

Public Document Pack

AGENDA FOR

CABINET

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To: All Members of Cabinet

Councillors : M C Connolly (Cabinet Member for Policy, Performance, Economic Development and Regeneration) (Chair), J Smith (Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs), T Isherwood (Cabinet Member for Environment), R Shori (Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Housing), J Lewis (Cabinet Member for Leisure, Tourism and Culture), G Campbell (Cabinet Member for Children and Families), S Walmsley (Cabinet Member for Communities and Community Safety), T Pickstone (Non portfolio holder) and I Gartside (Non portfolio holder)

Dear Member/Colleague

Cabinet

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Cabinet which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Wednesday, 28 August 2013
Place:	Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Market Place Bury, BL0 9HT
Time:	6.00 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Cabinet are asked to consider whether they have an interest in any of the matters on the Agenda and, if so, to formally declare that interest.

3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Questions are invited from members of the public present at the meeting on any matters about the work or performance of the Council or the Council's services.

Approximately 30 minutes will be set aside for Public Question Time if required.

4 MINUTES (*Pages 1 - 8*)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2013.

5 CORPORATE PLAN PROGRESS REPORT (*Pages 9 - 36*)

To consider a report of the Leader of Council

6 DRAFT LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (*Pages 37 - 136*)

To consider a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment.

7 ADOPTION OF 2013 STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (*Pages 137 - 170*)

To consider a report of the Cabinet Member for Environment.

8 CORPORATE FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING - APRIL 2013 - JUNE 2013 (*Pages 171 - 200*)

To consider a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs.

9 URGENT BUSINESS

Any other business which by reason of special circumstances the Chair agrees may be considered as a matter of urgency.

10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider passing the appropriate resolution under Section 100(4), Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, that the press and

public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business for the reason that it involves the disclosure of exempt information.

11 **LAND AT BEECH GROVE, CHESHAM ROAD, BURY** *(Pages 201 - 212)*

To consider a report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs.

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Minutes of:	THE CABINET
Date of Meeting:	10 July 2013
Present:	Councillor M Connolly (in the Chair) Councillors G Campbell, I Gartside, J Lewis, T Pickstone R Shori and J Smith
Also in attendance:	Councillors T Holt and S Southworth
Apologies:	Councillor A Isherwood and S Walmsley
Public attendance:	8 members of the public were in attendance

CA.182 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Connolly declared a personal interest for the reason that his partner is employed by Adult Care Services.

CA.183 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A period of thirty minutes was allocated for members of the public present at the meeting to ask questions about the work or performance of the Council or Council services.

Topic: Libraries

Question: Why is there a proposal to close Radcliffe Library?

Response: There are no proposals to close any libraries in the Borough. At this meeting the Cabinet will consider a report on proposals for libraries.

CA.184 MINUTES

Delegated decision:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

CA.185 PLAN FOR CHANGE REVIEW OF LIBRARIES – PROPOSALS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

The Cabinet Member for Leisure Tourism and Culture submitted a report which outlined the next steps in the Library Review process and reflected on the consultation undertaken since the last report was submitted to Cabinet in April 2013.

The report set out how savings required as part of the Plan for Change could still be successfully achieved, but amended the original proposals to reflect the feedback received through the consultation process and significantly worsening of the level of budget cuts to be made over the next two years covering 2014-15 and 2015-16.

The revised proposal ensures that for now all the Borough's library services will be retained and located in their current premises.

The development of community hubs remains a priority but their future development has to recognise the further level of cuts to Government funding for local government as part of the 2015-16 Comprehensive spending Review (CSR).

Delegated decision:

That approval be given to the proposals as set out in the report submitted to achieve the required savings by exploiting efficiencies from the use of self service technology and a reduction in the staffing establishment.

Reason for the decision:

The proposal sets out a way forward that means for now all libraries will be retained in their current premises across the Borough.

Other option considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation and identify the £570,000 required saving from other budgets.

(Note Councillors Gartside and Pickstone voted against the recommendation)

CA.186 BURY BEHAVIOURS

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report updating Cabinet on the development of a Bury Behaviours framework.

Decision:

That the introduction of a revised 'Bury Behaviours' framework which has been drawn up having identified what skills and behaviours will be essential for the Council to meet its aims going forward be endorsed.

Reason for the decision:

To amend or reject the recommendation.

Other options considered and rejected:

The framework will be used in recruitment, employee reviews and to identify development needs.

CA.187 REVENUE AND HRA OUTTURN 2012/2013

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report providing details of:

- The revenue outturn figures in respect of the last financial year 2012/2013, detailing specific carry-forward requests and the proposed application of the carry-forward rules;
- Major variances between the revised estimate and the outturn;
- The level of school balances;
- Transfers to / from reserves;

- HRA outturn for the year;
- The minimum level of balances in the light of risk assessments.

The figures detailed in the report were consistent with the figures included within the Statement of Accounts which were both approved by the Responsible Finance Officer and presented to Audit Committee on 25 June 2013.

Delegated decisions:

That in view of the Council's financial situation and the budget pressures faced in 2013/14 and future years it is recommended that the normal cash ceiling rules governing the carry forward of over and underspendings should be suspended and that:

- a) The final revenue outturn and HRA outturn for 2012/13 be noted along with explanations for major variances;
- b) The two carry forward requests be approved;
- c) Requests to carry forward underspendings under the 1% rule be refused;
- d) Overspendings of the Children's Services Adult Care Services and Chief Executive's departments not be carried forward;
- e) Transfers to / from reserves be approved;
- f) The level of the General Fund balances be noted.

Reason for the decisions:

The presentation of an annual report on the Revenue and HRA Outturn is a requirement of the Council's Financial Regulations, as part of Council's Financial Procedure Rules

Other options considered and rejected:

- a) Note the final outturn for 2012/13, and explanations for major variances (Appendix A, B and C of the report submitted)
- b) Consider the earmarked carry forward requests in 2012/13 (Paragraph 3.3 of the report submitted);
- c) Consider the application of the 1% rule (Paragraph 3.3);
- d) Consider the transfers to / from reserves (Paragraph 5.2);
- e) Endorse the recommendations of the Assistant Director of Resources (Finance and Efficiency) for the minimum level of balances in light of the review of the corporate risk assessments and the newly completed departmental risk assessments (Paragraphs 5.3 & 6.9)

CA.188 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2012/2013

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report providing details of:

- The capital outturn figures in respect of the last financial year 2012/13;
- Major variances between the Revised Estimate and the Outturn;
- The financing of the Capital Programme in 2012/13;
- Reprofile of budgets/allocations and funding into 2013/14;
- Details of the capital receipts received during the year.

Delegated decisions:

1. That the final capital outturn for 2012/2013, and explanations for major variances (as detailed in Appendix A and in the report submitted) be noted.
2. That the financing of the Capital Programme in 2012/2013 (Paragraph 3.5 of the report submitted) be noted.
3. That approval be given to the reprofile/slippage requests and associated funding into 2013/2014 (Appendix B of the report submitted)
4. That the level of Capital Receipts realised in the year be noted.

Reason for the decisions:

The presentation of an annual report on the Capital Outturn is a requirement of the Council's Financial Regulations, as part of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

Other options considered and rejected:

To amend or reject the recommendations.

CA.189 2012/2013 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report presenting a review of Treasury Management Activities that have taken place during 2012/2013.

The Cabinet was informed that Mike Owen (Executive Director of Resources) had been appointed as the National Vice-President of the Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) (2013/2014). Members congratulated Mike Owen on this achievement.

The Cabinet also thanked the officers involved in Treasury Management work in view of the very efficient way they have continued to manage the Council's finances.

Delegated decision:

That the 2012/2013 Treasury Management Annual report be noted.

Reason for the decision:

The Annual Treasury Management is submitted in accordance with the Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice.

Other options considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation.

CA.190 RISK MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report which gave details of the risk management activity that

had taken place over the past twelve months. The report outlined the risk management policies and practices in place and the key issues that will be addressed during the coming financial year.

Delegated decisions:

1. That the progress made throughout 2012/2013 and the actions planned for 2013/2014 be noted.
2. That the Council's approach to Risk Management be reaffirmed.

Reason for the decision:

The Council's Risk Management Policy forms an integral part of strategic planning in the Council, ensuring early intervention and management of uncertainty in delivering key strategic priorities.

Other options considered and rejected:

To amend or reject the recommendation.

CA.191 PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT OF RADCLIFFE MARKET HALL

The Leader of the Council submitted a report outlining a proposal to undertake a major refurbishment of Radcliffe Market Hall, to provide a fit for purpose Market Hall for Radcliffe which supports the Radcliffe Town Centre Regeneration Programme.

Delegated decisions:

1. That approval be given to the refurbishment of the Market Hall (as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report submitted) which would include the following essential works:
 - Basic repairs to the main structure;
 - A new roof and associated rainwater goods;
 - Repair and where required replacement of existing windows and doors;
 - Painting of the internal floor;
 - Complete rewire to current standards;
 - New stalls.
2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Resources and the Head of Asset Management, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs, to seek, consider and accept tenders for the refurbishment contract.
3. That the Executive Director of Resources and the Head of Property and Asset Management be instructed to advise Cabinet Members, for information purposes, of the outcome of the tender process.

Reason for the decision:

The refurbishment of Radcliffe Market Hall is a key element in delivering the regeneration in Radcliffe town centre.

Other options considered and rejected:

To amend or reject the recommendation.

CA.192 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC**Delegated decision:**

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of information as detailed in the conditions of category 3.

**CA.193
E CAPITAL PROJECT STAGE 2 APPROVAL – RADCLIFFE MARKET
REFURBISHMENT**

The Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Corporate Affairs submitted a report outlining a proposal to undertake a major refurbishment of both the interior and exterior of Radcliffe Market Hall to both provide a fit for purpose market hall for Radcliffe but as a key element of the Radcliffe Town Centre Regeneration Programme.

Delegated decision:

That approval be given to the financial details as set out in the report submitted.

Reason for the decision:

The decision will enable the project to progress.

Other option considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation.

**CA.194
E CAPITAL PROJECT STAGE 2 APPROVAL**

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Corporate Affairs submitted a report seeking approval for Six Town Housing to procure and install a replacement IT system.

Delegated decision:

That approval be given to the proposals as set out in the report submitted.

Reasons for the decision:

The replacement of the current system will offer savings and greater functionality for tenants and staff.

Other option considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation.

**CA.195
E 18 HAYMARKET STREET, BURY**

The Leader of the Council submitted a report regarding the Council's lease of 18 Haymarket Street, Bury.

Delegated decisions:

1. That approval be given for the Council to enter into negotiations for the purchase of the building at 18 Haymarket Street, Bury on the most advantageous terms for the Council.
2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Resources and the Head of Property and Asset Management, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to conclude these negotiations and instruct the Council Solicitor to complete the purchase of the building.
3. That Cabinet members be informed of the terms of the acquisition.

Reasons for the decision:

The purchase of the building presents significant savings to the Council.

Other option considered and rejected:

1. To negotiate a renewal of the lease of the building.
2. To relocate those services currently situated in 18 Haymarket Street, Bury into Athenaeum House and not market the latter for sale or lease.

COUNCILLOR M CONNOLLY
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7:10 pm)

REPORT FOR DECISION

Agenda Item	
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DECISION OF:	Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny Committee
DATE:	Wednesday : 28 August 2013 Wednesday : 4 September 2013
SUBJECT:	Corporate Plan Progress Report – Quarter 4 2012-13
REPORT FROM:	Leader of the Council
CONTACT OFFICER:	Sarah Marshall, Performance Officer – Adults Planning
TYPE OF DECISION:	Non key decision
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	The Corporate Plan Progress Report outlines the progress during quarter four 2012-13 for the corporate performance indicators and projects within the Bury Council Corporate Plan. The information is extracted from the Performance Information Management System (PIMS) and provided by the responsible services.
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	The Cabinet and Committee are asked to note the contents of the report.
IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, however it is important to note that performance levels are currently being maintained despite reducing resources. Continuous monitoring of performance is

	essential to ensure this is maintained and to monitor the impact of further funding reductions going forward.
Statement by Executive Director of Resources:	There are no other resource implications.
Equality/Diversity implications:	Yes An Equality Analysis was undertaken for the Bury Council Corporate Plan 2012-15 and it was concluded that the Plan has a positive impact by aiming to reduce poverty and inequality. This report provides a summary of the progress made.
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes JH
Wards Affected:	All
Scrutiny Interest:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee

TRACKING/PROCESS**DIRECTOR: Executive Director, ACS**

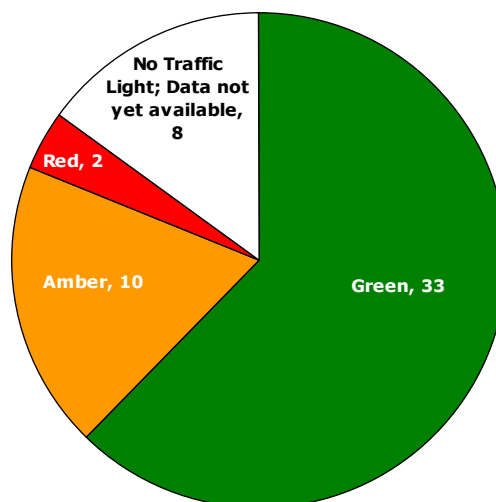
Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Cabinet Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
22/07/2013			
Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet/Committee	Council	
27/08/2013	21/08/13		

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The council publishes a Corporate Plan each year with progress updates reported to Cabinet each quarter. This report outlines performance against the plan for quarter 4 2012-13 and represents an end of year summary of the council's position.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 There is evidence of good progress in 2012-13:



2.2 33 indicators (62% of the total) showed improvement on the previous year's outturn and/or exceeded target whilst a further 19% (the 10 indicators shown amber on the chart) were just off the pace. Given the financial situation and other challenges facing services, this level of performance is positive and demonstrates a strong commitment to service delivery in the Borough.

2.3 2 areas under achieved:

- The gap between Bury and Greater Manchester in relation to the percentage number of people on out of work benefits increased over the year. Plans remain in place through initiatives such as City Deal, Backing Young Bury and Work Programme to bring this indicator back on track
- The percentage of children and young people in care achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at key stage 4 (including English and Maths) also fell below target. However this figure is based on a small cohort (of 22 qualifying pupils) where the results of a few individuals can have a major impact on the indicator.

2.4 There are 8 indicators where progress cannot be analysed. 2 of these had no targets set for 2012/13 and data was unavailable for the other 6. Work is ongoing to review the data set for future Corporate Plans so that non-reporting is minimised and the results selected provide a fair and meaningful reflection of the Council's position.

2.5 Analysing the results by the Council's priority outcomes, progress has been made in the three front facing themes:



2.6 The picture however is less positive for 'One Council, One Success, Together'. Despite good finance results, the proportion of immeasurable indicators and 'amber' ratings held back progress. Improving the corporate health indicators of the Council is an area for development in the year ahead.

3.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The report provides details of the progress made at quarter four 2012-13 and concludes our position at year end.

3.2 Overall, performance against the corporate plan is good with 33 out of 53 (62%) indicators achieving target and/or performing better than last year. Where we have not performed as expected, the reasons have been identified and in most cases a proactive approach has been adopted to improve these outcomes next year.

3.3 In the context of current pressures and resource limitations, efforts made to maintain performance are to be welcomed.

List of Background Papers:-
Bury Council Corporate Plan 2012-15

Contact Details:- Sarah Marshall, Performance Officer – Adults Planning
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One Council. One Plan.

Quarter Four 2012-13:

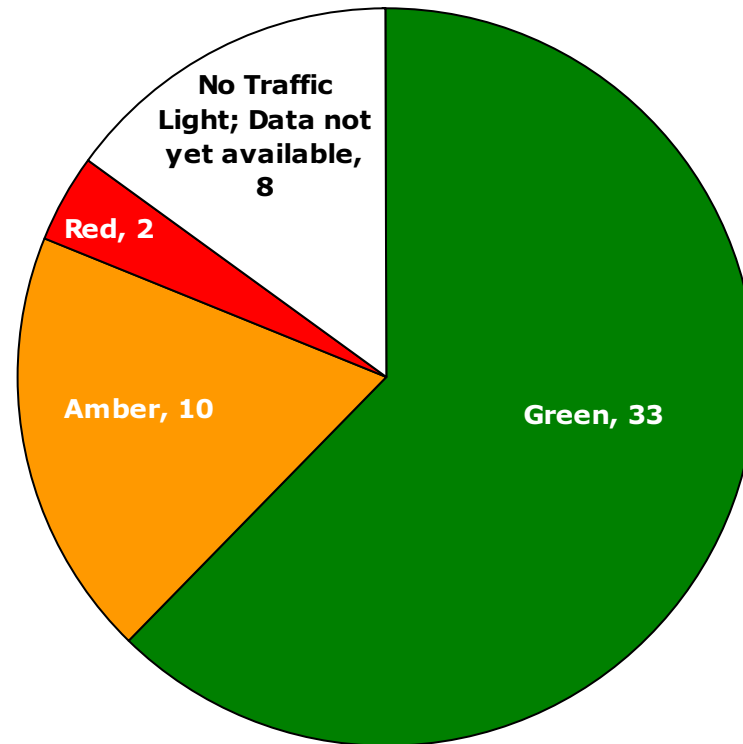
Progress Report

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report outlines progress during quarter four of 2012-13 for the corporate performance indicators and projects within the Bury Council Corporate Plan. The information provided is extracted from the Performance Information Management System (PIMS) and the responsible services.
- 1.2 There are currently 53 performance indicators from PIMS, two performance indicators provided by Public Health and 19 projects within the Corporate Plan. This report provides a summary of the overall performance of all indicators and projects.
- 1.3 Where data are unavailable for Quarter 4 2012-13, the report provides the latest inputted data from previous quarters.
- 1.4 Throughout this report the definitions of the colour-coding are:
 - Green – On target and/or better than 2011-12 performance
 - Amber – Within 15% of achieving target or within 15% of 2011-12 performance
 - Red – Below target or worse than we achieved in 2011-12.
 - No Traffic Light – Information not available due to various reasons.
- 1.5 The detail of this corporate performance report can be viewed or downloaded on the corporate performance information monitoring system (PIMS). If you require copies of the reports or need training on the operation of the monitoring system; *please contact Benjamin Imafidon on Ext 6592.*

SUMMARY

- 2.1 Overall the council currently reports performance against a total of 53 corporate performance indicators. The chart below shows the percentage of these performance indicators that are categorised as Red, Amber and Green using the criteria set out in paragraph 1.4.



- 2.2 The Policy and Improvement Team is working with service managers concerned to ensuring that the delivery plans are robust enough to achieve or better these targets at year-end, and to reduce area where data is unavailable.

Reducing Poverty and Its Effects

Current Performance

Quarterly Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	2011/12 Baseline	2012/13 Q4	Target	Commentary
Overall employment rate for Bury (working age)	Higher	70.7%	75.2% (Green)	70%	Figures provided from Jobcentre Plus Labour Market Bulletin March 2013.
Working age people on out of work benefits	Lower	1.1%	2% (Red)	1.6%	This is due to the recent economic downturn. Funding provisions including; City Deal, Backing Young Bury, Work Programme, Youth Contract and Families/Troubled Families will be used to reduce the gap between Bury and GM back to the baseline of 1.60. <i>Source: Neighbourhood Statistics</i>
Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stage 2	Lower	22%	16% (Green)	16%	The attainment gap has narrowed by 6% this year due to the results for pupils eligible for free school meals rising by 7% whilst results for pupils not eligible for free school meals rising by 1%. The national figure is equal to the local authority figure.
Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stage 4	Lower	26.0%	23.2% (Green)	24%	The attainment gap has narrowed by 2.8% this year which is slightly better than our target. We are also performing 3% better than the national attainment gap.
Percentage of 16-18 year olds by academic age who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Lower	6.4%	5.5% (Green)	6.4%	Performance against this indicator has improved upon last year when we achieved 6.2% at the end of March 2012. Over the course of 2012-2013 NEET performance was better year on year every month except January. From April 2013 the baseline for measuring NEET performance will change again as young people in the NEET group will no

					longer 'lapse' in to not known after 3 months.
The proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income	Lower	18.5%	5.15% (Green)	No target	The revised local child poverty measure is defined as the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits. Therefore comparisons with previously reported figures are unreliable. At 31st May 2011 there were children living in 4,020 households in receipt of out of work benefits (source DWP) The figure of 5.15 has been calculated using the ONS population statistics from the 2011 Census (source NOMIS).

Annually Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	Quarter	Actual	Annual Target	Commentary
Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	Lower	Q4	18% (Green)	28%	The figure to be reported annually is the inequality gap between those pupils who were/were not eligible for free school meals at age 15. 64% of pupils who were not eligible for FSM achieved a L3 qualification, whilst 46% of those eligible for FSM achieved L3. Therefore the gap is reported as 18 percentage points.
Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher	Higher	Q4	Not available	70%	Unable to provide data, statistics do not get recorded by Skills Funding Agency and not readily available. This is to be reviewed.
Percentage of working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	Lower	Q4	Not available	32%	Not reported on the Office of National Statistics (NOMIS) at local level anymore. To be reviewed in 2013-14.

Project Updates

Poverty Strategy

The Poverty Strategy was approved by Cabinet on 6th March 2013. It was also agreed that monitoring results and progress would fall under the Welfare Reform Board. Reporting to the board will be done by a representative of the performance team. The board will monitor outcomes and indicators included in the strategy which have an influence on poverty with particular attention to the effect of recent Welfare Reform changes: particularly the bedroom tax, changes to Council Tax Benefit and the localisation of Social Fund.

Homelessness Strategy

The Housing Education and New Opportunities (HEN) Project commenced in February, there are currently 28 people accommodated and there have been a number of successes in terms of service users attending training courses and obtaining employment both paid and voluntary. The service users have also received health screening and there has been an improvement in many of the service user's health and well being.

The Cold Weather provision was again successful over the winter period. A new provider has been commissioned to work with rough sleepers focusing on a street rescue model so that no rough sleeper experiences a second night on the streets.

Affordable Warmth

Continued delivery of the Strategy with internal and external partners as detailed in the Affordable Warmth Strategy Action Plan including:

- **Bury Healthy Homes Scheme**

By March 2013 the scheme had provided 724 packs to residents requesting assistance and 293 referrals were made for further energy efficiency advice or assistance including benefit checks, debt advice, fire safety checks etc. 4 energy awareness training courses were also purchased from National Energy Action which will be delivered in quarter 3, 2013/14 (in readiness for the winter months), to a wide range of front-line staff enabling them to recognise fuel poverty and its effects and provide advice to vulnerable residents around staying warm and well during the winter months.

- **Greater Manchester Energy Advice Service (GMEAS)**

The GMEAS has supported Urban Renewal's Prestwich 'Get Me Toasty' area-based campaign (as below), has attended the Affordable Warmth Meetings and given one-to-one support to the Affordable Warmth Officer. Urban Renewal continues to work with them (like other GM local authorities) to see where further opportunities lie, pre and post the introduction of the Green Deal - officers attend the relevant meetings to be able to pick this up, Bury is now involved in the procurement phase.

- **'Get Me Toasty' Campaign**

The above campaign ended in March 2013. Information provided by GMEAS has shown that during this quarter 422

installations took place which has seen approximately £163, 525 of investment into the borough. This investment in energy efficiency measures and advice will save those assisted a total of £37,520 annual savings and saved the equivalent of 10,701,920 kg of CO2.

- **Fair Energy Campaign**

Successful completion of the first GM wide collective energy switching scheme during quarter 4, saw 1887 Bury residents sign-up to it. An average of £122 was made for those that made the switch.

Backing Young Bury

Backing Young Bury has continued to invest in young people and provided meaningful learning and working opportunities within the council, whilst simultaneously sharing best practice with other organisations to encourage them to provide similar opportunities. In Quarter 4 2012-13 Backing Young Bury has supported over 59 Bury young people to access an apprenticeship through the Greater Manchester Commitment. Backing Young Bury has piloted a way of working on behalf of Greater Manchester. The Connecting Provision activity has assisted 12 unemployed residents into a structured training journey complementing existing activity including Bury Council's Supporting Communities, Improving Lives. A further cohort is planned for September 2013. We continue to build links with our local Businesses through our Offer to Employers. In Quarter 4 we have worked in partnership with JobCentre Plus to deliver a sector based work academy with a company relocating to Bury. This resulted in 20 jobs secured for unemployed residents. The campaign has provided 197 learning and working opportunities across the council, of which, 119 have been work experience placements, 42 extended work experience placements, 15 pre - employment placements and 23 corporate apprenticeships.

Supporting our most vulnerable residents

Current Performance

Quarterly Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	2011/12 Baseline	Q4 Actual	Target	Commentary
Percentage achieving independence: older people through rehabilitation/intermediate care	Higher	86.7%	93.5% (Green)	80%	187 customers came through the service 174 remained at home after 91 days.
Adults with learning disabilities in settled accommodation	Higher	85.7%	85.7% (Green)	80%	Over achieved on this target, which is excellent and has been achieved as a result of only placing customers into temporary or residential accommodation when absolutely necessary due to risk or high level of need. The co-located health and social care Learning Disability teams have worked well together to achieve this target.
Adults with learning disabilities in employment	Higher	36%	40% (Green)	33%	A strong performance by Bury Employment Support and Training (EST) has led to the 2012-2013 target being exceeded. There has been increased joint working with the social work teams to engage customers with a learning disability whom could gain paid employment into Bury EST.
Number of households living in temporary accommodation	Lower	12	12 (Amber)	5	During quarter 4 we had 39 households placed in temporary accommodation, of these 12 did not have an offer of suitable accommodation. There was a large increase in the number of homeless presentations during this period, which resulted in this increase.
Percentage of assessment completed (28 days) -Timeliness	Higher	77.9%	83.6% (Green)	78%	Over achieved on this target due to improved processes and paperwork and management

of social care assessment (all adults)					within the teams. Have also received additional funding from health to increase capacity in teams, which has ensured cases can be allocated for assessment quicker.
Percentage of social care packages in place 28 days after assessment	Higher	74.5%	77.5% (Green)	70%	Overall the service has over achieved on its target. We will continue to monitor this on a local level, working with our colleagues in Finance and Procurement to maintain or improve this.
Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct payments and individual budgets)	Higher	23.7%	30.7% (Green)	40%	Percentage achieved in Assessment and Care Management (without Mental Health and Substance Misuse Service) is 52.6% so is well over target set. The percentage is reduced to overall of 30.7% as the figure is based on the total number of customers, not just those that are eligible for a personal budget. This is being addressed at a national and regional level.
Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	Higher	16.7%	16.6% (Amber)	25%	Overall the target has significantly under achieved, although this in the main is due to significant low numbers of Carers assessed within mental health service at 13.6%. Performance is still under target for Assessment and Care Management at 23.8%. A significant part of this is due to the paperwork and process we have in place to record Carers assessments, which has been addressed within the new electronic system we will introduce, PROTOCOL. This will make it easier to record carers details, we have introduced an initial as well as a formal assessment.
The percentage of children and young people in care adopted during the year who were placed for adoption within 12 months of the decision that they should be	Higher	35.3%	77.3% (Green)	80%	Protocol data is in need of cleansing as some adopted children still show as being looked after. Monitoring performed outside the system shows that, in Quarter 4, three children were adopted. Of the three children, two were

placed for adoption, and who remained in that placement on adoption.					placed within 12 months of decision (66%).
Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	Lower	20.3%	12.3% (Green)	17%	Of the 51 Bury plans that commenced between January and March inclusive, 5 (9.8%) were repeats. For 2012-2013, 23 out of 187 (12.3%) were repeats.
The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non SEN gap achieving 5 A* C GCSE inc. English and Maths	Lower	55%	49.2% (Green)	44%	The gap has narrowed by 5% this year and a lot closer to our target. The gap has narrowed because results of SEN pupils have risen at a faster rate than non SEN pupils.
Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups: Pakistani Heritage	Lower	1%	4.7% (Amber)	0%	The attainment gap has risen slightly this year to 4.7%. Attainment figures will fluctuate year on year depending on the "make-up" of the cohort.
Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups: Mixed White and Black Caribbean	Lower	18%	-10.9% (Green)	10%	90.9% of children in this ethnic group attained Level 4 and above in both English and Maths which is 10.9% above results for their peers. Last year results for this group were 18% below their peers. It is a relatively small group so results will vary from year to year.
Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups: White Other	Lower	0%	-1% (Green)	3%	81% of children in this ethnic group attained Level 4 and above in both English and maths which is 1% above results for their peers. It is a relatively small group so results will vary from year to year.

Annually Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	Quarter	Actual	Annual Target	Commentary
The percentage of children and young people in care achieving 5 A*-	Higher	Q4	13.6% (Red)	50%	Total cohort of 28 children, of which 22 qualify. Of the 22, 3 (13.6%) achieved 5 A*-Cs

C GCSEs (or equivalent) at key stage 4 (including English & Maths)					including English and Maths. Seven (31.8%) achieved 5 A*-Cs.
Percentage of permanent exclusions from school	Lower	Q4	0.16% (Green)	0.22%	Schools have worked hard during the last academic year to reduce the number of permanent exclusions. The impact of partnership placement has also helped to reduce the overall figure.
Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups: Gypsy Roma	Lower	Q4	Not available	No target	The cohort is too small to report.

Project Updates

Supporting Communities, Improving Lives

The Supporting Communities Improving Lives (SCIL) Programme made its first successful payment by results claim in January. Using data gathered from partners and internal sources six families were identified as meeting the results targets set out in the national Peer Based Review (PBR) framework from Department of Communities and Local Government. A total of £3,500 was claimed on this occasion.

A bespoke Troubled Families database has been purchased for the purpose of identifying and monitoring families' progress. This system will be fully operational for the next PBR claim in July.

In March an action group was established and an action plan to develop operational arrangements was implemented. We are hoping to launch the SCIL Programme and have our Key-Worker team in place by September.

Extra Care Housing

Red Bank is fully occupied. Work has been completed on upgrading the flats at Falcon and Griffin, with further work underway on the communal kitchen areas. Residents are delighted with the changes. Two bids have been submitted to the care and support specialised housing fund and we expect the outcome by July 2013.

Housing Allocation Policy

The new allocations policy has been implemented and in operation since the beginning of May 2013.

Day Opportunities

The day opportunities strategy was completed in January 2013 and was agreed by the Day Opportunities Steering Group.

The future of day opportunities is to be decided in line with a mapping exercise of community assets across Bury. It was agreed that, once this mapping was complete, a decision would be made as to the future steer.

Early Intervention Strategy

A new guide to inter-agency working was published in March 2013, 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' that stresses the importance of Early Help and that Local Authorities are obliged to establish an Early Help Offer which determines how services respond earlier to the needs of children and young people, thus preventing issues escalating later on in life. Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later when difficulties tend towards being more entrenched. Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life from the foundation years through to the teenage years.

A stakeholders event was held on the 23rd May and was well attended by partners from police, probation, health, schools, adult care, housing and third sector. The purpose of the event was to consult on some key strands of an early help offer, and also to gain commitment in moving forwards. The three strands were:

- an Early Help Team
- an Early Help panel
- a multi agency safeguarding hub

Work is now underway to pull together the findings from this event which will form an Early Help Strategy and delivery plan.

New Horizons Programme

The New Horizons Programme continues to support eleven learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to further develop their life skills. Six in their first year and five in their second year.

Making Bury a better place to live					
Current Performance					
Quarterly Reported Performance					
Measure	Higher/ lower is better	2011/12 Baseline	2012/13 Q4	Target	Commentary
Visits in person to Galleries/Museum per 1,000 population	Higher	247.37	235.01 (Amber)	241	The primary reason for not reaching the target set is that staff resources were directed toward delivery of the income generating touring exhibition project; in this connection, the reach of Bury's Arts Service grows to audience figures near to 2 million.
Percentage of household waste sent for re use, recycling and composting	Higher	36.85%	44.85% (Green)	44%	The increase in performance from last year is due to the full year effect of the route change, the increase in promotional activity and awareness has had a positive impact on both residual and recycling activities.
Residual household waste - kgs per household	Lower	540kg	450.5kg (Green)	500kg	Recycling performance has improved, following the introduction of fortnightly residual waste collections in Oct 2011. The economic downturn is also thought to be a contributory factor. Full year out turn = 450.5kg
The percentage of urban and countryside parks, based on the ISPAL definition, that have achieved "green flag" status	Higher	85.71%	85.71% (Green)	85.71%	Annual indicator - target achieved in spring 2012. 12 parks mystery shopped during 2012 and 12 parks retained accreditation.
Serious violent crime rate per 1,000 population	Lower	0.58	0.52 (Green)	0.88	13 incidents of serious violent crime were recorded during Jan-March 2013 which equates to 0.07 per 1000 population.
Serious acquisitive crimes rate per 1,000 population	Lower	12.67	11.43 (Green)	12.95	545 incidents of serious acquisitive crime were recorded during the period Jan-March 2013. This equates to 2.96 per 1000 population.

Assault with injury crime rate per 1000 of the population	Lower	5.06	5.78 (Green)	6.25	For the period Jan-March 2013 344 incidents or 1.87 per 1000 population were recorded.
Reduction in the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour as measured by the National Codes for Incidences (NICL) ASB	Lower	43.99	44.52 (Green)	46.2	For the period Jan - March 2013 1973 incidents were recorded. This equates to 10.73 per 1000 population.
Repeat incidents of domestic violence	Lower	23.21	29.26 (Amber)	26	29.82% for Q4 = 17 repeat cases. 29.26% for the period April 2012 - March 2013 = 67 repeat cases.
First-time entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice system aged 10-17 (Rate per 100,000)	Lower	Not available	637 (No colour)	No target	The change to the reporting of this data has taken effect with data becoming available annually from the police national computer. This figure relates to March 2011 to March 2012 and will be reported as the number of FTEs per 100,000 10-17 year old population. The number of FTEs in Bury has reduced significantly over the last 3 years (from 1,297 per 100,000 in March 2009). A revised annual target will be provided for March 13-14 performance.

Annually Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	Quarter	Actual	Annual Target	Commentary
Percentage of adults participating in at least 30 minutes moderate intensity sport and active recreation on three or more days a week	Higher	Q4	23.6% (Amber)	25.5%	Slightly short of target as previously reported, but this is reported by Active People Survey (APS) as no significant change from baseline, based on a sample survey of 1000. Locally there has been a small increase in number of participants engaged in Sports and Physical Activity Service (SAPAS) programmes. Sport specific programmes

					have been delivered as well as Physical Activity Programmes including Health Walks, Jogs, Sportivate and Sport Relief Mile.
Visits in person to libraries per thousand population	Higher	Q4	5,384 (Amber)	5,700	Increased accessibility to online services is likely to have reduced physical visits, as virtual access becomes an alternative to services within the libraries, e.g. there have been 44,500 online issues; this shows an ongoing trend towards online issues/renewals. The increase in population figure has also contributed to the reduction. The target for physical visits has not been achieved, partly due to the increase in usage of online resources.
Increased number of tourist visitors (STEAM)	Higher	Q3	5,404,130 (Green) Q4 – not available	5,315,516	Tourism data is generated using Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor (STEAM). Although a GM wide report will still be available, which includes the Bury visitor data, Bury Council will no longer be funding the Bury specific STEAM Report (2012 info onwards)
CO2 reduction from local authority operations	Higher	Q4	Not available	13	Department of Energy and Climate Change asked for figures to be published by end of July 2013. Data is currently being gathered for 2012/13
Percentage of the local authority principal road network where structural maintenance should be considered	Lower	Q4	3% (Green)	7%	The survey is carried out by contractors annually across the country. This result is at odds with local knowledge and will be checked for accuracy
Percentage of the local authority non principal road network where structural maintenance should be	Lower	Q4	3% (Green)	9%	The survey is carried out by contractors annually across the country. This result is at odds with local knowledge and will

considered					be checked for accuracy
Supply of ready to develop housing sites	Higher	Q4	100% (Green)	100%	The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment identifies a housing supply of 2797 dwellings in the next 5 years. Based on the emerging Core Strategy target of 400 dwellings per annum, plus 40 dwellings to take account of a shortfall in 2012/13 spread over the next 5 years, plus 5% flexibility allowance, the 5 year housing requirement is 2142 dwellings. Total supply of 2797 dwellings equates to 131% of the requirement.

