

EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment.

MONDAY, 14TH AUGUST 2023

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:

Councillor Silvester	Executive Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment
Councillor Maher	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Rigby	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Sanders	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Heslop	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Mort	Observing

Officers

Mr. J. Dyson	Director of Place
Ms. J. Pollard	Head of Finance
Ms. J. Barber	Services for Schools Manager
Ms. L. Hunter	Head of Environmental Delivery
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

1. MONITORING OF DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions that had previously been taken.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

2. DIRECTORATE OF PLACE – FINANCE REPORT 2022-23, FINAL OUTTURN.

The Director of Place submitted a report which provided the Executive Cabinet Member with information relating to the final outturn position of the Directorate of Place.

The report explained that the Executive Cabinet Member was recommended to note the final outturn position of the Directorate of Place, note the final capital programme position, and note the key findings in the report.

The recommendations also sought approval of the savings identified within the report relating to this portfolio. As part of the 23/24 Strategic Budget, the Directorate of Place was required to implement £676k of savings reductions for 2023/24 financial year, out of this £116k related to Climate Change and Environment.

The report summarised the financial final outturn position for 2022/23 in respect of the Directorate of Place and outlined the key issues:

- Revenue expenditure as a final outturn for the Directorate of Place showed an overspend against the budget of £402k, after planned reserve movements;
- Capital expenditure for the Directorate of Place, as at final outturn was £36.95m;
- Directorate of Place held £7.32m balance of earmarked reserves at 31 March 2023; and
- The budget efficiency savings for 2021/23 for the Directorate of Place were £6.161m. As of 31st March 2023, all savings had been approved.

The report also identified specific areas of financial risk identified for the year relating to:

- Loss of income due to the economic downturn;
- Energy price increases;
- Inflationary increases on the costs of projects, supplies and services; and

- The financial impact of COVID19.

The Executive Cabinet Member AGREED to:

- (i) Note the final outturn position of the Directorate of Place.**
- (ii) Note the final capital programme position.**
- (iii) Note the key findings in the report.**
- (iv) Approve the savings identified within the report relating to this portfolio.**

3. INCREASE TO ESTABLISHMENT FOR BUILDING CLEANING SERVICES.

The Director of Place submitted a report which outlined the proposal to increase the establishment for Services to Schools (building cleaning) by 0.61 FTE to staff additional business, funded by traded income.

By way of background information, the Building Cleaning Service provided a professional cleaning service to over 90 buildings across the Borough. Those services had been delivered over 25 years, providing a high-quality service supporting the local economy of Bolton by employing approximately 230 people. The service was income generating and operated a traded services account.

The issues outlined in the report stated that due to time constraints on access to the buildings, the service had no spare resource capacity to cover the posts.

It was proposed to create a 0.34 FTE post for Alexander Nursery and a 0.27 FTE post for Westhoughton Library. This meant the service would be required to recruit two additional members of staff, increasing the establishment by 0.61 FTE.

The business case for the additional capacity was set out in the report.

The Executive Cabinet Member AGREED to approve the additional capacity and budget acquired through traded provision, in line with the business case, as set out in the report.

4. REPLACEMENT OF REFUSE COLLECTION VEHICLES (RCVS).

The Director of Place submitted a report which outlined the proposal to replace 50/50 twin pack Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs), with single chamber RCVs. This would require an increase in the number of established posts by 39.0 FTE to run the service.

By way of background information, the waste collection service currently operated 42 refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) to enable delivery of all types of waste collection services. The oldest fleet vehicles were deployed on recycling services which were 50/50 twin pack RCVs, enabling the service to collect the burgundy and beige bins in one wagon, keeping the material separated in different vehicle compartments.

The 50/50 twin pack RCVs were purchased in 2015 and the recommended lifespan of such vehicles was 7 years. There was an estimated delivery period of 23-30 weeks, for new vehicles, from the date of order. This timeframe was heavily dependent on bidder responses during the procurement process which was awaiting approval of this report.

The report outlined the two key issues experienced with current 50/50 twin pack RCVs, the reliability and operational efficiency of the vehicles. For the detailed reasons outlined in the report it was no longer a viable solution to continue using 50/50 RCVs in Bolton's vehicle fleet.

The report also proposed to increase the establishment of Refuse Drivers and Refuse Loaders. This proposed increase in establishment would provide a permanent resource to complete core essential work and the capacity to withstand any

planned and unplanned absence of which there was currently no provision.

Option 2 outlined in the report would create flexibility and improved operational efficiency in the fleet by commencing replacement of 50/50 twin pack RCVs with single chamber RCVs, reflecting single product collections from Autumn/Winter 2023. This included an increase in establishment by 39.0 FTE to realistically reflect the requirements of this statutory service.

The Executive Cabinet Member AGREED to:

- (i) Proceed with option 2 described in the report to deliver greater operational sustainability, efficiency, and value for money over the lifecycle of the RCV fleet. Including a proposal to increase the establishment as described in the report.**
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Place to finalise the Council's requirement and procure up to 19 single chamber RCVs.**
- (iii) Authorise the Director of Place to appoint the successful tenderer to meet the Council's requirements, in accordance with the tender documents or existing framework agreement.**
- (iv) Authorise the Borough Solicitor to carry out all necessary legal formalities.**
- (v) Authorise the Borough Treasurer to complete all the financial formalities.**