

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Environmental Services on:-

MONDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER, 2010

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Zaman	Executive Member for Environmental Services
Councillor Critchley	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor D. Wilkinson	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. M. Cox	Director of Environmental Services
Mr. M. Veigas	Assistant Director
Mr. S. Young	Assistant Director
Mr. J. Kelly	Head of Highways and Engineering
Ms. A. Lunt	HR/OD Business Partner
Ms. S. Millward	Customer Relations Officer
Ms. J. Pollard	Policy Accountant
Mrs. S. Bailey	Principal Democratic Services Officer

43. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Director of Chief Executive's Department submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Member.

The Executive Member NOTED the report.

44. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD – QUARTER 2

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which outlined the performance of the Environmental Services Department during the second quarter of 2010/11.

The report reported on performance in the following areas:

- cleanliness;
- parks and open spaces;
- waste and recycling;
- highways;
- internal business performance – sickness absence, school meals promotion, service improvement action plans complaints, telephony.

The report also provided details of improvement actions to improve performance in 2010/11.

The Executive Member SUPPORTED –

The action plans to improve performance in 2010/11, as detailed in the report now submitted.

45. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT 2010/11 – QUARTER 2

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which outlined the financial position in respect of the Environmental Services portfolio for the 2010/11 Financial Year, as at the end of Quarter 2, as follows:

Revenue Expenditure:

Revenue expenditure was projected to exceed the budget by £95,000.

The department had budgeted to use reserves of £64,000.

The main variances were largely due to Bolmoor , Trade Waste and School Meals.

Capital Expenditure:

Capital expenditure totalled £6.081 million against a programme of £24.706 million.

This followed the reduction to the 2010/11 capital programme agreed by Executive in the 2010/11 – Review of Capital Programme on 26 July 2010.

Reserves:

The Department's projected deficit reserve position at 31st March 2011 was £1,466,000.

Detailed repayment plans were included within the report.

Efficiency targets:

Budgeted efficiency savings for the Department were £892,000 which included demand led of £200,000 to repay the deficit reserve. The current projection was to achieve all planned efficiencies.

Risk:

Specific areas of financial risk related to loss of income due to the economic downturn, reduction in grant funding and the potential increase in fuel costs.

The Executive Member NOTED the financial position of the Department as at Quarter 2 and ENDORSED –

The ongoing repayment plan in respect of the Department's deficit reserves.

**46. CHORLEY NEW ROAD CYCLE LANES, HORWICH –
RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION**

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which commented on the response received to a local area consultation on proposals to link the existing Middlebrook cycle route to Rivington via an on street cycle route along Chorley New Road and Lever Park Avenue, Horwich.

The proposed scheme aimed to improve the safety of the junction and make it easier for cyclists to use. A drawing 931116/003 illustrating the scheme was appended to the report.

Local residents and stakeholders had been consulted on the proposals in August, 2010 and from the responses received, the majority were in favour of the proposals. Objectors had made specific comments, details of which were provided in the report.

Having considered the responses and the views of Ward Members, the report recommended approval of a revised scheme with a number of amendments.

Funding for the local safety scheme was included in the Highways Capital Programme 2010/11.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The revised scheme, with the amendments detailed in the report now submitted, be approved.

47. CIVIL PARKING AND BUS LANE ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which sought authorisation to evaluate the tenders received in respect of the contract for Civil Parking and Bus Lane Enforcement and award the contract to the successful tenderer.

The report advised that in January, 2010, the Executive Member had authorised the Director of Environmental Services to procure a contractor to deliver civil parking and bus lane enforcement and that tenders had been invited in October, 2010. The contract would commence on 4th April, 2011 and continue for an initial term of 5 years with an option to extend the initial term for a further period of up to 2 years.

In this regard, the report went on to outline the process of inviting tenders and the criteria against which the tenders would

be evaluated. This included areas of price, quality and sustainability.

The Executive Member Authorised –

- (i) **The Director of Environmental Services to evaluate all tender submissions relating to the Civil Parking and Bus Lane Enforcement Contract and to appoint a contractor to deliver the services, in accordance with the award criteria detailed in the tender documents; and**
- (ii) **The Director of Chief Executive's Department to carry out all the necessary legal formalities.**

48. SEYMOUR ROAD, BOLTON – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING – OBJECTION

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which commented on objections received in respect of an advertised traffic calming scheme on Seymour Road.

The report advised the Executive Member that the proposal was advertised in September, 2010. An objection had been received which related to the wasteful use of tarmac to make road humps during the present economic climate whilst the money could be better used to fill in potholes in the area.

Replies were received from 38% of those consulted and 75.5% of those were in favour of the traffic calming measures proposed. The report therefore recommended that, in light of the positive response received and a request put forward from local ward members, the traffic calming measures should be implemented.

The issues relating to pot holes would be addressed in line with priorities in the Highways Maintenance Programme

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The traffic calming scheme on Seymour Road, as originally advertised.

49. PETITION REGARDING BARRIERS AT MOSS BANK WAY ROUNDABOUT

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which :

- (a) informed the Executive Member of the receipt of a petition presented to the Council requesting the provision of a safety barrier on Moss Bank Way/Chorley Old Road roundabout and the installation of speed cameras on Moss Bank Way; and
- (b) outlined the investigations undertaken by the Environment Department into the requests and subsequent findings and recommendations.

The petition had been submitted by local residents in response to concerns that vehicles were travelling too fast on the Chorley Old Road/Moss Bank Way roundabout which could lead to a loss of control by the driver and which could result in pedestrian casualties and damage to nearby properties. In addition, speed cameras on Moss Bank Way had been requested as residents considered that drivers were travelling at speeds of up to 65mph.

In this regard, the report went on to outline the investigations of the Department into the requests and made various observations on the issues raised which were summarised in the report.