Public Health

- Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks in Bury was 35.8% in Quarter 3 2012-13 and has increased to 41.2% in Quarter 4 2012-13. This increase in prevalence is due to an increase in the number of babies that received a 6-8 week check (100%).
- The rate of alcohol-related admissions per 100,000 population in Bury was 593 during Quarter 3 2012-13 and was forecast to be a year-end total 2,315 at Quarter 4 2012-13, which would be a reduction from 2,372 in Quarter 4 2011-12. Unfortunately access to this data is currently unavailable.

Project Updates

Health Reform

The Health & Well-Being Strategy has now been signed off. We are drawing together the training programme for the Health & Well-Being Board both for induction and ongoing training for Board Members. Currently looking to recruit to the post of Chair – Healthwatch. The Public Health Transition Project Board won the Partnership Award at the Councils STAR Awards. We are doing a piece of work on looking at the joint strategic needs assessment and the asset approach looking at some linking and some synergy of systems that will help frame the governance infrastructure and informing commissioning strategies in the future.

Increase recycling, reuse and composting

All known flats and apartments have now been provided with access to dry recycling facilities. Food waste recycling from school kitchens and Council buildings continues to be rolled out. Garden waste tonnages were naturally lower at this time of year, particularly with a late Spring. Tonnages across all waste streams were up in January, following Xmas and New Year, creating a monthly high recycling rate of 48%. Very difficult, if not impossible, to quantify how successful the recycling promotional campaign launched in Quarter 3 was, given other variables at play. The campaign should have helped to stabilise performance at the very least.

New health and social care partnership with Bury Football Club

The partnership has focused its approach on inclusion and improving the quality of life for the local community, developing an action plan which focuses on achieving the following outcomes:

- Increasing levels of physical activity
- Engage communities in their own health and develop their capacity to support individual behaviour change for healthier lifestyles
- Engage with socially excluded groups through sport encouraging healthy choices and reduce health inequalities
- Promote a positive and healthy environment

These outcomes will be met through a range of activities including; girl's football, Buggy Boot Camp, Memory Lane – Dementia Café and Healthy Stadia. Number of participants has increased across the activities contributing to these outcomes and the partnership aims to maintain this level of participation in 2013-14.

Housing projects

Good progress is being made on the schemes funded by the £4 million from the HCA's 2011-15 allocations, with all schemes now either complete, on site or have achieved planning permission. The site at Mill View is fully occupied with Otter Drive being the next scheme to receive nominations.

Great Places Housing Group and Six Town Housing have bid for Affordable Housing Programme funding for 2013-17 and are expecting to hear the outcome by July 2013.

Empty properties

• Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) funding for empty properties

By the end of year 1 (quarter 4 2012-14) the delivery programme has seen a total of 6 empty properties brought back into use by Six Town Housing and St Vincent's Housing Association, exceeding the target of 5. The contract between the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and AGMA is now signed. Following last years progress 8 empty properties have been identified so far where the owners wish to sell thus potentially exceeding the target of 4 for the second year of delivery. Discussions have taken place with the HCA who are happy for Bury's target to be exceeded in line with the wider AGMA programme. As part of a second AGMA wide bid, Bury has been successful in securing further HCA funding of at least £690,000 to bring a further 13 empty residential properties back into use and 1 commercial premises.

• Radcliffe Empty Property Pilot

Six Town Housing has been confirmed as the sole preferred delivery partner. Meetings have taken place to start to develop the business case which is required to obtain internal sign-off for purchasing the empty properties. The first 5 (very problematic) empty properties have been identified and dialogue has commenced with the owners. Since then a series of further meetings have

taken place with Six Town Housing, Property Services and Legal to further develop the business case and working procedures. The business case for the first 5 empty properties will be complete by the end June for internal sign-off. A further 4 empty properties have already been identified and Urban Renewal has started to put together the business cases for them. A draft Local Economic Benefit report has been produced which sets out how any local supply chains and employment/training opportunities will be developed/managed.

• **Empty property grants**

6 new grants are being developed which have been identified as a result of interest from empty property owners contacted through the Radcliffe Empty Property Pilot. Alternative solutions continue to be considered for the previously cancelled grants in line with available resources. One of the cancelled grants is being pursued for breach of grant conditions.

One Council, One Success, Together
Current Performance

Finance Summary

Department	Budget £000	Outturn £000	Variance £000	Month 9 £000
Adult Care Services	51,655	51,759	+104	+111
Chief Executives	7,298	7,901	+603	+697
Children’s Services	34,653	34,851	+198	+130
Env. & Dev. Services	37,136	37,090	-46	+255
Non-Service Specific	18,237	17,285	-952	-991
TOTAL	148,979	148,886	-93	+202

The final under spend of **£0.093m** represents approximately **0.06%** of the total net budget of £148,979m.

Quarterly Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	2011/12 Baseline	2012/13 Q4	Target	Commentary
Percentage of business rates collected	Higher	94.6	93.93% (Amber)	96%	The target of 96% was not met but an additional £0.35m was collected during 2012/13 than in 2011/12, with £47.98m having been collected. The new debt raised

					during Quarter 4, not paid in Quarter 4, will be collected during 2013/14.
Avg. time for processing new Housing Benefit/Council Tax claims (days)	Lower	22.72	23.67 (Amber)	23	Overall, although just outside a very challenging target it was an excellent years performance, with an increase in workload and also selling our service and working for another Council.
Forecast outturn (Capital) (council -wide) (£million)	Lower	£0.392	£0 (Green)	£0	Achieved a balanced capital budget; some slippage of schemes into 2013/14.
Forecast outturn (Revenue) (council -wide) (£million)	Lower	-£1.299	-£0.093 (Green)	£0	Achieved a balanced revenue outturn; minor under spend (<0.1%)
Governance issues reported (council - wide)	Lower	0	0 (Green)	0	No significant governance issues reported.
Number of FTE days lost due to sickness absence	Lower	9.38	9.42 (Amber)	9.2	The level of sickness absence has been consistent since the start of the financial year and we have not reached the target set for 2012/2013. We will continue to follow the new Managing Attendance toolkit for Employees and Managers and are still aiming to reduce the levels of sickness absence.
Percentage staff turnover (council - wide)	Lower	Not available	2.80 (No colour)	No target	This is a contextual indicator. All leavers are included, both voluntary and involuntary. There were 268 leavers during Quarter 4.
Percentage Council Tax collected	Higher	97.3	97.33% (Green)	97.75%	Although just outside of target, this is excellent performance in a very difficult economic climate.

Annually Reported Performance

Measure	Higher/ lower is better	Quarter	Actual	Annual Target	Commentary
Percentage satisfaction with council services	Higher	Q4	Not available	No target	It was planned that this data was to be collected via a local survey but a decision has yet to be made if this will happen.

Percentage of employees satisfied with Bury Council as an employer	Higher	Q4	Not available	73%	There has been no full survey this year to measure this. Although we have run 6 engagers surveys this specific question is only asked on the three yearly survey
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Project Updates

Plan for Change

We are currently assessing the future demand and needs of our residents and how, building on the energies and commitment and skills and abilities of our staff, we can continue to ensure services are delivered in a changing world. We have now reviewed a range of services to help us to understand why we do what we currently do and how we may need to change. Many of these recommendations are now being implemented across the council. For example, proposals for a new Destination Management function for the council was considered by Cabinet in February 2013. A further package of savings proposals for 2013-14 and 2014-15 was launched on 28 November 2012 and consulted upon until 31 January 2013, views expressed in this consultation helped inform the Budget which was approved by Council in 20 February 2013. A range of proposals outlined in the Budget Report and Plan for Change 2 are currently being implemented across the organisation.

Accommodation Review

Despite the short timescales, the vacation of Athenaeum House and Castle Buildings remains on target to be achieved by the end of August. The rationalisation of accommodation used by staff within the Chief Executive's department has now been completed and the first of the teams within Adult Care Services are to relocate to the Town Hall in the week commencing 17th June. Similarly, Department of Communities and Neighbourhoods staff moves within 3 Knowsley Place have now been completed and Children's Services are due to commence the relocation to this building on 6th August.

People Strategy

During 2012-13 the people strategy has worked towards attaining a workforce that is competent, multi-skilled, highly engaged, proud to work for us and reflective of the local community.

6 Engager mini surveys have been carried out across the Council's 4 Departments. We now have the results for all 4 Departments, which all show a general improvement on the 2010 Staff Survey and, in the main, score above the Local Government Benchmark. Employees have been briefed on the findings, and managers tasked with tackling any concerns that have been highlighted.

The Employee Achievement Awards took place in June 2012 and the process has been reviewed and re- launched as the S.T.A.R awards (Special Thanks and Recognition).

Our employer brand has been supported by recognition in the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index 2013. The Council came 37th, out of 376 entrants. We were also the top local authority in the North West and 4th nationally. Our Lesbian Gay Bisexual and

Transgender (LGBT) Employee Group was awarded Star Performer Status, and Cllr Trevor Holt was awarded North West Individual Champion of the Year. We have successfully undertaken Investors in People (IiP) 'Strategic Review' enabling us to retain our current accreditation against the IiP Standard until the end of March 2014. An action plan has been agreed - in partnership with the Departments - to drive collaborative preparatory initiatives and reviews of processes prior to 2014 full reassessment.

We have expanded our range of learning interventions and begun integrating them with the forthcoming competency framework. The Corporate Organisation Development Programme of Learning and Development interventions continue to be very popular with most tutor-led courses oversubscribed. Across the full range of online and tutor led courses over 4500 learning events have been allocated to staff, and our range of materials available for loan is being expanded.

As part of an Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) collaboration, we have implemented a new system for procuring agency workers which should lead to service improvements and cost savings.

We have implemented cohort in our occupational health unit and are currently working on expanding the use of functionality and reducing DNAs (do not attend).

We continue to improve our emergency response command and control structure to enable us to respond to incidents in the borough including the introduction of First Incident Officers and the review of Initial Responder documentation.

Risk

Risk management is a systematic approach to assessing risks and opportunities surrounding achievement of core strategic, departmental and operational objectives. The council has a well established approach to risk management which assesses the likelihood and potential impact of a wide range of risks & opportunities. Risk Registers are compiled for all activities and projects, and are subject to review on a quarterly. Risk Registers are reported to all levels of management, and to elected members.

The following risks / opportunities have been identified that it faces in meeting its own priorities and in contributing towards the council's corporate priorities and community ambitions:

Ref	Risk Event	SLT Member	Impact (New)	Likelihood (New)	Quarter 3 Status	Quarter 4 Status
1	The <u>potential</u> liability facing the Council in respect of Equal Pay significantly weakens the Council's financial position	Mike Owen/Steve Kenyon	1	2	2	2
2	There is no robust financial strategy or change management strategy to address effectively the significant funding reductions that the Council faces over the next 3 years and beyond in order to ensure there is a sustainable and balanced budget	Steve Kenyon	3	2	6	6
3	The budget strategy fails to address the Council's priorities and emerging issues, e.g. demographic and legislative changes.	Mike Owen/Steve Kenyon	3	2	6	6
4	The budget strategy does not reflect, or respond to, national policy developments, e.g. Local Government Finance Review / potential changes to the Business Rates regime.	Mike Owen/Steve Kenyon	4	3	12	12
5	The Council's Workforce Development Plan does not ensure appropriately qualified / experienced staff are in the "right place at the right time". Particularly relevant in a time when large numbers of staff are leaving the authority as a result of VER exercise.	Guy Berry	2	1	4	2

6	The Council's asset base is not operated to its maximum effect to deliver efficiency savings and ensure priorities are fulfilled. Ineffective use of assets presents both a financial and a performance risk.	Mike Owen	2	3	6	6
7	The Council needs to be prepared for the impact of the Localism Act; this presents both opportunities, e.g. power of competency, and risks e.g. referenda	Jayne Hammond	2	1	3	2
8	The amount of money received from the NHS to manage public health is insufficient to meet the performance outcomes expected by Government	Pat Jones-Greenhalgh	3	3	9	9
9	The Council fails to manage the expectations of residents and service users in light of funding reductions.	Dionne Brandon	3	1	6	3
10	Transferring and movement of asylum seekers to the new provider Serco.	Pat Jones-Greenhalgh	1	1	1	Risk Removed
11	The Government's proposed changes to Council Tax Benefit impact adversely upon the Public / Vulnerable People. Also budgetary risk to the Council in the event of claimant numbers rise.	Mike Owen	3	3	9	9
12	Changes resulting from the wider Welfare reform agenda impact adversely upon the public / vulnerable people.	Mike Owen	3	3	9	9
13	That the scale and pace of Public Sector reform impacts adversely upon key Council Services, compounded by the loss of capacity following staff leaving the Council (420+ since 2010)	Mike Kelly	4	2	8	8

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REPORT FOR DECISION

Agenda Item	
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DECISION MAKER:	Cabinet
DATE:	28th August 2013
SUBJECT:	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
REPORT FROM:	Cllr T Isherwood, Cabinet Member for Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Paul Allen – Head of Planning Policy & Projects
TYPE OF DECISION:	(KEY DECISION)
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	FOR PUBLICATION - This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	<p>This report seeks approval for Bury's first Local Flood Risk Management Strategy as a draft for consultation purposes.</p> <p>As a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (the Act), Bury Council has a new statutory duty to "develop, maintain, apply and monitor" a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for the Borough. The Strategy creates a framework for managing flood risk and is the means by which the Council, as LLFA, will discharge its duty to co-ordinate flood risk management on a day to day basis.</p> <p>The draft Strategy has been produced in consultation with local partners and the designated "Risk Management Authorities" under the Act within the Borough. Its focus is on flooding from surface water runoff, groundwater and smaller 'ordinary' watercourses.</p> <p>It is proposed that the final Flood Risk Management Strategy will be completed by the end of December 2013 when it will provide a framework to deliver a prioritised programme of works and initiatives to manage flood risk in the area.</p> <p>The draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report are attached as Appendices to this report.</p>
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	<p>Option 1 (Recommended option)</p> <p>That Members approve the Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS), as included with this report, and authorise the proposed measures for it to be subject to a period of public consultation.</p>

	<p>Option 2</p> <p>That Members seek revisions to the proposed contents of the Draft LFRMS prior to public consultation. Members to specify the nature of any revisions to be sought.</p> <p>Reasons</p> <p>To enable the Council, as a Lead Local Flood Authority, to comply with its statutory duties and responsibilities required under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.</p>
IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	<p>Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes</p> <p>Preparation and production of a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is a new responsibility for the Bury Council as a Lead Local Flood Authority under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.</p>
<p>Statement by the S151 Officer:</p> <p>Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:</p>	<p>Capacity to meet the new requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act will need to be found within existing staff resources.</p> <p>The draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy has been developed using existing revenue budgets supported by ongoing grant funding for lead local flood authorities. Future responsibilities and maintenance of the required records will be undertaken using existing staff resources in planning and engineering, working with other partners as appropriate.</p> <p>Funding for any works required as a result of the strategy will need to be found within the current capital and revenue budgets available for other work programmes.</p>
Statement by Executive Director of Resources:	<p>Consultation on and publication of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy will ensure that the Council meets its duty under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Implementation of the strategy may potentially require re-prioritisation of existing resources in order to address essential flood risk measures.</p>
Equality/Diversity implications:	<p>No (see paragraph below)</p> <p>An initial screening has been undertaken and, as there were no negative impacts identified for affected groups, there is no requirement</p>

	to proceed to a Full Impact Assessment.
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes JH The Council as the lead local flood authority for the Borough must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management by law.
Wards Affected:	All
Scrutiny Interest:	Overview and Scrutiny

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR: K G Atkinson - DCN

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Cabinet Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
	29/07/13		
Scrutiny Committee	Committee	Council	
	28/08/13		

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 aimed to address the main concerns of Sir Michael Pitt’s review of the 2007 floods. The review identified an important role for unitary local authorities in co-ordinating the management of ‘local flood risk’, as well as other roles such as maintaining an Asset Register of structures affecting flood risk (e.g. culverts, bridges, etc) and the promotion of SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems), together with the establishment of a SuDS Approval Body (SAB) to make decisions on SuDS proposals.
- 1.2 The act established unitary authorities as Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs). LLFAs are responsible for ‘local flood risk’ i.e. flooding from surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses¹. Interactions between different types of flooding are also considered in conjunction with the Environment Agency, which has an overview role and is primarily responsible for flood risk from main rivers, reservoirs and the sea.
- 1.3 In addition to the requirement to prepare a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS), the Act prescribes the contents of the LFRMS and requires it to be consistent with the national strategy for flood risk management, which took effect in 2011. The LFRMS focuses on the management of ongoing flood risk rather than responses to flood incidents.
- 1.4 A level of subjectivity has been used in assessing relative flood risk and the results will be used to prioritise future, more robust investigations and assessments which will, hopefully, lead to reliable measures of risk. Consequently, it is not appropriate to apply the information and recommendations in this report at a local property level.

¹ Ordinary watercourse includes every river, stream, ditch, drain, cut, dyke, sluice, sewer (other than a public sewer) which the Environment Agency has not identified as a Main River.

2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 set out a range of new duties and responsibilities for local authorities in planning for, and delivering local flood risk management.
- 2.2 Section 9 (4) of the Act sets out what a LFRMS should contain. Bury's Draft LFRMS is attached at **Appendix 1** to this report. The Strategy's principle aim is to set the objectives for local flood risk management in the Borough and demonstrate how these are to be delivered. Whilst the focus of the draft Strategy should be local flood risk (as its name suggests), the Flood Risk Management Team decided that the Strategy should aim to integrate all flood risk within the Borough (local and main river) to give a more comprehensive picture of flood risk across the Borough as a whole. However, the Strategy makes it clear that plans and strategies governing main rivers are the responsibility of the Environment Agency.
- 2.3 The LFRMS should be based on the most up to date information available to the LLFA. A series of technical studies (strategic flood risk assessment and surface water management plan), assessment of historic flood incidents and inspection records of flood management assets have all been used in the production of Bury's LFRMS.
- 2.4 Through the Strategy work, stronger links, understanding and cross-agency working has been established with key partners such as the Environment Agency, United Utilities, neighbouring authorities and local communities whose actions could impact on Bury's flooding risk. As well as external stakeholders, stronger cross-working links within the Council have been enhanced with roles and responsibilities clearly defined. These range from Planning, Highways & Engineering and Emergency Planning through to ensuring our housing stock and social care providers are well informed to ensure the impacts of flooding on residents are reduced as far as possible for future generations.
- 2.5 To date, very little formal consultation work has been undertaken on flooding within the Borough. Although some local community engagement in targeted areas has been undertaken by the Environment Agency, the wider views of Bury residents have yet to be captured. Through the Strategy, further work will be undertaken to help establish what the residents and key stakeholders of the Borough understand to be the flooding risks, along with their view and expectations of the Council's role, and will also explore local communities' appetite for self-help and local solutions.
- 2.6 If approved, the draft Strategy will be subject to a six week period of public consultation (2nd September – 11th October 2013). A press release will advise residents of the public consultation period and copies of the Strategy will be made available to view at the Planning Reception in Knowsley Place and the Town Hall. The Strategy and a summary newsletter will be available to view and download from the Council's website. An article will be placed in the Planzine e-newsletter and social media will be utilised. In addition, presentations will be made to the Township Forums in September and direct emails will be sent to:
 - Residents Associations and Tennant Associations;
 - Key Land Owners;
 - Business Groups;
 - Key Stakeholders;

- Risk Management Authorities; and
 - AGMA and adjoining districts
- 2.7 Although the LLFRA role is funded by a Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) grant, this will not cover all that we would want to do. Consequently, the Strategy promotes partnership working as a means to identify issues, develop solutions and fund implementation.
- 2.8 Central government funding is allocated strictly on a risk based priority to deliver long term investment plans. The development of a local holistic flooding strategy for Bury that links with neighbouring flood authorities may help strengthen any future bids that may be required.
- 2.9 The draft Strategy has been subject to scoping for a Strategic Environmental Assessment which is attached at Appendix 2 to this report and has determined that there are no significant adverse environmental effects arising from it.

3.0 CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Lead Local Flood Authority role is still a new responsibility for the Council and we have started from a position of a limited skill base and possessing little data. The draft Strategy aims to set a programme for the Council's Flood Risk Management team and its external partners over the coming years.
- 3.2 It looks towards better integration of the various flood risk responsibilities and aims to develop capacity, build partnerships and promote a heightened awareness of risk and the responsibilities of all involved in risk management within the wider community. It also places a priority on delivery of local flood alleviation schemes, undertaking local detailed assessment and drawing in the other Risk Management Authorities to assist in delivery.
- 3.3 The document sets out significant challenges for the Borough in managing flood risk and it is recommended that this draft version is published for public consultation.

List of Background Papers:-

Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (July 2013) – see Appendix 1.
Sustainability Appraisal of Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy – see Appendix 2.

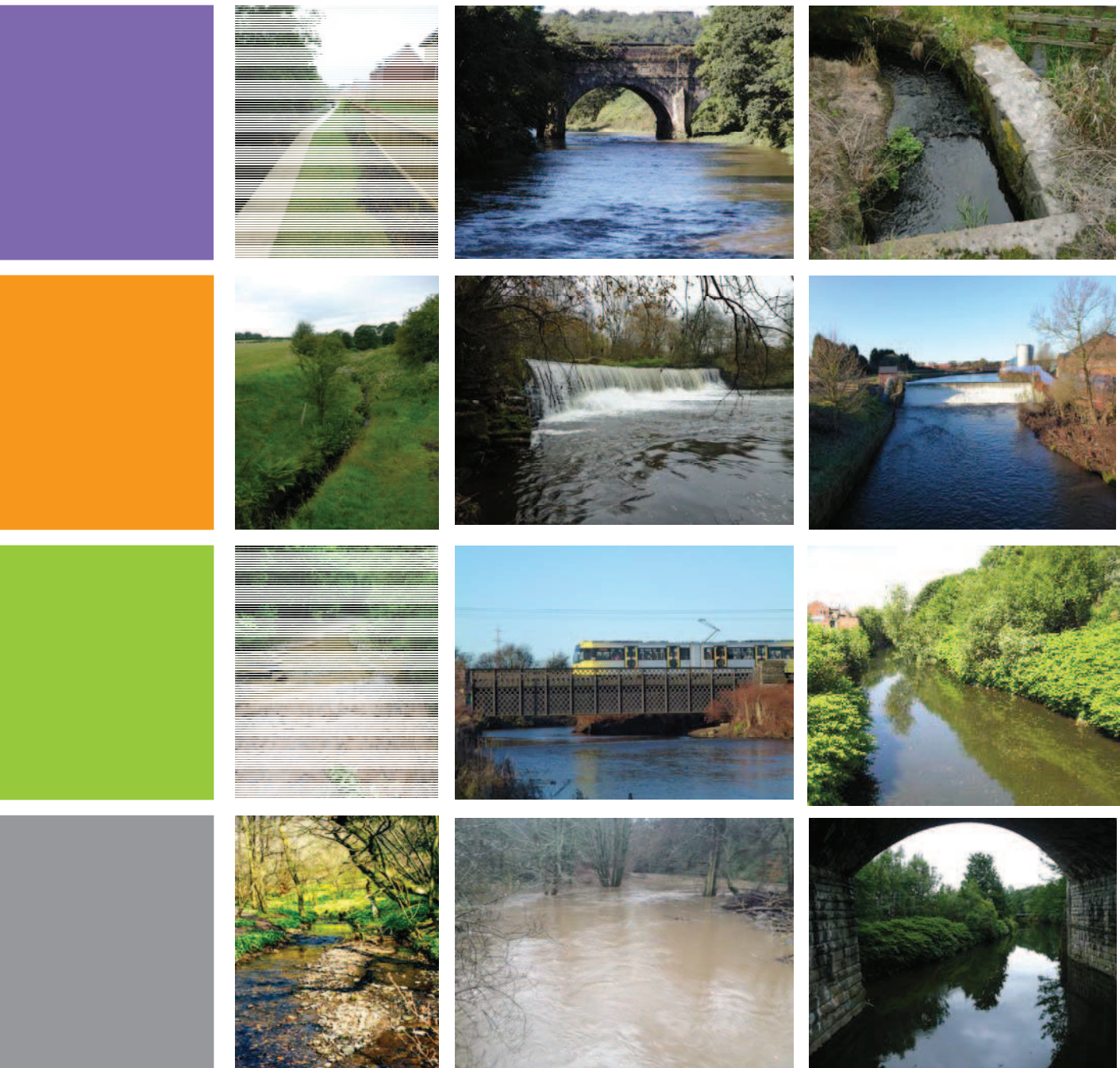
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Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report



Executive Summary

We are producing Bury's first Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS), which will guide the approach to flood risk management within the Borough. There is a requirement to undertake a statutory Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the strategy to ensure that any options considered for managing flood risk take into account the environmental and wider social and economic risks, as well as opportunities at the same time.

Carrying out the SEA at the same time as we are developing the Strategy has helped to influence options at an early stage to reduce their negative impacts.

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) occurs in two stages:

- **Scoping:** Establishes the data and information considered adequate to enable the later assessment stage: and
- **Assessment:** Identifies the likely significant effects of the draft LFRMS, and makes recommendations to change or improve it, where appropriate.

This Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report presents the information we currently have about key, relevant issues in the Borough and provides details about how we intend to assess the impact of the LFRMS options on our communities and the environment.

We are seeking your opinions on this scoping report and would welcome any comments or information you may have that is relevant to this SEA and the LFRMS. Please submit this information by 14th October to:

Fran Smith
Planning Policy and Projects
3 Knowsley Place
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BL9 0EJ

0161 253 7391

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1 Introduction

1.1 The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Bury Council is required to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The aim of this strategy is to set out how the Council plans to manage local flood risk and fulfil its duties under the Flood and Water Management Act, balancing the needs of communities, the economy and the environment through partnership working, effective risk management and prioritisation, and the sharing of data and information.

The LFRMS has been identified as a plan that is subject to the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC "on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment", known as the Strategy Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive.

1.2 Draft Aims and Objectives of the LFRMS

The draft aim of the LFRMS is to produce a strategy which demonstrates how Bury Council will work with individuals, the community, and businesses to manage the risk of flooding and its impacts within the Borough. The draft objectives are:

- To gain a strategic understanding of flood risk from all sources in Bury;
- To manage the likelihood of flooding within the Borough;
- To help Bury residents to manage their own risk;
- To ensure that new development in Bury reduces rather than increases flood risk;
- To improve flood preparation, warning and post flood recovery;
- To endeavour to direct flood risk funding to areas most at need or where solutions will be most effective.

1.3 The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive

European Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of certain plans and programmes on the environment' (commonly referred to as the SEA Directive) introduced a mandatory requirement to undertake SEA on certain plans and programmes upon which work commenced after 21 July 2004. The LFRMS is one such document.

The aim of the SEA is to identify potentially significant environmental effects created as a result of the implementation of the LFRMS on issues such as 'biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic, material assets including architectural and archaeological heritages, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. The Directive was transposed into English legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 'SEA Regulations').

1.4 Habitats Regulation Assessment

The Council is required under Regulation 48 (1) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &C) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006, to carry out an Appropriate Assessment in respect of any plan or project which would either alone or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect on a European Site and is not directly connected with the management of the site for nature conservation. There are no sites with European designations¹ in the Borough. However, the Council has a responsibility to consider the impacts of its strategies, plans and projects on European sites in adjacent districts.

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The closest protected site is the Rochdale Canal (located 4km to the south east)² which runs from Rochdale through Oldham and Tameside into Manchester. Other more distant sites are the South Pennines SAC³ (13km), the Peak District SPA⁴ (17km) and Manchester Mosses SAC⁵ (10-16km).

1.5 Water Framework Directive

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000/60/EC, and the WFD Regulations 2003 require the Council to ensure that the strategy will not lead to actions which result in a deterioration in the status of any water body (including the channel, the flow, and the flora and fauna), will not prevent future restoration/improvement, and includes opportunities for improvement in the status of water bodies to help meet WFD objectives. This requirement will be incorporated into the assessment framework.

1.6 Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report

The first step in the SEA is to produce a scoping report which presents the proposed structure and knowledge base for the assessment. This report describes the information that we have gathered so far and explains how we will undertake the assessment of the LFRMS.

1.7 Consultation

We are seeking your opinions on this scoping report and would welcome any comments or information you may have that is relevant to this SEA and the LFRMS. Please submit this information by 14th October 2013 to:
 Fran Smith
 Planning Policy and Projects
 3 Knowsley Place
 Bury
 BL8 90J

0161 253 7391
 f.smith@bury.gov.uk

¹ European sites are Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

² Designated because the canal supports a protected species (floating water-plantain – *Luronium natans*)

³ Designated because the area supports habitats of value such as European dry heaths, blanket bogs, old sessile oak woods.

⁴ Designated because the area supports protected species (short eared owls (*Asio flammeus*), Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) and Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*).

⁵ Designated because the area contains raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration.

2 Strategic Environmental Assessment Process

2.1 SEA Screening

Prior to starting the SEA process a plan or programme would normally undergo 'screening'. This process determines whether the plan is subject to the SEA Directive and therefore requires an SEA.

The LFRMS does require an SEA.

2.2 SEA Guidance

This Scoping Report follows and sets out the requirements of the SEA and has been developed in accordance with the following guidance:

- A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (ODPM, August 2006)

2.3 SEA Stages

The assessment of the LFRMS has five stages. These stages and the tasks for each stage are listed in Table 2.1.

This report presents the findings of Tasks A1 to A4 of the SEA process in a logical progression to reflect the way in which the work was undertaken.

Table 1: Stages in the SEA Process

SEA Stages	SEA Tasks
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.	A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and environmental protection objectives.
	A2: Collecting baseline information
	A3: Identifying environmental issues and problems
	A4: Developing the SEA objectives and framework
	A5: Consulting on the scope of the SEA
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects	B1: Testing the plan objectives against the SEA objectives
	B2: Developing strategic alternatives
	B3: Predicting the effects of the plan, including alternatives
	B4: Evaluating the effects of the plan, including alternatives
	B5: Mitigating adverse effects
	B6: Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of implementing the plan
Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report	C1: Preparing the Environmental Report
Stage D: Consulting on the draft LFRMS and the SEA Report	D1: Consulting on the draft LFRMS and Environmental Report with the public and consultation bodies
	D2: Assessing significant changes
	D3: Making decisions and providing information
SEA Adoption Statement	

Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the LFRMS.	E1: Developing aims and methods for monitoring
	E2: Responding to adverse effects

This Scoping Report represents Stage A shown in Table 1 above.

The purpose of this stage is to agree the SEA methodology and collate the information needed to carry out the SEA

Task A1: Identifying other relevant plans, policies and programmes and sustainability objectives

3.1 Aim: Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainable development objectives that will affect or influence the LFRMS.

- 3.1.1 The LFRMS must comply with existing policies, plans and programmes at international, national and regional levels and strengthen and support local plans and strategies. It is therefore important to identify and review those policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives which are relevant to both the LFRMS and the SEA at an early stage. This allows any inconsistencies or constraints within the LFRMS to be addressed and also to help develop the SEA framework.
- 3.1.2 It is possible, for example, that a Local Flood Risk Strategy could lead to an action which inhibits or counteracts the achievement of other planned activities or their aims. This could be a project which is proposed to use the same area of land as another proposed by somebody else, or it could be a policy which lead to changes opposite to the policy or aim of another plan.
- 3.1.3 It is recognised that no list of plans or programmes can be definitive and as a result this report describes only the key documents which influence the LFRMS. Table 2 outlines the key documents. These documents will be used throughout the preparation of the LFRMS and to inform the SEA process.

Table 2: Key Documents

International Plans and Programmes
EU Floods Directive - Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks, 2007
EU Water Framework Directive - Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy, 2000
National Plans and Programmes
Flood and Water Management Act 2011
Flood Risk Regulations, 2009
The National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (May 2011)
National Planning Policy Framework (2012)
Future Water, The Government's water strategy for England, 2008
Water for People and the Environment; Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales, 2009
Making Space for Water – Taking forward a new Government strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England (2005)
Directing the Flow: Priorities for Future Water Policy, 2002
The Impact of Flooding on Urban and Rural Communities, 2005

EA Policy: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, 2002
Land Drainage Act, 1991, (as Amended 2004)
Civil Contingencies Act 2004
Water Act, 2003
Securing the Future: Delivering the Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005
Sub-National Plans and Programmes
Environment Agency (2009); River Basin Management Plan – North West River Basin District
The North West of England Plan – Regional Spatial Strategy (2008)
Scott Wilson (2008): Greater Manchester Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
AGMA/Jacobs/JBA Consulting (2013): Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan
AGMA/TEP (2008): GM Green Infrastructure Scoping Study (Towards a Green Infrastructure Framework for Greater Manchester
TEP (2010): AGMA Green Infrastructure Study Phase 3 and Bury Green Infrastructure Assessment
Environment Agency (2009): Irwell Catchment Flood Management Plan
GM Minerals and Waste Planning Unit (2012) Joint Waste Development Plan Document for Greater Manchester
GM Minerals and Waste Planning Unit (2012) Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document
Local Plans and Programmes
Bury Council (2013) Publication Core Strategy
JBA (2009): Bury, Oldham and Rochdale Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
AGMA/Jacobs/JBA Consulting (2013): Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan – Water Street
Bury Council (2012) PPS25 Sequential Test
JBA Consulting (2011) Bury Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment

Task A2: Developing the baseline information

4.1 Aim: Collect relevant social, environmental and economic baseline information and produce a characterisation of the plan area.

- 4.1.1 Collation of baseline information is required under SEA legislation. It is fundamental to provide a background evidence base for identifying environmental problems and opportunities in Bury and providing the basis for predicting and monitoring the effects of the LFRMS.
- 4.1.2 To consider how the developing LFRMS may affect the environment, it is essential to understand the environmental characteristics of the area and how the environment is likely to change in the future.
- 4.1.3 The baseline sought to identify targets and trends, while also summarising the key issues arising for particular environmental topics. Further details of the environmental baseline are provided in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy SEA Scoping Report – Environmental Baseline Report.

