

# Appendix 5

## Draft Programme of Savings 2013/14-2014/15

### Consultation Report



# Introduction

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On 28 November 2012 the council launched a consultation on the Draft Programme of Savings 2013/14 to 2014/15. This document outlined a further £9 million of savings to be achieved by 2015 and increased the council's three year savings target from £17.7 million to £26.5 million due to increased savings requirements from central government.

In line with the council's ongoing commitment to openness and transparency all savings proposals we included in the consultation. Initially the consultation was due to close on 10 January 2012, but following the publication of a draft local government settlement by the Department of Communities and Local Government on 19 December 2012, it was agreed that the consultation process should be extended until 31 January 2012.

## Methodology

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Individuals who work, study or live in the borough were invited to look through the Draft Programme of Savings document online or in hard copy at a public building and then submit comments. This could be done via an online feedback form or in writing. These comments have all been logged and analysed and a summary of the key themes is included in this document.

Prior to launch a series of employee briefings took place at six venues across the borough to inform council employees of the proposals and encourage participation in the consultation process.

A range of specific events have taken place to help inform and engage with local residents to provide the council to explain more about the rationale for the cuts and why savings targets had increased. Presentations were undertaken at the January/ February round of Township Forum meetings. In addition, four weekend or evening public meetings were arranged in Bury town centre, Ramsbottom, Prestwich and Radcliffe. A specific business briefing event was arranged and a focus group took place with members of Youth Cabinet.

## Results

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Feedback Method	Count
Survey Monkey participants	55
Emails or letters sent to the Plan for Change Team	187
Comments at public meetings	143

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for internal efficiencies? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
I am concerned about changes to staff car allowance/ car parking (second set of proposals).	43
I think there should be changes to terms and conditions: e.g. Working hours reduced (37hours to 35hours) Increase unpaid leave/ standardise unpaid leave with school terms and conditions, menu of options, end special leave.	26
I am concerned about changes to staff car allowance/ car parking (first set of proposals).	23
The council should consider a senior management restructure/ reduce pay.	17
Agile working needs to be developed and the use of council buildings maximized e.g. sub let, out of hours use for community groups.	13
The council should sell items to generate income (such as Olympic signage) and ensure procurement is effective.	9
The number of councillors should be reduced and there should be reductions in what can be claimed for as expenses.	9
All teams across the council should be restructured.	7
The council should ensure energy efficiency.	6
I need more information on the savings proposals.	5
The council should explore lean management opportunities.	5
The council should not use external consultants .	5
The council should reduce discretionary spend and encourage all staff to look for savings. There needs to be appropriate sign off for expenditure.	5
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Plan for Change .	4
The council should consider centralising Human Resources/ Finance/ communications/ procurement.	4
The council should no longer provide biscuits at Town Hall meetings/ food at committee meetings/ staff should buy all refreshments.	4
The refurbishment of kitchen and toilets at Town Hall is not essential/ no further decoration of buildings.	4
The council should reduce number of Association of Greater Manchester Authorities contracts.	3
The council should reduce number of mobile phones issued to staff/ monitor phone usage.	3
The Mayor should not have dedicated service/ Remove the mayor.	3
There should be greater partnership working with agencies/ AGMA/ other local authorities.	3
There should be more change on the front line to make it fit for purpose as many skilled back office staff/ service re-design.	3
I oppose council contribution to fund trade unions.	2
Staff should pay for training they do not attend/ take personal responsibility for training.	2
The council needs to replicate transforming adults approach across the council.	2
The council should adopt a private sector approach and continue to look for efficiencies.	2
The council should maximise external funding opportunities through dedicated team of staff.	3
The council should promote income generation opportunities on website/ improve web content and channel shift.	2
The council should review and reduce its fleet of vehicles/ fit tracking devices to ensure efficiency.	2
I agree with removal of free car parking passes for staff.	1
The council should review 3 days unpaid leave as it hinders Carelink service operation as a 24/7 service.	1



