represented a partnership response to poverty and a wide range of partner organisations were involved in its delivery. Tackling poverty was key to realising Calderdale's Vision 2024, a place where people would realise their potential and where children received the best start in life. Recent data showed that people living in poverty had been more severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic than people not living in poverty. The pandemic was also creating significant new forms of hardship and vulnerabilities.

Councillor Wilkinson, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children and Young People's Services thanked the Community Foundation and the Piece Hall for the 'Never Hungry Again' campaign and all the businesses that had supported it. The Early Years Peer? Review was a key piece of work that would help reduce poverty and inequality.

Councillor Evans asked whether the creation of affordable homes was a key factor in tackling poverty?

Councillor Scullion confirmed that there had been difficulty locating affordable sites, but work was ongoing in this area.

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Councillor Lynn, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Public Services and Communities identified that the cost of warmth impacted poverty levels.

RESOLVED that:

(a) The report be noted and it agreed that the work of the Anti Poverty Steering Group continue for a further 12 months; and

(b) officers review and update the relevant sections of the action plan regularly over the next 12 months to ensure that resources are focused where they will have greatest impact on the people who are in greatest need.

192 SUPPORTING THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR: VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME 2021-24

Councillor Patient, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Climate Change and Resilience presented a written report of the Director, Regeneration and Strategy that looked at the re-commissioning proposals for a range of grants and contracts included within Calderdale Council's Voluntary Sector Commissioning programme. Those contracts and grants included in the programme were due to end in March 2021. Proposals were in place for the extension of these contracts and included arrangements for grants that would commence from April 2021 to minimise disruption to important services provided by the voluntary and community sector (VCS) during the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. The Council and the Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) continued to make progress on integrated commissioning and there was an opportunity to include the critical work of the voluntary and community sector. This would ensure the Council's commissioning investment added resilience to the sector and enhanced its contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities as well as reflecting the Council's commitment to the Keep It Local principles.

Councillor Blagbrough commented that the Adult Health and Social Care Scrutiny Board had built a good rapport with Healthwatch Calderdale and it was important to ensure that their involvement was maintained.

The Leader confirmed that Healthwatch Calderdale were playing an important role in improving people's health.

Councillor Mrs Carter declared an interest as a member of Calderdale Rotary Club that were raising funds for the voluntary sector but advised that the interest was non-pecuniary.

RESOLVED that:

a) the extension of the current contracts for Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Services, Advice Services and Healthwatch, for one year until March 2022, be approved;

b) authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration & Strategy, in consultation with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Resilience, which includes responsibility for the voluntary and community sector (VCS) to conclude negotiations on these new contracts and to enter into them;

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c) the overall scope, objectives and approach of the strategic grants programmes for culture, advice and stronger neighbourhoods set out in this report be approved; and

d) authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration & Strategy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Climate Change & Resilience for decision making relating to individual grant awards.

193 CALDERDALE OUTBREAK PREVENTION AND CONTROL PLAN

The Leader, Councillor T Swift MBE presented a written report of the Director, Public Health that updated Members on the local Outbreak Prevention and Control Plan (OPCP) implemented in July 2020. The OPCP set out how partners in Calderdale would support the prevention, containment and management of COVID-19 outbreaks and the national Test and Trace programme. When the OPCP was adopted, Calderdale had relatively low COVID-19 case rates, but these increased during July and have remained significantly above the national average continuously since then. The OPCP had been refreshed and updated to reflect the changing incidence of COVID-19 in Calderdale, changes to national policy and lessons learned locally and nationally that identified effective measures to prevent and control transmission and outbreaks.

Councillor Baker identified that there was no cross-party representation on the Outbreak Control Board (OCB) in Calderdale which he felt led to poorer outcomes for the people of Calderdale.

The Leader identified that the nature of the board had changed to a more advisory role and this point would be fed back to the OCB and would be considered.

RESOLVED that:

(a) the updated local Outbreak Prevention and Control Plan (OPCP) for Calderdale be adopted;

(b) the use of the COVID-19 local Test and Trace funding as set out in the attached report be approved; and

(c) authority be delegated to the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Leader of the Council for specific decisions about the use of the funding with oversight of the use of the resources provided by the Calderdale Recovery Co-ordinating Group.