Data Limitations

- 4.1.4 Data is used to explain how things are changing over time. However, they are limited in how well they can explain why particular trends are occurring and the secondary effects of any changes.
- 4.1.5 The data, therefore, acts as an indicator and has been selected to monitor progress towards the achievement of particular objectives and provide a tangible, measure with respect to broader issues. Much of the data is collected or collated by external bodies and the Council has little control over the spatial scope of the data collected and whether collection methods may change in the future. There are some gaps in the data collected as not all information is consistently available.

Task A3: Identifying sustainability issues

5.1 Aim: Identify key sustainability issues for the SEA to address.

- 5.1.1 A key role of this Scoping Report and consultation exercise is to identify and agree the significant environmental issues within Bury given the context of the LFRMS.
- 5.1.2 The SEA Regulations identify environmental receptors that must be initially considered for all SEAs. These include:
 - Population and human health
 - Biodiversity, flora and fauna;

- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural, architectural and archaeological heritage
- Landscape; and the
- Inter-relationship between the above factors

- 5.1.3 This list serves as a starting point from which issues have been scoped out of, or into, the SEA, depending on whether or not they are considered likely to affect or be affected by the LFRMS.
- 5.1.4 The SEA will not address any impacts likely to result during the implementation of any built solution, for example construction impacts that might arise during the building or raising of flood defences. These issues are more appropriately considered during project level Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken for specific schemes. However, if environmental opportunities or constraints of built solutions are broadly identifiable they will be highlighted in the SEA in order to avoid adverse effects and facilitate positive environmental opportunities at an early stage of planning.
- 5.1.5 Considering the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal of the Bury's Draft Local Plan (2013), the review of relevant policies, plans and programmes (Task A1) and the accompanying SEA Scoping Report Environmental Baseline (Task A2), those topics identified above, for which the likely effects of the LFRMS could be significant have been 'scoped into the SEA. Table 1 describes which topics are scoped into the assessment and why.

Table 1 - Topics scoped into the SEA Framework

Topic	Scoped Out	Scoped In
Population and Human Health		
Population and properties at risk from flooding		Actions arising from the LFRMS will affect the population and properties within flood risk areas.
Quality of life/social deprivation		Quality of life is affected by flooding, more socially deprived communities are likely to be more significantly affected by the impact of flooding
Employment		Level of flood risk could have a significant effect on existing industry and employment
Noise	The LFRMS will not have a significant effect on noise. The effects of any local flood risk management activities on noise would be considered further at a project EIA stage.	
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna		
International nature conservation sites and known supporting sites.	An HRA will be undertaken separately, the results of which will be incorporated into the SEA Environmental Report	Basic data collection on internationally designated sites from the HRA will be included in the SEA to avoid duplication
National nature conservation sites		Actions arising from the LFRMS could have direct or indirect effects on the features of nationally designated sites. The SEA will focus on those sites potentially affected by current or future flooding.
Local nature conservation sites		Locally designated sites of nature conservation importance may be

Topic	Scoped Out	Scoped In
Nationally and regionally important habitats and species	Detailed information on BAP species and habitats should be considered at the EIA stage.	affected by current or future flooding.
Key habitat areas		Flooding could potentially change the nature of habitats and therefore needs to be taken into account.
Soil		
Soils		LFRMS measures could alter the extent or duration of flooding and therefore have implications for soil quality. Impacts on soil quality could subsequently affect other environmental receptors that fall under other SEA topics such as Biodiversity, Water and Population and Human Health.
Contaminated Land		Changes in water management could result in improved protection for areas of known contaminated land or landfill sites, or could negatively affect these sites, by flooding or erosion, which may cause pollution of water bodies and designated conservation sites.
Water		
Water Quality		LFRMS measures could have direct and indirect effects on surface and

Topic	Scoped Out	Scoped In
Water Framework Directive	Although the LFRMS could have direct and indirect effects on water resources, this SEA does not have the scope for a detailed WFD Assessment, which may need to be undertaken separately, depending on the findings of the SEA. Strategy and measures should mitigate flood risk.	groundwater quality. The SEA objectives will incorporate the basic requirements of the WFD in their underlying assessment criteria.
Flood Risk		
Water Resources		Water resource issues linked to local geology (e.g. groundwater levels) will be considered where relevant. Overall water resources also need to be considered.
Air		
Air Quality	The chemical of predominant concern in Bury is nitrogen oxide, which is associated with traffic emissions. Flood risk management options are unlikely to have significant air quality or noise implications. The most likely affects will be from the construction phase of engineered flood defences, but these will be short lived.	
Climatic Factors		
Climatic Facts		LFRMS has the potential to enhance resilience to climate change, through reducing flood risk or environmental enhancement measures. Opportunities to improve climate

Topic	Scoped Out	Scoped In
Material Assets		change adaptation will be explored.
Infrastructure		Actions arising from the LFRMS have the potential to affect key transport routes within the Borough.
Cultural, architectural and archaeological heritage		
Historic Landscape Character		LFRMS options may involve construction activities, land use changes or alterations to flooding regimes that can adversely affect historic landscape character. The options may also manage the flood risk to heritage features or lead to improved access to historic environment sites.
Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and other known or unknown features of archaeological and/or heritage interest		LFRMS could potentially affect Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and other known or unknown features of archaeological and/or heritage interest. Direct impacts could result from the development or enhancement of flood defences. Indirect impacts may be caused by flooding.
Conservation Areas		LFRMS measures may affect the character and setting of Conservation Areas.
Landscape		
Designated landscapes	The Green Belt has been scoped out of	The SEA will address the impacts of

Topic	Scoped Out	Scoped In
	further assessment.	the LFRMS measures on the Borough's designated landscape as appropriate.
Wider Countryside		The SEA will address the impacts of the LFRMS on the wider countryside not covered by designation. It will make use of the Landscape Character Assessment.
Accessibility and Recreation		
Tourism and Recreation		Actions arising from the LFRMS could affect important tourist, recreational and amenity resources and could present opportunities to deliver recreational benefits.

Task A4: Developing the SEA Objectives and Framework**6.1 Aim: Identify the SEA Objectives and Framework to assess the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

- 6.1.1 The draft SEA Framework comprises SEA objectives to address key environmental issues identified in the baseline report, assessment criteria and potential indicators to appraise the effects of the implementation of the LFRMS on environmental receptors.
- 6.1.2 Environmental issues were identified from the analysis of the baseline information which, in combination with the review of plans and programmes, informed the formulation of the SEA objectives and SEA assessment criteria.
- 6.1.2 Potential indicators have been identified for each of the SEA Objectives in the interests of monitoring progress towards delivering these. However, these may not all be collated due to limited resources and difficulty in data availability or collection.

Table 2 - Local Flood Risk Management Strategy SEA Objectives

Draft LFRMS SEA Objective	Assessment Criteria Would the LFRMS, in combination with other plans....	Potential Monitoring Indicator
Population and Human Health		
To minimise the risk of flooding and to promote awareness of flooding, but to manage expectations	Reduce flood risk and the risk of direct physical impacts of flooding on people?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of properties/business at risk of flooding;
	Help provide safe development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new developments permitted in areas of flood risk;
	Reduce the fear of flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of developments permitted contrary to EA advice; • Number of flood defences developed; • Number of Sustainable Drainage Systems implemented since publication of the LFRMS.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna		
To protect, enhance and restore biodiversity, flora and fauna, geological and geomorphological features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce damage to, fragmentation or loss of existing designated wildlife sites, wildlife corridors and priority habitats? • Support opportunities to enhance biodiversity? • Maintain or improve existing water levels and water quality? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in areas of biodiversity importance; • Changes in condition to designated sites; • Achievement of Biodiversity Action Plan targets

Draft LFRMS SEA Objective	Assessment Criteria Would the LFRMS, in combination with other plans....	Potential Monitoring Indicator
Soil		
To conserve soil resources and reduce land contamination	<p>Require or encourage LFRM schemes on previously undeveloped land?</p> <p>Reduce risk of soil contamination (e.g. through remediation of contaminated land, or reducing flood risk in known areas of contaminated land?</p> <p>Reduce soil erosion caused by flooding?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of proposed and actual flood mitigation developments to be located within the Greenbelt; • Area/Number of incidences where Grade 1,2 or 3 soil is lost due to need for flood defence
Water		
To protect and improve the quality of controlled waters in Bury and to sustainably manage water resources	<p>Result in improved drainage and attenuation (e.g. installation of SuDS), so that surface run-off is controlled to reduce pollution of soils and watercourses as well as run-off rates?</p> <p>Reduce flood risk?</p> <p>Improve the ecological conditions of water bodies, with respect to the Water Framework Directive?</p> <p>Prevent or assist future improvement of the physical, chemical or biological status waterbodies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological status of rivers • Chemical status of rivers • Condition of water bodies (Water Framework Directive)

Draft LFRMS SEA Objective	Assessment Criteria Would the LFRMS, in combination with other plans....	Potential Monitoring Indicator
Climatic Factors		
To reduce contributions to and promote adaptation to the impacts of climate change	Help reduce flood risk to receptors across the SEA topic areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicative floodplains under current conditions and under climate change scenarios and the developments occurring within them.
	Help reduce the impact of flood risk across the range of SEA topic areas.	
Material Assets		
Minimise adverse impacts of local flood risk on key infrastructure, land assets and properties	Improve protection of existing or proposed key transport routes or infrastructure?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and severity of incidents leading to disruption or damage to transport infrastructure; Number and severity of incidents leading to disruption or damage to service provision.
	Ensure the protection of services, including water, power and telecommunications?	
	Reduce flood risk to properties	
	Have a positive impact on the local economy? e.g. through improved flood protection or enhanced recreation opportunities	
	Reduce flood risk to areas of high quality agricultural land	
	Reduce flood risk to areas important for their mineral resource	
	Reduce flood risk to the access routes used to access any of the above assets.	

Draft LFRMS SEA Objective	Assessment Criteria Would the LFRMS, in combination with other plans...	Potential Monitoring Indicator
<p>Cultural, Architectural and Archaeological Heritage and Landscape</p> <p>To protect and enhance and make accessible for enjoyment, the diversity and distinctiveness of landscapes, townscapes, the countryside and the historic environment</p>	<p>Cause visual intrusion to historic landscapes, landscape character or the loss of damage to the significance of other heritage assets and their setting?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of listed buildings at risk of flooding events • Number of flood defences implemented to protect listed buildings since the LFRMS was published
	<p>Promote schemes that enhance the condition and character and promote understanding of the significance of conservation areas and other heritage assets and their settings?</p>	
	<p>Cause any direct or indirect physical impacts on the borough's features of landscape character, historic, archaeological and architectural or artistic interest, or their setting?</p>	
	<p>Enhance the range and quality of the public realm, including viewpoints and open spaces?</p>	

Assessment Approach

- 6.1.4 The LFRMS and Action Plan will be evaluated in light of their potential cumulative environmental effects on the different SEA topics. The assessment of these environmental effects will be informed by professional judgement and experience with other flood risk related SEAs, as well as an assessment of national, regional and local trends. In some cases, the assessment will draw upon mapping data to identify areas of potential pressure, for example due to flood risk or presence of environmental designations.
- 6.1.5 In line with the Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal (July 2013), a “whole-plan” assessment approach has been used to appraise the LFRMS and Action Plan. This means that the combined effect of the Strategy will be assessed in terms of its impact on each of the topic areas.
- 6.1.6 Consideration will be given as to how the Strategy and Action Plan will affect (both positively and negatively) the environment. Results of the assessment will then be considered in light of the evolution of the environment in the absence of the plan.
- 6.1.7 A basic table will be used to identify the SEA topics which are impacted upon by the Strategy and Action Plan. A basic table will be used to present this information, using the following key, as set out below:

KEY	
	Significant Implications
	Less Significant Implications
	Little or no Implications

- 6.1.8 This matrix is used to screen out those topic areas which will not be impacted upon by the LFRMS. This allows the assessment to focus on those topics with significant impacts.

Task A5: Consulting on the scope of the SEA

Aim: Produce a Scoping Report and consult relevant authorities, the public and other key stakeholders on the scope of the appraisal and the key issues and possible options for solutions.

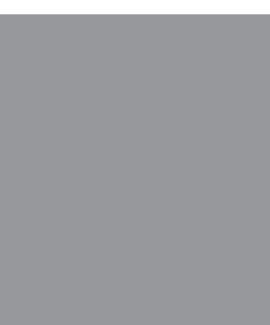
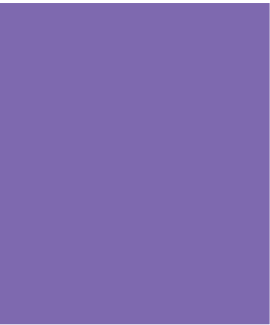
A key component of the SEA process is consultation with stakeholders. The consultation throughout this period will be in accordance with Article 6 of the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC.

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (Regulation 12(6)) defines certain timescales for consulting the statutory bodies on a scoping report. This requires the responsible authority to give the consultation body a period of 5 weeks from the date it receives the Scoping Report. The Council is allowing a 6 week period of public consultation. The statutory bodies are:

- Natural England
- Environment Agency
- English Heritage

Other appropriate consultees will be contacted at various stages throughout the assessment process.

Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy



1. **Introduction**

- 1.1 Flooding is a natural process and does not respect political or administrative boundaries. It is principally influenced by natural elements of rainfall, tides, geology, topography, rivers and streams and man made interventions such as flood defences, roads, buildings, sewers and other infrastructure. As has been seen by recent events in places like Carlisle, Hull and Cockermouth, flooding can cause massive disruption to communities, damage to property and possessions and even loss of life.
- 1.2 In relation to Bury, while flooding does not affect the entire Borough, the presence of major rivers and ageing infrastructure in some areas means that flooding is a real issue and, when it occurs, it can seriously affect people's lives and businesses. Evidence also suggests that, in future, damage caused by flood incidents could increase due to the impact of climate changes and further pressure for development in areas at risk of flooding.

Purpose of the Strategy

- 1.3 The three main aims of the Bury Local Flood Risk Management Strategy are to:
- increase awareness of local flood risk issues;
 - identify how partners are working together to reduce flood risk; and
 - provide an overview of ongoing flood risk management within the Borough, together with an Action Plan and an Annual Programme of Schemes.
- 1.4 In addition, different types of flood risk are not always distinguished as it is their impact which is often of key concern. However, the Strategy seeks to improve our understanding of flood risk within the Borough by outlining the levels of risk from all sources of flood risk. This is broader than the types of flood risk for which the Council is strictly responsible but, hopefully, helps to give a complete picture.
- 1.5 Finally, extreme weather events appear to be on the rise, many of our existing homes and businesses are built in the floodplain and we are under increasing pressure to build more. The Strategy provides the opportunity to co-ordinate services so that the risk of flooding is reduced.

Structure of the Strategy

- 1.6 In outline the Strategy covers the following:

- 1.7 **Chapter 2** provides a summary of flood risk in the Borough and includes a review of the information that already exists. The information helps to understand varying levels of risk and the priority geographical areas for action.
- 1.8 **Chapter 3** provides an overview of the legislation that underpins flood risk management in Bury and provides clarification on the various roles and responsibilities of the organisations involved in flood risk management. It also looks at the role residents and businesses can play in helping to manage flood risk, including riparian owners and property owners.
- 1.9 **Chapter 4** identifies our objectives and measures for managing flood risk in Bury. **Chapter 5** provides an overview of funding opportunities for flood risk management
- 1.10 **Chapter 6** outlines how environmental considerations have been taken into account in the development and future management of the Strategy.

Who is the Strategy aimed at?

- 1.11 The Strategy has been written for all those prone to flood risk. It is also of relevance to authorities with flood risk management responsibilities and other partners, to ensure that there is a common understanding of the roles and responsibilities and priorities within Bury.

Review

- 1.12 We will refresh the action plan and programme of works annually. They will reflect, as far as possible, all the schemes and activities planned by risk management authorities and partners to address the objectives in the Strategy.
- 1.13 Given that our knowledge and understanding of flood risk will improve significantly in the coming years, there must be opportunities to update the Strategy as new information becomes available. For this reason, the Strategy should be viewed as a 'living document'.

1 in every 7 properties (17% of the total building stock is considered to be at risk from some form of flooding in the UK (Cabinet Office 2012)

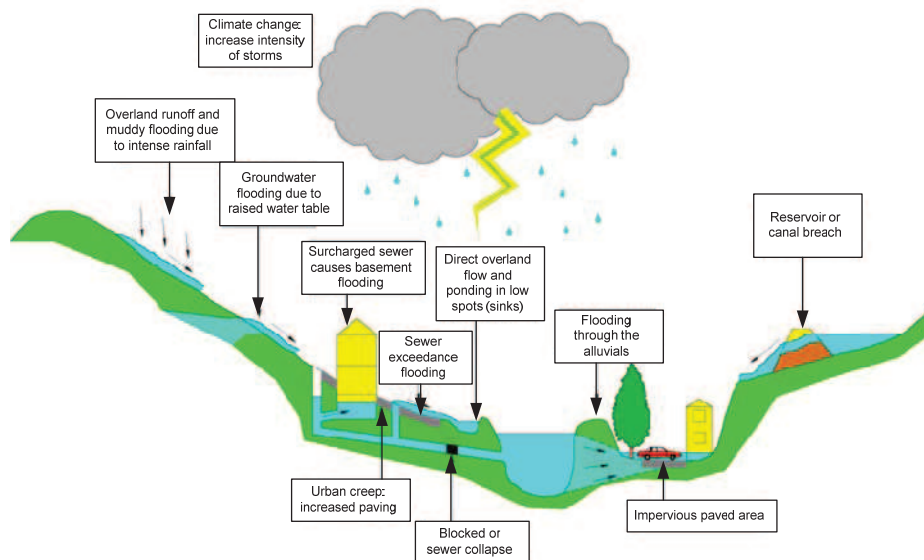
Around 3.8 million properties are thought to be at risk of surface water flooding (ABI 2010)

185,000 businesses at risk from flooding (ABI 2010)

2. **Flood Risk in Bury – What is the Problem?**

- 2.1 The flood events in Summer 2007 demonstrated the major impact flooding can have and highlighted the importance of understanding the risk of flooding in order to ensure that we can be better prepared to face future risks. In all, more than 5 million people live and work in 2.4 million properties that are at risk of flooding from rivers or the sea, with a further 2.8 million properties susceptible to surface water flooding.
- 2.2 Flooding can occur from many different and combined sources and in many different ways. Different types and forms of flooding present a range of different risks and the flood hazard, depth and duration of flooding can vary greatly. What this means for Bury is explored below.
- 2.3 A number of studies and assessments have sought to explore flood risk from a variety of sources within the Borough. These include the Greater Manchester Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, the Bury, Oldham and Rochdale Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Bury's Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA), the Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) and the Environment Agency's mapping of fluvial flood zones. Historic records of flooding vary greatly, making it difficult to provide a consistent picture of past flooding within Bury, however these are considered where notable events have occurred.

Figure 2 - Flooding from all Sources



Source: SFRA 2009

Surface Water Flooding

Surface water flooding is caused by overland flow during periods of sustained or heavy rainfall, causing ponding of water where it becomes obstructed or collects in low lying areas. Local drainage capacity and infiltration is unable to cope with the volume of water experienced. The risk of surface water flooding increases as the amount of built up area and the volume of impermeable hard surfacing increases within the Borough.

- 2.4 Bury’s PFRA (June 2011) identified that the Environment Agency’s Flood Map for Surface Water (FMfSW) was the best available indication of predicted surface water flood risk within the Borough. Based on this information, approximately 20,200 properties are predicted to be at risk of deep flooding up to a depth of 300mm, and a further 6,600 at a depth above 300mm, in a high risk (1 in 200 chance in any year) flood event.
- 2.5 Since the PFRA was published the Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) has been produced.
- 2.6 The SWMP predicted the potential for surface water flooding in most of the Borough’s main urban areas; **see Map 1 Extent of Flood Map for Surface Water in Bury.**
- 2.7 Table 1 lists the number of key vulnerable and critical infrastructure within the Borough at risk of surface water flooding to a depth of more than 300mm for the 1in30 year, 1 in 200 year and 1 in 200year plus climate change rainfall events¹.

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Table 1 - Vulnerable and Critical Infrastructure at Risk in Bury

	Sewer	Surface Water		
	30year	30year	200year	200year+CC
Residential	939	531	1714	2266
Non-residential	197	213	476	599
Hospitals	1	0	1	1
Schools	4	5	5	7
Telecomms	0	0	0	0
Emergency Services	0	0	0	0
WwTW	0	0	0	0
Pumping Stations	2	2	4	4
Utilities	7	7	12	20
ENW Electricity	0	0	0	0

¹ The number of properties at risk from sewer flooding, as identified through the SWMP should be viewed with caution. There are a number of assumptions and limitations with the modelling which could affect the results.

Assets				
Waste Sites	0	0	0	0

Source: Greater Manchester Surface Water Management Plan, January 2013

- 2.8 The table highlights that Bury has more residential properties at risk during a 1 in 30 year sewer event when compared to the same event for surface water.
- 2.9 Due to the steep topography of Bury, the SWMP identified that the Borough has narrow and shallow surface water flow paths. This has the potential to lead to rapid inundation with higher velocities and hazards.
- 2.10 A number of flow paths have been identified in the Borough, as surface water flows off the hillsides, collecting in small drains before flowing to the valley bottom. Runoff direct from rural land is also an issue in Ramsbottom, causing flooding to major road networks and individual properties.
- 2.11 The junction of Water Street and Ainsworth Road in Radcliffe is identified as a surface water hotspot in the SWMP. Flooding at the site is as a result of the limited capacity of the stormwater culvert and the combined sewer system. A number of options have been identified to manage the flood risk, however, to date no preferred option has been agreed.

Groundwater Flooding

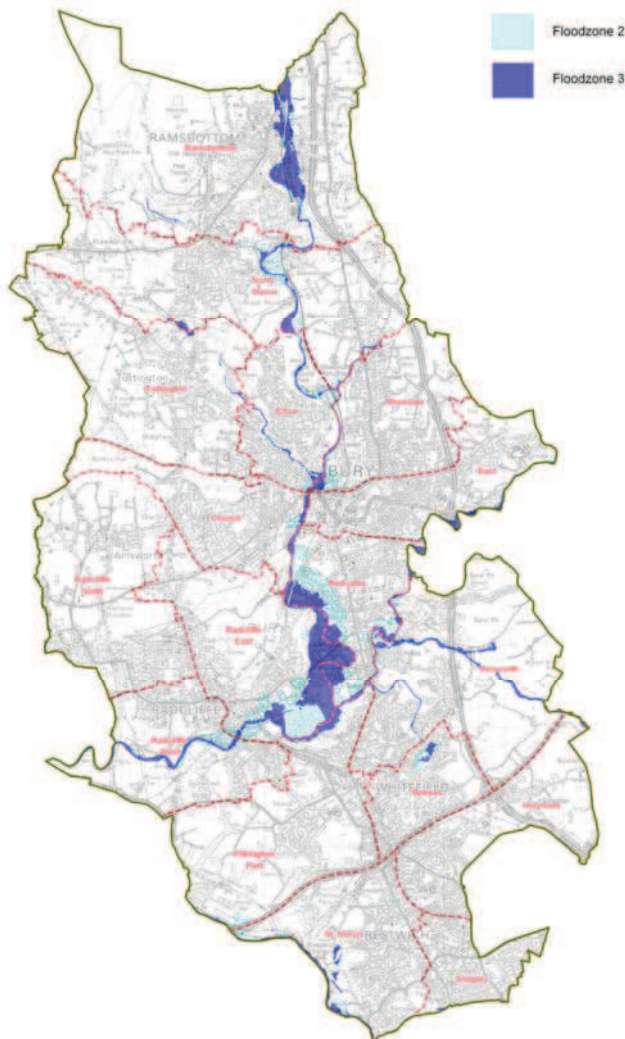
Groundwater flooding occurs when the water held underground rises to a level where it breaks the surface in areas away from usual channels and drainage pathways. It is generally a result of exceptional extended periods of heavy rain, but can also occur as a result of reduced abstraction, underground leaks or the displacement of underground flows. Once groundwater flooding has occurred, the water can be in situ for a lengthy period of time.

- 2.12 The Environment Agency's national dataset, Areas Susceptible to Groundwater Flooding (AStGWF), provides the basis for assessing future flood risk from groundwater; see Map 2 Areas Susceptible to Groundwater Flooding in Bury.
- 2.13 Bury lies over an aquifer with geology consisting predominately of sands and gravels which have high permeability. There are a number of flood defences along the River Irwell through Ramsbottom which elevate river levels above the flood plain. There is the possibility that alluvial groundwater flooding could occur in these areas. However, there are relatively few reported incidents of groundwater flooding in Bury.

River (Fluvial) Flooding

River flooding occurs when the capacity of a river or stream is reached, causing water to spill out of the channel into nearby areas – for example when heavy rain falls on ground that is already water logged and the watercourse cannot cope with the water draining into it from the surrounding land. In some areas the surrounding floodplain of the river may be undeveloped or have flood compatible uses, but in some areas development has occurred within these floodplain areas.

- 2.14 The main source of fluvial flood risk in Bury is from the River Irwell and its tributaries, including the Holcombe Brook, Pigslee Brook, Kirklees Brook and the River Roch.
- 2.15 1,870 (2.2%) dwellings fall within the Environment Agency's Flood Zone 2 (1 in 1000 chance in any year) and 1,365 (1.6%) in Flood Zone 3 (1 in 100 chance in any year).
- 2.16 During smaller flood events the majority of flooding on the left hand bank of the River Irwell through Ramsbottom is located on greenfield land downstream of Cuba Industrial Estate and again at Nuttall Park.
- 2.17 According to the Environment Agency, the majority of the River Irwell through Ramsbottom is defended by a mix of Environment Agency raised defences and maintained channels. The Environment Agency raised defences have 1 in 100 year standard of protection and protect land surrounding Peel Brow.
- 2.18 Flooding on the west bank of the River Irwell in Ramsbottom is highly dependant on the Irwell overtopping around Stubbins and flood water flowing underneath its railway line. Water then flows south down the west side of the railway line and into the area of Drill Hall.
- 2.19 Downstream of Ramsbottom, the Irwell remains mainly in bank or flooding open land around Summerseat and Higher Woodhill during the 1 in 100 year event. Downstream of the disused railway line in Bury, flooding becomes widespread, placing a large number of properties at risk within the Environment Agency flood zone outlines.
- 2.20 Downstream of the River Roch confluence the River Irwell assumes a more westerly course, which takes it through Radcliffe towards Farnworth to be joined by the River Croal. The river then changes course and heads in a south easterly direction through Kearsley (between Prestwich and Pendlebury) and into Salford and Manchester where it discharges into the Manchester Ship Canal.

Map 3 - Extent of Flood Zone 2 and 3 in Bury

Hidden or Culverted Watercourses

- 2.21 There are other watercourses within the Greater Manchester area which are not captured on Environment Agency maps. Many modified small streams, brooks and culverts are now hidden below ground and their condition is deteriorating; they have become blocked with debris and are the cause of much localised flooding following heavy rain.
- 2.22 Due to the urbanised nature of the Borough, only a few of the watercourses are in their natural form. Many of the main river channels have been straightened and canalised to accelerate the flow of water and have been culverted over significant lengths.

Many of the channels and culverts have a limited hydraulic capacity and are prone to blockages which can lead to flooding. The blockages are caused by silt deposition from the rural upstream sections of the Borough, vegetation falling into the river and through fly tipping where debris is dumped in the channels.

- 2.23 There is approximately 12.4km of culverted channel in Bury.

Sewer or Highway Flooding

Sewer or highway flooding is caused by excess surface water entering the drainage network, exceeding available capacity or when a blockage occurs. This generally occurs during periods of heavy rainfall when the drainage network becomes overwhelmed. Land and property can be flooded with water contained with raw sewage as a result. Sewers that overflow can also pollute rivers

- 2.24 United Utilities keep a record of property flooding which is called the DG5² register. In Bury, to date 63 properties have flooded internally as a result of sewer flooding whilst 112 have flooded externally.
- 2.25 Whilst this data can give an idea of those areas with limited drainage capacity, it must be acknowledged that it is a register of properties that have already been flooded due to exceedance or the blockage or failure of sewer systems, not properties at risk of flooding. In addition to this, sewer flooding problems may have been investigated and resolved since the register was compiled. For these reasons, the DG5 register has limited usefulness in predicting future flooding locations. More useful indicators of risk are associated with the data generated using hydraulic sewer network models.

Canal Flooding

Canals are rivers or man made channels that have been developed for use in industry. Canal flooding is caused by overtopping or breach of the canal network when the canal cannot cope with the water draining into it from the surrounding land.

- 2.26 The Manchester, Bury and Bolton Canal once started in Bury, running southwards through Radcliffe, before joining the River Irwell at Salford. The canal was closed in 1961 and is disused and discontinuous north of Salford.
- 2.27 The PFRA identified a historic risk of broad canal flooding, however there is no modelled flood risk data available.

² DG5 relates to flooding from sewers.

Furthermore, a number of factors suggest that the flood risk on the Manchester, Bury and Bolton Canal is low:

- Embankments are generally low and made from clay
- The canal is discontinuous
- The last major breach and location of many breaches was at Nob End (downstream of Radcliffe) in 1936. This stretch of canal was not restored.
- Previous canal failures were caused by mining subsidence. It is assumed that mining activity in the area has now ceased, although some risk does still remain.
- The canal intercepts some surface water from the catchments to the west. However, no detailed modelling has been undertaken and this is a large unknown.

Figure 2 – The 1936 Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Breach



Source: Bury, Oldham and Rochdale SFRA, 2009

Reservoir Flooding

Reservoirs hold large volumes of water above ground level and are contained by walls or dams. Reservoir flooding occurs when a reservoir structure is overtopped or fails due to damage or collapse.

2.28 The Environment Agency maintains a Public Register of Large Raised Reservoirs. Table 2 identifies the reservoirs within Bury. The chance of reservoir failure is very unlikely as reservoirs are regularly inspected and there is an extremely good safety record in the UK with no loss of life due to reservoir flooding since 1925.

2.29 Elton Reservoir is considerably bigger than any of the others within the Borough.

Table 2 - Reservoirs in Bury

Reservoir	Physical Status	Construction	Year Built	Capacity	Surface Area
Elton	In Operation	Earthfill	1808	923,000	217,000
Elton Vale Lower	In Operation	Earthfill	1860	56,000	24,000
Lowercroft Lower	In Operation	Earthfill		40,000	16,000
Lowercroft Middle	In Operation	Earthfill	1800	127,000	28,300
Lowercroft Upper	In Operation	Earthfill	1890	183,000	30,000
Pilsworth Reservoir	In Operation	Earthfill		25,000	30,000
Woodgate Hill 1	In Operation	Other	1958	64,000	11,000
Woodgate Hill 2	In Operation	Other	1961	269,000	47,000

Source: Environment Agency, April 2013

Future Changes to Flood Risk

Climate Change

- 2.30 Changes in climatic conditions will affect local flood risk in several ways; however impacts will depend on local conditions and vulnerability. Wetter winters and more intense rainfall may increase river flooding in both rural and urban catchments. More intense rainfall causes greater surface runoff, increasing localised flooding and erosion. In turn, this may increase pressure on drains, sewers and water quality. Storm intensity in summer could increase even in drier summers, so the Borough needs to be prepared for the risks arising from unexpected flash flooding.
- 2.31 Based on UKCIP09 projections of future rainfall, it is likely that winters will become significantly wetter and extreme winter precipitation will increase. In summer there is likely to be less overall rainfall but intense heavy downpours are anticipated. Both changes would lead to an increase in levels of ground water and increase fluvial and surface water flooding.
- 2.32 It is difficult to predict in detail as much depends on the nature of the rainfall as, once the ground is saturated or the intensity of rain exceeds the rate of infiltration, water runs off and is not available for groundwater recharge. However, surface water management plans and strategic flood risk assessments have tried to take account of the potential impacts of climate change.

- 2.33 The SFRA projected the likely extent of the 1 in 100 year fluvial flood risk zone under a climate change scenario (which assumes a 20% increase in the extent of the existing area subject to Zone 3 fluvial flood risk). Radcliffe appears to be particularly sensitive to climate change for a range of flood events whilst Ramsbottom will be more sensitive during more extreme events in the future.
- 2.34 In the Surface Water Management Plan, an assumption was that made that climate change will lead to a 30% increase in rainfall intensities for the 1 in 200 year. The modelling indicates the locations that it is expected would be affected by future surface water flooding events, enabling the plan to take account of climate change in the prioritisation of actions and in defining implementation timescales.
- 2.35 The focus of activity in meeting these challenges will in future be on flood risk management as opposed to simply providing flood defences. It is now widely recognised that whilst we can't always prevent flooding occurring, we can manage the risks of it happening and reduce the consequences when flooding does happen.
- 2.36 Many drainage systems have been modified to manage water levels and could help in adapting locally to some impacts of future climate change on flooding. However changing intensity of weather patterns may mean that these assets could need to be managed differently, particularly as storm intensity in summer could increase even in drier summers.
- 2.37 Adaptation to the potential effects of climate change on flood risk is likely to be a gradual process, as resilience to flooding is progressively increased. The modelled impacts of climate change on flood risk underline the need for effective surface water management. Future detailed surface water management plans will continue to model the possible impact of climate change and it will therefore be a key consideration in the identification and prioritisation of mitigation actions.
- 2.38 The potential effects of climate change are also a key concern for the land use planning process, as local planning authorities need to consider possible changes in flood risk from all sources over the lifetime of a development.
- 2.39 Development can affect the occurrence and significance of flood events. However, planning policy aims to prevent new development from increasing flood risk.
- 2.40 Development can provide opportunities to address surface water flooding, through the use of measures to reduce flood risk such as sustainable drainage systems. Development can be designed to make it resilient to the impacts of flooding, which can help to

reduce the risks to the building and their occupants. This ensures that natural drainage routes are not impeded.

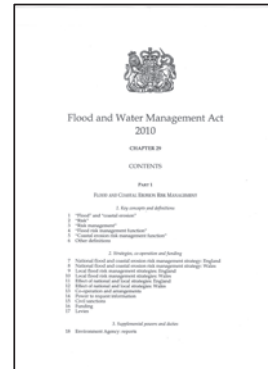
- 2.41 One of the key messages from the Surface Water Management Plan is that long term adaptation of the urban environment is crucial, especially in areas where flood defences are not feasible. The opening up of flood corridors, and use of open spaces for temporary storage of water in times of a flood, can help to mitigate some of the potential implications of climate change.