The report concluded that the provision of some form of barrier on the roundabout whilst feasible, raised some concerns in terms of its behaviour and effectiveness in the event of a head on collision. In addition, the reported road injury collision history for the junction was good compared to other locations across the Borough. Therefore, a scheme for the provision of a barrier was not justified in terms of the provision of funding from the Highways Capital Programme.

The request for speed cameras on Moss Bank Way could also not be justified as it did not meet the required criteria. It was unlikely that there would be funding available in the future for the provision of new fixed camera sites. A school crossing patrol on Moss Bank Way did not meet the required criteria.

The Executive Member AGREED –

That the item be deferred for further investigation and consideration and that a report on the matter be submitted to a future meeting of this Executive Member.

50. PROPOSALS FOR A QUALITY PARTNERSHIP SCHEME ON THE BOLTON-ATHERTON-LEIGH BUS ROUTE

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which outlined proposals to enter into a Quality Partnership Scheme with Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Authority (GMPTE) and Wigan Council in respect of the Bolton-Atherton-Leigh bus route.

The Executive Member was informed that the GMPTE were promoting two pilot schemes to improve bus services for users via the use of Quality Partnership Schemes (QPS). The schemes aimed to improve operations, routes and costs to give customers a better quality service. The two pilot schemes involved a Manchester route and the other concerned the Bolton-Atherton-Leigh route.

The report went on to outline the key objectives and benefits of the scheme which included reliability, punctuality, bus quality, image, better customer relations, minimum standards of service, improved security, cleanliness, increased patronage and the ability to maintain competitive.

The report also provided details of the legal agreement that all parties entering a QPS would have to adhere to and a Voluntary Partnership Agreement which would be entered into to support the management of the QPS.

If successful, there would be the possibility of extending the scheme on to other routes and bus corridors.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The proposals for a Quality Partnership Agreement for the Bolton-Atherton-Leigh bus route, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted, subject to negotiation of the final terms by officers from the Environment and Chief Executive's Departments and formal consultation on the proposal by GMPTE.

51. SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCIES REPORT – ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – 2011/12

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which put forward the proposed Environmental Services savings and efficiencies for 2011/12 which had been prepared in response to the Corporate financial guidance approved by the Executive on 28th June, 2010.

The report advised that the guidance required that the Environmental Services Department identify savings and efficiencies totaling 10% of its base budget, plus fund essential demand led growth for 2011/12. The Department should plan for savings at the following levels:

2011/12	10%
2012/13	10%
2013/14	5%

Table one of the report outlined the calculation of the Department's redirection target, as follows:-

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Redirections required (Percentage)			
2011/12	10%	10%	10%
2012/13		10%	10%
2013/14			5%

Total Redirection Required	10%	20%	25%
Redirections required (£ Value)			
2011/12	2,105	2,105	2,105
2012/13		2,000	2,000
2013/14			1,452
Total Additional Redirections Required Each Year	2,105	4,105	5,557
Demand Led Growth			
Deficit Reserve Repayment Plan	200	400	400
Total Departmental Redirection Target	2,305	4,505	5,957

The report went on to outline the options identified to meet the corporate redirection target and demand led growth in the areas of:

Highways and Engineering
Neighbourhood Services
Waste and Fleet
Community Services; and
Policy and Performance

Full details of the options were identified in tables within the report and were summarised as follows:

Highways

Division	Description of Option	FTE Change	£'000
Highways and Engineering	Highways and Engineering savings and Efficiencies Review	68	1,370
		68	1,370
	Total Savings and Efficiencies	68	1,370

Neighbourhood services

Division	Description of Option	FTE Change	£'000
Neighbourhood Services Review	Neighbourhood Services savings and Efficiencies Review	80	605
		80	605
	Total Savings and Efficiencies	80	605

Waste

Division	Description of Option	FTE Change	£'000
Waste and Fleet	Suspension of Green Waste	9	90
	Joint Transport Working	0	30
	Joint Authority Working	0	60
		9	180
	Total Savings and Efficiencies		180

Community Services

Division	Description of Option	FTE Change	£'000
Community Services	Social Needs Transport review	0	25
	Income optimisation		75

		0	
		0	100
	Total Savings and Efficiencies	0	100

Policy and Performance

Division	Description of Option	FTE Change	£'000
Policy and Performance	Management of Cash Limited Budgets	0	50
		0	50
	Total Savings and Efficiencies	0	50

With regard to other financial risks, the report advised that the Department received a number of grants which helped to fund some of the activities delivered by the Department e.g. Area Based Grant and funds activity through the capital programme. Once the impact of the reduction in these funds was apparent, an update would be provided to members.

The Executive Member NOTED –

The contents of the report and that it be submitted as part of the Corporate Resource Allocation Process.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The background papers and reports in relation to the following item were considered confidential as defined in paragraphs 1 and 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 that it be deemed that, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in their

exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

52. HIGHWAYS AND ENGINEERING – SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCY REVIEW PROPOSALS

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which set out the results of the formal consultation process in respect of the Highways and Engineering Savings and Efficiencies Review.

The report reminded members that the consultation process with external stakeholders on the proposed Highways savings and efficiencies took place between 1st September and 15th October, 2010. Full details of how the process was undertaken were provided in the report.

The report went on to outline and fully explain the various proposed changes in response to the Trades Unions negotiations.

In addition, various key issues raised by stakeholders were highlighted in the report.

If formally approved, the next stage of the process would commence.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity at her meeting on 24th November, 2010.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

(i) The final proposals contained within the report; AND

(ii) Subject to approval of the Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity, that implementation of the new structure, including details of voluntary redundancy arrangements and consequential recruitment and selection, be delegated to the Chief Executive and the Director of Environmental

Services.