194 EUROPEAN FUNDING - HEBDEN BRIDGE AND ERRINGDEN HILLSIDE FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEMES

Councillor Patient, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Climate Change and Resilience presented a written report of the Director, Regeneration and Strategy, which requested Cabinet approval to enter into Grant Funding Agreements with the Ministry of Housing, Local Government and Communities (MHCLG). The Council, in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA), was involved in the delivery of a programme of flood prevention and resilience investment across the Borough. The programme included a major scheme at Mytholmroyd that was approaching completion; schemes at Hebden Bridge and Brighouse that were in development;

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along with a possible scheme at Sowerby Bridge which was being appraised. In total, works in excess of £100 million were included in the Borough-wide programme with further smaller schemes being prepared along the length of the Calder Valley. The programme had been boosted by the securing of a further £12M from Central Government to support the Hebden Bridge Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS). Notwithstanding this, additional funding was needed to deliver all projects in the programme. An opportunity had arisen to secure European funding support for major schemes which would better protect Hebden Bridge and the adjacent Erringden Hillside, enhancing the resilience of both homes and employment premises to flood events, whilst supporting the Council's Vision 2024 and responding to the Climate Emergency.

Councillor Scullion declared an interest as she lived in an area that would benefit from the scheme but advised that the interest was non-pecuniary.

RESOLVED that:

(a) the entering into Grant Funding Agreements with MHCLG for £4m from the European Structural Investment Fund as a contribution to the Hebden Bridge Flood Alleviation Scheme and £0.5m as a contribution to the Erringden Hillside Flood Alleviation Scheme be approved;

(b) Calderdale Council to act as the Accountable Body be approved; and

(c) authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Strategy, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to negotiate and finalise all appropriate documentation.

195 WEST YORKSHIRE-PLUS TRANSPORT FUND (WY+TF) ELLAND RAILWAY STATION ACCESS PACKAGE – LAND ACQUISITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF COMPULSORY PURCHASE POWERS, AND SIDE ROADS ORDER

Councillor Scullion, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Strategy presented a written report of the Director, Regeneration and Strategy that addressed Calderdale's ambition to be the Best Borough in the North and to deliver on its Vision 2024. This combined with the West Yorkshire Transport Strategy 2040, would enable the Council to make significant additions and improvements to both infrastructure and the public realm environment for both Elland and the West Vale areas. The challenge was significant, sustainable travel infrastructure required improvement in quality and coherence if non-car use was to become a viable alternative. Alongside the development of a new rail station, a series of improvements had been developed to improve car free access to the proposed station from across the town and the wider area. These would also support the sustainable travel connection from Elland and West Vale and the direct connection onto the Route 66 cycleway with links to both Halifax and Brighouse. The construction of a new pedestrian bridge would create links from the area north of the River Calder and would also create a direct link to the Route 66 cycleway and towpath.

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RESOLVED that:

- (a) the purchase of the required land specified in Appendix A and any associated interests subject to the relevant funding being in place be approved;
- (b) that the purchase of the land specified in Appendix A through negotiation be approved;
- (c) the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders under sections 239, 240, 246, 250 and 260 of the Highways Act, 1980 be approved;
- (d) delegated Authority be given to the Director of Regeneration and Strategy and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Resources, to make any Compulsory Purchase submissions to the Secretary of State which are necessary to deliver the scheme;
- (e) the making of a Side Road Orders, if required, be approved; and
- (f) the making of a scheme or schemes in respect of bridges over or diversion of navigable waters as required be approved.

196 WEST YORKSHIRE-PLUS TRANSPORT FUND (WY+TF) ELLAND RAILWAY STATION – LAND ACQUISITION AND DEPLOYMENT OF COMPULSORY PURCHASE POWERS

Councillor Scullion, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Strategy presented a written report of the Director, Regeneration and Strategy on the proposal for a two-platformed, unstaffed railway station to be built at Elland. The report contained proposals that in combination with the proposed Elland Access Package, would increase use and improve public transport journey times into and from Halifax and the surrounding areas, reducing pollution and road collisions and increasing the uptake of walking and cycling, if delivered in full. The station platforms would be positioned on the existing embankment at an elevated level with lift and stepped access from car park level on both sides to ensure accessibility. No footbridge will be provided as part of the scheme, with cross platform access being provided by the existing highway underpass on Lowfields Way. Each platform would contain two sheltered waiting areas. The rail station will be served by a 166-space (approx.) car park, including blue badge spaces, provision for electric vehicle charging, and cycle storage.