<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for internal efficiencies? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area? (continued)</b>	<b>Count</b>
All members of staff should be subject to pay and grading.	1
Could the council sell off land to raise income?	1
Do not illuminate town hall at night.	1
I am concerned that that back office changes will limit ability to deliver resources.	1
I oppose change of department's name and establishment of Communities and Neighbourhoods as it will create waste.	1
I oppose reduction in climate change budget.	1
I think it is important that car use is kept to a minimum.	1
I think that staff redundancies should be minimized as their wage is re-invested back into the local economy and redundant staff will have to claim benefits which is a greater cost.	1
I think you should limit the amount employees print to 10 sheets a day.	1
The council should claim back rent arrears.	1
The council should introduce zero-based budgeting.	1
The council should outsource non-public-facing services such as finance, personnel.	1
The council should sell advertising space on council buildings.	1
The council should use elections teams for mail shots.	1
The council should use social media to seek the views of residents.	1
The removal of Deputy Chief Executive post has generated additional savings can these be put towards other staff members who are at risk due to Plan for Change proposals.	1
The council could increase rent for items to generate more income	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>238</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for support for vulnerable people? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
There should be no change to current standards and there should be further investment in this area.	14
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	10
I oppose proposal to reduce Bury Employment Support and Training budget by 64%/ changes to Bury Employment Support and Training.	3
I oppose changes to home to school transport if they stop disabled children going to a school that meets their needs.	2
I oppose reduction of social workers.	2
The council should invest further in self care and family support.	2
At Pinfold you could stop washing clothes, pay £1.00 per week for drinks for staff, Draught proof the conservatory and windows at the centre, turn off lights, switch off main lights in the morning.	1
Changes to reablement team rotas to encourage weekend and evening working to reduce agency staff costs.	1
Could charities help support short break provision?	1
Could the council consider income generation opportunities for children's centres?	1
I am concerned about personal budgets.	1
I need more information on the proposals outlined.	1
I oppose changes in Adult Care Services and the closure of local authority owned elderly people's homes.	1
I oppose changes to Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services and community-led services for young people.	1
I oppose the proposals relating to children's centres.	1
I support the proposals for children's centres if it is only a revenue reduction and it does not affect front line services.	1
The council needs to modernise and change day centre approach.	1
The council needs to take into account Department of Work and Pensions Review regarding supported housing before making changes to strategic commissioning of supporting people contracts.	1
The council should bring some children's services support function in house which is currently provided by external contractors.	1
The council should explore lean management opportunities.	1
The council should look at re-ablement services and review.	1
The council should look at the number of young people who are schooled outside of the borough, particularly if they have a disability or complex needs.	1
The council should make better use of equipment provision in the community (remove equipment no longer required and re-use).	1
The council should sell Hazelhurst Elderly People's Home as a site for affordable housing.	1
The registration process for people who have become blind should be part of wider in-house assessment provision and not with an external provider.	1
Transport for Greater Manchester should promote independent travel and not the council.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>31</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for a strong local economy? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
I am concerned about staff redundancies in this area.	9
Council services should be marketed to the private sector to generate income/ generate income.	5
Do not close the Tourist Information Centre/ it is not clear what destination management is/ the council needs to maintain community links through business groups.	5
The council needs to ensure continued investment in Radcliffe.	5
The council needs to undertake initiatives to promote entrepreneurship/ open up vacant shops/ tackle youth unemployment.	4
The council needs to ensure continued investment in Bury.	3
I am concerned that loss of ecology and wildlife officer would result in reduction in external funding, loss of expertise re planning issues which would not be covered by a service level agreement. Ecological advise not covered by Greater Manchester Ecological Unit.	2
I endorse proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	2
More information is required on the proposals.	2
This should be a priority area for the council.	2
The council needs to look at farmers markets in Prestwich	1
I think business rates should be kept to a minimum.	1
The council does not need to undertake major planning projects.	1
The council needs to tackle youth unemployment.	1
The council should promote more partnership working.	1
The council should review funding to Manchester Investment Agency (MIDAS).	1
The council should review structures across the whole localities division.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>34</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for a decent place to live? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
The council should encourage greater personal responsibility and help manage demand for those services.	3
More information is required on the proposals.	2
Explore Lean Management opportunities.	1
I endorse the proposals in the Draft Programme of Savings.	1
I oppose the proposals in the Draft Programme of Savings.	1
I think food safety work is important.	1
Landlords should have a duty to keep a house clean.	1
Six Town Housing should be subject to the same level of budget reductions.	1
The council needs to look at the Housing Allocations Policy.	1
The council should work to fill empty properties.	1
The council should work with third sector more.	1
The structure of environmental health teams need to be reviewed as there are too many managers.	1
There needs to be more police at night.	1
The council should fine individuals for dropping litter and dog fouling	2
I am concerned that some proposals are not going to improve the area in which we live.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>32</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings around maintaining opportunities for high quality education and training? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
I am concerned about home to school transport proposals (denominational schools and general comments).	6
More information is required on the proposals.	3
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	1
Explore lean management opportunities.	1
The council should ensure adequate public transport options to schools if changes to council provision.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>35</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for managing roads and the transport network? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
There should be an investment rather than a reduction in this area/ I am concerned about the current standard of the highway.	11
I oppose introduction of £1 Sunday car parking/ removal of 15 minutes free parking/ charges at leisure centre.	6
The council should focus on core highway services (e.g. good quality road surface is more important than traffic calming).	5
More information is required on the proposals.	3
The council should introduce LED lighting both internally and externally/ turn off lighting.	3
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	2
If you remove 15 minutes free parking a short time period ticket should be introduced.	2
The cost of claims will increase if the council does not maintain the roads.	2
The council should remove crossing patrols at manned crossings.	2
There needs to be increased enforcement of illegal parking/ bus lanes.	2
Bury should not invest in Stansted Airport.	1
Disabled drivers should pay a fee for parking.	1
Explore lean management opportunities.	1
I don't think the council should introduce road safety schemes e.g. 20mph zones.	1
I oppose the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	1
I support introduction of Sunday parking fees.	1
The council should encourage all employees to act as eyes and ears to report issues in the community e.g. trees that need cutting, cracked pavements.	1
The council should get rid of pay and display ticketing and have a pay on exit system to reduce the need for enforcement officers.	1
The council should not put up large signs informing residents of road works as this creates more work when you have to take down.	1
The council should remove bus lanes as discourages people from travelling into Bury.	1
The council should turn off traffic lights at night to save money.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>31</b>



