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THE CABINET

MEETING, 10TH JANUARY, 2022

Councillor Cox	Leader's Portfolio
Councillor Mrs. Fairclough	Deputy Leader's Portfolio
Councillor Haslam	Highways and Transport
Councillor Dean	Stronger Communities
Councillor Warren	Regeneration
Councillor Baines	Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Muslim	Environmental Service Delivery
Councillor Hewitt	Strategic Housing and Planning
Councillor Galloway	Children's Services

Other Members in Attendance

Councillor Walsh
Councillor Radcliffe
Councillor Eckersley-Fallon
Councillor Peel
Councillor Zaman
Councillor Donaghy
Councillor Haworth
Councillor Hayes
Councillor Sanders
Councillor Brady
Councillor Allen

Officers

Mr. T. Oakman	Chief Executive
Dr. H. Lowey	Director of Public Health
Ms. H. Gorman	Borough Solicitor

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Ms. E. Brook	Assistant Director Strategy and Partnerships
Mr. R. Martinez	Head of Community Safety and Neighbourhoods
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Connor, Ismail and Morgan.

Councillor Cox in the Chair.

21. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15th November, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

22. MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY

The minutes of the meeting of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority held on 26th November and 17th December, 2021 were submitted for information.

With regard to the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December, 2021, a question was raised in relation to proposals for land value capture as part of the Integrated Rail Plan and whether this also related to roads. It was stated that an answer on this would be sought.

Resolved – That the minutes be noted.

23. CREATING AN INTELLIGENCE HUB

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and the Director of Public Health submitted a report which outlined the strategic direction that the Active, Connected and Prosperous (ACP) Board and Bolton Council was taking in relation to creating an

intelligence, evidence-based and involved Borough.

Members were advised that the use of evidence and intelligence played an increasing role in designing, delivering and transforming public services to improve outcomes and drive efficiencies within current financial constraints. It was also stated that there was an urgent requirement to ensure that the Council and its partners remained safe and compliant with its statutory requirements. However, much more importantly, if the Council and its partners were grounded in intelligence with a strong evidence base and had involved communities, then the Borough would become high performing with positive outcomes for its residents and achieve its vision to be active, connected and prosperous.

In view of the above it was proposed that the following actions be supported, viz:-

- A Borough-wide strategy for intelligence, evidence and involvement be developed which had a strong partnership component and clear annual delivery plan. This strategy would outline the breadth and depth of intelligence, evidence and involvement, incorporating the opportunities to work with partners and it would also determine how directorates would work across the Council. Detailed within the strategy would be an outcomes framework for the ACP Board and, a high-level action plan for the Council, which would ultimately support the Corporate Plan; and
- The performance, intelligence and evidence-based function within the Chief Executive and Public Health directorates would come together under the Director of Public Health's leadership with a link back into the Chief Executive directorate, acknowledging the relationship between IT infrastructure, performance and intelligence. This approach would also be the same for other directorates and partners. It was felt that this would provide the means to draw on a range of intelligence, expertise and specialist knowledge providing an intelligence function for the Council to undertake a number of functions, which were outlined in the report.

It was also stated that by taking this multi-agency strategic approach, key deliverables could be achieved and outputs delivered and examples of these were detailed in the report.

The report also advised that to implement the function of Corporate Intelligence, there was a need to ensure that the relevant skills and competencies were within the team and, therefore, through the Public Health Business Review additional posts had been created to enable a delivery of this Corporate Intelligence Function. Furthermore, Bolton's Research and Intelligence Network (BRAIN) would be hosted by the Council which would facilitate the network and build the partnerships and provide a range of technical expertise and support and which would include the delivery of the Joint Needs Strategic Assessment (JNSA) and Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA); support for needs assessments; research government support; inequalities analyses and evidence base; epidemiological analyses; outcome indicator development and geodemographic profiling.

The report also provided the proposed timescale for the outline delivery plan.

In terms of the financial implications, members were informed that no additional revenue budgets were needed to deploy this approach and if new research/pilots/grants were identified in the future then an update report would come through to the Executive Cabinet Member at that time.

Resolved – (i) That the proposed approach for creating Bolton's Research and Intelligence Network (BRAIN) for the Borough be supported.

(ii) That the proposed approach to developing an intelligent, evidence-based and involved Council be supported.

(iii) That the proposal to sign up to developing Bolton's Intelligence Strategy and to contribute to its implementation be agreed.

(iv) That the Director of Public Health be given delegated authority to take forward this agenda and bring back updates as required.

24. GREATER MANCHESTER MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS FOR TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE – STAGE 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Resolved – That this item be deferred to the meeting of the Cabinet on 7th February, 2022 to allow more engagement with the taxi driver trade.

25. DOMESTIC ABUSE SAFE ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY 2022-2025

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which sought members approval to endorse and adopt the Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy for 2022-2025.

Members were advised that The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 set in statute that Tier One authorities must prepare and publish a local strategy of how it would provide domestic abuse support for all victims (including their children) who reside in relevant safe accommodation, including those who come from outside the area, based on a robust needs assessment.

The report stated that under the Act there was a duty on local authorities to prepare a needs assessment which would inform the development of a domestic abuse support in safe accommodation strategy. Consequently, working with the local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, the Council had developed a needs assessment taking data from a wide range of settings and the relevant highlights from the assessment had been included in the strategy.

The report also outlined some of the key challenges which had been identified, together with, other areas of interest which were highlighted in the needs assessment.

Members were informed that a core working group, representing a mix of professional backgrounds had supported the development of a draft Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy for the next 3 years. The draft strategy had also been subject to a public consultation exercise and the overall responses were very positive and suggested that the strategic priorities were appropriate.

In terms of priorities, the strategy set out five priorities over the next three years which were detailed in the report as follows:-

1. Appropriate Safe Accommodation – availability of safe accommodation in Bolton for all of our victims and professional assistance in accessing safe accommodation whether this was in Bolton or out of the borough;
2. Access to Support Services within Safe Accommodation – professionals have the right to be able to support victims to access relevant support services;
3. Recognising multiple needs within safe accommodation – access of services to meet all needs;
4. Support to children and young people impacted by domestic abuse both within safe accommodation and in the community – addressing the support needs of children and young people as victims in their own right; and
5. Multi-agency working to support requirements of the Safe Accommodation and Support Duty of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 – joint working to provide a holistic approach to domestic abuse within safe accommodation and in the community.

Key work areas under each priority had also been identified and these would be turned into a delivery plan, to help coordinate and manage progress.

With regard to the financial situation, members were advised that the Council had been allocated £682,592 for 2021/2022 from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to enhance the safe accommodation and support offer and both DLUHC and the Local Government

Association had indicated that there was likely to be funding for future years. However, the level of funding had not been confirmed and was due to be announced in the Autumn Budget Statement 2021. Future funding allocations would form part of the local government finance settlement and at this stage there was no indication as to the funding levels for 2022/2023 and beyond.

A copy of Bolton's Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy for 2022-2025 was detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

Resolved – That the Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy for 2022-205 be endorsed and approved.