Mr Bradley, a member of the public, asked whether if “Option 1 would have resulted in the project having to relocate existing businesses operating on the site” due to the fact the existing station could be built upon land already owned by Network Rail without car parking and that car parking could be provided upon land situated immediately North of this site, that the existing occupier is currently aspiring to vacate subject to relocation to other premises elsewhere in Elland, should this option not be reconsidered ?

Councillor Swift confirmed that option 1 was not the preferred option of the Council.

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Councillor Scullion thanked Mr Bradley for the question and advised that a detailed written response would be provided.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the acquisition of land specified in Appendix A and any associated interests, be approved;
- (b) the purchase of the land specified in Appendix A through negotiation where possible be approved;
- (c) the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders under section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and if required be approved; and
- (d) delegated Authority be given to the Director of Regeneration and Strategy and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Resources, to make any Compulsory Purchase submissions to the Secretary of State which are necessary to deliver the scheme.

197 LAND DISPOSAL AND STANNARY DEPOT - BEECH HILL

Councillor Patient, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Climate Change and Resilience presented a written report of the Director, Regeneration and Strategy on future land disposals from the Council to Together Housing Association Limited ("Together Housing") under the terms of the Calderdale and Together Housing Investment Partnership Agreement ("CTHIP Agreement") that was previously approved by Cabinet on 2nd October 2017. This set out a financial model and justification for the disposal of Council land at less than best consideration. Together Housing requested that the Council did not secure the provision of affordable housing on the Site by inserting appropriate provisions in the transfer document as this would reduce the value of properties constructed on the Site by up to 25% and would limit Together Housing's ability to raise future development funding through commercial mortgages. Together Housing proposed instead that the housing on the Site would be provided in accordance with the terms of the CTHIP Agreement which permitted the provision of a range of tenures including social rent, shared ownership and outright sale but without stipulating the exact type of properties within that range that would be provided on the Site. This approach would be adopted for all Council-owned sites that would be transferred pursuant to the CTHIP Agreement and would oblige Together Housing to provide housing on the site in accordance with the terms of the CTHIP Agreement rather than specifying that affordable housing is provided on the site.

Councillor Scullion advised that there was a need for more housing and in particular affordable housing as the shortage of housing meant that people were not able to live within their communities. The mixed tenure approach was a successful model which built communities that were not stigmatised with clearly identifiable social housing. The houses in the scheme would incorporate good insulation and heating and more schemes like this were required.

Councillor Leigh MBE identified that the land disposal under the scheme was routine and did not present an issue. Very few affordable houses had been identified in the Local Plan.

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Councillor Lynn paid tribute to Together Housing and the Strategic Housing Delivery Manager for bringing the complex project together. It was hoped that 110 new homes would be on the site in the next few months, which would make a real contribution to meeting housing demand in Halifax.

Councillor Baker was concerned that affordable housing ranked poorly on Calderdale's key performance indicators, yet the paper did not specify the numbers of affordable houses that would be built. Social and affordable housing were not the same and should not be confused. Councillors were no longer represented on Housing Boards.

Councillor Mrs Carter identified whilst this appeared to be a good idea, stigmatisation remained an issue. It was usually obvious where the affordable housing was located within a development and this was particularly the case where the development comprised houses that were more expensive. The Council need to explore options where housing stock was not permitted to be sold on and where ownership was shared.

Councillor Scullion identified that poverty was stigmatised wherever housing was situated. The Council had ambitions for a more aspirational look to properties. It was a great shame that the Council had not been able to build more housing, but the Council was not permitted to build council houses. This meant that there was a need to work with partners to ensure that enough affordable housing was available. The paper identified that there would be considerable affordable housing provided under the CTHIP Agreement. The Beech Hill development commenced prior to the Together Housing partnership and the paper would ensure continuity across sites under the agreement. Decisions on the Local Plan were being reviewed by the Planning Inspector as part of the Local Plan Hearings.