3. Policy Background, Roles and Responsibilities

Legislative Context

Flood and Water Management Act, 2010

- 3.1 Following the 2007 floods, Sir Michael Pitt, commissioned by Government, undertook a review of the serious flooding and produced 'Lessons learned from the 2007 summer floods'. Of particular importance was the high proportion of flooding that came from surface water runoff, rather than rivers.
- 3.2 92 recommendations made in the Pitt Review (June 2008), many of which were based on Local Authorities playing a greater role in the management of local flood risk. The Government accepted these recommendations and in 2010 they were transposed into UK Law in the form of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.
- 3.3 The Flood and Water Management Act aims to provide better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses.
- 3.4 One of the requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 is for the Environment Agency to 'develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England'. The Environment Agency has jointly with DEFRA, developed a national strategy that reflects Government policy on flood risk management and related issues. The Strategy, entitled a National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England describes what needs to be done by all organisations involved in flood risk management. These organisations include local authorities, Internal Drainage Boards, water and sewerage companies, highways authorities and the Environment Agency.
- 3.5 The Strategy sets out a statutory framework, guiding principles and objectives that will help communities, the public sector and other organisations to work together to manage flood risk. It supports local decision making and engagement in flood risk management, making sure that risks are managed in a coordinated way both locally and across catchments. The National Strategy can be found here:
<http://publications.environment-agency.gov.uk/display.php?name=GEHO0711BTZE-E-E>



3.6 Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Bury Council is designated as a 'Lead Local Flood Authority' and as such has the responsibility for developing, maintaining and applying a local flood risk strategy in Bury. Bury's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy needs to be consistent with the following guiding principles outlined in the national strategy:

- ~ Community focus and partnership working
- ~ A catchment based approach
- ~ Sustainability
- ~ Proportionate, risk based approach
- ~ Multiple benefits
- ~ Beneficiaries should be allowed and encouraged to invest in risk management

3.7 The development of the Strategy will require input from the designated 'Flood Management Authorities' who have a duty to act consistently with the strategy. In Bury they are:

- ~ Environment Agency
- ~ United Utilities
- ~ Highway's Authority

3.8 Bury's Strategy will clarify roles and responsibilities for local flood risk, and the duties and permissive powers that Flood Management Authorities have. It will also build on the existing partnerships developed in Bury. The Strategy will also provide a framework for local communities to develop local partnerships and solutions to the flood risks they face and underpin a partnership approach to funding flood resilience projects.

3.9 Although this strategy's remit under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) is to address flooding from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses, this document will also look to provide guidance on other forms of flooding, such as main river, a responsibility of the Environment Agency.

Flood Risk Regulations, 2009

3.10 The Flood Risk Regulations came into force in December 2009. They transpose the EU Floods Directive into UK law. Key provisions in the regulations include:

- ~ To require that preliminary flood risk assessments be prepared by the Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authorities by December 2011. Those assessments should identify areas of significant flood risk;
- ~ To require that flood hazard and risk maps be prepared by December 2013, to identify areas of significant flood risk;
- ~ To require that flood risk management plans be prepared, by December 2015.

The Bury Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment is available here ([link to website](#))

National Planning Policy Framework, 2012

- 3.11 The National Planning Policy Framework and the accompanying Technical Guidance were published and came into effect on 26th March 2012. They provide a single statement of national planning policy that all planning authorities must take account of in the exercise of their development management and forward planning functions. Paragraphs 99-108 of the Framework deal with issues of flood risk management, and in combination with paragraphs 2-19 of the accompanying Technical Guide, replace Planning Policy Statement 25 (Development and Flood Risk).
- 3.12 The National Planning Policy Framework advises that:
- ~ “Local Plans should be supported by Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and develop policies to manage flood risk from all sources, taking account of advice from the Environment Agency and other flood risk management bodies, such as lead local flood authorities and internal drainage boards. Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property to manage residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change....” (Paragraph 100, page 23).
 - ~ “When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere and only consider development appropriate in areas at risk of flooding where, informed by a site-specific flood risk assessment following the Sequential Test, and if required the Exception Test, it can be demonstrated that:
 - Within the site, the most vulnerable development is located in areas of lowest flood risk unless there are overriding reasons to prefer a different location; and
 - Development is appropriately flood resilient and resistant, including safe access and escape routes where required, and that any residual risk can be safely managed, including by emergency planning; and it gives priority to the use of sustainable drainage systems”. (Paragraph 103, page 24).

Other Relevant Legislation

- 3.13 Bury Council also has a range of responsibilities in accordance with other pieces of domestic and European Legislation, including:

- The Reservoirs Act (1975)
- The Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act (1979)
- The Highways Act (1980)
- The Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981)
- The Building Act (1984)
- The Environmental Protection Act (1990)
- The Land Drainage Act (1991)
- The Water Resources Act (1991)
- The Water Industry Act (1991)
- The Environment Act (1995)
- The Countryside & Rights of Way Act (2000)
- The Water Act (2003)
- The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (2004)
- The Civil Contingencies Act (2004)
- The Climate Change Act (2008)
- The Planning Act (2008)
- The Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act (2009)
- The Localism Act (2011)
- The EU Wild Birds Directive (1979/409/EEC & 2009/147/EC)
- The EU Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (1985/337/EEC & 1997/11/EC)
- The EU Habitats Directive (1992/43/EEC)
- The EU Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)
- The EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
- The EU Floods Directive (2007/60/EC).

Roles and Responsibilities

3.14 There are a number of organisations in Bury that have a key role in flood risk management, as defined by the Flood and Water Management Act. These are:

- Bury Council (Lead local flood authority and highway authority)
- The Environment Agency
- United Utilities

3.15 Under the provisions of the Flood and Water Management Act the following duties are common to all risk management authorities:

- Duty to cooperate with other risk management authorities
- Duty to act consistently with the national and local strategies
- Powers to take on flood risk functions from other risk management authority
- Duty to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development
- Duty to be subject to scrutiny from the lead local flood authority's democratic processes.

Detailed information on the specific roles of each organisation is provided below.

Bury Council – Lead Local Flood Authority

3.16 Under the Flood and Water Management Act, Bury Council is the lead local flood authority. The responsibilities of a lead local flood authority are:

- Development, maintenance, application and monitoring of a strategy for local flood risk management. This will be guided by the national strategy;
- A duty to investigate and publish reports on flood incidents in Bury (where appropriate and necessary) to identify which authorities have relevant flood risk management functions and what they have done or intend to do;
- A duty to maintain a register of structures or features that have a significant effect on flood risk.
- Power to designate structures and features that effect flood risk;
- Responsibility for the sustainable drainage systems approving body with responsibility for approval, adoption, inspection and maintenance of new sustainable drainage systems;
- Decision making responsibility for whether third party works on ordinary watercourses by third parties, that may affect water flow, can take place.
- Powers to request information from any person in connection with the authority's flood risk management functions;
- Power to do works to manage flood risk from surface water runoff or groundwater;

Duty to produce a local flood risk management strategy

3.17 This duty commenced in April 2011. The Council must develop, maintain, apply, monitor and publish a local strategy. The Strategy will provide the framework to deliver a prioritised programme of works and initiatives to manage flood risk in the area.

Duty to investigate and report on flood incidents

- 3.18 This duty commenced in April 2011. On becoming aware of a flood in its area, the Council must undertake an investigation to the extent that it considers necessary or appropriate. This investigation must set out which risk management authority is responsible and whether they have responded appropriately to the flood. The results of the investigation will be published on the Council's website and any relevant risk management authorities informed of the results.
- 3.19 Within the Borough, an initial investigation of all recorded flood incidents will be carried out. The results will be recorded within a Flood Incident Database.
- 3.20 A protocol of priorities to investigate flood incidents has been agreed at AGMA level. These priorities will determine whether a full investigation of a flood incident will be undertaken.

Bury Council will formally investigate flood incidents which meet the following criteria:

- Where there is a risk to life;
- Where there is an impact on critical service (schools, hospitals, nursing homes and emergency services);
- Where 5 properties or more were flooded internally;
- Economic disruption;
- Where local democratic pressures from elected members, committees or other elected bodies, might be considered as a factor in determining whether a formal investigation should be carried out.

Source: AGMA Flood Investigations Policy, March 2013

Flooding Asset Register

- 3.21 This duty commenced in April 2011. It requires the Council to maintain a register of structures or features that, in the opinion of the Council, are likely to have a significant effect on flood risk.
- 3.22 In Bury, the register contains key assets, such as culverts, ponds, ditches that are known to cause the flooding of properties, critical infrastructure or block major roads when the asset is not functioning to an adequate level. Where known, information is also held on ownership and state of repair.
- 3.23 The register will be used to influence maintenance regimes and assist with the duty to investigate significant flood events.

Power to designate structures

- 3.24 Designation is a form of legal protection reserved for key structures or features that are privately owned and maintained and that contribute to the management of flood and coastal erosion risks.
- 3.25 Designation aims to ensure that owners do not advertently alter structures and features and potentially increase flood or erosion risks to themselves, their neighbours and the wider community.
- 3.26 Structures or features meriting designation could include culverts, garden/building walls and flood banks.
- 3.27 A designation is a legally binding notice served by the designating authority to the owner of the structure or features and the notice is also a local land charge. The power to designate structures that have an effect on flood risk has not been fully commenced..
- 3.28 If an asset becomes 'designated' its owner can not alter, remove or replace it, without prior consent from the designating risk management authority. Designated features will be added to the asset register.

Sustainable Drainage Systems Approving Body

- 3.29 This duty places a responsibility on the Council to approve, adopt and maintain all newly-constructed Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) which serve more than one property.
- 3.30 The commencement date for this new role has not yet been confirmed and Bury has not yet established a sustainable drainage system approving body. However, the Government is working with authorities on preparing for the implementation of this element of the Act.

Consenting role for work by third parties on ordinary watercourses

- 3.31 This duty commenced in April 2012. The responsibility for consenting of works by third parties on ordinary watercourses under Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 (as amended by the Flood and Water Management Act) has transferred from the Environment Agency to Bury Council. The Council also has powers to enforce un-consented and non-compliant works. This includes any works (including temporary) that affect flow within the channel of any ordinary watercourse (such as in channel structures or diversion of watercourses).
- 3.32 Work which may need approval include new and replacement culverts, provision and removal of weir structures, construction of river walls and temporary support works for permanent structures which interfere with the flow of water in the watercourse.

- 3.33 Consent is refused if the works would result in an increase in flood risk, a prevention of operation access to the watercourse and/or they pose an unacceptable risk to nature conservation.
- 3.34 As lead local flood authority and the Highway Authority, Bury Council has cause to undertake works on ordinary watercourses, which can include:
- Work in relation to upgrading of roads;
 - Work in relation to inspections of culverts
 - Structural improvements to structures such as culverts
 - Works associated with development of waste and mineral sites and their own sites such as libraries or schools.
- 3.35 In line with the aims of this strategy, such works must mitigate local flood risk. As with any other proposals they must ensure the proper flow of water in a watercourse. The Council does not have to seek approval from external bodies for their own flood risk management activities. However, the works must be undertaken in a manner that complies with the requirements of all relevant legislation.

Requirements under the Flood Risk Regulations 2009

- 3.36 The Flood Risk Regulations set out the timetable for a series of flood risk assessment and management tasks that the Council has to complete including:
- Preparation of a preliminary flood risk assessment – completed May 2011;
 - Preparation of flood hazard maps by December 2013. These maps will show the extent, direction, speed and likelihood of possible floods. The maps will show the number of people, range of economic activity and extent of protected areas that could be impacted by a flood incident, as well as identifying industrial activities that could cause pollution during a flood;
 - Preparation of flood risk management plans by 2015

Bury Council - Highway Authority

Duty to maintain the public highway network

- 3.37 The Highways Act requires the Council, as Highways Authority to ensure that highways are drained of surface water and, where necessary, maintain all drainage systems ensuring there is no pollution of the wider environment. In particular, the Council carries out regular maintenance of a number of forms of drainage associated with the highway, including gullies, soakaways, ditches, channels, drains, grills and outlets.

Bury Council - Emergency Planning

- 3.38 Bury Council has statutory duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to ensure that the Council is prepared and able to respond to an emergency in the Borough. The Emergency Planning Team works closely with the AGMA Civil Contingencies Team, which includes the emergency services, Environment Agency and AGMA districts.
- 3.39 A Greater Manchester Flood Risk Plan has been prepared and individual Borough plans are to be updated which will detail how local services will work together to respond to an incident.

Bury Council - Planning Authority

Responsibility to consider flood risk in Local Plans

- 3.40 The Council, as Planning Authority, must prepare, publish and use a Local Development Framework (LDF) which directs how land can be used. The LDF considers flood risk from both fluvial (main river) and local sources (surface water) of flooding, utilizing evidence contained in Strategic Flood Risk Assessments, Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments and Surface Water Management Plans.

Responsibility to consider flood risk when assessing planning applications

- 3.41 The Planning Authority should only approve development where it can be demonstrated that the proposal doesn't increase the overall risk of flooding in the area and is adequately protected from flooding itself. A sequential approach should be taken to ensure development sites are chosen which offer the lowest possible flood risk.

Bury Council – Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) Approval Body (SAB)

Duty to establish a SuDS Approval Body (SAB)

- 3.42 The Council as LLFRA has to establish an approving body for new drainage systems in its area.

Duty to receive applications for, and approve all construction work associated with, construction work which has drainage implications

- 3.43 The SAB will receive all applications for construction where there is drainage implications, assess their compliance with any national and/or local standards and approve or decline the application as appropriate.

Duty to adopt SuDS which serve more than one property

- 3.44 The SAB will adopt all drainage systems constructed in accordance with the SuDS regulations where they drain more than one property. SuDS draining public roads will be adopted by the Highway Authority.

Duty to maintain adopted SuDS

- 3.45 The SAB must maintain all adoptable SuDS in accordance with the national standards for sustainable drainage.

Other Risk Management Authorities

- 3.46 The main roles, responsibilities and functions to be exercised by the other risk management authorities are as follows:

Environment Agency

- Strategic overview of all forms of flooding
- Risk-based management of flooding from 'main rivers'
- Regulation of the safety of higher-risk reservoirs
- Development of the National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
- Coordination of Regional Flood and Coastal Committees
- Powers to request a person for any information relating to its flood management responsibilities
- Powers to designate structures and features relating to 'main rivers'
- A duty to report to ministers on Flood Risk Management
- Statutory consultees to the SuDS approving body
- Is a competent Authority for the Water Framework Directive

United Utilities

- Where appropriate, assist the LLFAs in meeting their duties in line with the national strategy and guidance
- Where appropriate, assist the LLFAs in meeting their duties in line with local strategies in its area.
- Where appropriate, sharing of information and data with RMAs, relevant to their flood risk management functions.
- A duty to effectually drain their area, in accordance with section 94 of the Water Industry Act 1991.
- A duty to register all reservoirs with a capacity greater than 10,000m³ with the Environment Agency
- An agreement with Ofwat to maintain a register of properties at risk from hydraulic overloading in the public sewerage system (DG5 register).
- The appropriate management of surface water in combined systems.
- Encouraging the use of SuDS.
- Creating a detailed understanding of flood risk from the public sewer system.
- Explore and implement multi benefit/agency schemes.

- A duty to ensure local flood risk management and drainage works are consistent with environmental regulations (including the Water Framework Directive)

Highways Authority

- A duty to act in a manner which is consistent with the local and national strategies and guidance
- A duty to share information with other RMA"s relevant to their flood risk management functions
- A duty to drain the adopted highway of surface water

Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

Regional Flood and Coastal Committees are Environment Agency committees which consist of elected members from the relevant Lead Local Flood Authorities and independent members with relevant experience appointed by the Environment Agency. They have three key purposes:

- To ensure there are coherent plans for identifying, communicating and managing flood and coastal erosion risk across catchments and shorelines;
- To promote efficient, targeted and risk-based investment in flood and coastal erosion risk management that optimises value for money and benefits for local communities. This includes managing the spending of both Government Flood Defence Grant in Aid and Local Levy paid by Lead Local Flood Authorities; and
- To provide a link between the Environment Agency, Lead Local Flood Authorities, other flood risk management authorities and other relevant bodies to engender mutual understanding of flood and coastal erosion risks in its area.

Regional Flood and Coastal Committees are the key decision making bodies for allocating funding from both Flood Defence Grant in Aid, local levies which are raised from Lead Local Flood Authorities and general drainage charges which are raised from landowners. These are the key streams of funding for flood alleviation schemes from fluvial, coastal and local flooding. They also contribute towards individual property resilience schemes and the river maintenance programme. These committees, therefore, have a hugely important role in deciding which areas receive support for flood defences. How funding is calculated and allocated is discussed in detail in Chapter 4.

Residents and Businesses

In addition to the role of RMA"s, individual landowners owning land adjacent to watercourses, known as riparian owners, have important rights and responsibilities relating to flood risk management from natural watercourses. They have

- A right to receive flow in its natural quantity and quality. Water may only be abstracted from a watercourse with the formal approval of the Environment Agency.
- A right to protect their land and property from flooding and erosion. Any associated works must be approved by the Environment Agency and/or LLFA.
- A responsibility to allow water to flow through their land without obstruction, diversion or pollution.
- A responsibility to receive flood flows through their land
- A responsibility to keep the watercourse bed and banks free of litter and debris.

4. Objectives and Measures – What are we doing?

4.1 The Environment Agency has, jointly with Defra, developed a national strategy that reflects Government policy on flood risk management and related issues. The strategy, entitled a National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England describes what needs to be done by all organisations involved in flood risk management.

4.2 The Strategy sets out a statutory framework, guiding principles and objectives that will help communities, the public sector and other organisations to work together to manage flood risk.

4.3 The national strategy guiding principles are:

- To focus on community and partnership working
- To adopt a catchment-based approach
- To take proportionate and risk-based action
- To take sustainable action
- To encourage beneficiaries to invest in risk management

4.4 The national strategy objectives are to:

- Manage the risk of flooding to people and their property;
- Help householders, businesses and communities better understand and manage the flood and coastal erosion risk they face;
- Respond better to flood incidents and during recovery;
- Encourage local innovations and solutions;
- Invest in actions that benefit the communities who face the greatest risk;
- Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits consistent with the principles of sustainable development

4.5 Reflecting the Government’s guiding principles and strategic objectives at a local level, Bury Council have developed the following aim, objectives and measures for the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy:

Table 3 – Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Aim, Objectives and Measures

Aim: To produce a strategy which demonstrates how Bury Council will work with individuals, the community, and businesses to manage the risk of flooding and its impacts within the Borough.	
Objectives	Measures
To gain a strategic understanding of	To gather clear information and

<p>flood risk from all sources in Bury;</p>	<p>understanding of the different types of flooding; their potential and impact.</p>
<p>To manage the likelihood of flooding within the Borough;</p>	<p>To identify an evidence-based programme of works and maintenance regimes, which integrate flood management solutions with sustainable development and social and environmental benefits.</p>
<p>To help Bury residents to manage their own risk;</p>	<p>To provide clear information regarding local flood risk to local communities allowing them to make informed decisions for managing their own flood risk. To provide clear information about the roles and responsibilities of risk management authorities Local communities will be encouraged to become engaged in the development of flood alleviation schemes, where they are appropriate.</p>
<p>To ensure that new development in Bury reduces rather than increases flood risk;</p>	<p>The Council and other risk management authorities within the Borough will be required to ensure that the principle of 'no new flood risk' is taken into account as part of new development and infrastructure, managing the effects of climate change and further reducing flood risk where possible.</p>
<p>To improve flood preparation, warning and post flood recovery.</p>	<p>To spread knowledge of flood risk within the Borough to ensure that emergency responders better understand the nature of local flood risk and can use the information to improve preparedness for flood events. The Council will undertake investigations into flood events where it is necessary to understand the cause off flooding. Communities and individuals will be supported to take part in preparing for flood events, forming local action groups and planning for future flood risks.</p>
<p>To endeavour to direct flood risk</p>	<p>Local flood risk information will be</p>

<p>funding to areas most at need or where solutions will be most effective.</p>	<p>used to bid for funding for flood risk management projects and ensure that resources are directed to areas where it will be most effective.</p>
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- 4.6 Appendix 1 shows the actions that we have identified to achieve our objectives. A number of actions are already being delivered, however it will not be possible to deliver all potential flood risk management actions in the short term as resources are simply not available. Therefore the approach taken in Bury will be proportionate and risk based, in line with advice set out in the national strategy.
- 4.7 In addition to identifying actions to reduce local flood risk, a detailed works programme can be found in Appendix 2. This programme includes work that partners are proposing to undertake to adhere to their new flood risk management responsibilities.

5. Flood Risk Management Funding

- 5.1 The Flood Risk Management Strategy must set out how proposed actions are to be funded. This chapter will outline how flood risk management funding is allocated nationally, and also explain which additional funding streams are being considered within the Borough.

Table 4 – Sources of Funding

Source of Funding	Description	Administered By	Appropriate for?
Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA)	Central government funding for flood and coastal defence projects. Funding levels for each scheme relate directly to the number of households protected, damage prevented and other benefits such as environmental or business benefits that will be delivered. There is additional emphasis on protecting households in deprived areas	Environment Agency	Medium to large capital FRM projects.
Local Levy	The Regional Flood and Coast Committee can agree a levy to be paid by upper tier authorities (county and unitary authorities) for works which do not attract a sufficiently high priority for funding by national government, but are nonetheless cost effective and of local importance. The Local Levy is supported by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG). It allows locally important flood defence projects, including property level protection to go forward. The Levy is agreed annually and monies can be carried over annually. However, any local schemes suggested that which to use the Levy need to ensure that it is inline with the regional priorities as set out by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. The Local Levy can top up Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding.	Environment Agency	Smaller FRM projects or as a contribution to FDGiA projects.
United Utilities	Investment heavily regulated by Ofwat but opportunities for contributions to area-wide projects which help to address sewer under-capacity problems	United Utilities	Projects which help to remove surface water from combined sewers
Section 106 funding (developer contributions)	Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 allows a planning authority to request payments from developers (linked to specific developments to contribute to the infrastructure required to make developments acceptable in planning	Bury Council	Larger development sites

	terms.		
Community Infrastructure Levy	A local levy applied by the Planning Authority on developers to contribute to a general infrastructure fund. Bury Council has not yet implemented a scheme. A bid for CIL would have to be made for flood management/drainage improvements against other competing council priorities, such as additional school places and highway schemes.	Bury Council	Larger development project
Council Capital Funding	Bury Council's Highway's service receives an annual capital budget for work on the highways drainage network. Work is prioritised according to safety, internal property flooding, social impact and the duration of flood incidents.	Bury Council	Small to Medium capital projects.
Requesting Local Contributions	Contributions from residents and/or businesses who benefit from proposed flood risk mitigation schemes may be explored in specific cases.	Bury Council	All projects

- 5.2 Table 5 highlights the total direct funding which was available for flood risk management projects in the North West in 2012/2013 and the proportion which was allocated to be spent within Greater Manchester.

Table 5 - Funding 2012/2013

Funding Stream	NW Total Budget (£k)	Planned Spend GM (£k)	GM % of NW Total
EA Capital Spend 2012/13 (FDGiA)	22408	1634	7.5%
LA Capital Spend 2012/13 (FDGiA)	3810	196	5%
Local Levy	Grand Total – 3639 (3115* unallocated)	212	39% (based on 524)

- 5.3 Tables 6 and 7 identify those schemes in Bury which are being funded through the 2012/2013 allocation.

Table 6 - FDGiA Capital Expenditure in Bury 2012/13

Environment Agency

Partnership	Project Name	2012/13 Current FDGiA Budget (£k)	2012/13 Planned Full year Expenditure (£k)	2012/13 Expenditure to Date (£k)
GM	Bury and Radcliffe Strategy	0	13	0
GM	River Irwell at Ramsbottom FRM Scheme	70	36	33

Bury Total		70	49	33
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Table 7 - Local Levy Programme in Bury 2012/13

RMA	Local Levy Project Name	2012/13 Local Levy Budget (£k)	2012/13 Planned Full Year Expenditure (£k)	2012/13 Expenditure to Date (£k)	FDGiA Capital Strengthened Budget (£k)
EA-NW	River Irwell at Ramsbottom	0	0	0	70

5.4 Table 8 identifies the proposed funding of schemes in Bury in 2013/2014 – 2017/2018, however this funding is not confirmed.

Table 8 - Environment Agency FDGiA Allocations 2013/14 – 2017/18

Project	Indicative Allocation 2013/14 (£k)	Indicative Allocation 2014/15 (£k)	Indicative Allocation 2015/16 (£k)	Indicative Allocation 2016/17 (£k)	Indicative Allocation 2017/18 (£k)
Bury South FRM Scheme	100	300	0	4000	800
River Irwell at Ramsbottom	490	0	0	0	0
Total	590	300	0	4000	800

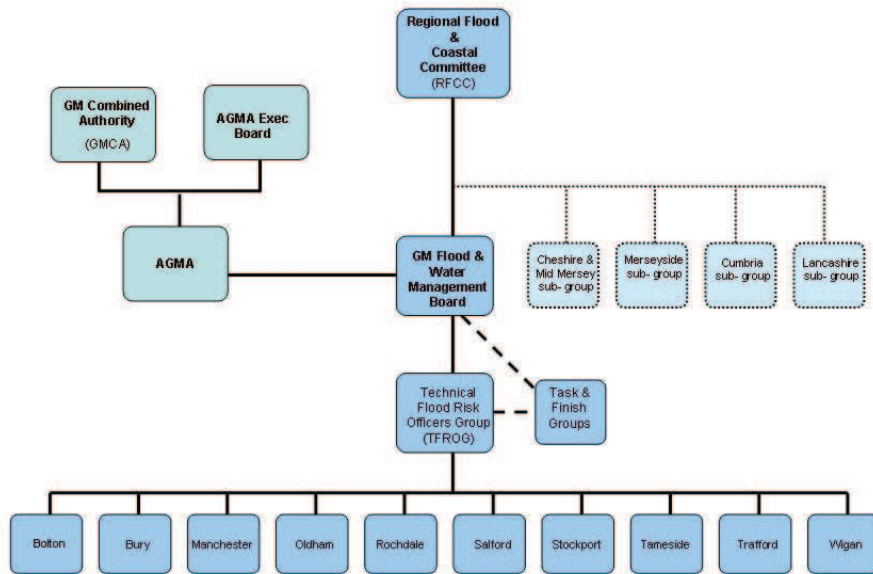
£20,000-£40,000 to reinstate a property following a flood (ABI 2012)

£60,000 is the average claim for business premises following flood (ABI 2012)

6. Governance Structure

- 6.1 On 1st April 2011 the **Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)** was established as a top-tier administrative body for the local governance of Greater Manchester.
- It is funded by direct government grant and some money collected with local Council Tax apportioned between the constituent councils.
 - It consists of ten indirectly elected members, each a directly elected councillor from one of the ten metropolitan boroughs that comprise Greater Manchester.
 - It replaced a range of single-purpose joint boards and quangos to provide a formal administrative authority for Greater Manchester for the first time since the abolition of the Greater Manchester County Council in 1986.
- 6.2 The governance arrangements for the GMCA builds on the AGMA model of voluntary collaboration and is a statutory body with its functions set out in legislation. AGMA continues to act as the voice of the ten local authorities but as part of a much stronger partnership with GMCA.
- 6.3 Greater Manchester districts and AGMA work together strategically wherever possible, to ensure that the new statutory duties associated with the FWM Act are implemented in the most efficient and effective manner based on a series of key principles including:
- many flood risk management issues in GM extend beyond single districts in terms of causes of risk, their impact and the opportunities for solutions;
 - technical capacity and capability is varied across GM especially in terms of spatial planning and drainage engineering expertise and there are opportunities for pooling expertise and capacity building at a GM level;
 - there is often added value in doing things once strategically rather than several times locally in terms of ensuring consistency, robustness and the capacity to do things;
 - more robust evidence and a stronger case for flood risk management investment can be developed at a strategic GM scale with additional benefits for local priority schemes
- 6.4 The objectives ensure that AGMA has appropriate governance arrangements (fig 1) in place to set GM-wide priorities, set the strategic direction and attract investment through the newly constituted North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) and the GM Flood and Water Management Board.

Figure 3 – AGMA Governance structure



Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC)

6.5 The RFCC was created by the FWMA and provides democratic input into local decisions and help coordinate flood and coastal erosion risk management. It promotes efficient, targeted and risk-based investment and provides a link between the EA, LLFA's, other RMA's.

The Greater Manchester Flood and Water Management Board (FWMB)

6.6 The FWMB provides a vehicle for strategic co-operation and joint working between the GM Commissions, EA, UU and the RFCC covering spatial planning, climate change, drainage and flood infrastructure and emergency planning. It provides an effective working interface with the RFCC ensuring that GM maximises the potential to secure resources through Flood Defence Grant in Aid, Local Levy funding, partnership projects and the EA as part of their capital investment programmes.

Flood Risk Officers Group (FROG)

6.7 FROG provides a forum for joint working between the ten districts representatives of Greater Manchester LLFA's and partner organisations to deliver the strategic GM flood risk work programme and support local priorities for flood risk management an delivering new powers and duties.

7. Next Steps

- 7.1 We will circulate the draft strategy widely to community groups, individuals and organisations with an interest in flood risk management. Public consultation ends on.... We will update the strategy in response to comments received.
- 7.2 We will publish a statement alongside the adopted strategy as required by Regulation 16 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. In the statement we will explain the way in which we took account of consultation responses and the findings and recommendations set out in the Environmental Report.
- 7.3 The Strategy will need to reflect the sustainable drainage systems approving role, which at the time of writing was not commenced.
- 7.4 An annual report detailing progress against objectives will be produced. This will reflect changes in flood risk management and recommend additions or changes to the strategy where necessary.
- 7.5 The Strategy should be viewed as a 'living document' to maximise opportunities to update the strategy as new information becomes available.

Appendix 1 – Local Flood Risk Management Plan Action Plan

Aim: To produce a strategy which demonstrates how Bury Council will work with individuals, the community and businesses to manage the risk of flooding and its impacts within the Borough.					
Objectives	Measures	Actions	Lead Organisation	Timescales	Status
To gain a strategic understanding of flood risk from all sources in Bury;	To gather clear information and understanding of the different types of flooding; their potential and impact,	Recording/mapping flood incidents	Bury Council (Lead Local Flood Authority - LLFA)	On-going	In progress
		Carry out flood investigations	Bury Council (LLFA)	On-going	In progress
		Assessment of flood risk locations in SFRA/SWMP	Bury Council (LLFA)	On-going	In progress
		Record drainage and flood assets	Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	In progress
		Maintain a flood risk asset register	Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	In progress
		Obtain information from stakeholders	Bury Council (LLFA)	On-going	In progress
		Improve skills and knowledge of flood risk officers	Bury Council (LLFA)	On-going	In progress
		Develop an affordable cyclical maintenance regime based on risk	Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	Not started
		Develop a responsive, reactive	Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	Not started
		To manage the likelihood of flooding within the Borough;	To identify an evidence-based programme of works and maintenance regimes, which integrate flood		

	management solutions with sustainable development and social and environmental benefits.	maintenance regime based on risk.			
	To provide clear information regarding local flood risk to local communities allowing them to make informed decisions for managing their own flood risk.	Work with partners to identify schemes which will alleviate flood risk in the future.	Bury Council (LLFA) Environment Agency United Utilities	On-going	In progress
To help Bury residents to manage their own risk;	To provide clear information regarding local flood risk to local communities allowing them to make informed decisions for managing their own flood risk. To provide clear information about the roles and responsibilities of risk management authorities Local communities will be encouraged to become engaged in the development of flood alleviation	Publish and distribute information explaining responsibilities, local flood risk, property protection/resilience etc. Involve local communities in local initiatives and schemes.	Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	Not started
		Improve and maintain the Councils flood risk management web pages.	Bury Council (LLFA) Environment Agency United Utilities	2013/2014	Not started
			Bury Council (LLFA)	2012/2013	Completed

	schemes, where they are appropriate.				
To ensure that new development in Bury reduces rather than increases flood risk;	The Council and other risk management authorities within the Borough will be required to ensure that the principle of 'no new flood risk' is taken into account as part of new development and infrastructure, managing the effects of climate change and further reducing flood risk where possible.	Develop and apply a robust local policy on flood risk management and drainage solutions on new development sites. Develop a process with the Planning Department to create clear advice and direction to developers on flood risk management and drainage.	Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	In progress
			Bury Council (LLFA)	2013/2014	Not started
	Establish the SuDS Approval Body (SAB).		Bury Council (LLFA)	2014/2015	Not started – preparatory work in 2013 in advance of expected commencement of legislation in April 2014

Appendix 2 – Local Flood Risk Management Plan Annual Programme of Schemes – 2013/2014

Scheme	Lead Risk Management Authority	Funding Source	Project Summary	Timescales	Status
Capital Drainage Schemes					
Moor Road, Ramsbottom	Bury Council	Unknown	Catch pit and gullies at car park		Not Started
Whitelow Brow & 119 Manchester Road, Ramsbottom	Bury Council	Unknown	Possible upgrade of drainage and/or PLP		Not Started
Old Kays Park, Greenmount	Bury Council	Unknown	Increase capacity under carriageway		Not Started
Holly Mount Land, Greenmount	Bury Council	Unknown	Increase capacity under carriageway		Not Started
Old Oak Cottages, Ramsbottom	Bury Council	Unknown	Possible culvert upgrade or diversion		Not Started
Dungeon Pub, Harwood Road, Tottington	Bury Council	Unknown	Increase culvert capacity		Not Started
Turton Road, Tottington	Bury Council	Unknown	New highway drainage system		Not Started
Watling Street, Affetside	Bury Council	Unknown	New drainage system		Not Started
Bradshaw Road, Tottington	Bury Council	Unknown	System replacement required		Not Started

Scobell Street/Sycamore Road, Tottington	Bury Council	Unknown	Upgrade culvert in carriageway		Not Started
Moorside Road, Tottington	Bury Council	Unknown	Clear culvert at rear of properties		Not Started
A58 Culverts	Bury Council	Unknown	Replace 2 culverts		Not Started
Investigations					
Spring Vale, Vernon Drive, Prestwich	Bury Council	Unknown	A number of culvert related flooding issues which may be linked – further investigation required		Investigations with UU
Openshaw Fold, Radcliffe	Bury Council	Unknown	Up to 4 properties affected by flooding – further investigation required		Not Started
Rippon Close, Radcliffe	Bury Council	Unknown	Flooding linked to canal feeder – further investigation required		Not Started
Stirling Close, Whitefield	Bury Council	Unknown	Property flooding – further investigation required		Not Started
Fern Grove, Bury	Bury Council	Unknown	Flooding of carriageway due to		Not Started

				culvert issue – further investigation required			
Kenilworth Avenue, Whitefield	Bury Council	Unknown		Flooding affecting 3 properties – further investigation required.			Not Started
Environment Agency Schemes							
Stubbins and Ramsbottom Flood Management Scheme	Environment Agency	FDGiA funding 2012/2013			2012-2014		Detailed design in progress. Planning application due to be submitted to Rossendale BC in July 2013.
Bury South	Environment Agency	FDGiA funding 2012/2013			2012-2018		Project Appraisal in progress
United Utilities Schemes							
Radcliffe UJIDs – BRY0128	United Utilities	AMP5		Powered mechanical screen on combined sewer overflow to screen spill flow up to 1 in 5 year storm intensity	2013-2014		Design and modelling ongoing to determine final location of screen and combined

Ainsworth Road/Water Street	United Utilities	AMP5		Screening of spills from combined sewer overflow up to 1 in 5 year storm intensity. Provision of storage on sewer network. Upgrade of CSO. Possible partnership working with Bury Council and EA	2015-2016	sewer overflow. Optioneering solutions. Preferred solution to be determined.
Clifton PS SAL0148 Croal UID	United Utilities	AMP5		Construction of new off-line storage tank at Clifton Pumping Station	2013-2014	Optioneering solutions
Radcliffe UIDs - BRY0033	United Utilities	AMP5		Static screen and new outfall	2013	Construction complete
Radcliffe UIDs - BRY0026	United Utilities	AMP5		New storage tank and static screen on combined sewer overflow. New pumping station with duty/standby pumps	2013	Construction complete
Ogden Street DG5 - Prestwich	United Utilities	AMP5		New storage tank. Removing	2013	Under construction

				properties from the DG5 at risk register to alleviate flooding caused by hydraulic inadequacy		
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Glossary

Acronym	Term	Explanation
	Aquifer	Layers of permeable rock which provide water storage for supporting water supply and/or river flows
AStGW	Areas Susceptible to Groundwater Flooding	Mapping produced by the Environment Agency to show areas with a potential for groundwater emergence
AStSW	Areas Susceptible to Surface Water	Mapping produced by the Environment Agency to provide broad areas where surface water flooding was likely to cause problems in three bands ranging from less susceptible to more susceptible to flooding. The methodology assumed that sewer and drainage systems were full and did not account for infiltration or the impacts of the location of buildings.
CFMP	Catchment Flood Management Plan	CFMPs assess flood risk from all sources across a river catchment area and establish flood risk management policies for those areas to assist in understanding flood risk within the catchment and delivering sustainable flood risk management in the long term.
	Climate Change	Long term variations in the climate of the earth including temperature, wind and rainfall patterns.
CLG	Department for Communities and Local Government	Government department responsible for policy and regulations supporting local government, communities and neighbourhoods.
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Government department responsible for policy and regulations on the environment, food and rural affairs.
	DG5 Register	Records of property flooding from the drainage and sewer network collated and held by water companies.
EA	Environment Agency	A non-departmental public body responsible for protecting and improving the environment and promoting sustainable development.
	European Floods Directive	European Commission legislation which aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe
FAS	Flood Alleviation Scheme	A capital scheme to provide defences or storage for flood water to alleviate flooding within a surrounding area.
FCERM	Flood and	Measures including strategies, policies

	Coastal Erosion Risk Management	and schemes designed to manage flood and coastal erosion risk at a national, regional or local scale. Also referred to as FRM-Flood Risk Management
FDGiA	Flood Defence Grant in Aid	Part of the Environment Agency's overall capital allocation to invest in flood risk management schemes.
FMFSW	Flood Map for Surface Water	Mapping produced by the Environment Agency to provide broad areas where surface water flooding was likely to cause problems based on two different changes of rainfall and displayed in two bands – surface water flooding and deep surface water flooding. The methodology assumed an allowance for infiltration and a national average drainage capacity and mapped building locations.
	Flood Risk Area	An area where there is a significant risk of flooding from local flood risk sources including surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses, identified using guidance produced by Defra as areas where a 'cluster of square kilometres affected by flood risk holds in excess of 30,000 people.
FRR	Flood Risk Regulations 2009	UK regulations implementing the requirements of the European Floods Directive which aim to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe, based on a six year cycle of assessment and planning.
	Flood and Water Management Act 2010	UK legislation which sets out the roles and responsibilities for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England in response to the Pitt review of the 2007 floods.
	Flood Zone 3	This zone comprises land assessed as having a 1 in 100 (.1%) or greater chance in any year of fluvial flooding.
	Flood Zone 2	This zone comprises land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 (1%-0.1%) chance in any year of fluvial flooding.
	Fluvial	Relating to rivers or streams (compare with entry for pluvial below). Generally used to describe flooding from main rivers – fluvial flooding.
	Fluvial Flooding	Flooding where water in a river exceeds the capacity of the river banks and spills into the surrounding area.