What do you think about the proposed savings for keeping Bury clean and green? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?	Count
<p><b>I oppose removal of the ranger service</b></p> <p>Key points highlighted in correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Safety concerns – will areas be safe?</li> <li>• Support makes volunteering possible and activities will reduce if rangers not there to co-ordinate and provide expertise</li> <li>• Key role in engaging with schools and young people</li> <li>• Rangers have a broader role – community engagement, events, health walks, incredible edible projects</li> <li>• Parks are a strength in the borough; they are high quality and something to be proud of.</li> <li>• Volunteers cannot do more and spend more hours on projects</li> <li>• Who will keep buildings at countryside sites open – will these close too?</li> <li>• It is a false economy to cut the service as health and safety claims will increase</li> <li>• Concern about deterioration in park and open space standards if no volunteers working in these areas</li> <li>• Ranger presence allows volunteers to be covered by council's liability insurance</li> <li>• Income opportunities from paid events and contributions from schools/ external funding</li> <li>• Green spaces and opportunities offered by the Ranger Service contribute to wider health and well-being agenda</li> <li>• Allows community groups to access funding as Ranger Service time can be used as matched funding</li> <li>• Ranger Service should be saved and a new service delivering core functions should be introduced</li> <li>• Oppose retention of management posts when front-line team affected</li> </ul>	<p><b>121</b></p> <p>n.b. Democratic services have received a petition signed by 568 individuals and another one signed by 518</p>
I oppose Bury in Bloom planting. The council should explore more sustainable options/ enhance community led approach/ promote increased volunteer involvement/ explore further sponsorship opportunities for the service area.	11
The council should encourage personal responsibility/ fine people for littering/ recycle more/ encourage businesses to recycle/ generate income for the service area, sponsorship of bins.	9
I think the quality of parks will decline/ high quality environment is an important aspect of the borough/ green space is valued.	6
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	2
I need more information on the savings proposals.	2
I support new refuse collection arrangements .	2
I support removal of ranger service.	2
Lawns and verges could be mowed less often/ promote biodiversity.	2
Targeted street cleaning is a good idea.	2
The council should consider reducing brown bin collections during winter/ sell compost from brown bin waste.	2
An arms length management organization should be responsible for parks and open spaces.	1
Explore lean management opportunities.	1
I oppose the new refuse collection arrangements.	1
I think the council should change working patterns for refuse collection so it is no longer based on a task and finish rota.	1
The council needs to continue to maintain sports pitches as this is an important resource for young people.	1
This is a priority area for the council .	1