Councillor Patient identified that there were broader issues involved and this was an area that needed to progress.

The Leader identified that devolution may help to resolve many of the issues identified.

RESOLVED that:

(a) the transfer of the Site to Together Housing be approved on the basis that the transfer document will oblige Together Housing to provide housing on the Site in accordance with the terms of the Calderdale and Together Housing Investment Partnership Agreement (CTHIP Agreement) but without stipulating that affordable housing needs to be provided on the Site;

(b) the disposal of all sites to Together Housing that fall within the CTHIP Agreement be approved on the basis that the transfer document will oblige Together Housing to provide housing on the sites in accordance with the terms of the CTHIP Agreement but will not stipulate that affordable housing need be provided on each individual site; and

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(c) authority be delegated to Director or Regeneration and Strategy and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Resilience to finalise the wording of transfer documents for disposals of Council-owned land to Together Housing under the terms of the CTHIP Agreement.

198 REVENUE MONITORING 2020-21 – OVERALL POSITION

Councillor Dacre, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources presented a written report of the Head of Finance on the second overall revenue monitoring position for 2020/21, the forecast service and centrally controlled variances, the estimated impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the proposed actions to mitigate budget pressures. Estimated additional costs and loss of income related to Covid-19 had been reported to Cabinet on a regular basis throughout the year. It was clear that there would be a significant shortfall between additional costs and Government funding if the losses on council tax and business rates were considered. Although the Government intended to allow local authorities to carry forward the council tax and business rates deficits into next year and allowed them to be met over the next three years, savings were still required to be implemented. Calderdale had developed a recovery plan based on the implementation of agreed savings; the containment of additional costs within Government support where possible and the review discretionary spend and reshape the council towards a business-critical model.

The report outlined background information, options considered, financial, legal, human resources and organisational development, environmental, health and economic implications, equality and diversity and summary and recommendations.

Councillor Mrs Carter asked whether the extension of the original job retention scheme that was due to end on the 31st October 2020 was to be extended to 31st March 2021 and included in the Scheme? Clarification was sought on how many staff had been furloughed and the savings that the Council had received from the scheme as it had not been possible to identify this from the report.

Councillor Dacre advised that funds received on the furlough scheme were identified in section 4.6 of the report. The furlough rules meant that it was only possible to release staff that were in public facing roles. Many of these staff were re-deployed by the Council to meet demands in other areas. The furlough scheme was revised after the report had been written and the finer details of the scheme were still being decided. It was anticipated that staff would also be re-deployed under this scheme to meet demand.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) directorates take further action to manage budgets in year;
- (b) the approach for containing any overspendings at the year-end as detailed in section 7.8 of the report be approved;
- (c) the earmarking of Covid-19 funding to be carried forward in reserves to address ongoing Covid-19 related costs and Collection Fund losses as detailed in section 7.2 of the report be approved; and

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(d) the report be referred to the Strategy and Performance Board for their consideration.

199 CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING – 2020-21 TO 2022-23

Councillor Dacre, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources presented a written report of the Head of Finance on details of the forecast Capital Programme for the period 2020/21 to 2022/23 and provided an update on the delivery of schemes in the Capital Programme. Approval was sought to increase the overall Capital Programme to £117.6M to allow for the latest funding approved in relation to Highways, West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund (WY+TF) and Schools. Most of the external funding for the Council's schemes was provided by Government to fund highways schemes, or the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) to fund the WY+TF. The Capital Programme included the initial forecast of £66.2m for the current financial year, which was slightly less than the forecast of £69.4m included in the first Capital Monitor and reported to Cabinet in August 2020. Although additional schemes had been included in the capital programme, capital expenditure for a number of other schemes had been deferred for a variety of reasons to the financial year 2021/22. Many of these schemes required significant development and potentially required consultation. The current forecast was completed in consultation with scheme sponsors and managers with the responsibility for the delivery of schemes. The final and 3rd Overall Capital Monitor will be reported to Cabinet on 8th February 2020.