	Groundwater Flooding	Flooding where water stored underground rises above the surface of the land level in areas which are not channels or drainage pathways.
iFRAs	Indicative Flood Risk Area	Areas identified by the EA as part of the PFRA development where more than 30,000 people at risk of flooding (built up from clusters of 1km squares where at least 200 are potentially at risk of significant surface water flooding).
LFMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	The local strategy for a LLFA to identify the various flood risk management functions of different authorities and organisations, assess local flood risk, produce objectives and measures for managing flood risk, the costs and benefits of those measures and how they will be implemented, and contributions to wider environmental objectives.
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority	A county or unitary authority responsible for taking the lead on local flood risk management matters.
	Local Levy	Annual levy collected from local authorities by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to fund flood and coastal erosion risk management within its area.
NFRMS	National Flood Risk Management Strategy	The national strategy for England developed by the Environment Agency to identify the various flood risk management functions of different authorities and organisations, objectives and measures for managing flood risk, the costs and benefits of those measures and how they will be implemented, impacts of climate change and contributions to wider environmental objectives.
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework	The new national planning regime. See entry on PPS25 below for an explanation of the relevance to this Strategy
	Ordinary Watercourse	A stream, ditch, cut, sluice or non-public sewer which is not classified as a main river.
PFRA	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment	An assessment under the FRR which assesses significant historic and future flood risks within an areas, identifying significant flood risk areas and providing information on flooding for reporting to the European Commission.
	Pluvial	Relating to rain compare with fluvial

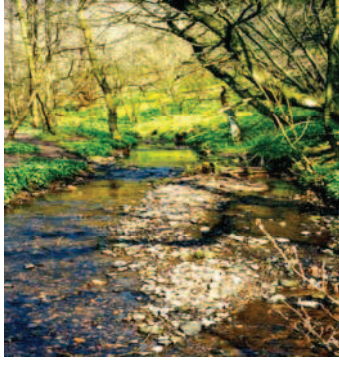
		above. Generally used to describe surface water flooding – pluvial flooding.
PPS25	Planning Policy Statement 25	Guidance on how flood risk should be covered in planning policy and development control. Although superseded by the National Planning Policy Framework the principles are likely to be carried through in local plans and related guidance.
RFCC	Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	Committees established by the Environment Agency consisting of members representing LLFAs and independent members, who ensure that there are plans for identifying and managing flood risk across catchments, promote investment in flood and coastal erosion risk management and provide a link between risk management authorities and other relevant bodies.
RMA	Risk Management Authority	As defined under the Flood and Water Management Act as LLFAs, the Environment Agency, unitary authorities, water companies and highways authorities.
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level 1 and Level 2)	An assessment providing information on areas at risk from all sources of flooding, used to provide an evidence base for flood risk and planning decisions.
	Surface Water Flooding	Flooding where rainwater collects on the surface of the ground due to soil being saturated or drainage and watercourses in the areas are full to capacity or not accessible by the rainwater due to land levels.
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan	A plan which assesses surface water flooding within a given area and outlines the preferred approach to managing that risk. The plan is undertaken in consultation with key partners who are responsible for flood risk management and drainage in that area. The plan should influence future resource, emergency and land use planning and identify areas where flood alleviation works may be required.
	Sustainable Development	Development undertaken in a sustainable manner to ensure that the needs of the current generation do not adversely impact the lives of future generations, improving and enhancing the area concerned.

SuDS	Sustainable Drainage Systems	Methods for draining and storing surface water in a sustainable way, designed to mimic natural drainage processes as far as possible, providing multiple environment benefits.
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Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report – Environmental Baseline Report



Local Flood Risk Management Strategy SEA Environmental Baseline

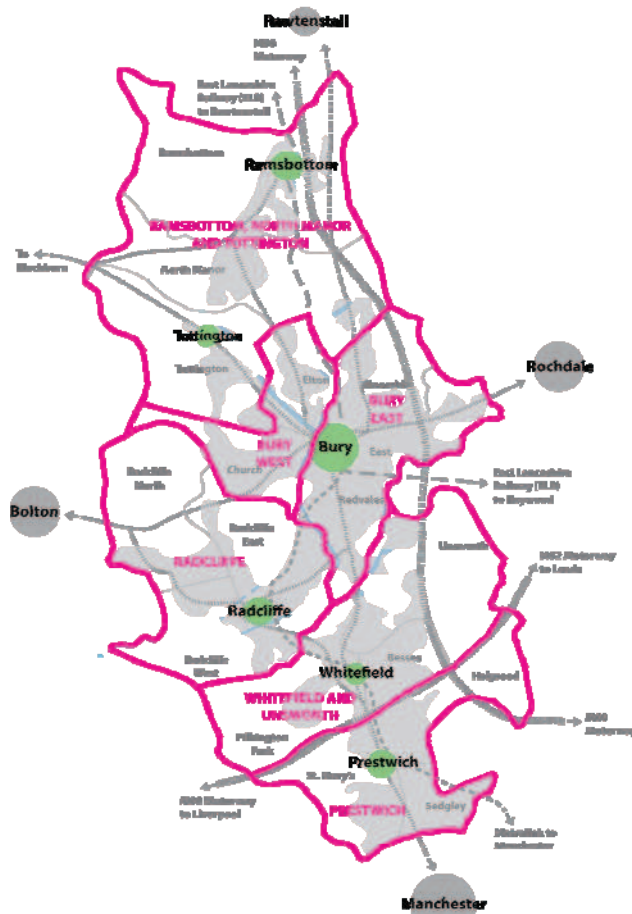
The collection and review of baseline information is a crucial part of the SEA process. It is essential to gather sufficient baseline information on the current and likely future state of the environment in order to be able to adequately predict and assess the significant effects of a plan.

The data collected to characterise the evidence base for the SEA of the strategy has been derived from numerous secondary sources and no new investigations or surveys have been undertaken as part of the scoping process.

The information presented in this Scoping Report represents an outline of the evidence base by environmental topics. It may be necessary to collect further data against which to assess the potential environmental effects of the LFRMS with regard to monitoring requirements.

1 Introduction

1.1 The Borough of Bury is located in the North West of England, situated within the Greater Manchester metropolitan area. As an integral part of Greater Manchester, Bury has an important role to play in accommodating the spatial priorities for the North West region. Bury also has strong links with parts of Lancashire located, towards the north, via the M66 corridor and Irwell Valley. Bury is bounded to the south by the authorities of Manchester and Salford, to the east by Rochdale, to the west by Bolton and to the north by Rossendale and Blackburn and Darwen.



- 1.2 Bury benefits from good transport links with the rest of Greater Manchester and beyond, which has led to the Borough's attractiveness as a commuter area. The M60, M62 and M66 motorways run through the Borough, which provide access to the regional and national motorway network, along with easy access to Manchester Airport. The Borough also benefits from the Metrolink, which runs from Bury town centre, travelling through the south of the Borough to Manchester City Centre, Altrincham and Salford Quays.
- 1.3 The Borough lies broadly within the valley of the River Irwell to the north of Manchester City Centre. The landscape and urban character in the north of the Borough derives from the traditional industrial role of the area, with many stone built terraces and traditional industrial buildings surrounded by the upland areas of the West Pennine Moors. Towards the south of the Borough, the built environment epitomises nineteenth and early twentieth century suburban Manchester and contains gentler, lower lying countryside. Towards the middle of the Borough lies the two main towns of Bury and Radcliffe, which both have their origins in industries such as textiles, paper and engineering.
- 1.4 Within Bury, there are 50 Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs), of which five are designated as Local Nature Reserves. There is also one Site of Special Scientific Interest within the Borough at Ash Clough near Radcliffe. Furthermore, approximately 60% of the Borough is classed as open land and the majority of this has been designated as Green Belt since the 1980's. This

also includes areas of moorland fringe and a network of river valleys and corridors. The existing Green Infrastructure broadly encompasses:

- The Upper Irwell Valley;
- The Roch Valley;
- Irwell Bank (i.e. along the River Irwell between Bury and Radcliffe);
- The Lower Irwell Valley;
- Urban Fringe areas; and
- The urban area; where smaller scale assets such as areas of open space and trees etc. contribute towards the wider network.

2. Baseline Information

Population and Human Health

Population

- 2.1 One of the most significant risks of local flooding is that which it poses to the health and well being of local communities. The Borough has a population of 185,100¹. There was an overall population increase of 1.6% over the ten year period from mid 2000 to mid 2010 and the population is forecast to increase by a further 8.5% over the period mid-2010 to mid-2020, which equates to an additional 15,800 people².

Key Environmental Issues

- 2.2 The main areas of environmental concern for the Borough are the potential increased demand for water resources and pressure on the County's sewerage systems due to local population growth, an ageing population and increased single occupancy homes, particularly in smaller towns with less developed infrastructure. Another area of concern relates to development pressure linked to population growth, which may result in residential, business and community developments being built in areas at risk of flooding.

Life Expectancy

- 2.4 Average life expectancies within the Borough increased during the period 2008 -2010 and are above the regional average.
- 2.5 The Department of Health has a target of increasing the life expectancy at birth in England to 78.6 years for men and 82.5 years for women by 2010 (based on figures for 2009-2011).

Table 1 – Life Expectancy

	Male	Female
Bury	77.5	81.2
GM	76.4	80.8
NW	77.0	88.1
UK	78.5	82.5

Source: ONS Life Expectancy

Mortality Rates

- 2.6 Mortality rates in the Borough increased in 2008 – 2010 and remain above the national average.

Table 2 – Mortality Rates

	All persons	Male	Female
All cancers	104	108	101
All circulatory diseases	110	110	110
All causes	114	112	117

Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 20102

¹ Source: ONS 2011 Census

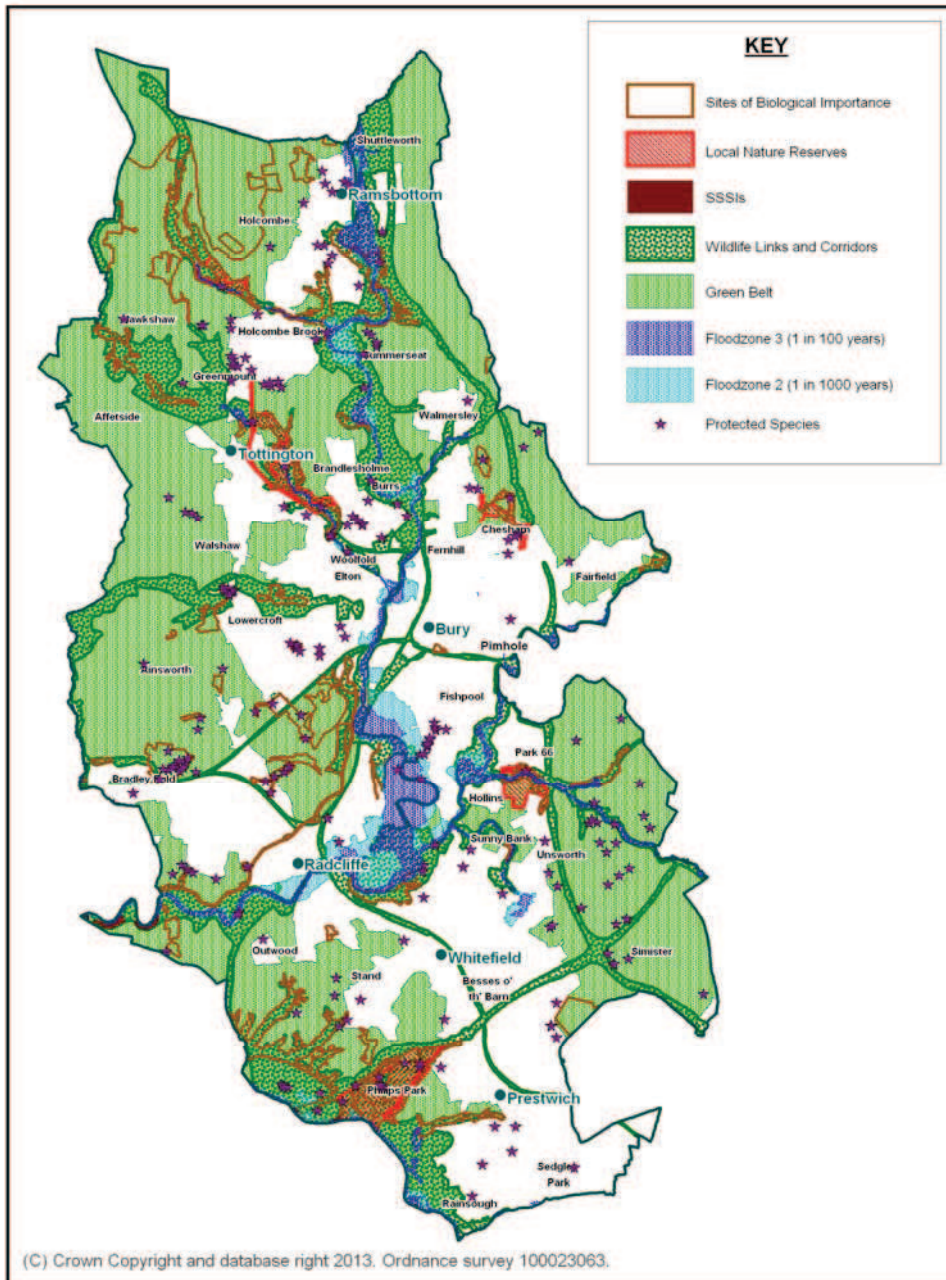
² Source: ONS 2010-based population projections. Population change is based on the indicative projected population for 2010 used in the 2010-based projections, rather than the mid-2010 population estimate.

Key Environmental Issues

2.7 A robust assessment of the risk associated with specific diseases is impractical for this level of plan making. However, the risk of disease arising as a result of flooding events would be unlikely to be significant.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

2.8 There are many different types and scales of nature conservation designation in the Borough, including local and national designations.



2.9 The quality of the natural environment in the Borough provides the opportunity to enhance local quality of life.

2.10 About 12% of the Borough's land (1220 ha) is managed primarily for recreation, Many sites designated for their nature conservation or landscape and historical interest are also used for recreation. It is therefore necessary to

maintain public access to such sites in terms of quality of life and improving levels of physical activity, but the environmental pressures associated with this recreation must be avoided or minimised.

Table 3 – Designated Sites

Designated areas	Net change in area		Total	
	Ha.	% change	Ha.	Number of sites
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	No change	No change	6.0	1
Sites of Biological Importance Grade A	+ 0.6	+ <0.1%	750.6	18
Sites of Biological Importance Grade B	No change	0%	128.1	21
Sites of Biological Importance Grade C	No change	0%	44.3	11
Local nature reserves	+ 0	0%	163.4	5

Table 4 – Conservation Management

3 Total Sites	Sites where positive conservation management is being achieved	
	Number of sites	Percentage
50	8	16%

- 2.11 In addition to protecting wildlife sites in the Borough, the LFRMS has potential to improve biodiversity on the ground, either through creating new biodiversity areas or restoring existing ones, as well as linking up biodiversity sites as part of plans for improving green infrastructure.
- 2.12 Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the "Habitats Regulations") (SI No. 2010/490) there is a legal requirement to assess whether there are any likely significant effects of plans and/or programmes on Natura 2000 (SACs and SPAs) and Ramsar Sites. This will be undertaken as part of the LFRMS HRA process.

Key Environmental Issues

Biodiversity in the Borough is increasingly under pressure. Changing agricultural, flood and river-management practices, urban expansion, road development, mineral extraction, pollution, water abstraction, impoundment and climate change have all had and/or are having an adverse effect on the biodiversity environment. There has been a steady decline in the areas that can be defined as semi-natural habitats of wildlife importance. Those areas that have survived are often small and have a fragmented distribution.

Soil, Geology and Geomorphology

Soil

- 2.13 The type of soil and underlying geology influence the likelihood of surface and groundwater flooding within an area. In addition, due to the difference in soil structures vulnerability to erosion varies.
- 2.14 Soil erosion is an increasing problem throughout the UK, for example through inappropriate land management or agricultural practices. Floodwater can also remove soil from areas, for example through surface water flash flooding. Detailed information on soil quality in Bury does not appear to be available, however the most productive agricultural land is located
- 2.15 The loss of good quality agricultural land, flooding and subsequent erosion is likely to give rise to pollution pathways from potential sources of pollution to other environmental receptors.

Geology and Geomorphology

- 2.16 The geology of the Borough has had a significant impact on its topography, soil structure and vegetation. Geological structure, catchment shape, valley topography, land use, soil and drift cover can all influence the rate and magnitude of groundwater response to flooding.
- 2.17 The main geology comprises Upper Carboniferous rocks (created 325 to 286 million years ago), which can be sub-divided into the Namurian (formally Millstone Grit) series and the Westphalian (formally coal measures) series. The Namurian rocks comprise coarse-grained buff coloured sandstone and gritstones and form the high ground in the north of the Borough. In the south of the Borough younger Westphalian series of shales, siltstones and sandstones, which are generally softer and have been eroded, overlie these Namurian rocks. In the extreme south of the Borough younger Permo-Triassic Red sandstones and Marls overlie the Westphalian and Namurian.
- 2.18 LFRMS measures could alter the extent or duration of flooding and therefore have implications for soil quality and geology. Impacts could then effect other environmental receptors that fall under other SEA topics such as biodiversity, water and human health.

Key Environmental Issues

Climate change is likely to exacerbate many of the pressures that soils already face, for example, hotter, drier conditions make soils more susceptible to wind erosion, coupled with intense rainfall incidents that can wash soil away. Diffuse pollution from agricultural and urban land is one of the key pressures affecting water quality, as contaminated eroded soils pose a risk to waterbodies in the Borough.

Water

Water Framework Directive

- 2.19 The LFRMS needs to ensure that, by improving drainage and reducing flood risk, the requirements of the WFD are considered at all stages in the Strategy, and that there are no adverse impacts on water quality or the hydrological

regime of aquatic habitats. It also needs to ensure that drinking water quality, groundwater and human health are protected.

- 2.20 One of the key objectives under the WFD, is the requirement to prevent deterioration in status and achieve at least Good Ecological Status in water bodies.
- 2.21 The quality status of water bodies in terms of the WFD, is dependant upon various underlying factors. Any activity which has the potential to impact on ecology will need consideration in terms of whether it could cause deterioration in the ecological or potential status of a water body.
- 2.22 With this in mind, an SEA objective has been developed that assesses whether the LFRMS is likely to have an impact on the chemical or ecological status or potential of water bodies.
- 2.23 To monitor this, an assessment of chemical status is required in water bodies where priority substances and other specific pollutants are known to be discharged in significant quantities. If a water body is labelled as 'does not require assessment' it is because these pollutants are not discharged into this water body in significant quantities.
- 2.24 For water bodies that have been designated as heavily modified or artificial they are classified according to their ecological potential rather than status, which considers whether actions to mitigate the impact of physical modification are in place to the extent that could reasonably expected. The results of the mitigation measures assessment are cross-checked with data from biological assessments.

Table 5 – Water Quality

Waterbody	Current Ecological Quality	Current Chemical Quality
River Irwell (Roch to Croal)	Moderate status	Does not require assessment
Whittle Brook	Good status	Does not require assessment
River Croal (including Bradshaw Brook)	Moderate potential	Does not require assessment
River Roch (Spodden to Irwell)	Moderate potential	Good
Kirklees Brook	Moderate potential	Does not require assessment
Irwell/Manchester Ship Canal (Kearsley to Irlam Locks)	Moderate potential	Fail
River Irwell (Rossendale STW to Radcliffe)	Moderate status	Good
Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal	Moderate potential	Does not require assessment
Elton Feeder (Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal)	Moderate potential	Does not require assessment

- 2.25 The LFRMS will need to consider whether any flood risk management measures will lead to adverse impacts on the water bodies within the Borough and

whether the LFRMS can contribute to delivering some of the mitigation measures set out within the river basin management plans. The environmental assessment will consider the possible changes to the water bodies within the Borough resulting from proposed management options.

Key Environmental Issues

- 2.26 Water resources within the Borough are likely to be under increasing pressure from a growing population and increased demand for waste water treatment and drinking water. In addition increased flood risk could affect water supply or treatment facilities, resulting in the loss of service or contamination of water supplies. Consequently, strategic flood risk management measures proposed by the LFRMS will need to consider these as the Strategy progresses.

The LFRMS needs to ensure that, by improving drainage and reducing flood risk in the Borough, there are no adverse impacts on the water environment. It must address issues that may impinge on water quality or the hydrological regime of aquatic habitats. It also needs to ensure that drinking water quality, groundwater and human health are protected. This will involve a coordinated partnership approach to flood and water management from all key partners and stakeholders and a commitment to the delivery of the LFRMS.

Air

- 2.27 Assessment of air quality in Bury has shown that the Council is unlikely to meet the national annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide along the main roads and the motorways in the Borough. The main local source of this pollutant is road transport and the area of predicted exceedence has been declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).
- 2.28 However, there is no potential for the LFRMS objectives and actions to influence issues that affect air quality e.g. emissions or generation of particulate matter.

Climatic Factors

- 2.29 The UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) has carried out modelling that shows detailed climate probability for each 25km² of land in the UK. The latest (UKCP09) projections confirm that the UK is likely to experience:
- Hotter drier summers;
 - Warmer/wetter winters
 - Sea level rises;
 - More weather extremes
- 2.30 Increased precipitation will increase the risk of surface water flooding, which may be exacerbated by blockages in culverts, gutters and drains (sometimes due to inadequate maintenance).
- 2.31 Expected changes in the climate may have major impacts on the built infrastructure, such as roads, sewers, railways and buildings, and could cause damage to trees, plants and crops. People's health could be affected by high temperatures, higher pollen levels and more or different pests.

- 2.32 In the longer term it is likely that there will also be changes to where and how people live and work, and changes to the way we care for the elderly and children.
- 2.33 The LFRMS should consider the implications of climate change with respect to its broad aim of helping local communities to become more resilient and adaptable these changes. This includes reducing the vulnerability to the impacts of climate change through:
- Providing wildlife corridors;
 - Ensuring that drainage systems can cope with changing rainfall patterns/intensity;
 - Taking a precautionary and risk-based approach to developing in the floodplain;
 - Ensuring adequate future water supply and demand management;
 - Designing buildings and urban areas to cope with new climate extremes; and
 - Increasing urban green space;
- 2.34 The LFRMS should assist the Borough in becoming better adapted to the impacts of climate change, particularly in relation to flood risk. However, there may also be opportunities through LFRMS measures, to improve the resilience of biodiversity to climate change, for example by creating or improving flood storage areas for wildlife potential.
- 2.35 Opportunities to link up green and blue infrastructure and improve its resilience to climate change impacts should also be explored in the LFRMS.

Key Environmental Issues

Climate change increases the risk of fluvial and pluvial flooding within the Borough, in terms of the magnitude, extent and duration of flood risk. Measures to adapt to the flood risk impact of climate change is likely to put pressure on other environmental features e.g. increased demand for flood defences and canalisation can impact adversely on important species and their habitat.

Material Assets

- 2.36 The term 'material assets' is not defined in the SEA Directive. For the purposes of this SEA the term is used in relation to buildings and infrastructure in the Borough that could potentially be affected by flooding. However the LFRMS should also consider whether any of its policy themes or other elements could potentially increase demand for mineral resources or lead to an increase in waste production, for example during scheme construction at a later date.
- 2.37 For the purposes of this SEA, material assets has been split into the categories of (a) critical infrastructure, (b) housing, (c) economy, (d) agriculture and landuse (e) mineral resources, (e) waste management and (f) transport infrastructure.

Critical Infrastructure

- 2.38 The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment shows that flooding as a result of climate change is likely to pose an increase threat to critical UK infrastructure. As a result, transport networks, water supplies and sewage treatment, energy supplies, hospital and schools will all face a higher risk.
- 2.39 The LFRMS will need to manage flood risk to critical infrastructure and material assets within the Borough. The implementation of LFRMS measures has the potential to disrupt critical transport infrastructure, utilities or access to community care facilities. The location of critical infrastructure may influence the range of available LFRMS management options and measures. The location of LFRMS related infrastructure, if any new build is required, will also need to consider access to and use of critical infrastructure.
- 2.40 Like many Boroughs, Bury has a considerable amount of infrastructure that is critical to the health, safety and accessibility of the population. Table 6 does not provide an exhaustive list of the Borough’s critical infrastructure but is intended to provide an overview of infrastructure types.

Table 6 – Critical Infrastructure

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairfield Hospital • Ambulance Stations • Day Care Centres • Fire & Rescue Centres • Medical Centres • Mental Health Service • Police Stations • Schools • Waste Management Infrastructure • Electricity Pylons
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Housing

- 2.41 There are currently 3235 properties located within the Environment Agency’s flood zones.

Table 7 – Properties at Risk of Flooding

	No. of Properties
Flood Zone 2	1,870
Flood Zone 3a	1,365
Flood Zone 3b	0

Source: AMR 2012

Economy

- 2.42 The impact of the LFRMS on the Borough’s economy will be assessed principally through an assessment of flood risk to critical infrastructure and places of work with large numbers of employees.

Agriculture and Land Use

- 2.43 The most common soil type found within the Borough is slowly permeable, seasonally wet, acid, loamy and clayey soils. Although other soil types are also present, such as:
- Very acid, loamy upland soils with a wet peaty surface (Holcombe Moor);
 - Freely draining very acid sandy and loamy soils (south eastern side of the Borough);
 - Naturally wet, very acid sandy and loamy soils (south Prestwich); and
 - Loamy and clayey floodplain soils with naturally high ground water (adjacent to the River Roch).
- 2.44 LFRMS measures may change the frequency and extent of flooding, leading to consequent changes in the suitability of land for certain uses, for example by affecting its versatility, productivity, soil quality and mineral resource. For instance, construction activities or increasing the seasonal period during which soil is waterlogged could lead to impacts such as these.

Minerals Resources

- 2.45 Much of the Borough is covered in drift deposits both glacial and more recent, apart from in the extreme northern upland margins of the Borough. The glacial deposits comprise mostly cohesive glacial drift although there are extensive glacial sand and gravel deposits in the Pilsworth, Whitefield and Prestwich areas. Recent river terrace and alluvial deposits occur along the courses of the Rivers Irwell and Roch.
- 2.46 The extraction of minerals for use in construction and manufacturing is important to the national economy. Whilst coal, building stone and brick clay have been extensively mined in Bury in living memory, at present only aggregates (crushed stone) and sand are quarried.
- 2.47 The GM Minerals Plan refers to the current mineral workings at Fletcher Bank Quarry (crushed rock) and Pilsworth South Quarry (sand). Areas of search are identified within Bury for sand, gravel and sandstone/gritstone (see GM Minerals Plan Section 5, Policy 2 and associated maps³). In addition, mineral safeguarding areas are identified within Bury for sandstone, sand and gravel and brick clay with shallow coal (see GM Minerals Plan Section 6, Policy 7 and associated maps).
- 2.48 At the end of their life, mineral sites can offer opportunities for restoration for the benefit of the environment, local communities or the economy. Quarries can present opportunities to act as agricultural reservoirs or flood water storage.
- 2.49 The LFRMS will need to look at whether the LFRMS measures could coordinate with restoration plans, nature conservation plans and green infrastructure provision. The LFRMS will also need to take account of flood risk to the Minerals Safeguarding Areas and the transport networks connected with them.

Waste Management

³ <http://www.gmineralsplan.co.uk/index.html>

2.50 Total waste arising in Bury comprise the following breakdown:

Table 8 – Waste Arisings – 2010/2011

Management type	Amount of waste collected by Bury Council (tonnes)	Percent
Land filled	48,332	65.8%
Recycled / composted	25,099	34.2%
Total waste arising	73,431	

- 2.51 Bury Council is a waste collection authority, and waste collected by Bury Council is dealt with by the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority.
- 2.52 The LFRMS will need to consider flood risk to existing facilities, proposed changes to existing facilities and proposed new waste management facilities, including the sewerage network. Inundation of sites that contain contaminated land could potentially release and spread contaminants into the environment through floodwater.

Transport Infrastructure

- 2.53 The development of a well functioning, reliable transport network plays a crucial role in supporting wider economic prosperity and competitiveness, enabling healthy social interaction and reducing carbon emissions. Flooding of transport links can cause significant economic and social disruption as well as potential pollution to the natural environment, for example through highway runoff containing winter salt, fuel spillages, litter or other contaminants.
- 2.54 A number of key routes pass through the Borough including the M60, M62, M66, A56, A58 and the Metrolink. Access to and along these routes is critical for population health (access to hospitals) as well the economy.

Key Environmental Issues

There are several material assets and critical infrastructure (homes, businesses, roads, railway lines, and energy and water infrastructure) located within floodplains or at risk from surface water flooding.

The Historic Environment

- 2.55 The historic environment includes archaeological remains, historic structures like buildings and bridges, historic parks and gardens and the historic landscapes and townscapes all around, including hedgerows, boundaries, ditches and culverts.
- 2.56 Some of the heritage assets are protected by designation – Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed buildings and Conservation Areas. Some archaeological

remains and historic structures are directly linked to the issues of water management and flood control. For example mills, canals and navigations, bridges, fish ponds and pumping and sewage infrastructure from the 19th century.

2.57 The issues that arise that the LFRMS might need to address can be divided into four areas.

- *The impact of flooding on heritage assets.*
Flooding damage to structures, such as buildings, bridges, culverts, sluices to historic settlements, to archaeological sites and to palaeo-environmental survival.
- *The role of historic structures within water and flood management*
The degree to which flooding and its control might be impacted by the management of historic structures.
- *The impact of historic structures on water management*
The degree to which the historic environment might inform or constrain the options available, such as bridge maintenance or adaptation , conservation areas, and listed or scheduled structures astride steams.
- *Impact of flood prevention and mitigation on the historic environment.*
The physical impact of structures and construction on the heritage, buildings archaeological sites and palaeo-environmental remains. The impact of flood structures on the setting of buildings, towns and monuments.

Cultural Heritage Assets

2.58 Table 9 details the designated heritage features in Bury. All heritage assets, whether designated or not, will require attention when developing and implementing the LFRMS. The LFRMS should ensure that the most important heritage assets are protected from the impacts of flooding.

2.59 The LFRMS should ensure that the most important heritage assets are protected from the direct impact of works and where appropriate the indirect effects on setting. The LFRMS should seek to ensure those heritage assets not meriting preservation but impacted by direct works are properly recorded before their loss.

Table 9 – Heritage Features

Number of nationally listed buildings	Grade I	4
	Grade II*	8
	Grade II	225
	Total	237
Number of listed buildings at risk		5
Number of Conservation Areas		12
Conservation area character appraisals completed		6
Number of conservation areas at risk		4
Number of scheduled ancient monuments		4

Source: AMR, 2012

Historic Landscape Character

- 2.60 Historic Landscape character is the degree to which any place reflects within its character the historic processes that have led it to the present state. In particular the patterns of roads, tracks, paths, property boundaries, woods and field boundaries will together reflect a history of that place.
- 2.61 The LFRMS may be able to utilise aspects of the historic environment in relation to flood control, in particular identifying areas of the landscape that have historically been used to accept flood water.
- 2.62 The LFRMS may be able to reflect historic landscape character as an influence on scheme design, for example utilising orientation and patterns of existing drainage.