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for keeping Bury clean and green? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area? (continued)</b>	<b>Count</b>
Grounds Maintenance staff should not be at risk without being informed.	1
I oppose self management of football pitches.	1
I oppose the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings (general not specific to ranger service).	1
I think the council should remove large trees to keep areas safe.	1
Income generation opportunities need to be explored.	1
The council could cut back on hedgerow cutting and reduced grass cutting to help biodiversity and encourage wildlife.	1
The council needs to keep street cleaning teams as attractiveness of an area is important.	1
The council needs to look at land ownership of verges etc to see if can be transferred from public to private ownership.	1
The council should increase voluntary sector involvement in this area.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS (excludes signatories from petitions received):</b>	<b>176</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for promoting healthier lives? Do you have any other suggestions for savings in this area?</b>	<b>Count</b>
Do not close the café at Castle Leisure Centre and replace with vending facilities as it is a well-used resource by users and considered a valuable amenity (Petition received 24 October 2012) (Plan for Change 1 proposed agreed February 2012).	Petition containing 503 signatures
Oppose closure of the crèche (Plan for Change 1 proposal agreed February 2012).	Petition containing 107 signatures
<p>Toning tables and BEATS are important for people in poor health/ recovering from serious illness and need to be retained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The toning tables have provided vital help in rehabilitation from illnesses such as strokes, breakdown, heart problems</li> <li>• Physical problems would prevent individuals from joining a private gym so facility provides only opportunity for exercise</li> <li>• Social element, allows people to get out and meet others and this is considered important.</li> </ul>	21
Private leisure providers can help and support/ is this the responsibility of the council- private sector or NHS should fund?	9
I value council leisure provision/ would be prepared to pay more for leisure membership to maintain services.	4
I need more information on the proposals.	3
I oppose the proposals in the Draft Programme of Savings.	2
I am concerned about condition of Castle Leisure/other councils have better facilities.	2
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	1
I oppose pool closures.	1
I support pool closures at quiet times.	1
I support the life guard provision changes.	1
If you reduce the hours of provision then the council also needs to reduce the fees for membership.	1
The council can reduce spend on marketing at the leisure centre as it has little impact.	1
The council needs to revise gym pricing to remove age difference.	1
The council should close leisure centre for 1 day a week.	1
The council should introduce self service at leisure centres (leisure card).	1
The council should promote health and well being opportunities.	1
The council should promote self care in this area.	1
The council should reduce the number of civic venues.	1
The council should work across all council departments to look at prevention and this area of work helps contribute to that agenda.	1
You could reduce the temperature in Castle Leisure.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS (excludes signatories from petitions received):</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>25</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for leisure and cultural opportunities? Do you have any other suggestions for savings?</b>	<b>Count</b>
Bury Council have chosen to reduce the amount of money that the Library Service receives. This has resulted in failing standards at the Castle Leisure Library in the Self Service technology. Also, the service does not have enough money to provide resources for all people who use the libraries. Sign this petition if you wish for Bury Libraries to receive an increase in budget.	Petition containing 20 signatures.
The council should reduce the number of libraries in the borough/ look at high street locations/ co-location/ cafes in libraries/ community hubs/ evening open hours.	8
I oppose changes to Library Service/ Art Gallery and Museum.	3
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	2
Explore lean management opportunities.	1
I appreciate effort to work with Friends of Civic Halls Groups.	1
I oppose the loss of reference material, internet access.	1
The council needs to market civic venues to generate income/ generate more money.	2
The council should charge for the use of library computers.	1
The council should consider contracting out the service.	1
The council should not sponsor Bury FC.	1
The council should not undertake town twinning at a cost to the tax payer .	1
The council should sell off civic halls.	1
The libraries are over staffed .	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS (excludes signatories from petitions received):</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>27</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for encouraging strong and vibrant communities? Do you have any other suggestions for savings?</b>	<b>Count</b>
I support the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	6
The council should use the voluntary sector more and reduce expenditure in this area.	2
The council needs to encourage more volunteering/ community spirit.	2
I need more information on the proposals.	2
Explore lean management opportunities.	1
The council should promote self help.	1
The council should remove Township Forums.	1
The community needs to unite to tackle these issues	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>33</b>

<b>What do you think about the proposed savings for encouraging informed and engaged communities? Do you have any other suggestions for savings?</b>	<b>Count</b>
I need more information on the proposals.	4
The council should hold virtual meetings/ revise meeting timetable.	3
The council should not translate documents into other languages and only provide documents in English.	2
Cohesion is an important element of this area of work.	1
Councillors need to be empowered .	1
I endorse the proposals outlined in the Draft Programme of Savings.	1
The council should reduce the amount it prints.	1
The council should use online opportunities to engage with residents.	1
There should be greater community involvement in the third sector.	1
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMENTS:</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Respondent did not provide comment online or stated no comment in response to online survey:</b>	<b>35</b>



<b>Do you have any other comments to make about the proposed programme of savings?</b>	<b>Count</b>
I am concerned about the future level of council services/ formula and settlement.	6
I think the council should campaign about the level of cuts to central government.	4
The cuts should not affect the poorest in society.	3
I oppose format of consultation, it is not statistically representatives.	2
I am prepared to pay more council tax to protect services.	2
I am concerned about council tax increase.	1
I am concerned about the privatization of services.	1
I don't think the council should freeze council tax.	1
I need more information on the proposals.	1
I need to take responsibility locally for the changes and not blame central government.	1
I think cuts should be distributed evenly and not by choice area.	1
I think the council should introduce local taxation on cigarettes.	1
Lean Management is important and will save jobs.	1
Stop salami slicing and look at service re-design.	1
The council needs independent scrutiny as part of budget-saving process.	1
The council needs to change its culture and ensure people have the right attitude and skills.	1
The council needs to maximize the use of the online resources for staff.	1
The council needs to take decisions about the future of services now.	1
The council needs to think smart.	1
The council should consider income generation from selling off waste products.	1
The council should maximize back office capacity to protect the front line.	1
The council should re-coup unpaid rates/ empty properties should pay rates.	1
The council should reduce car parking fees.	1
What will be the threshold to change decisions?	1
What is the extra cost to the council of localism and additional demand	1
I endorse the proposals outlined in the document, they seem innovative	1



# Further information.

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