The report outlined background information, options considered, financial, legal, human resources and organisational development, environmental, health and economic implications, equality and diversity and summary and recommendations.

Councillor Baker commented that whilst most of the capital spending was grant funded from several sources including the Government twenty seven percent was made up from prudential borrowing and this was signed off on the basis that it would bring the Council savings and efficiencies. The amount of pooled resources, whilst low still represented £4.5M that had to be made up from revenue budget, reserves or other cost savings but the council needed to be mindful of this.

Councillor Leigh MBE confirmed that whilst prudential borrowing represented a good deal, it still needed to be repaid. The repayments under prudential borrowing represented three times the amount of the cuts that the Council had hoped to make. Were Members assured that the levels of prudential borrowing were appropriate?

The Leader confirmed that the important thing to remember was that each prudential borrowing scheme was looked at upon its own merits in terms of where the revenue was coming from. It was easy to lose sight of this when looking at the combined total for prudential borrowing. Many of the schemes represented significant cost savings. The level was looked at carefully and compared with neighbouring authorities Calderdale was very prudent.

Councillor Dacre identified that pooled resources would never be taken from revenue budgets but would be found from reserves or the sale of properties. As such, it was not anticipated that they would ever be a drain on resources. Reserves were not available as they had already been spent.

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RESOLVED that:

- (a) the Capital Programme of £117.6million detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be approved; and
- (b) the report be referred to the Strategy and Performance Board for their consideration.

200 THE FUTURE COUNCIL – DELIVERY PLAN PHASE 2

Councillor Dacre, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Resources presented a written report of the Head of Finance that explored the Council's experience of dealing with the pandemic, working with partners and the community, in order to re-design the operating model for the Future Council. The first phase of the implementation of the delivery plan for this approach had been agreed by Cabinet on 5th October 2020. This focussed on the transformation of many universal services i.e. those received by most if not all the borough's residents. Cabinet agreed the proposals within the report on the re-shaping of Public Services and delegated authority to the Director of Public Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Services and Communities; to implement the proposals capable of being dealt with through delegated authority but to bring back to a future Cabinet meeting those that required further Cabinet decision. More specifically decisions around Library provision and Waste and Recycling. Cabinet approval was sought for the second phase of the Future Council delivery plan with proposals on further services within the Public Services directorate but also some universal services within Regeneration & Strategy. It also provided additional information on proposals for Libraries and Waste services which were considered in the phase 1 report. The report presented to Cabinet on 7 September 2020 explained the Future Council approach but also the extremely challenging financial position faced by the Council in the current year and over the medium term as the recovery process would not be instant and the impact of Covid-19 would be felt for some considerable time. The recovery process needed to be built upon a sound financial base and decisions were necessary in order to provide those foundations. This approach would also allow the Council to make decisions on its sustainability and resilience over the next three years with greater confidence when it discusses and agrees the Council's budget in February 2021.

The report outlined background information, options considered, financial, legal, human resources and organisational development, environmental, health and economic implications, equality and diversity and summary and recommendations.

Councillor Dacre identified that the Government cuts implemented over the past ten years had impacted the Council's ability to deliver existing services. The Council would not be able to recover the full costs of Covid-19 and there was a need to ensure that the Council produced a balanced budget.

Councillor Lynn commented that whilst the report identified the closure of eight libraries in the borough, discussions were being held with four local groups interested in the Community Asset Transfer Scheme (CAT). It was hoped that the costings for the CAT's would be in place by the end of the year and the transfers could take place by March 2021. The Voluntary Sector Alliance were assisting with this. Cabinet had approved the restructure and re-thinking of youth service delivery. Mixenden Activity

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Centre (MAC) was earmarked for closure. It was possible that the building could be used to house a temporary library. Reducing services was not an outcome that the Council wanted to deliver.