Landscape and Visual Amenity

- 2.63 Bury's landscape character is influenced by factors such as its underlying geology and geomorphology, settlement pattern, land use and management, biodiversity and industrial evolution, all of which combine to help create the environment we are familiar with today.
- 2.64 Natural England's National Landscape Character Assessment (2005) identified three broad landscape types covering the Borough. They are:
- Southern Pennines
 - Manchester Pennine Fringe
 - Manchester Conurbation
- 2.65 The landscape of the north of the Borough around Ramsbottom is characterised by the distinctive upland features of the South Pennines. The geology is predominately sandstone and millstone grit which is reflected in the building materials used historically in the local area. To the west the villages of Affetside and Ainsworth are located on high ground between the towns of Bolton and Bury.
- 2.66 The centre of the Borough, categorised by Natural England as 'Pennine Fringe' is characterised by the valleys of the River Irwell and River Roch, which supported the area's early industrial development. However the main feature of this area is the urban development spreading from main roads.
- 2.67 The landscape in the south of the Borough, being nearer to Manchester City Centre, has been much modified. The Irwell Valley here includes large areas of post-industrial open space but its small tributary valleys include relic ancient woodland.

Key Environmental Issues

This risk is likely to be greater for those landscapes and heritage assets that are located within or in close proximity to a floodplain.

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Equality Analysis Form

The following questions will document the effect of your service or proposed policy, procedure, working practice, strategy or decision (hereafter referred to as 'policy') on equality, and demonstrate that you have paid due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Department	Environment and Development Services	
Service	Planning Policy and Projects	
Proposed policy	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)	
Date	21 st August 2013	
Officer responsible for the 'policy' and for completing the equality analysis	Name	Fran Smith
	Post Title	Senior Planning Officer – Planning Policy and Projects
	Contact Number	0161 253 391
	Signature	
	Date	9 th July 2013
Equality officer consulted	Name	John Cummins
	Post Title	Development Manager
	Contact Number	0161 253 6089
	Signature	
	Date	10 th July 2013

2. AIMS

What is the purpose of the policy/service and what is it intended to achieve?	The purpose of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is to create a framework for managing flood risk and is the means by which the Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, will discharge its duty to co-ordinate flood risk management on a day to day basis.
Who are the main stakeholders?	The main stakeholders involved in the Core Strategy are risk management authorities, local residents, developers, land owners, businesses, planning and development consultants, infrastructure providers, interest groups and representative bodies.

3. ESTABLISHING RELEVANCE TO EQUALITY

**3a. Using the drop down lists below, please advise whether the policy/service has either a positive or negative effect on any groups of people with protected equality characteristics.
If you answer yes to any question, please also explain why and how that group of people will be affected.**

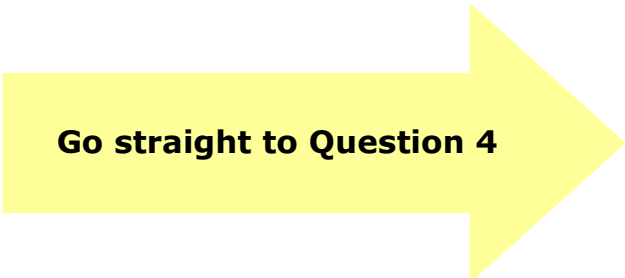
Protected equality characteristic	Positive effect (Yes/No)	Negative effect (Yes/No)	Explanation
Race	No	No	
Disability	No	No	
Gender	No	No	
Gender reassignment	No	No	
Age	No	No	
Sexual orientation	No	No	
Religion or belief	No	No	
Caring responsibilities	No	No	
Pregnancy or maternity	No	No	
Marriage or civil partnership	No	No	

3b. Using the drop down lists below, please advise whether or not our policy/service has relevance to the Public Sector Equality Duty. If you answer yes to any question, please explain why.

General Public Sector Equality Duties	Relevance (Yes/No)	Reason for the relevance
Need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010	No	
Need to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (eg. by removing or minimising disadvantages or meeting needs)	No	
Need to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (eg. by tackling prejudice or promoting understanding)	No	

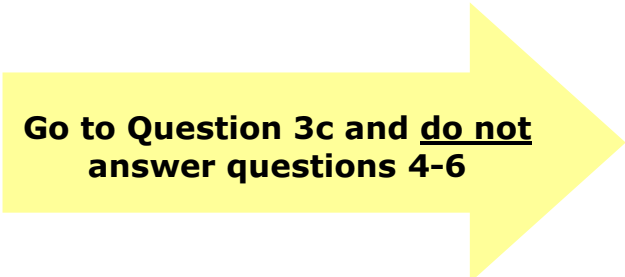
If you answered 'YES' to any of the questions in 3a and 3b

Go straight to Question 4



If you answered 'NO' to all of the questions in 3a and 3b

Go to Question 3c and do not answer questions 4-6



3c. If you have answered 'No' to all the questions in 3a and 3b please explain why you feel that your policy/service has no relevance to equality.

Under the requirements of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Bury Council, as Lead Local Flood Authority, must develop, maintain, apply and monitor a strategy for local flood risk management in its area.

The Local Flood Risk Management strategy (LFRMS) will manage local flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. The purpose of the LFRMS is to outline Bury Councils approach to this new role and to local flood risk management in the Borough. The strategy forms a policy document which sets out an action plan for implementation measures.

The impacts of implementation of these policies on particular equality groups will be no different to impacts on the general population. Once implemented, the strategy will have a positive contribution in terms of protecting those at greatest risk priority in terms of flood risk. There will not be a negative impact from the LFRMS as the strategy is based on an objective and scientific assessment of flood risk.

4. EQUALITY INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

4a. For a service plan, please list what equality information you currently have available, **OR** for a new/changed policy or practice please list what equality information you considered and engagement you have carried out in relation to it.

Please provide a link if the information is published on the web and advise when it was last updated?

(NB. Equality information can be both qualitative and quantitative. It includes knowledge of service users, satisfaction rates, compliments and complaints, the results of surveys or other engagement activities and should be broken down by equality characteristics where relevant.)

Details of the equality information or engagement	Internet link if published	Date last updated

4b. Are there any information gaps, and if so how do you plan to tackle them?

5. CONCLUSIONS OF THE EQUALITY ANALYSIS

<p>What will the likely overall effect of your policy/service plan be on equality?</p>	
<p>If you identified any negative effects (see questions 3a) or discrimination what measures have you put in place to remove or mitigate them?</p>	
<p>Have you identified any further ways that you can advance equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations? If so, please give details.</p>	
<p>What steps do you intend to take now in respect of the implementation of your policy/service plan?</p>	

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

If you intend to proceed with your policy/service plan, please detail what monitoring arrangements (if appropriate) you will put in place to monitor the ongoing effects. Please also state when the policy/service plan will be reviewed.

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COPIES OF THIS EQUALITY ANALYSIS FORM SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO ANY REPORTS/SERVICE PLANS AND ALSO SENT TO THE EQUALITY INBOX (equality@bury.gov.uk) FOR PUBLICATION.

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REPORT FOR DECISION

Agenda Item	
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DECISION OF:	CABINET
DATE:	28TH AUGUST 2013
SUBJECT:	ADOPTION OF STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
REPORT FROM:	CLLR T ISHERWOOD, CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
CONTACT OFFICER:	PAUL ALLEN – HEAD OF PLANNING POLICY AND PROJECTS
TYPE OF DECISION:	EXECUTIVE (KEY DECISION)
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	<p>The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the Council intends to involve the community in the preparation, alteration or revision of the various components of the Bury Local Plan, and in the decision-making process for planning applications. The Council's current SCI was adopted in December 2009. Following recent changes to Government guidance and Regulations, it is considered necessary to undertake a review of the SCI to ensure it contains the most up-to-date information. The document has also been simplified and produced in a more user-friendly format as a 10-page leaflet.</p> <p>A decision was made under delegated powers by Cabinet Member for Environment on 18 June 2013 to approve a consultation draft of this document for a 4-week period from Monday 24 June until Monday 22 July 2013. 11 representations have been received and minor changes have been made to the document where appropriate.</p>
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	<p>Recommended Option - Option 1</p> <p>That Members note the consultation comments received as a result of public consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement and the minor changes made in response to those comments, and adopt the document as council policy.</p> <p>Option 2</p> <p>That Members seek further revisions to the Statement of Community Involvement before it is adopted. Members to specify the nature of any revisions to be sought.</p>

	<p>Reasons</p> <p>The Government has made a number of reforms to the planning system under the Localism Act 2011 and associated Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations in 2012.</p> <p>The SCI must remain an effective tool for residents and developers and be up-to-date and, therefore, it is considered necessary for the Council to amend the current adopted SCI to make sure it is in line with new government guidance and regulations. Once adopted, the provisions of the SCI will be followed for all future consultation processes for Local Plan documents and planning applications, and will contribute to the soundness of Local Plan documents by ensuring that consistent and correct procedures have been followed.</p>	
IMPLICATIONS:		
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes	
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	The costs associated with the consultation and decision-making processes in the SCI are met from existing budgets. The impact on risk is outlined in para 2.2	
Statement by Executive Director of Resources:	The proposed changes and the adoption of the SCI following the latest consultation are not expected to result in additional calls on resources. The use of the website and social media as well as more traditional written correspondence will help to widen the accessibility of the service, ensure that consultation processes are more effective and contribute to the Council's vision for the use of IT in service delivery.	SK MO
Equality/Diversity implications:	No (see paragraph below)	
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes The proposals set out in this report are consistent with the statutory requirements placed on the Council as Local Planning Authority, within the Council's Policy Framework and within the legal powers of the Council. It is important that the Statement of Community Involvement is up to date and in line with current legislation.	SD
Wards Affected:	All wards	
Scrutiny Interest:	Overview and Scrutiny	

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR: G Atkinson (DCN)

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Cabinet Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
	29 July 2013		
Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet/Committee	Council	
	28 th August 2013		

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council already has an SCI which was adopted by the Council’s Executive on 2 December 2009. Since the document was adopted, the Government has introduced a number of changes to planning legislation and associated revised Regulations which now means the adopted SCI is out-of-date. The Consultation Draft document therefore represented a review of the current adopted SCI, carried out not only to ensure the information is in line with new Government guidance and regulations, but also to ensure it is up-to-date and remains a useful and effective tool for residents and developers. One such change to the Regulations is the removal of the mandatory duty for the Council to carry out public consultation on the SCI. However, the Council nonetheless considered it necessary to seek comments as part of the 4-week public consultation in June/July 2013.
- 1.2 The aforementioned reforms have necessitated a review of the SCI, as many of the measures put in place in the previously adopted document relating to the preparation process for Local Plan documents are now obsolete. The Council also wished to take the opportunity to shorten and simplify the document which is now in a more user-friendly format of a 10-page leaflet. Since November 2011, the Council have carried out additional methods of publicising consultation on the Core Strategy using promotional material such as posters, adverts and displays, production of an e-newsletter and the launch of social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter to help further notify people of the document’s content and how they can make comments. This SCI review therefore also provided an opportunity to update the ways in which the department carries out its consultation methods.
- 1.3 The revised SCI has been prepared to reflect the changes to the preparation of Local Plan documents (Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents and the SCI) required by the Regulations. The document has been substantially shortened and has been presented and written in a more accessible format with an emphasis on removing unnecessary detail and keeping the process as simple as possible. The leaflet is structured in 3 parts dealing with our general approach, Local Plans and Development Management.

2.0 ISSUES

2.1 Issues raised by the document

- 2.1.1 This report brings forward for consideration a revised SCI to be adopted following public consultation. Officers have considered the representations

received during the consultation phase and have made a small number of minor revisions to take the comments into account. These post-consultation changes are highlighted in red in the document for the benefit of Members. These primarily concern:

- § Removal of reference to notifying stakeholders based on their interest in a document;
- § Add reference to the Community Right to Bid, as introduced under the Localism Act 2011;
- § Clarify the status of the arrows in the Local Plan Documents diagram;
- § Add reference to equality groups as part of the bodies which we will consult with;
- § Correct the number of weeks for how often Township Forums meet;
- § Update the consultee list to make reference to the new Police and Crime Commissioners who have replaced the Police Authorities;
- § Add reference to faith groups as opposed to religious groups.

2.1.2 Following the consideration of the consultation comments and subsequent changes made, it is recommended that Members adopt the SCI as council policy.

2.2 Risk Management

2.2.1 The SCI formalises the consultation processes that the Council is required to follow for developing Local Plan documents and for commenting on planning applications. In terms of the preparation of DPDs, the risk of not following the stipulations of the SCI would be that those DPDs could be found unsound by the Planning Inspectorate.

2.2.2 Failure to follow Council procedures and the SCI could result in significant consequences in terms of planning applications and may require matters to be reconsidered or decisions found to be unsound. In addition, this could give rise to serious complaints from users of the service and may involve the Local Government Ombudsman and the Council being required to make redress to those adversely affected.

2.3 Equality and Diversity

2.3.1 Having undertaken the equality analysis, there are considered to be no positive or negative effects on equality. All groups are able to engage in the planning process as a result of the provisions of the SCI, although it is considered that any impacts will not be differential.

2.4 Consultations

2.4.1 The Council carried out a 4-week public consultation exercise on a draft version of the SCI for a 4-week period from Monday 24 June until Monday 22 July 2013. Letters were sent out to consultees on the Council's Local Plan consultation database as considered appropriate, a notice was placed in local newspapers and the document was published on the Council website and put on deposit at the Planning department offices and selected local libraries in the Borough. 11 representations were received and any suggested changes have been made where appropriate. A Responses Report is included with this report showing a summary of the comments received and officer responses to them.

3.0 CONCLUSION

Members are asked to consider the Statement of Community Involvement and approve the document for adoption.

List of Background Papers:-

- Adopted Statement of Community Involvement (December 2009)
- Equality and Cohesion Impact Assessment (ECIA) Initial Screening Form

Contact Details:-

Paul Allen (Head of Planning Policy and Projects)
Tel: 0161 253 5283 Email: p.n.allen@bury.gov.uk

or

Michael Whitehead (Planning Officer)
Tel: 0161 253 6154 Email: m.whitehead@bury.gov.uk

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BURY LOCAL PLAN

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

RESPONSES REPORT

AUGUST 2013



Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the consultation that was carried out on the revised 2013 Statement of Community Involvement, the representations received and the Council's response to those representations.
- 1.2 The revised SCI was published as a Consultation Draft for a 4-week consultation period from 24 June to 22 July 2013, highlighting the changes made since the 2009 adopted SCI as a result of reforms to Regulations and changes to the Council's consultation measures.
- 1.3 Despite there being no requirement to carry out consultation on the SCI in the Regulations, this consultation involved writing to all organisations and bodies on the Council database which were considered relevant to the document. A press release was also placed in local newspapers, and the draft document was put on deposit at selected local libraries, on the Council website and at the Planning offices at Knowsley Place. The consultation was also promoted using the department's social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter. 11 representations were received, and were incorporated into the final document where appropriate. A record of the comments received and the officer responses to them is contained within Appendix 2.
- 1.4 A total of 11 representations were received on the SCI Consultation Draft. Table 1 below shows details of the respondents.

Table 1: SCI Consultation Draft respondents

Organisation
The Holcombe Society
English Heritage
Natural England
Network Rail
Friends of Cockey Moor, Whitehead & Parker Lodges
National Trust
Civil Aviation Authority
The Coal Authority
United Utilities
Bury Pipeline Talking Newspaper
Homes and Communities Agency

- 1.5 The appendices for this report contain the following:
- Appendix 1: Consultation Draft June 2013 letter
 - Appendix 2: Consultation Draft comments and responses

APPENDIX 1 – CONSULTATION DRAFT JUNE 2013 LETTER

Our Ref:

Date: 24 June 2013

Please Ask For: Michael Whitehead

Direct line: 0161 253 6154

Direct fax: 0161 253 5290

E-mail: m.whitehead@bury.gov.uk

BURY STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT LEAFLET: CONSULTATION

As you may be aware, as part of the Local Plan process, the Council is required to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The role of the SCI is to specify how the Council will involve the community in the preparation of future planning policies, through the Local Plan, as well as in the processing of planning applications.

The Council's current SCI was adopted in December 2009. Since then, however, the Government has introduced a number of changes to the development planning process through legislation and associated revised Regulations. The SCI has therefore been updated to bring it in line with the new legislation so that it can be demonstrated that the Council has followed the correct consultation requirements in preparing its Local Plan or when inviting comments on planning applications. Once adopted, all future planning consultations and publicity will be carried out in line with its requirements.

One such change to the Regulations is the removal of the mandatory duty for the Council to carry out public consultation on the SCI. However, the Council nonetheless considers it appropriate to seek your views on the revised version, particularly as the document has been simplified and produced in a more user-friendly format as a 10-page leaflet.

The revised Statement of Community Involvement is the subject of a four-week period of public consultation from **Monday 24 June to Monday 22 July 2013**.

Copies of the draft leaflet can be obtained from, or inspected at, the Planning offices at 3 Knowsley Place, Duke Street, Bury and can also be inspected at Bury Town Hall and selected local libraries (please see www.bury.gov.uk/5265 for a list). Alternatively, you can request a copy by calling the Planning Policy and Projects Section on 0161 253 5550 or by email at planning.policy@bury.gov.uk.

Alternatively, copies may also be downloaded from the Council's web site at www.bury.gov.uk/5265. A comment form is provided on the web site in

BURY LOCAL PLAN

'Word' format and you can type in your response and return it as an e-mail attachment to the e-mail address above.

Completed comment forms or any other correspondence can also be returned by post to the address below by **no later than Monday 22 July 2013**.

FREEPOST RSHH-BGXC-LSSK
Department of Communities and Neighbourhoods
Planning Policy and Projects
3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ

Comments may also be faxed to 0161 253 5290.

If you would like to discuss the SCI consultation draft, or the Local Plan in general, please contact a member of the Planning Policy and Projects Section on 0161 253 5550.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a hand-drawn oval. The signature appears to read 'M Whitehead'.

**MICHAEL WHITEHEAD
PLANNING OFFICER**

PLANNING POLICY AND PROJECTS

APPENDIX 2 – CONSULTATION DRAFT COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

Ref: 21

Response by: The Holcombe Society

Representation:

Previous deliberations and decisions separated areas for building and areas for conservation, relaxation, recreation with such publications as the Walking Strategy and Rights of Way footpaths and bridleways, local nature reserves...but which the officers struggle to carry out the planners' decisions their resources are whisked away and not upheld by any element of enforcement. Posts from conservation officer, and ecology officers to wardens are considered redundant and discontinued.

The Planners' work and decisions are completely useless when they are ignored without any attempt to enforce. Health authorities have expressed concern on obesity in old and young. Government promised that the Olympic Games will inspire and effect general facilities for the rest of the population, concern is expressed for children playing computer games instead of playing in the countryside. Areas houses are built but then access to the countryside is blocked despite the effort of Commons as Rights of Way officers and so called Right to Roam when hitherto open spaces are fenced off and degraded. Trees are cut down intermittently. Open spaces are encroached on small and even larger areas.

The plans and policies and good intentions are there but not carried out due to lack of control of selfish reputation.

Council's Response:

Comments noted, no change required.

Ref: 626

Response by: English Heritage

Representation:

Thank you for consulting English Heritage on the above document. At this stage we have no comments to make on its content.

If you have any queries about any of this matter or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Council's Response:

Comments noted.

Ref: 690

Response by: Natural England

Representation:

Thank you for your consultation on the above and received by Natural England on 24 June 2013.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

We are supportive of the principle of meaningful and early engagement of the general community, community organisations and statutory bodies in local planning matters, both in terms of shaping policy and participating in the process of determining planning applications.

BURY LOCAL PLAN

We regret we are unable to comment, in detail, on individual Statements of Community Involvement but information on the planning service we offer, including advice on how to consult us, can be found at <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/planningdevelopment/default.aspx>.

Council's Response:

Comments noted.

Ref: 696**Response by: Network Rail****Representation:**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the proposed policy.

Network Rail is the 'not for dividend' owner and operator of Britain's railway infrastructure, which includes the tracks, signals, tunnels, bridges, viaducts, level crossings and stations - the largest of which we also manage. All profits made by the company, including from commercial development, are reinvested directly back into the network.

With regards to the proposal Network Rail has been included on the list of Specific and 'Duty to Co-operate' consultation bodies include the following (as at June 2013) and therefore we have no further comments to make.

Council's Response:

Comments noted.

Ref: 1058**Response by: Friends of Cockey Moor, Whitehead & Parker Lodges****Representation:**

I wish to be notified at all stages of any planning applications for the Green Belt in the Lowercroft - Whitehead Lodges area.

Council's Response:

Comments noted, no change required.

On the receipt of a planning application, the Council's procedures are to publicise it in accordance with the statutory provisions contained within Article 13 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2010. This arrangement ensures that the public have an opportunity to comment on a planning application and its proposals whilst publicising the application in the most suitable way by either letters, press notice or site notices. It is therefore not reasonable for the Department of Communities & Neighbourhoods to hold such requests of individual notifications for an indefinite period in the event that an application may or may not meet given criteria such as the one requested.

Ref: 1546**Response by: National Trust****Representation:**

Our only concern with this section is how the following intention is actioned in practice: 'We have developed a database of individuals, groups and stakeholders who we regularly contact on planning matters where it is of interest to them...'

It is unclear how the Council will determine what is of interest to individual consultees and unless there is a prior questionnaire to each person/body on the database to ask which specific documents/stages they wish to be consulted upon, then it will be necessary to take a very 'safety first' approach so that no inappropriate assumptions are made about what is in fact of interest to a particular consultee. This also needs to

BURY LOCAL PLAN

include appropriate arrangements in respect of consultations relating to Neighbourhood Planning.
<p>Council's Response: Comments noted, change required. It is accepted that the reference to 'where it is of interest to them' is misleading and therefore this has been removed. Part 2 of the leaflet shows the bodies which we will consult and who we are required to consult so there is no negative impact caused by making this amendment. Advice on how the Council will aid groups who wish to become involved in neighbourhood planning is provided on our website and this is referenced within the SCI.</p>
<p>Representation: We would question the wording: 'The arrows show when you can get involved in the planning process.'</p> <p>For example, in terms of the Local Plan it is possible for consultees to get involved with both the Submission Stage and more particularly the Independent Examination. It would perhaps be more correct to say: 'The arrows show the stages at which stakeholders can influence emerging planning policies', i.e. as per the note under the graphic in the right hand margin.</p>
<p>Council's Response: Agree with change, original reference in text removed.</p>
<p>Representation: National Trust confirms its continuing interest in planning matters in Bury and wishes to remain on the Council's consultee database as well as being notified of individual applications that may have direct or indirect impacts upon the land and buildings that it owns and manages in the Council's area (additional information about the nature and extent of these can be provided on request if necessary).</p> <p>Lastly, congratulations on preparing a well written draft SCI and that is only 10 pages long - well done!</p>
<p>Council's Response: Comments noted and support welcomed.</p>
<p>Ref: 1651 Response by: Civil Aviation Authority</p>
<p>Representation: While the CAA has a duty to provide aviation safety advice when requested, it is not a statutory consultee for planning applications (unless its own property is affected). In order to reduce the time devoted to unnecessary consultations, the following guidance aims to clarify requirements.</p> <p>Other than the consultation required by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011, it is not necessary to consult the CAA about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Planning Documents (e.g. Local Development Framework and Core Strategy documents) other than those with direct aviation involvement (e.g. Regional Renewable Energy Plans); - Waste Plans; - Screening Options; - Low-rise structures, including telecommunication masts. With the exception of wind turbine developments, the CAA is unlikely to have any meaningful input related to applications associated with structures of a height of 100 feet or less that are situated away from aerodromes or other landing sites; - Orders affecting Rights of Way or Footpaths; - Sub-surface developments; - General planning applications not affecting CAA property.

BURY LOCAL PLAN

- Solar Photovoltaic Panels (SPV)

In all cases where the above might affect an airport, the airport operator is the appropriate consultee.

Please be advised that we will no longer respond to future correspondence received regarding the above subjects. Where consultation is required under Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011 the CAA will only respond to specific questions (but will nevertheless record the receipt of all consultations).

It is necessary to consult the CAA in the following situations:

- When a Local Planning Authority is minded to grant permission for a development to which a statutorily safeguarded airport or NATS Plc has objected
- When a Local Planning Authority is considering a proposed development involving wind turbines
- When a development involves structures of a height of 90 metres or more, lasers or floodlights

Further information on consultation requirements can be found on the CAA website, including document entitled Guidance on CAA Planning Consultation Requirements.

Further information on Solar Photovoltaic Panels can be found on the CAA website including document entitled Guidance on Photovoltaic systems.

Please could you ensure that your Planning Officers are aware of these principles and the revised policy and that any associated procedures are amended with immediate effect.

Council's Response:

Comments noted, no change required. The 2012 Regulations specify the Civil Aviation Authority as a body which the authority must consult with under the Duty to Co-operate, as outlined in the 2011 Localism Act.

Ref: 1652**Response by: The Coal Authority****Representation:**

Thank you for consulting The Coal Authority on the above.

The Coal Authority welcomes the fact that we are acknowledged as a statutory consultee within the Draft Statement of Community Involvement.

We look forward to receiving your emerging planning policy related documents; preferably in an electronic format. For your information, we can receive documents via our generic email address, on a CD/DVD, or a simple hyperlink which is emailed to our generic email address and links to the document on your website.

Alternatively, please mark all paper consultation documents and correspondence for the attention of Planning and Local Authority Liaison.

Should you require any assistance please contact a member of Planning and Local Authority Liaison at The Coal Authority on our direct line.

Council's Response:

Comments noted.

BURY LOCAL PLAN**Ref: 1702****Response by: United Utilities****Representation:**

Thank you for your consultation and seeking the views of United Utilities in this process.

United Utilities supports growth and sustainable development within the North West.

Our aim is to proactively share our information; assist in the development of sound planning strategies, to identify future development needs and to secure the necessary long-term infrastructure investment.

United Utilities wishes to build a strong partnership with all Local Planning Authorities [LPAs] and Neighbourhood Groups to aid sustainable development and growth within the North West. We aim to proactively identify future development needs and share our information. This helps:

- ensure a strong connection between development and infrastructure planning;
- deliver sound planning strategies; and
- inform our future infrastructure investment submissions for determination by our regulator.

Water services are vital for the future well-being of your community and the protection of the environment. When developing your Local Development Framework [LDF] and future policies you should consider the impacts its community and environment and ensure infrastructure capacity is available.

We have no comments to make at this stage, but wish to be included in further consultations and where necessary, the development of your Local Plan and supporting policies, to ensure that all new growth can be delivered sustainably and with the necessary infrastructure available in line with the Council's delivery targets.

The Council should read our comments in conjunction with our historical responses and the covering letter; please do not extract/use our comments in isolation; as this may lead to confusion or a misunderstanding of our message.

Our historical consultation responses to your Local Development Framework consultations; planning applications and pre developer enquiries are still valid and you should consider them when developing your Local Plan and supporting policies.

Council's Response:

Comments noted.

Ref: 1780**Response by: Bury Pipeline Talking Newspaper****Representation:**

I refer to you letter of 24th June which was sent to our former secretary. Mrs. Chadwick is no longer on our Committee and I have only just received your letter.

Please could you forward any future correspondence to me.

Council's Response:

Comments noted. Details have been amended on our records.

Ref: 5207**Response by: Homes and Communities Agency****Representation:**

Thank you for your recent enquiry to the Homes and Communities Agency received on 24 Jun 2013, regarding Bury's Statement of Community Involvement leaflet.

BURY LOCAL PLAN

Please be aware that I have reviewed this and have no comments or suggestions to add.

Council's Response:

Comments noted.



Bury Council
Planning Policy and Projects, 3 Knowsley Place,
Duke Street, Bury, BL9 0EJ
0161 253 5550
planning.policy@bury.gov.uk
(August 2013)

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Statement of Community Involvement **2013:** Planning in Bury and how you can have your say **ADOPTED – AUGUST 2013**

Our approach

This Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) leaflet sets out how we will involve the community in preparing and revising all local planning documents and in making decisions on planning applications. It highlights the importance of becoming involved in the planning process at an early stage. We will follow the guidelines and requirements set out in these pages and will monitor and update it as necessary.

General principles of planning consultations

We will apply some general principles to our planning consultations:

- We will seek views of interested and affected parties as early as possible;
- We will consult as widely as possible within the confines of staffing and financial resources;
- We will be inclusive wherever possible by providing information in an accessible format, giving advice where requested and encourage involvement from groups that have traditionally not been involved in the planning process;
- We will inform people who respond to consultations of later stages;
- We will share information with you via the Council's website, social media and at dedicated deposit points where this is appropriate and effective.

Who will we involve?

We want everyone to have the chance to have their say on the Council's emerging Local Plan and on planning applications, wherever it is relevant. We have developed a database of individuals, groups and stakeholders who we regularly contact on planning matters **where it is of interest to them**, and we will continue to involve individuals, groups and organisations in the preparation of our planning documents so that everyone has the opportunity to influence policies and proposals.

Department of Communities and Neighbourhoods

This database is reviewed and updated on a continuous basis. You can find out how to contact us if you would like us to add your details to this database in the 'Local Plans' section of this leaflet.

How will we involve you?

We will keep you informed through a variety of methods including letters and emails, our website at www.bury.gov.uk/planning, our social media pages on Twitter and Facebook, our 'Planzine' newsletter and through notices in the local newspapers.



The ways in which you can have your say on the planning process will vary depending on the issue, and different techniques will be used at different stages in the production of a planning document or assessment of a planning application.

For example, you may be invited to submit comments or written representations by letter or e-mail or online, or provide them via feedback forms or questionnaire returns.

Please see our 'Local Plan' and 'Planning Applications' pages later in this leaflet for more details on how we can inform and involve you as part of the planning process.

Letters and e-mails

For environmental reasons, where you have provided us with an e-mail address we will generally use that means of communication rather than sending a letter in the post.

Social media

We are now on Facebook and Twitter where you will find the latest news from the department and information of local and national interest on planning issues. 'Like' us on Facebook and 'follow' us on Twitter to keep up-to-date!



www.facebook.com/buryplanning



www.twitter.com/BuryPlanning

Planzine

The individuals on our database with e-mail addresses receive our 'Planzine' e-newsletter. This contains updates on major news stories and public consultations affecting planning in Bury, shows you how you can become more involved in the planning process and offers tips on how you can find out more information to help with your proposals.

Planzine is also available online – see the 'useful web links' on the next page.

The role of Planning Officers

The Council's Planning Officers are in two teams within the Department of Communities and Neighbourhoods and are based at Knowsley Place in Bury opposite the Town Hall:

- The **Planning Policy and Projects Team** produces the planning documents that will make up the new Local Plan and can be contacted for advice on planning policy. They organise and lead the consultations on draft planning documents and consider relevant consultation responses when making any amendments to the Council's final adopted documents, where appropriate (see 'Local Plan').

Phone: 0161 253 5550

Email: planning.policy@bury.gov.uk

- The **Development Management Team** can be contacted for advice on pre-application enquiries and planning applications. Some pre-application advice carries a charge (see 'Planning Applications'). The team process planning applications in accordance with the adopted development plan (currently the Unitary Development Plan, or UDP for short), the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and any other material considerations including consultation responses and other representations.

Phone: 0161 253 5432

Email: development.control@bury.gov.uk

The role of Councillors

Locally-elected Councillors have a key role in the planning process in the following ways:

- The Council's Cabinet is made up of senior councillors whilst the Full Council is responsible for approving and adopting all statutory planning policy;
- The Council's Planning Control Committee is made up of a number of Councillors who make decisions on individual planning applications;
- Councillors represent their respective wards and listen to residents' concerns on planning issues (at Township Forums or public meetings);
- Councillors can voice their support or make objections to planning applications in writing and speak at Committee on behalf of their constituents.

Publications and fees

Fees are applicable for some services and for the processing of documents which are set nationally. Please see our web page at www.bury.gov.uk/7110 for more information.

Charges may apply for printing off copies of Planning Policy and Projects documents. Please contact the Planning Policy and Projects team (details on previous page) for more details.



Useful web links

Pages on the Planning section of our website that may be of interest are shown below:

Latest Planning News

www.bury.gov.uk/3826

Includes copies of the Planzine e-newsletter.

e-Planning - General Public

www.bury.gov.uk/3723

Home page with many useful links to pages which may interest those looking to submit or comment on an application:

- The planning applications quick search facility which also allows comments to be made;
- Information on Planning Committee;
- Advice on planning permission and link to Planning Portal;
- Interactive map for viewing the policies and proposals applicable to your area;
- Planning policy;
- Enforcement notices.

Planning Committee and Delegated Decisions

www.bury.gov.uk/4809

View the latest results from Planning Committee and learn more about more about how it works.

This page also provides a link to the list of Meeting Dates, Agendas and Minutes of the

Council which include the forthcoming scheduled dates for Planning Committee and Township Forums.

Planning Consultations

www.bury.gov.uk/2139

Any public consultations on the Local Plan or other relevant documents will appear here with information on how you can get involved.

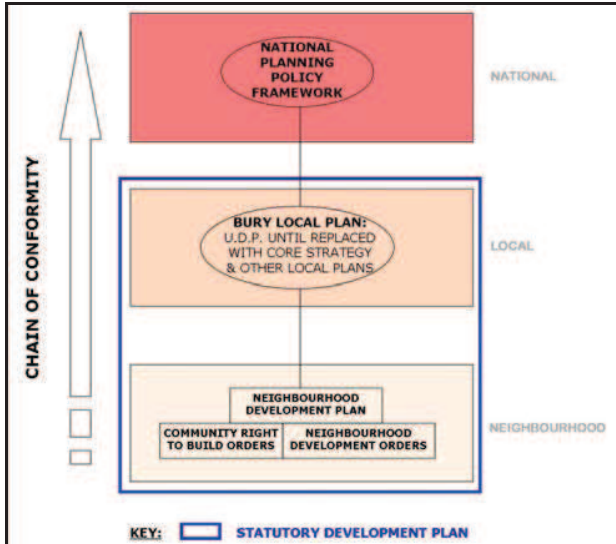
Local Plan

A new planning system

The Government wants to give local people a greater role in shaping their neighbourhoods, and the changes to the planning system set out in the 2011 Localism Act and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, March 2012) give communities the opportunity to get more involved in the preparation of planning documents for their areas.

Together with the new national planning policies in the NPPF, the other changes made to the planning system include the removal of the regional tier of planning (previously known as the North West Regional Spatial Strategy) and the introduction of new powers for communities as part of neighbourhood planning.

The diagram below and the following sections illustrate how this all fits together in the context of Bury.



National Planning Policy Framework

The NPPF was introduced in March 2012 and sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The Framework acts as guidance for local planning authorities in preparing plans and making decisions on planning applications. Policies in Local Plans

and Neighbourhood Plans must be consistent with the Framework.

Bury's Local Plan

The Local Plan will be the new development plan for the Borough, replacing the 'Unitary Development Plan'. It will set out the policies, proposals, guidance, land use designations and site allocations against which all planning applications will be assessed.

Bury's Local Plan will consist of the following documents (referred to as '*Local Plan documents*' from now onwards):

- *Core Strategy* – This document sets out the Council's planning framework and will shape how the Borough will develop in the future, including policies on how much development the Borough will need to accommodate e.g. for housing, areas where development will not be encouraged, and detailed policies for other areas such as protecting recreation.
- *Site Allocations* – This will include detailed policies for site-specific areas of land.
- *Site Allocations for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople* – To set out detailed proposals to deliver sites allocated for gypsies and travellers.
- *Greater Manchester Minerals Plan and Greater Manchester Waste Plan* – already adopted, these documents contain the policies, broad framework and site proposals to meet the needs for minerals and waste across the GM area.
- *Adopted Policies Map* – Illustrating how the policy designations and site-specific proposals will look on a plan.

In addition, the Council will produce and update a range of supporting guidance notes, referred to as *Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)*.

Neighbourhood Planning

Neighbourhood Planning is the third and final tier in the new planning system and is an **optional process** led by the community.

The Localism Act introduced Neighbourhood Planning as a new way for communities to get involved in guiding the future development of the places where they live and work, with new rights for communities to:

- Prepare a Neighbourhood Plan;
- Instigate Neighbourhood Development Orders;
- Exercise a Community Right to Build;
- **Make a Community Right to Bid by listing an 'Asset of Community Value' (more information at www.bury.gov.uk/8262).**

Neighbourhood Plans in particular will set out a vision for an area or site and will establish planning policies for the use and development of land in a defined neighbourhood area. Should a community wish to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan it will become part of the planning framework for their area once adopted.

The Plan must be in conformity with the Bury Local Plan and will be prepared using a formal process including a local referendum and an examination by an independent inspector.

More advice on this including a step-by-step guide is available at www.bury.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning.

Preparing the documents

There are a number of key stages involved in the preparation of the documents for the Bury Local Plan. These stages are required by Government planning legislation and regulations and are designed to ensure that the process is as open and transparent as possible.

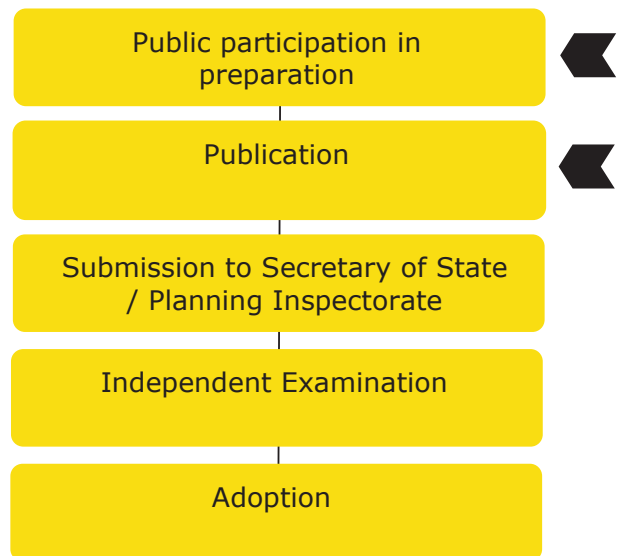
The diagrams opposite illustrate the key stages in the production of Local Plan Documents and SPDs (see previous page for descriptions). ~~The arrows show when you can get involved in the process.~~

The documents we prepare must be supported by evidence and generally accord with national policies in the NPPF.

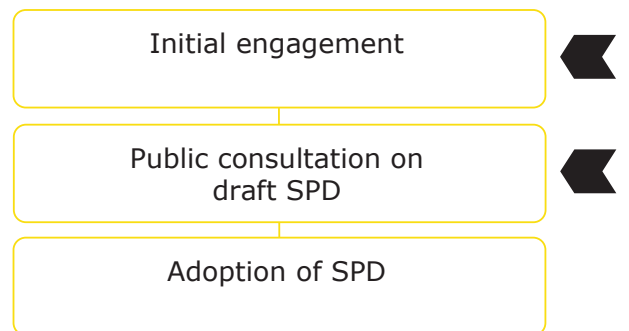
Following submission, Local Plan documents will be examined by an

independent inspector whose role is to assess whether the plan has been prepared

Local Plan Documents:



Supplementary Planning Documents:



← *Key stages at which stakeholders can influence emerging planning policies.*

in accordance with legal and procedural requirements and whether it meets specified 'soundness' tests. More information on the examination process can be found on the Planning Inspectorate website.

SPDs have a similar process, except that the documents are much quicker to produce as there is no submission to the Government or Planning Inspector involvement.

The Statement of Community Involvement does not require public consultation, submission to Government or an Examination.



Sustainability Appraisal

As part of the plan preparation process, we will assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of the policies in each Local Plan Document, and our SPDs as appropriate. The key purpose of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is to identify and enhance the positive effects whilst minimising any potentially adverse impacts of our planning policies. This process will also involve the assessment of any equality impacts.

Where necessary, we will also carry out a Habitat Regulations Assessment of our emerging planning documents.

We will continue to consult the public at the above key stages on the formation of the appraisal and also Government agencies on the SA and how we can improve our planning documents in the light of their results and recommendations.

The following applies to both Local Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents.

When we will consult

- First, we will ask for ideas, views and information from appropriate organisations, individuals and communities.

- After considering the initial comments and the relevance of previous consultation results we will consult on document(s) which explain issues to be considered and may include potential options.
- We will consider the need to prepare documents for additional consultation stages setting out further options, information, greater detail or a preferred option.
- We will formally publish the 'Publication' document (or equivalent under any revision to the relevant regulations) for representations following receipt of comments from the above informal consultation stages.
- Public consultations will usually take place for a period between 4 and 6 weeks although this may be longer if required.

Who we will consult

- Statutory organisations including Councils, infrastructure providers and government bodies as legally required or otherwise appropriate;
- Organisations representing local geographical, economic, social and other communities or other relevant interests;
- Local businesses, voluntary and other organisations;
- **Equality groups in the Borough;**
- Others who have expressed an interest in the subject matter;
- The general public.

More information is displayed in our 'Consultees' section.

How we will consult

The table on the next page lists some of the activities and methods the Council will consider using when undertaking consultation exercises.

The methods used will be tailored to suit the scale and nature of impact of the decision to be made and the particular needs of people being consulted.

How we will consult – the methods we will use

Informing people (letting people know about it)	Consulting people (asking for views & evidence)
Update planning web pages at www.bury.gov.uk .	Key stakeholder discussions and forums.
Advertise in local newspapers and on TV screens at Council buildings.	Online consultation at www.bury.gov.uk .
Notify via social media on Facebook & Twitter.	Public meetings.
Place articles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In local newspapers; ▪ On the Council home page at bury.gov.uk; ▪ In 'Planzine' - the department's e-newsletter sent to a database of contacts and ▪ Using other online news sources as appropriate. 	Material made available in Council offices at Knowsley Place Reception, Town Hall Reception and selected local libraries (see www.bury.gov.uk/5265 for a list).
Deliver letters, emails and send 'Planzine' to database of contacts, including targeted consultation letters for key community groups.	Documents/information sent to stakeholders as appropriate.
Use posters on notice boards in prominent locations including town centres, civic suites, markets, leisure centres, parks, health centres and doctors' surgeries.	Feedback forms included with documents.
Promotional material such as displays and summaries/leaflets made available at selected local libraries and events as appropriate and at www.bury.gov.uk .	Public workshops.
Internal engagement with Local Strategic Partnership and Members' Panel.	Questionnaires / surveys.
Briefings for Councillors, at Township Forums and other community group meetings as appropriate.	Exhibitions.
Involving people (discussions to develop ideas together)	
Workshops / forums / focus groups to identify issues and shape options	
Officer meetings with authorities / agencies under 'Duty to Co-operate'	

Press notices and releases

Local newspaper notices are less 'personal' but they help to ensure that we communicate as widely as possible. We are no longer required to publish press notices to meet our legal requirements and therefore notices will be used at the Council's discretion.

Our website

The Internet is a popular way of communicating planning issues and making all relevant information available to individuals and groups. A key advantage of this is that we can include far more information than we could within newspaper adverts for example.

When we hold any consultations on Local Plan documents or provide key updates, you will find details and links to the relevant documents at www.bury.gov.uk/5264. We will ensure that these pages are regularly updated with all the latest information on Local Plan progress and we will provide opportunities for online consultation through the use of feedback forms.

Discussion groups and meetings

Sometimes people like to have their say in face-to-face meetings. One-to-one meetings, public meetings and workshops can be organised with officers where appropriate. Smaller meetings will be particularly useful for getting the views of individuals or groups and they allow issues to be explored in more detail.

Officers may also be willing to use local umbrella organisations to engage with a wider range of people.

Internal consultation

As part of the consultation process for Local Plan documents, the Council will seek to engage the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) network, currently referred to as 'Team Bury'. The LSP brings together representatives from the voluntary, community, public and business sectors to

help deliver the ambitions in the Council's Community Strategy.

Meetings of the Members' Panel will be organised, as appropriate, to allow for discussion and debate on policy issues prior to formal consultation.

The six Township Forums in the Borough are held every **month 6 weeks** and officers will attend to inform of any consultations using measures such as presentations, displays and leaflets as appropriate.

How will we respond to you?

We will maintain the following consistent approach:

- If you attend a public meeting / exhibition we will ensure that Planning Officers are available to answer your questions or let you know where further information is available;
- If you request a planning document we will let you know where it is available (such as from the Council website) and whether there is any charge for a paper copy.

Our timescales

We will make sure that our Local Plan is regularly monitored and prepared to agreed timescales. To keep our Local Plan on target we will:

- Aim to carry out all our planning consultations in line with this SCI and the latest programme timetable set out in our Local Development Scheme;
- Update our Monitoring Report, which is produced on a regular basis to chart the impact of development plan policies and targets.

Links to the above documents can be found on our Local Plan page at www.bury.gov.uk/4577.

Planning Aid England

Planning Aid is a voluntary organisation providing independent and impartial advice and support through its Chartered Town Planners, with particular responsibility now for supporting groups interested in neighbourhood planning. Find out more at www.rtpi.org.uk/planningaid.

Consultees

The list below outlines the organisations and other bodies that we are legally required to consult and involve in preparing our Local Plan documents.

Specific and 'Duty to Co-operate' consultation bodies include the following (as at August 2013):

- Neighbouring local planning authorities
 - Manchester City Council
 - Salford City Council
 - Bolton Council
 - Blackburn with Darwen Council
 - Rossendale Council
 - Rochdale Council
 - Lancashire County Council
 - North Turton Parish Council
- Coal Authority
- Civil Aviation Authority
- English Heritage
- Environment Agency
- GM Local Enterprise Partnership
- GM Local Nature Partnership
- GM Police **Authority** and Crime Commissioner
- Highways Agency
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Lancashire Police **Authority** and Crime Commissioner
- Natural England
- Office of Rail Regulation
- South Pennines LNP
- Transport for Greater Manchester
- Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
- NHS Bury Clinical Commissioning Group
- NHS Commissioning Board
- United Utilities, Electricity North West ...and other relevant gas, electricity and electronic communications network infrastructure providers.

We are also required to include voluntary bodies whose activities benefit any part of the Borough and other 'general consultation bodies' that represent the interests of:

- Different racial, ethnic or national groups in the Borough;
- Different **religious faith** groups in the Borough;
- Disabled persons in the Borough;
- Businesses in the Borough.

Wish to be kept informed?

If you have an interest in the Bury Local Plan and would like to add your details to our database of contacts and receive letters or emails on future consultations please see below.

Write to us:

Planning Policy and Projects
Dept. of Communities and Neighbourhoods
3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ

Phone us: 0161 253 5550

Fax us: 0161 253 5290

Email us: planning.policy@bury.gov.uk

Planning Applications

The Development Management Team handle both pre-application enquiries (for which we may charge) and the processing of planning applications.

Pre-application advice

Pre-application enquiries help the applicant get their application 'right first time' and whilst they are not a guarantee of obtaining planning permission, the exercise ensures that all of the planning issues are identified early so as to enable the applicant to put forward the best possible application.

More details of how this service is delivered including information on charges is available at www.bury.gov.uk/4603.



Getting involved in planning applications

The publicity for planning applications is subject to legislative requirements set by Government and can be carried out using different methods including one or all of the following:

- Letters to neighbours;
- Site notices;
- Press notices.

We will publish all planning applications on our website and a minimum of 21 days will be allowed for comments to be made via our online system, by email or by post. See our 'e-Planning general public' page at www.bury.gov.uk/3723 for more information or view the ways you can contact us in the 'Our approach' section of this leaflet.

In addition to being able to view the applications in your own home, you can also view them online at your local library. All comments received by the Council before the application is determined are considered by the officer in making their recommendations on the application.

Planning is an open and public process and as such all comments made on a planning application can be viewed by both the applicant and other members of the public.

Decision Making

Most planning applications are determined by the Chief Planning Officer, but some applications are presented to the Planning Control Committee (PCC).

There is a formal 'scheme of delegation' of decisions to the Chief Planning Officer and these can be viewed on our website at www.bury.gov.uk/4809.

If an application is presented to the PCC then there is an opportunity for the public to address Members of the Committee. Our website provides more information on how to do this at www.bury.gov.uk/4637.

Planning Appeals

When an application is refused by the Council an applicant has a right of appeal to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

The process of who is informed of an Appeal is set down by Government and we will ensure that these requirements are complied with.

As a minimum requirement, any comments that a person makes on the original application are passed to the Planning Inspector appointed to consider the Appeal and these comments are also be supplied to the applicant. In certain Appeals you may be able to make further comments and in some cases you may also take part in a Public Inquiry, although this will be at the discretion of the Inspector.


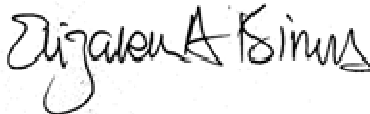
The rules around publicity and how you can be involved in Appeals can be found on our website at www.bury.gov.uk/4692.



Equality Analysis Form

The following questions will document the effect of your service or proposed policy, procedure, working practice, strategy or decision (hereafter referred to as 'policy') on equality, and demonstrate that you have paid due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty.

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Department	COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS	
Service	PLANNING SERVICES	
Proposed policy	STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
Date	29/07/2013	
Officer responsible for the 'policy' and for completing the equality analysis	Name	MICHAEL WHITEHEAD
	Post Title	PLANNING OFFICER
	Contact Number	0161 253 6154
	Signature	
	Date	29/07/2013
Equality officer consulted	Name	ELIZABETH BINNS
	Post Title	PRINCIPAL LIBRARIES AND ADULT LEARNING OFFICER
	Contact Number	0161 253 5973
	Signature	
	Date	31/07/2013

2. AIMS

What is the purpose of the policy/service and what is it intended to achieve?	<p>To progress the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) towards adoption in August 2013 after consideration of consultation comments by Cabinet. The document sets out how the Council intends to involve the community in the preparation, alteration or revision of the various components of the Local Plan and in the decision making process for planning applications.</p> <p>This revised SCI has been prepared in response to a number of changes to Regulations made by the Government and to update in relation to the additional consultation methods that the Department have been undertaking on plan preparation. It is therefore intended</p>
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	that this document will replace the Council's current SCI, adopted in December 2009.
Who are the main stakeholders?	In addition to the Council, the main stakeholders are those who have expressed an interest in the Local Plan through the consultation database including residents, landowners, local and national interest groups, statutory consultees, regional bodies, housebuilders and development and planning consultants.

3. ESTABLISHING RELEVANCE TO EQUALITY

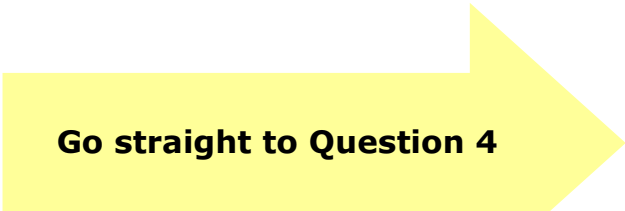
3a. Using the drop down lists below, please advise whether the policy/service has either a positive or negative effect on any groups of people with protected equality characteristics. If you answer yes to any question, please also explain why and how that group of people will be affected.

Protected equality characteristic	Positive effect (Yes/No)	Negative effect (Yes/No)	Explanation
Race	No	No	
Disability	No	No	
Gender	No	No	
Gender reassignment	No	No	
Age	No	No	
Sexual orientation	No	No	
Religion or belief	No	No	
Caring responsibilities	No	No	
Pregnancy or maternity	No	No	
Marriage or civil partnership	No	No	

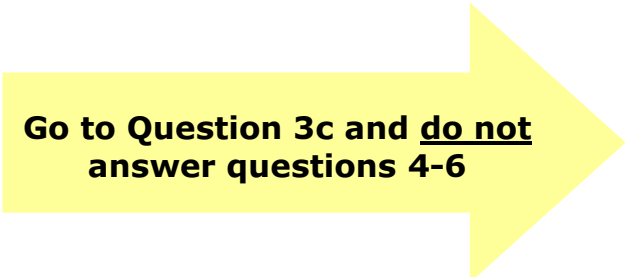
3b. Using the drop down lists below, please advise whether or not our policy/service has relevance to the Public Sector Equality Duty. If you answer yes to any question, please explain why.

General Public Sector Equality Duties	Relevance (Yes/No)	Reason for the relevance
Need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010	No	
Need to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (eg. by removing or minimising disadvantages or meeting needs)	No	
Need to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (eg. by tackling prejudice or promoting understanding)	No	

If you answered 'YES' to any of the questions in 3a and 3b



If you answered 'NO' to all of the questions in 3a and 3b



3c. If you have answered 'No' to all the questions in 3a and 3b please explain why you feel that your policy/service has no relevance to equality.

All groups are able to engage in the planning process as a result of the provisions of the SCI, although it is considered that any impacts will not be differential.

4. EQUALITY INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

4a. For a service plan, please list what equality information you currently have available, **OR** for a new/changed policy or practice please list what equality information you considered and engagement you have carried out in relation to it.

Please provide a link if the information is published on the web and advise when it was last updated?

(NB. Equality information can be both qualitative and quantitative. It includes knowledge of service users, satisfaction rates, compliments and complaints, the results of surveys or other engagement activities and should be broken down by equality characteristics where relevant.)

Details of the equality information or engagement	Internet link if published	Date last updated

4b. Are there any information gaps, and if so how do you plan to tackle them?

5. CONCLUSIONS OF THE EQUALITY ANALYSIS

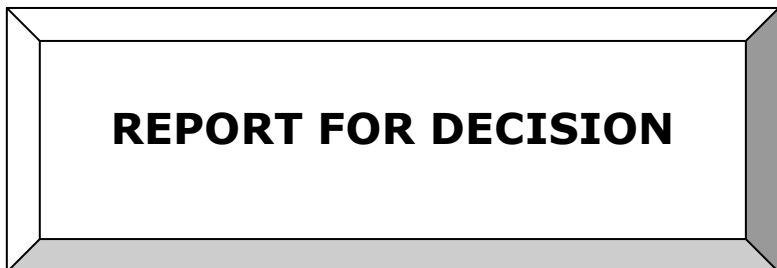
What will the likely overall effect of your policy/service plan be on equality?	
If you identified any negative effects (see questions 3a) or discrimination what measures have you put in place to remove or mitigate them?	
Have you identified any further ways that you can advance equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations? If so, please give details.	
What steps do you intend to take now in respect of the implementation of your policy/service plan?	

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

If you intend to proceed with your policy/service plan, please detail what monitoring arrangements (if appropriate) you will put in place to monitor the ongoing effects. Please also state when the policy/service plan will be reviewed.

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COPIES OF THIS EQUALITY ANALYSIS FORM SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO ANY REPORTS/SERVICE PLANS AND ALSO SENT TO THE EQUALITY INBOX (equality@bury.gov.uk) FOR PUBLICATION.



Agenda Item	
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MEETING: **CABINET
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **28 AUGUST 2013
4 SEPTEMBER 2013**

SUBJECT: **CORPORATE FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT –
APRIL 2013 TO JUNE 2013**

REPORT FROM: **DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET
MEMBER FOR FINANCE & CORPORATE AFFAIRS**

CONTACT OFFICER: **STEVE KENYON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
RESOURCES (FINANCE & EFFICIENCY)**

TYPE OF DECISION: **CABINET (KEY DECISION)**

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS: This paper is within the public domain

SUMMARY: The report informs Members of the Council’s financial position for the period to June 2013 and projects the likely outturn at the end of 2013/14.

The report also includes Prudential Indicators in accordance with CIPFA’s Prudential Code.

OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION Members are asked to note the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2013, and to approve the s151 officer’s assessment of the minimum level of balances.

IMPLICATIONS:

Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with Policy Framework? Yes.
Statement by the s151 Officer:	The report has been prepared in accordance with all relevant Codes of Practice. There may be risks arising from remedial

action taken to address the budget position; these will be identified by Directors at the quarterly Star Chamber meetings.

Statement by Executive Director of Resources:

Successful budget monitoring provides early warning of potential major overspends or underspends against budgets which Members need to be aware of.

This report draws attention to the fact that, based on the most prudent of forecasts, several budget hotspots exist which will need remedial action.

Members and officers will be examining these areas in more detail at the Star Chambers.

This report is particularly significant as it informs Members of the baseline financial position from which the Council sets its 2014/15 budget.

Equality/Diversity implications:

No

Considered by Monitoring Officer:

Budget monitoring falls within the appropriate statutory duties and powers and is a requirement of the Council's Financial Regulations to which Financial Regulation B: Financial Planning 4.3. (Budget Monitoring and Control) relates. The report has been prepared in accordance with all relevant Codes of Practice.

Are there any legal implications?

Yes

Wards Affected:

All

Scrutiny Interest:

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

TRACKING/PROCESS

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Steve Kenyon

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Cabinet	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Council	Ward Members	Partners
Yes	28/8/13	4/9/13			

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the forecast outturn for 2013/14, based upon current spend for the period to June 2013, in respect of the revenue budget, capital budget and the Housing Revenue Account.
- 1.2 Projections are based on current trends, information, and professional judgement from service managers and finance staff.
- 1.3 The revenue budget projections highlight the fact that budget pressures do still exist in some key areas and it will be necessary to continue to examine options for improving the situation further.

2.0 BUDGET MONITORING PROCESSES

- 2.1 Reports will be presented quarterly to facilitate close monitoring of spend and implementation of action plans during the year.
- 2.2 Reports are also presented to the Strategic Leadership Team on a monthly basis. Detailed monitoring information will also be discussed at Star Chamber meetings during the year.
- 2.3 It is intended that improvements will continue to be made to the budget monitoring process, building on the significant developments implemented over the past few years.

3.0 SUMMARY OF REVENUE BUDGET POSITION

- 3.1 The table below outlines the annual budget and forecast outturn based upon known factors and the professional views of service managers as at month 3:

Department	Budget £000	Forecast £000	Variance £000
Adult Care Services	52,745	52,841	+96
Chief Executives	4,569	5,265	+696
Children's Services	31,888	32,334	+446
Communities & Neighbourhoods	35,545	35,906	+361
Non-Service Specific	22,979	22,249	-730
TOTAL	147,726	148,595	+869

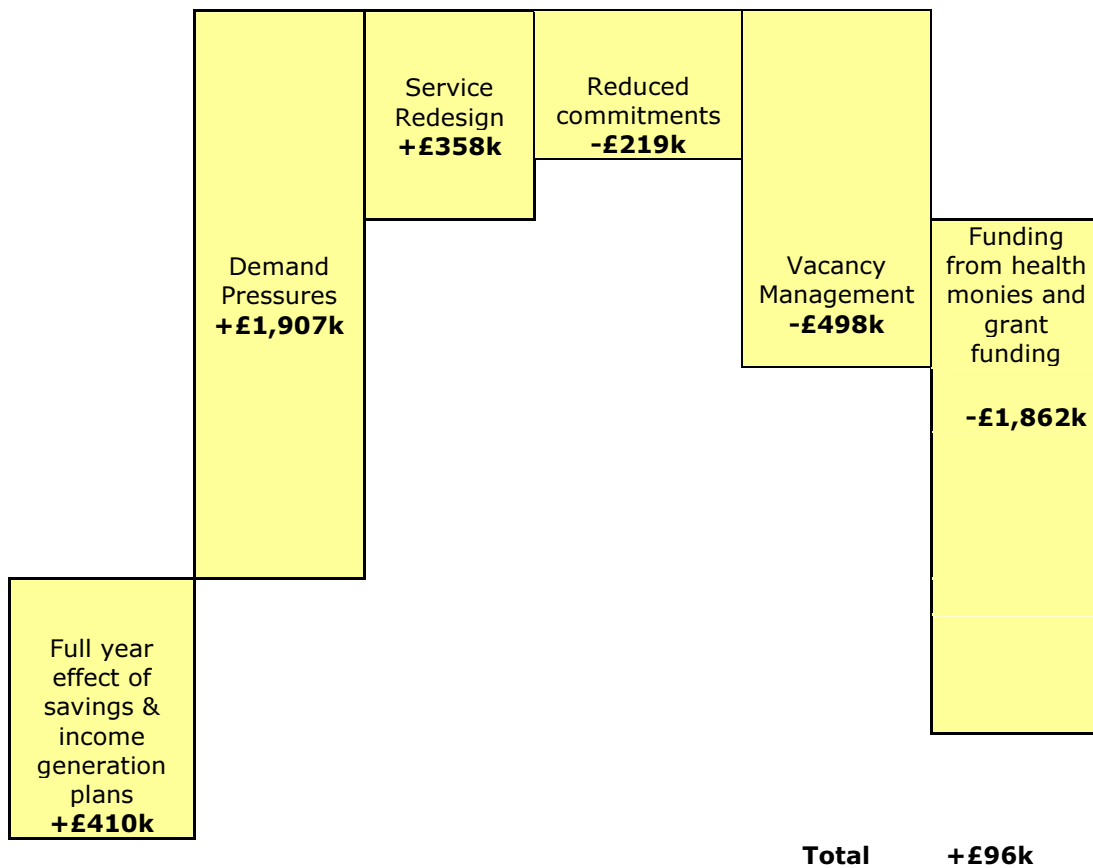
- 3.2 The projected overspend of **£0.869m** represents approximately **0.59%** of the total net budget of £147.726m.
- 3.3 Members need to be aware that financial reporting involves an element of judgement, and this particularly applies to the treatment of budget pressures. Often an area of overspending identified at this point in the year will resolve itself before the end of the year following appropriate remedial action.
- 3.4 However it is felt appropriate to alert Members to potential problems at this stage so that they can monitor the situation and take ownership of the necessary remedial action and this is the basis on which the report is written.

4.0 SERVICE SPECIFIC FINANCIAL MONITORING

4.1 ADULT CARE SERVICES

4.1.1 The current projected overspend for Adult Care Services is **£0.096m**, which is 0.18% of the Department’s net budget. This is a similar position to the outturn position for 2012/13, which was £0.103m overspent.

4.1.2 Reasons for major variations are illustrated in the chart below;



4.1.3 Further details by service area are outlined below, along with remedial action being taken.

Activity	Variance £'000	Reason	Action Being Taken
Strategic Housing Unit	+108	Historical shortfall in Partner Contribution	Options for addressing this are still under evaluation and should be implemented during 2012/13, to become effective during 2013/14.
Service redesign options	+250	Income shortfall; service redesigns not fully implemented during	A full service review is underway for the Integrated Community Equipment Store, which will determine its future operating structure. The pressure in relation to Seedfield will remain until the full corporate review is completed. In the

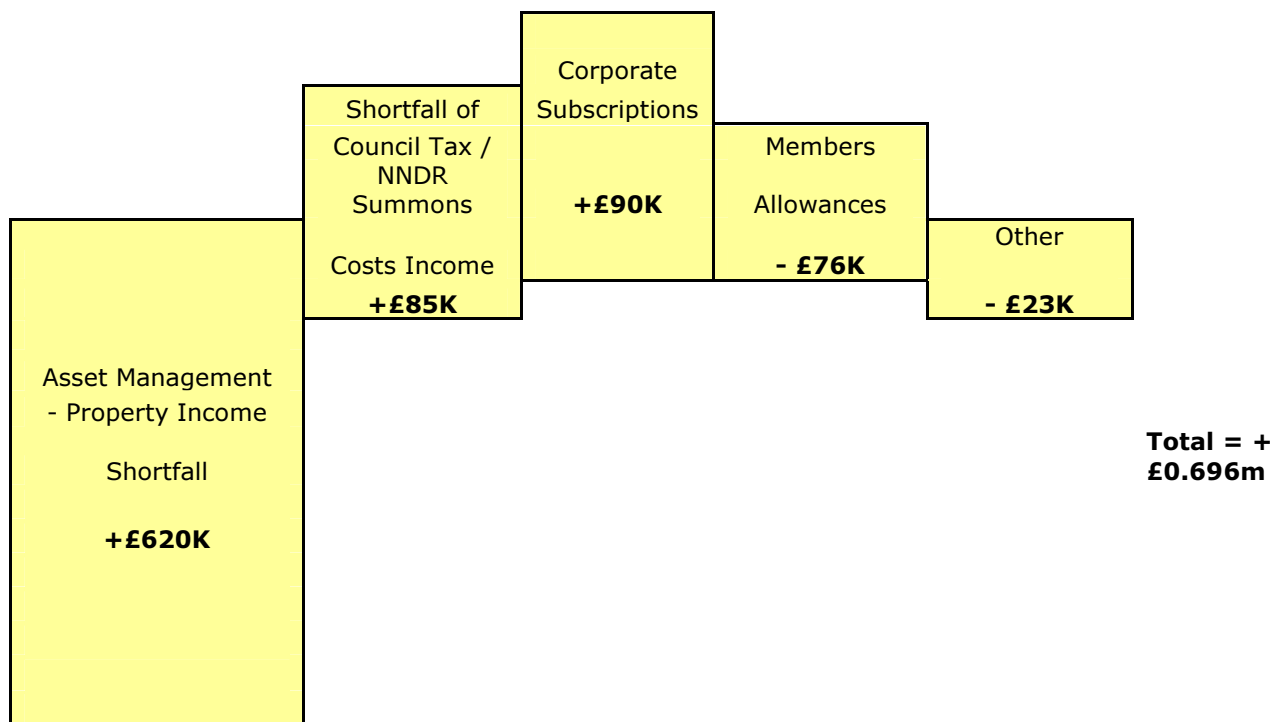
		2013/14	meantime, the overspend will be met temporarily from other areas.
Reduced income in relation to short term residential care	+151	Income shortfall	Contributions from customers in relation to short term residential care have to be calculated differently from contributions in respect of permanent care. This has created a cumulative funding pressure which will be addressed through a thorough review of income budgets under zero based budgeting and review of partner contribution to the Intermediate Care Service
Part year effect of savings	+259	Partner funding	A number of the services being reviewed will depend on contributions from Health and other partners to continue. The rationale for this is that the outcomes from those services are significantly linked with health outcomes and therefore jointly or fully funded by Health. Negotiations are ongoing.
Care in the Community: Older People Adults with Physical Disabilities Adults with Learning Disabilities Adults with Mental Health needs	+440 +681 +707 +80	Demand Pressures, especially re: home care/ supported living numbers (residential care numbers are reducing)	A range of preventative strategies continue to be introduced to manage this demand, such as reablement, triage, improved screening, 'signposting', and crisis response as well as a programme of training for front line staff around efficient support package planning. In addition, all existing high & medium cost care packages are kept under regular review. Adult Care's Procurement Team efficiencies contribute significantly to keeping spending levels down. Non-recurring health funding is being used in initiatives that should help to reduce the rate of increase of demand, which will be monitored as part of the evaluation process. However, the full benefits of these measures will not appear until future years. 2013/14 shortfall being met by offsetting savings in other service areas.
Reduced commitments	-219	Reduced commitments	There are a number of areas where current projections of social care support are under budget, an example of this is the take up of carers personal budgets. In future this commitment will be used to offset the carers support provided from within

			the community care budget.
Staff Vacancies	-499	Vacancy Management	Combination of gradual recruitment into services recently subject to major restructures, and deliberate holding back in recruiting into non-front line vacancies. There is no correlation between vacancy levels in services and sickness rates.
Use of Health monies and grant funding	-1,862	Funding from health monies and grant funding	Utilisation of historic underspends from Adult Care Specific Grants and a contribution of the Health monies towards the demand pressures within Community Care are ensuring that the net expenditure is balanced in year. Future actions around service redesign and invest to save initiatives will ensure that there is reduced reliance in future on grants and short term solutions to the ongoing issue of demand management.

4.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S DEPARTMENT

4.2.1 The Chief Executive’s Department is forecasting an overall overspend of **£0.696m**, or 15.2% of a net budget of £4.569m.

4.2.2 Reasons for major variations are illustrated in the chart below;



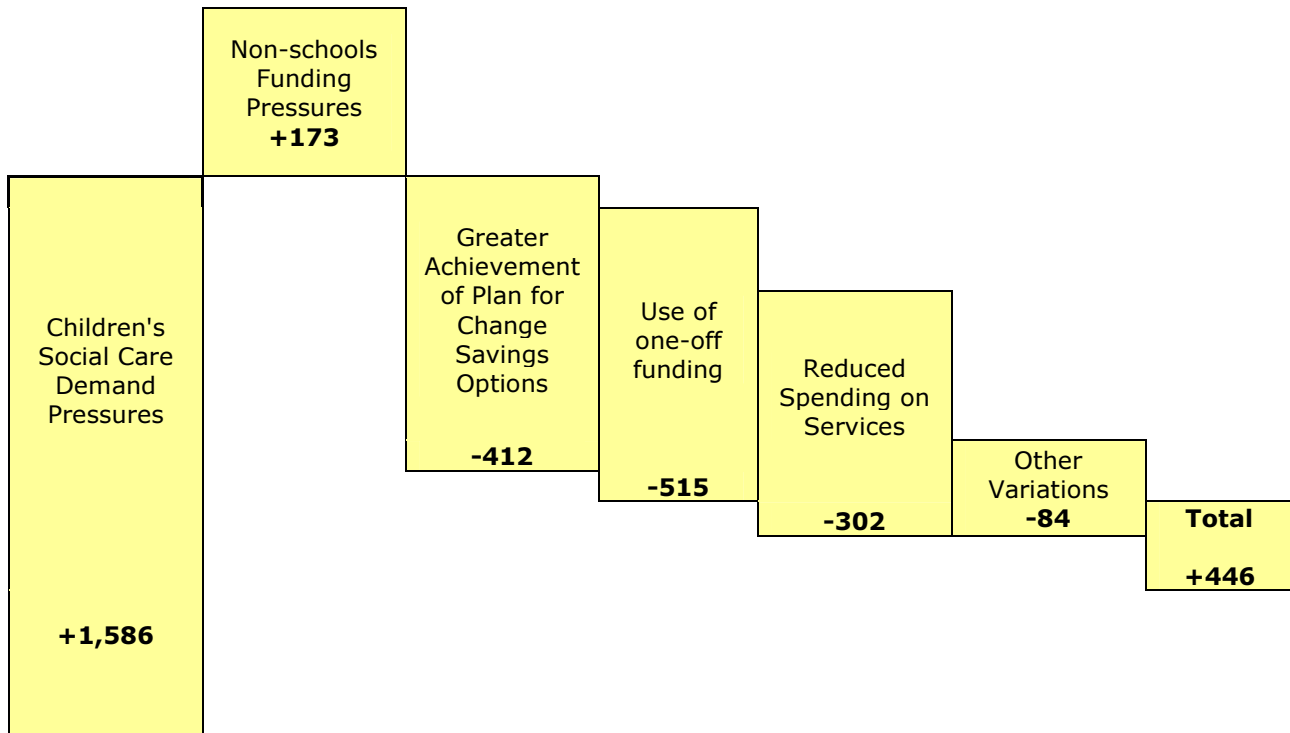
4.2.3 Property Services remains the most significant pressure facing the Department, offset by other savings, as follows;

Activity	Variance £'000	Reason	Action Being Taken
Property Services	+620	Shortfall in income due to reduced occupancy levels.	<p>Although most of the units at Bradley Fold that were vacated in 2011/12 have now been re-let, rents are significantly lower than what were achieved before the economic downturn. A number of units which were previously let are in the process of being demolished owing to their poor condition.</p> <p>A business case for the construction of new accommodation is being developed.</p> <p>The accounts for the Mill Gate Centre have been scrutinised in detail to ensure that all monies properly due to the Council are being paid and this will be an ongoing process.</p>
Corporate Subscriptions	+90	Payments to AGMA are forecast to overspend by £90,000 in 2013/14 (compared with £70,000 in 2012/13). The increase of £20,000 is mainly due to the "Public Sector Reform" element of the subscription.	Monitoring of the value obtained to the Council from the AGMA subscription compared with the cost.
Summons Costs	+85	Summons costs income for council tax and business rates are forecast to under-recover against historically high income budget targets.	Internal measures being taken to improve the income recovery rate.
Members Allowances	-76	Reductions in the level of Special Responsibility Allowances paid to Members continue to result in this forecasted underspend.	To be used to assist in reducing the estimated overspend within the department.
Other Variations	-23	Various minor underspends	To be used to assist in reducing the estimated overspend within the department.