Councillor Scullion identified that there were three Visitor Information Centres (VIC) in Calderdale. Todmorden Town Council funded one of these. VIC's in Hebden Bridge and Halifax were currently closed due to Covid-19 but were earmarked for permanent closure. It was hoped that CAT's could be used to support these being taken over by the community. The Council was keen to improve visitor information that was available online and £40K had been allocated for this. Open air markets had supported people of Calderdale throughout the pandemic and were an asset. Car boot fairs represented a net cost to the Council of £63K and it was proposed that the Council cease running these. The provision for public toilets was considered necessary for all and it was proposed that parks and town centre toilets would remain open where it was possible for them to be safely used and cleaned. It was hoped that those toilets that would no longer be maintained by the Council would be adopted by Parish Council's.

Councillor Blagbrough identified a local company based in Elland worked on digital media on displays that could be used as tourist information boards. Was it possible to see the business plan for the Victoria Theatre sustainability? Was it possible to look at making a profit with ISCAL products? Was it possible to look at reducing services in the winter in line with demand for their use for example, Waste Recycling? Would it be possible to provide alternative suggestions for Brighouse Civic Hall?

Councillor Dacre commented that digital visitor information was incredibly important. People looking to visit somewhere new would often check the internet first and this required a modern interactive website that would entice people to come to Calderdale. The overriding purpose of ISCAL was to provide work for those who may not be able to find employment, it was not possible to operate this as a loss. There would be opportunity to work with the Council on the proposals for Brighouse Civic Hall.

Councillor Blagbrough confirmed that the digital media that he referred to were digital displays that could be located in the town centres for tourists to access.

Councillor Baker confirmed that whilst difficult decisions needed to be made there were Members experienced in business that could assist the Council to make the most use of its assets and reduce the need for cuts. Car boot fairs were identified as operating at a loss each year, but this was attributed to high staffing costs at the weekend. Amendments to staffing contracts would ensure that these remained profitable. VIC's would be able to make money with business incentive. The future Council decisions were notified at very short notice and were not included on the key decision list, which meant that Members did not have the opportunity to discuss, suggest alternatives and debate them fully. Was it possible to look at Sport England funding to ensure that the MAC remained open as it was essential to keeping young lives on track? Equality impact assessments were required to be undertaken at the formative stages of a Council decision to ensure that it did not disproportionately impact on disadvantaged groups, had these been undertaken?

Councillor Lynn identified that there may be organisations involved with MAC that would put forward a CAT and this would be considered.

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Councillor Scullion identified that local authorities could get into difficulty by being involved in too many markets. The Council did not wish to compete with private sector operators. Service functions operated by the Council carried additional costs that included insurance, staffing, and building operating / maintenance costs that were not always visible.

Councillor Wilkinson identified that a youth service review paper presented earlier in the year recommended that Council cease providing open access to youth services. A pot of money had been put aside to commission sessions from the voluntary sector and the Council was working to stimulate the voluntary sector who had access to grant funding that the Council did not. It was hoped that there would be an expression of interest for CAT in relation to MAC.

Councillor Mrs Carter identified that the Local Government Association (LGA) were working hard to find additional funding. The 31st of March did not allow enough time for libraries to complete a CAT, was it possible for this to be extended? Car boot fairs were problematic in terms of stolen and counterfeit goods. The report did not identify which public conveniences were not included, was it possible for this information to be provided? Was it possible for the decision on ISCAL to be looked at in terms of making a profit by involving the private sector? The VIC's in Hebden Bridge offered a good service, a digital service would not provide a solution to everyone as many people did not have access to the internet.

Councillor Leigh MBE identified that the main point was the lack of consultation and proper debate. Phase 1 of the future Council delivery had been called in. The meeting had discussed positive views that could be expanded. Looking at the issues differently would help prevent some of the cuts. Government spending on non Covid-19 costs were spread over three years. Was it possible to look at delaying some of the cuts as a means of softening the blow? Capital and revenue spending were understood but £3M was required for Council desks and offices. The cuts reflected half of this cost and were incompatible with the shared ambition for the future. It was likely that this decision would be called in.