4.3 CHILDREN'S SERVICES

4.3.1 The overall Children's Services budget is currently projecting an overspend of **£0.446m**, or 1.40% based on net budget of £31.888m.

4.3.2 Reasons for major variations are illustrated in the chart below;



4.3.3 Further details of the major variations are provided in the table below:

Activity	Variance £'000	Reason	Action Being Taken
Home to School Transport	+84	Increased demand and unfunded price increases	The committed expenditure for the remainder of the academic year was greater than the budget after the Plan for Change savings were made. A change in eligibility will help contain the overspending, however until the new academic year begins it is difficult to accurately predict the financial effect.
School Attendance	-40	Increased income and staff changes	Projecting an underspending as a result of penalty notice income, additional buy-back of service by schools and a member of staff reducing their working hours.

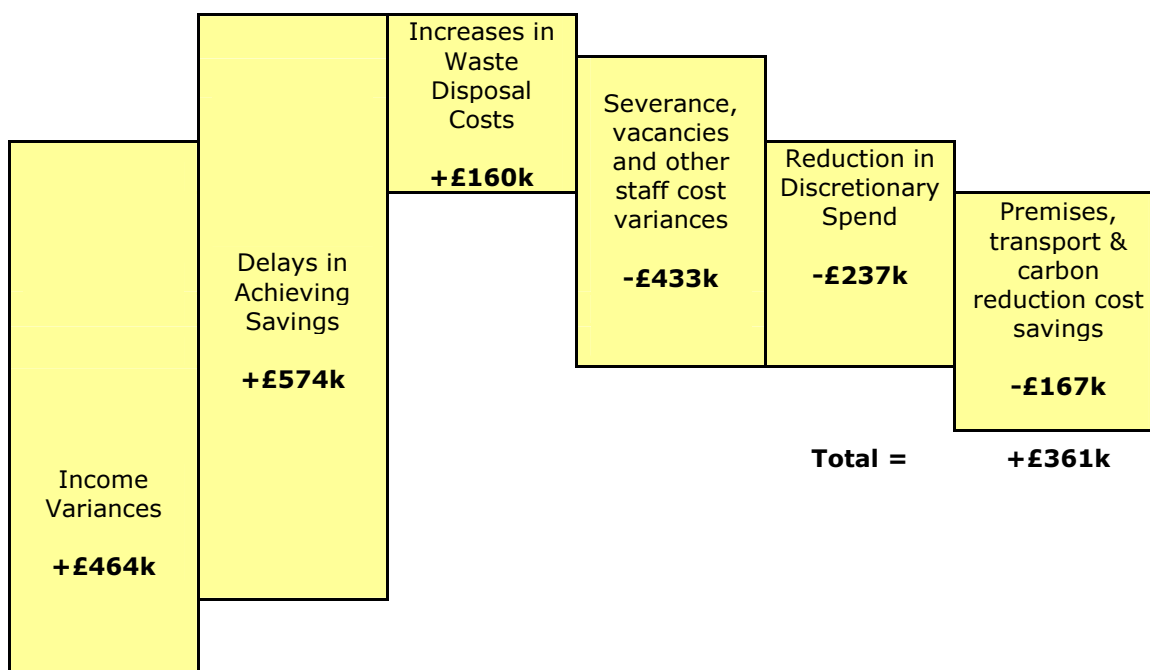
Youth Service	+70	There is an ongoing shortfall on the salary budget, an increase in the rates bill and computer software licences.	The 2012/13 overspending is being funded by savings from elsewhere within the Learning Division (see below).
Early Years including Children's Centres	-120	Non-filling of staff vacancies and reduced spending	The forecast underspend is based on 2012/13 spending levels and will require Early Years and associated children's centres to maintain this level of spending.
Connexions	-42	Underspend due to maternity leave not being covered.	The reduced spending is being used to contribute to the forecasted overspending in the Youth Service.
Leaving Care	+440	Spending on housing and further education of 19+ students who have now left our care	Spending on housing for children with complex needs and those living in semi-independent placements has increased by £485,000. The semi-independent placements cost between £40,000 and £50,000 each for a full year.
Short Breaks	-100	Savings on particular projects	The savings identified in the current financial year in preparation for the approved 2014-15 savings target.
Use of previous year's monies	-515	Previous years' underspending of external grant monies brought forward	During 2012/13 Children's Services took action to reduce spending in particular areas, including many supported by external grants as well as utilising underspendings on some externally funded schemes that now no longer exist. These unspent monies were brought forward into 2013/14 and are being used to offset some of the demand pressures afflicting the department.

Demand pressures - Children's Agency Placements	+1,147	Continuing increased Demand	<p>The continuing overspend has decreased from the projected £2+ million overspending during the corresponding period in 2012/13.</p> <p>A range of preventative strategies have/are being introduced to try to minimise future spending, with all high and medium cost care packages being rigorously reviewed. It is estimated that during the forthcoming months this overspend will continue to reduce the cost burden on this highly volatile budget.</p> <p>However, there is no guarantee that the total expenditure will be reduced as unknown future demand pressures could have a significant impact on the budget.</p> <p>Children's Services constantly strive to minimise the costs of each placement, which are amongst the lowest in the north-west, but it is extremely difficult to contain a budget that is subject to such significant and variable demand pressures.</p>
Strategic Management	-412	Continued maximisation of external grant funding as part of the Plan for Change arrangements	Making optimum use of grant funding to contribute to the Plan for Change savings targets, and also to mitigate the Department's demand pressures.
Other Services	-66	Staff vacancies and reduced spending on various services	Already being implemented.

4.4 COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

4.4.1 The department is currently projecting an overspend of **£0.361m**, or 1.01% of the latest net expenditure budget of £35.545m. The forecast allows for one-off severance costs estimated at £0.153m.

4.4.2 Reasons for major variations are illustrated in the chart below;



4.4.3 Further details are provided in the table below;

Activity	Variance £'000	Reason	Action Being Taken
Income variances	+464	Adult learning grant & fees £21k School library service reduced buy back £31k Grant funding of arts salaries (£26k) Library income shortfall £34k Planning & Building regulations income £129k Parking income shortfall £162k Refund re Millgate car park (£103k) Civic Halls surplus below target £100k Shortfalls on bulky waste income 48k, and trade waste income £169k Emergency & security service	Reduce spend levels (see below) Review level of service provision required by schools in light of reduced buy-back Use to offset overspends Reduce spend levels (see below) Budget adjustment of £137k in 2013/14; limit expenditure. Offset by one-off refund and other reductions in spend Continue to market & promote service and assess income from events. Offset by underspends elsewhere in the department Balanced by spend reductions (see below) Maintain income levels & control spend

		<p>exceeding surplus targets (£30k) Increased income on catering and cleaning services (£270k)</p> <p>Net shortfall in depot income since vacation by STH £36k</p> <p>Architects reduced surplus £218k</p> <p>Other variances (£55)</p>	<p>Will be reduced when Fernhill operations relocate to Bradley Fold and surplus premises disposed of Although the service covers its cost the reduction in fee levels and reduced capital programme limit the ability to meet the surplus target. Ongoing review of work and fee levels. Offset by underspends elsewhere in the department</p>
Delays in achieving savings	+574	<p>Libraries - phase 1 staff savings not fully implemented £36k Highways - delay in staffing changes £11k and management restructure £30k; non achievement of school crossing patrol income target £50k Highways car parking –introduction of Sunday charges and 15 min parking for part year £13k Destination management - £34k from rescheduled introduction of proposals Waste Management - extra £400k savings target not yet achieved</p>	<p>Offset by savings from vacancies and meet full PFC target in phase 2 Bring forward proposals to meet savings targets as early as possible</p> <p>Changes now implemented; monitor impact on income levels</p> <p>Introduction of changes ongoing</p> <p>Review of waste levy budgets and savings targets</p>
Increases in waste disposal levy costs	+160	<p>Forecast extra waste disposal levy charges - residual & recycling waste tonnage not achieving targets,</p>	<p>Continue to promote recycling activity; reduce residual waste by introducing recycling bins for litter and encourage recycling for commercial waste customers & school kitchens. Review and update enforcement policies/action</p>

<p>Severance, vacancies and other staff cost variances</p>	<p>-433</p>	<p>One off severance costs £153k, offset by provision in budget for severance costs (£200k) Adult learning salary savings in response to reduced income (£30k) Library posts held vacant in preparation for PFC savings (£121k) Planning salary savings to reduce net loss of income (£38k) Underspendings on waste management employee costs (£160k) Estimated increase in employers superannuation costs from introduction of auto-enrolment £40k Transport services staff costs & overtime (£45k) Underspendings on management & administration staffing (£32k)</p>	<p>Monitor spend against budget Use savings to offset overspends</p>
<p>Reduced discretionary spend</p>	<p>-237</p>	<p>Adult Learning exam fees, utility costs and supplies £32k Underspend on library supplies to offset income shortfall (£23k) Additional costs for AGMA units £27k Underspend on caddy liners (£158k) Underspend on office supplies & expenses (£27k) underspend on unallocated budgets in DCN contingency account (£111k) Other minor variances £22k</p>	<p>Use savings to offset overspends</p>
<p>Premises, transport & CRC cost savings</p>	<p>-167</p>	<p>Car parks underspends on rates and surface water drainage costs (£43k) Waste management transport & fuel costs exceeding budget £38k Cost of CRC allowances below budget provision (£45k) Provisional estimate of part year saving from vacating Castle Buildings & Athenaeum House as part of office accommodation moves (£30k) Part year savings from Fernhill move to Bradley Fold (£35k) Underspends on transport repairs, hire & leasing costs (£72k) Other variances £20k</p>	<p>Use savings to offset overspends</p>

4.5 NON-SERVICE SPECIFIC

4.5.1 There is a forecast net underspend of **£0.730m**, or 3.34% based on net budget of £21.842m. This relates primarily to the Council's Treasury Management activity (see section 8.0 for further details) and an increased dividend of £400,000 due to the revaluation of Manchester Airport on the acquisition of Stansted Airport.

5.0 CAPITAL BUDGET

5.1 Capital Programme

5.1.1 The revised estimated budget for the Capital Programme 2013/14 at the end of June, Month 3 of the year is shown in the table below:

2013/14	£million
Original Capital Programme	16.483
Approved Slippage from 2012/13	13.772
In year additions and other contributions	5.092
Re-profiled projects into 2014/15	(2.287)
Revised Budget for Year at Quarter 1	33.060

5.1.2 The expenditure and funding profile for the Capital Programme together with a detailed breakdown of the Original Approved Programme, the Revised Estimate, Forecast Outturn, Actual Spend up to end of Month 3, and the estimated under/overspend of the capital programme for 2013/14 is shown in Appendix A.

5.1.3 Members should note that given the complexity and size of some of the larger schemes currently in the Council's Capital Programme the information received from budget holders can vary significantly from one quarterly report to the next and should be read in this context.

5.1.4 At the end of Quarter1, a total of **£2.287m** of the 2013/14 budget has been identified for re-profiling to 2014/15. Most of this amount is attributed to Children Services Projects where the schemes are funded mainly by grants from Department of Education to a total of £2.046m. The remainder is attributable to Highways Traffic Calming schemes with a total of £0.229m and a further £0.012m on the Planning Environmental Projects towards the ELR that was deferred into 2014/15.

5.2 Expenditure

5.2.1 The Forecast Outturn as at Month 3 is indicated to be **£33.149m** and Budget Managers have reported that they expect to spend up to this amount by 31 March 2014.

5.2.2 The actual expenditure realised by the end of Month 3 is reported at a total of **£2.177m**.

5.2.3 The main areas of spend in the first quarter relate to:

- Property Redevelopment Schemes £0.463m

- Property Sale of surplus sites £0.210m
- Children’s Services - £0.406m
- Highways Schemes - £0.216m
- Planning Schemes - £0.180m
- Disabled Facilities and Adaptations grants - £0.197m
- Housing Public Sector - £0.164m

5.3. Variances

5.3.1 Appendix A gives details of variances for each scheme based on latest available information as supplied by budget managers and at Month 3 shows a predicted overspend for the Programme of £0.089million. The amount is not material in relation to the size of the programme and the schemes that are forecasted to overspend are monitored and analysed by budget managers. A remedial action if required will be taken as soon as the schemes’ details for expenditure and funding availability are finalised.

5.3.2 Brief reasons for all variances are provided in Appendix A attached with the report.

5.4 Funding

5.4.1 The funding profile included in Appendix A shows the resources available to cover the capital programme during 2013/14.

5.4.2 The principal source of funding for Capital schemes approved for the 2013/14 programme is made of external resources together with resources unspent and carried forward from previous years. The Council and Cabinet have also approved Invest to Save schemes supported by the Council’s own resources of **£2.5m** for the year.

5.4.3 The position of the capital receipts and borrowing as at the end of Month 3 is reported below. The figures in the table show the total funding requirement for the revised estimated capital programme and the expected resources to be supported by the Council as at the end of Quarter 3 of the year.

2013/14 Use of Council Resources for Capital Investment	£m
Revised Capital Programme for the year	33.060
Use of external funding and contributions	26.636
Balance of programme relying on Council resources	6.424
Use of Capital receipts and earmarked reserves	1.059
Use of Prudential Borrowing (2013/14 approved Invest to Save schemes)	3.936
Use of Prudential Borrowing (2012/13 schemes brought forward)	1.429
Total Council Resources used to support the Capital Budget for Year	6.424

5.5 Capital Programme Monitoring

5.5.1 The programme will be monitored closely during the year to minimise potential slippage into 2014/15. Departmental representatives will examine and confirm any action necessary to ensure that slippage into the following years is at its minimum.

6.0 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

6.1 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) relates to the operation of the Council's housing stock and can be viewed as a landlord account. It is required by statute to be accounted for separately within the General Fund and is therefore effectively ring-fenced.

6.2 The latest estimates show a projected surplus (working balance carried forward) of £1.000m at the end of 2013/14. The projected outturn shows a working balance carried forward of £0.948m. See Appendix D.

6.3 There are a number of variations that contribute to the projected outturn position however there are no areas where the variance exceeds 10% and £50k.

6.4 The two main impacts on the HRA year end balance are normally **void levels** and the **level of rent arrears**, but levels of **Right to Buy sales** can also be a major influence on the resources available.

Voids:

The rent loss due to voids for April to June was on average 1.73% compared to a void target level set in the original budget of 1.8%. If this level continues for the rest of the year there would be an increase in rental income of around £0.020m; the projection of rental income in Appendix D has been calculated on this basis.

Six Town Housing have established a 'Voids Team' which brings together existing staff to focus on improving performance.

Arrears:

The rent arrears at the end of June totalled £0.854m, an increase of 4.7% since the end of March. Of this total £0.322m relates to former tenants and £0.532m relates to current tenants.

The Council is required to make a provision for potential bad debts. The contribution for the year is calculated with reference to the type of arrear, the amount outstanding on each individual case and the balance remaining in the provision following write off of debts.

The 2013/14 HRA estimates contain two provisions, £0.181m for uncollectable debts and £0.422m to reflect the potential impact that welfare benefit changes could have on the level of rent arrears.

The assessment of the impact of benefit changes is ongoing and the method of calculating the contribution required is being reviewed therefore the projected outturn has not been amended at this stage.

Right to Buy Sales:

Sales of dwellings declined significantly in recent years, from a peak of 243 in 2003/04 to only 7 sales in 2009/10. There were 18 sales in 2010/11,12 in 2011/12 and 13 last year.

The forecast for 2013/14 was set at 37, this being the level of sales assumed for Bury in the Government’s self-financing valuation.

From April 2012 the maximum Right to Buy discount increased from £26,000 to £75,000.

The number of sales has a direct effect on the resources available to the HRA – the average full year rent loss for each dwelling sold is around £3,700.

6.5 There have been 11 sales in the period April to June which reflects the higher number of applications received in 2012/13 than in previous years. The level of applications and sales is being monitored and the rental income projections will be revised at the end of the second quarter if sales are expected to exceed forecast.

7.0 PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR MONITORING

7.1 It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the “Affordable Borrowing Limits”. The authority’s approved Prudential Indicators (affordability limits) for 2013/14 is outlined in the approved Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

7.2 The authority continues to monitor the Prudential Indicators on a quarterly basis and Appendix C shows the original estimates for 2013/14 (approved by Council on 20 February 2013) with the revised projections as at 30th June 2013. The variances can be seen in the Appendix together with explanatory notes. The Prudential Indicators were not breached during the first three months of 2013/14.

8.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT

8.1 Investments:

8.1.1 At the 30th June 2013 the Council’s investments totalled £47.4 million and comprised:-

Type of Investment	£ Million
Call Investments (Cash equivalents)	37.8
Fixed Investments (Short term investments)	9.6
Total	47.4

8.1.2 All investments were made in line with Sector’s suggested credit worthiness matrices and the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the first quarter of 2013/14.

8.1.3 The Council has earned the following return on investments:

Quarter 1 0.95%

8.1.4 This figure is higher than Sector's benchmark return of 0.90% for the year.

8.2 Borrowing:

8.2.1 External borrowing of £5 million was undertaken in the quarter to 30th June 2013.

8.2.2 This was a loan, taken over 3 years, to take advantage of low interest rates. The loan was required to partly replace a more expensive longer term loan, which had matured in February.

8.2.3 The overall strategy for 2013/14 is to finance capital expenditure by running down cash/investment balances and taking shorter term borrowing rather than more expensive longer term loans. With the reduction of cash balances the level of short term investments will fall. Given that investment returns are likely to remain low for the financial year 2013/14, then savings will be made by running down investments and taking shorter term loans rather than more expensive long term borrowing.

8.2.4 It is anticipated that further borrowing will be undertaken during this financial year.

9.0 MINIMUM LEVEL OF BALANCES

9.1 The actual position on the General Fund balance is shown in the following table:

	£m
General Fund Balance 31 March 2013 per Accounts	10.730
Less : Minimum balances to be retained in 2013/14	-4.400
Less : Contribution towards cost of Equal Pay	-1.500
Less : Forecast overspend	-0.869
Available balances at 1 April 2013	3.961

9.2 Based on the information contained in this report, on the risk assessments that have been made at both corporate and strategic level, on the outturn position for 2013/14 and using information currently to hand on the likely achievement of savings options, it is clear that there is no reason to take the minimum level of balances above the existing level of £4.400m.

9.3 In light of the above assessment it is recommended that the minimum level of balances be retained at **£4.400m**.

9.4 Members are advised that using available balances to fund ongoing expenditure would be a breach of the Council's Golden Rules. Likewise, Members are advised that the Authority faces significant funding reductions in the future, and balances are likely to be required to fund one-off costs of service transformation.

10.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

10.1 There are no specific equality and diversity implications.

11.0 FUTURE ACTIONS

- 11.1 Budget monitoring reports will continue to be presented to the Strategic Leadership Team on a monthly basis and on a quarterly basis to the Cabinet; Overview & Scrutiny Committee; and Audit Committee.
- 11.2 Star Chambers have been diarised for Quarters 1, 2 & 3 with Q1 meetings scheduled to take place throughout August and September 2013.

Councillor John Smith, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance & Corporate Affairs

List of Background Papers:-

Finance Working Papers, 2013/14 held by the Assistant Director of Resources (Finance & Efficiency).

Contact Details:-

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Month 3 - 2013/14

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)		
	2013/14 Original Estimate	Slippage	Adjust- ments	Revised Estimate Before Reprofile	Reprofiled to Future Years	Revised Estimate After Reprofile Col.4-Col.5	Forecast Outturn 2013/14	2013/14 Month 03 Actual	Month 3 Variance / (Underspen d) or Overspend Col.7-Col.6	Direction of Travel	Notes
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's		
1) SCHEMES DELIVERED WITHIN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2012/13											
Chief Executive	Opportunity Land Purchase	-	114	-	114	-	114	-	(114)	L	
Chief Executive	Acquisition of Former Police HQ, Irwell Street		-	-	-	-	6	6	6	K	
Chief Executive	Demolition of Former Police HQ, Irwell Street	300			300		300	280	-	K	
Chief Executive	Acquisition of former Fire Station	-	136	(133)	3	-	3	4	4	1	K
Chief Executive	Demolition of the Rock Fire Station	-	-	133	133		133	250	54	117	Variance due to timing of capital receipt
Chief Executive	Bury Market - New Toilets		9		9		9	9	9	0	K
Chief Executive	Bradley Fold		127	-	127		127	95	69	(32)	L
Chief Executive	Irwell Street Redevelopment				-		-	20	-	-	K
Chief Executive	Corporate ICT Projects	300			300		300	-	-	-	K
Adult Care Services	Older People	439	488	-	928	-	928	924	3	(3)	L
Adult Care Services	Learning Disabilities	-	151	-	151	-	151	141	2	(10)	Firmer figures expected by Qtr2
Adult Care Services	Mental Health	-	300	-	300	-	300	300	-	-	K
Adult Care Services	Improving Info.Management	-	212	-	212	-	212	212	-	-	K
Adult Care Services	Empty Property Strategy	199	226	-	425	-	425	425	10	-	K
Adult Care Services	Disabled Facilities Grant	620	449	14	1,082	-	1,082	1,082	96	-	K
Adult Care Services / Urban Renewal	GM Green Deal and ECO Deliver Partnership	1,200			1,200		1,200	1,200	-	-	K
Children's Services	Support Services		24	-	24	-	24	28	28	4	K
Children's Services	NDS Modernisation		6,616	3,926	10,541	(21)	10,520	10,520	170	-	Variance reflects budgets to be allocated in line with decisions made in the year.
Children's Services	Access Initiative	-	77	-	77	(58)	19	19	12	-	K
Children's Services	Derby High School Sport Hall - Council Capital Prog	1,295	0	285	1,580	(295)	1,285	1,285	(11)	(0)	K
Children's Services	Short Break Allocation		179		179		179	179	11	-	K
Children's Services	Early Education Fund		324	-	324	-	324	324	-	-	K
DCN - Highways	Highway Network Services	2,529	-	2	2,530	-	2,530	2,530	70	(0)	K
DCN - Highways	Bridges	475		(2)	473	-	473	473	124	(0)	K
DCN - Highways	Transportation & Parking	106	28	242	377	(28)	348	348	22	-	K
DCN - Highways	Traffic Mngt/Road Safety	250	216		466	(201)	265	265	-	0	Firmer figures expected by Qtr2
DCN - Planning	Development Group Projects	295	109	-	404	-	404	317	5	(87)	Building purchase planned and demolition of existing building being investigated.
DCN - Planning	ELR Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	K
DCN - Planning	Environmental Projects	320	242	112	674	(12)	662	662	174	-	K
DCN - Leisure	Parks	-	-	2	2	-	2	2	0	-	K
DCN - Leisure	Leisure Facilities		28	252	280	-	280	280	(41)	-	K
DCN - Environmental Works	Contaminated Land	-	51	-	51	-	51	51	-	-	Likely to record a small under spend
DCN - Environmental Works	Air Quality	-	10	-	10	-	10	10	-	-	K
DCN - Other	Re-cycling Initiative Extension	-	19	37	56	-	56	56	40	-	K
DCN - Other	Waste Infrastructure Grant	-	54	-	54	-	54	54	-	-	K
DCN - Operational Services	CCTV ~ Control Room Bradley Fold		0	-	0		0	-	0	(0)	K
DCN - Operational Services	Operational Depots Rationalisation	228	312		540		540	617	84	77	Firmer figures expected by Qtr2
DCN - Other	Refurbishment Backlog	-	8	-	8	-	8	-	-	(8)	L
Six Town Housing / Adult Care Services	Disabled Facilities Adaptations	515	-	-	515	-	515	501	91	(14)	Firmer figures expected by Qtr2

Six Town Housing - Public Sector	Major Repairs Allowance Schemes	7,113	704		7,817	-	7,817	7,831	169	14	L	Firmer figures expected by Qtr2
CAPITAL SCHEMES SUBTOTAL		16,183	11,212	4,870	32,266	(615)	31,651	31,601	1,499	(51)		

2) LONGER TERM SCHEMES DELIVERED OVER THREE TO FOUR FINANCIAL YEARS

Chief Executive	Townside Fields - Joint Venture	-	5	-	5	-	5	5	274	-	K	Budget allocation under review by property Services.
Chief Executive	Radcliffe Town Centre Redevelopment	300			300		300	250	19	(50)	L	
Chief Executive	The Rock Fire Station Redevelopment		4		4		4	10	-	7	L	
Chief Executive	New Leisure Centre at Knowsley Street				-		-		3	-	K	
Chief Executive	Sale of Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	223	210	223	L	Offset at year end against realised sales.
Children's Services	DFES - Devolved Formula	-	1,612	506	2,118	(1,622)	496	496	157	-	K	Spend takes place over a 3yr rolling programme allocated directly to schools
Children's Services	Targetted Capital Funds	-	611		611	(51)	560	520	27	(40)	L	
Children's Services	Children Centres	-	44		44	-	44	44	-	-	K	Scheme finished
Children's Services	Extended Schools	-	285	(285)	-	-	-	-	13	-	K	Decisions on projects to be taken later in the year
DCN - Environmental Svces	Pimhole Renewal Area	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(25)	-	K	
LONGER TERM SCHEMES SUBTOTAL		300	2,559	221	3,081	(1,672)	1,409	1,548	678	140		
Total Bury MBC controlled programme		16,483	13,772	5,092	35,347	(2,287)	33,060	33,149	2,177	89		

Funding position:

Capital Receipts	558	136	-	694	(201)	493	633
Reserve / Earmarked Capital Receipts	499	30	37	566	-	566	566
General Fund Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	(50)
Housing Revenue Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants/Contributions	3,863	11,306	4,933	20,102	(1,779)	18,323	18,323
HRA/MRA Schemes	7,628	685	-	8,313	-	8,313	8,313
Supported Borrowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unsupported Borrowing	3,936	1,614	122	5,672	(307)	5,365	5,365
	16,483	13,772	5,092	35,347	(2,287)	33,060	33,149

(0)

Key for budget monitoring reports

Projected Overspend (or Income Shortfall)

	a major problem with the budget	more than 10% and above £50,000
	a significant problem with the budget	more than 10% but less than £50,000
	expenditure/income in line with budget	
	a significant projected underspend (or income surplus)	more than 10% but less than £50,000
	a major projected underspend (or income surplus)	more than 10% and above £50,000

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April 2013 - June 2013 Monitor

	2013/14 Original Estimate	2013/14 Latest Estimate	2013/14 Projected Outturn	2013/14 Variation Over/(Under)
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Dwelling rents	29,603,900	29,603,900	29,625,171	(21,271)
Non-dwelling rents	219,300	219,300	213,572	5,728
Heating charges	73,400	73,400	76,427	(3,027)
Other charges for services and facilities	887,800	887,800	889,571	(1,771)
Contributions towards expenditure	54,600	54,600	54,600	0
Total Income	30,839,000	30,839,000	30,859,342	(20,342)
EXPENDITURE				
Repairs and Maintenance	0	0	0	0
General Management	773,500	773,500	723,357	(50,143)
Special Services	732,600	732,600	726,574	(6,026)
Rents, rates, taxes and other charges	88,100	88,100	76,600	(11,500)
Increase in provision for bad debts - uncollectable debts	180,900	180,900	180,900	0
Increase in provision for bad debts - impact of Benefit Reforms	422,100	422,100	422,100	0
Cost of Capital Charge	4,593,200	4,593,200	4,704,769	111,569
Depreciation/Impairment of fixed assets - council dwellings	7,112,500	7,112,500	7,112,500	0
Depreciation of fixed assets - other assets	38,800	38,800	40,463	1,663
Debt Management Expenses	45,400	45,400	45,400	0
Contribution to Business Plan Headroom Reserve	3,689,400	3,689,400	3,689,400	0
Total Expenditure	17,676,500	17,676,500	17,722,063	45,563
Net cost of services	(13,162,500)	(13,162,500)	(13,137,279)	25,221
Amortised premia / discounts	(14,600)	(14,600)	(14,600)	0
Interest receivable - on balances	(150,200)	(150,200)	(150,200)	0
Interest receivable - on loans (mortgages)	(2,600)	(2,600)	(1,900)	700
Net operating expenditure	(13,329,900)	(13,329,900)	(13,303,979)	25,921
Appropriations				
Appropriation relevant to Impairment	0	0	0	0
Appropriation relevant to depreciation and MRA	(38,800)	(38,800)	0	38,800
Revenue contributions to capital	515,400	515,400	515,400	0
(Surplus) / Deficit before ALMO/SHU payments	(12,853,300)	(12,853,300)	(12,788,579)	64,721
Payments to Six Town Housing / Transfers re Strategic Housing Unit excluded from above				
Six Town Housing Management Fee	12,718,600	12,718,600	12,718,600	0
Contribution to SHU Costs	320,000	320,000	320,000	0
Total	13,038,600	13,038,600	13,038,600	0
(Surplus) / Deficit after ALMO/SHU payments	185,300	185,300	250,021	64,721
Working balance brought forward	(1,185,300)	(1,185,300)	(1,198,461)	(13,161)
Working balance carried forward	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(948,440)	51,560

key for budget monitoring reports	
Projected Overspend (or Income Shortfall) of	
	a major problem with the budget - more than 10% and above 50K
	a significant problem with the budget - more than 10% but less than 50K
	expenditure/income on line with budget
	a significant projected underspend (or income surplus) - more than 10% but under 50K
	a major projected underspend (or income surplus) - more than 10% and above 50K

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Prudential Indicator Monitoring Month 3 2013/14

The table below shows the prudential indicators as derived from the Treasury Management Strategy Report for 2013/14 and the Original Budget for 2013/14 as approved at Council in February 2013. The Original Budget for 2013/14 is compared with the Forecast Outturn for 2013/14 as at 30th June 2013.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	Original Budget 2013/14	Forecast Outturn at 30 Jun 13	Variance	Notes
	£'000	£'000		
Estimate of Capital Expenditure				
Non-HRA	8,855	24,728	179.25%	1
HRA existing expenditure	7,628	8,332		1
TOTAL	16,483	33,060		
Estimate of Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)				
Non-HRA	129,764	132,838	2.37%	3
HRA existing expenditure	40,107	40,531		3
HRA reform settlement	78,253	78,253		3
	248,124	251,622		

AFFORDABILITY	Original Budget 2013/14	Forecast Outturn at 30 Jun 13	variance	Notes
	£'000	£'000		
Estimate of incremental impact of capital investment decisions				
Increase in council tax (band D, per annum)	£0.85	£0.54	-36.94%	4
Increase in housing rent per week	£0.00	£0.00		5
Ratio of Financing Costs to net revenue stream				
Non-HRA	2.95%	3.27%	10.99%	6
HRA	14.81%	15.17%	2.41%	6
Net External Borrowing only to support the CFR in Medium Term	£'000	£'000		
Net External borrowing over medium term	206,621	207,940		7
Total CFR over Medium Term	255,212	251,622		7
Net External Borrowing < Total CFR	TRUE	TRUE		

EXTERNAL DEBT	Original Budget 2013/14	Forecast Outturn at 30 Jun 13	variance	Notes
	£'000	£'000		
Authorised limit of external debt				
Borrowing	214,500	214,500		
Other long term liabilities	7,400	7,400		
HRA reform settlement	79,300	79,300		
TOTAL	301,200	301,200		8

Operational boundary			
Borrowing	189,400	189,400	
Other long term liabilities	7,300	7,300	
HRA reform settlement	79,300	79,300	
TOTAL	276,000	276,000	8

TREASURY MANAGEMENT	Original Budget 2013/14	Forecast Outturn at 30 Jun 13	variance	Notes
Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure Net principal re fixed rate borrowing / investments	140%	140%		9
Upper limit for variable rate exposure Net principal re variable rate borrowing / investments	-40%	-40%		9
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for longer than 364 days	£10m	£10m		10
Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing at 30 Jun 2013	Upper/lower limit	Actual		
Under 12 months	40% - 0%	7.64%		
12 months and within 24 months	35% - 0%	2.95%		
24 months and within 5 years	40% - 0%	6.01%		
5 years and within 10 years	50% - 0%	6.83%		
10 years and above	90% - 30%	76.57%		

Notes to the Prudential Indicators:

1. The original budget shows the approved Capital Programme expenditure of £16,483,000. The forecast outturn of £33,060,000 is higher than budget because of slippage from 2012/13.
2. Following the Government announcement to reform the system of financing Council housing, the Authority had to pay the Department for Communities and Local Government £78.253m on the 28th March 2012. The Council financed this expenditure by PWLB loans.
3. Capital Financing Requirement relates to all capital expenditure – i.e. it includes relevant capital expenditure incurred in previous years. The Capital financing requirement reflects the authority's underlying need to borrow.
4. The finance costs related to the increases in capital expenditure impact upon Council tax. The increase in Council Tax reflects the level of borrowing to be taken in 2013/14 to finance current and previous years' capital expenditure.
5. There is no direct impact of capital expenditure on housing rents as the housing rent is set according to Government formula.
6. The ratios for financing costs to net revenue stream for both General Fund and HRA have remained relatively stable.

7. To ensure that borrowing is only for a capital purpose and therefore show that the authority is being prudent this indicator compares the level of borrowing and capital financing requirement (CFR) over the medium term. The level of borrowing will always be below the CFR.
8. The authorised limit and operational boundary are consistent with the authority's plans for capital expenditure and financing. The authorised limit is the maximum amount that the authority can borrow.
9. The variable and fixed limits together look at the whole portfolio and will therefore together always show 100% exposure. Variable interest rate limit can be positive or negative as investments under 364 days are classed as variable and are credit balances which are offset against debit variable loans. The smaller the balance of investments, the more likely the variable limit will be positive as the variable loan debit balance will be higher than the credit investment balance offset against it.
10. Principal sums invested for periods longer than 364 days have been set at £10 million. The investment balance is estimated to be cash flow driven, however if the opportunity arises that surplus investment balances are available then advantage will be taken of favourable rates.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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