Councillor Dacre provided assurances that the Commercialisation Team were involved with the paper and were at the forefront of the Council's thinking. The savings needed to be addressed now in order to make full year savings and to deliver a balanced budget. It was only the Council Tax and Business Rate losses that could be carried over.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the proposals on the re-shaping of services highlighted within this report be approved;
- (b) authority be delegated to the relevant director in consultation with the relevant Cabinet member to implement the proposals set out in sections 4.17 to 4.21 of the report;

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(c) the necessary consultation be undertaken with service users, staff and trade unions under the existing Council policies and negotiations with contractors on commissioned services to ensure that the services are fit for purpose;

(d) more detailed investigations be undertaken into the options presented in sections 4.23 and 4.24 of the report so that decisions can be made on the options available as part of the budget process for 2021/22; and

(e) the current position on services set out in sections 4.26 to 4.28 of the report be noted and that the sustainability of these services be considered as part of the budget process for 2021/22.

201 PROPOSED COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER - TODMORDEN COLLEGE – (Appx 2 EXEMPT)

Councillor Scullion, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Strategy presented a written report of the Director, Regeneration and Strategy on the progress of the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process at Todmorden College. It highlighted the current status of the business case underpinning the Todmorden Learning Centre (TLC) organisation and defined the investment required in the organisation by the Council to make the operation sustainable. The report highlighted the risks associated with progressing the CAT and offered a recommended way forward on the balance of these risks. Based on current information, investment from the Council of £117.5k would be required over three years to ensure the TLC development is sustainable in the medium term and for the CAT process to be completed. Allocation of this funding was outside officer delegation and required a Cabinet decision.

Councillor Leigh MBE commented that whilst the conceptual points were valid the lack of proper consultation was an issue.

Councillor Scullion identified that the proposal had taken two years to reach this stage, other options were available but would take time to implement.

Councillor Baker identified that whilst CATs were favoured it was possible for them to go wrong. This appeared to be a pet project of the Council; cuts were faced elsewhere, and this needed to be addressed.

Councillor Scullion refuted the political connotations as she had no personal involvement with the scheme. Whilst there were risks with any CAT, previous lessons had been learnt and would be used to inform the Council going forward.

RESOLVED that:

(a) option 1 (located at 5.1-5.4 of the report) allowing the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of Todmorden Learning Centre (TLC) to progress with £117.5k Council investment leased space within the building be approved; and

(b) authority be delegated to the Director of Regeneration & Strategy in conjunction with the Head of Legal & Democratic Services to enter into relevant legal agreements to oversee the implementation of the proposed CAT with Todmorden Learning Centre.

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202 COMMUNITY RAPID RESPONSE SERVICE PILOT – EXEMPT

Councillor Metcalfe Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adult Services and Wellbeing presented a written report of the Head of Adult Social Care on the proposal to pilot a Community Rapid Response Team that included the implementation of a 12-week funded Assistive Technology offer for people discharged from hospital. The model would be based on a 12-month pilot, while evidence was collected to demonstrate effectiveness, with the option to extend on a permanent basis if outcomes were successfully achieved. If the pilot proved successful a further report would seek approval to permanently establish the new service.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the proposal be approved;
- (b) the proposal for a 12-month pilot to implement, test and collect evidence of effectiveness and provide the opportunity to refine the model both in terms of financial and individual outcomes and future capacity required be approved. The intention will be to use existing Better Care Funding to establish the pilot in preparation for Winter 2020/21;
- (c) the proposal for longer term funding to be released from the decommissioning of the current externally provided rapid, urgent response services, based on the evidence collected demonstrating effectiveness, be approved; and
- (d) the 12-week funded trial of Assistive Technology consisting of community care alarm, pendant, key safe and responder service be approved.

203 INTEGRATION OF COMMUNITY SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE TEAM TO GATEWAY TO CARE SERVICE - EXEMPT

Councillor Metcalfe Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adult Services and Wellbeing presented a written report of the Head of Adult Social Care on the proposal to formally integrate the Community Social Work Practice Team and Gateway to Care function. Based on the learning taken from Covid19, the team would assume a prominent role, providing information and advice, guidance and supporting assessments undertaken by the Gateway to Care Service. It would add resilience and continue to deliver on the Council's ambition to promote early intervention and prevention which was formally agreed by Cabinet in March 2019 as part of the restructure of Adult Services and Wellbeing.

RESOLVED that authority be delegated to the Director for Adult Services and Wellbeing in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Wellbeing, to consult with staff and Trade Unions on the integration of the Community Social Work Practice and Gateway to Care teams to enhance early intervention and prevention.