

AGENDA FOR

COVID 19 – EMERGENCY POWERS GROUP

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To: All Members of Covid 19 Emergency Powers Group

Councillors : D Jones, N Jones, J Mason, E O'Brien,
T Pickstone, A Simpson and T Tariq

Dear Member/Colleague

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Covid 19 Emergency Powers Group which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Thursday, 9 April 2020
Place:	Conference Call
Time:	4.00 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 SPECIAL URGENCY DECISION (EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS) *(Pages 1 - 28)*

That in accordance with the Council Constitution's Special Urgency procedure, the Chair of Scrutiny and the Group Leaders agreed that the decisions detailed below could not be reasonably be deferred.

- Provider Support
- Contractor relief
- Fairways Lodge
- Sexual Health contract
- Council Investment

2 SPECIAL URGENCY (COUNCIL FUNCTIONS) *(Pages 29 - 34)*

That in accordance with the Council Constitution Special Urgency procedure, the Chair of the relevant Council Committees and the Group Leaders agreed that the reports detailed below could not reasonably be deferred

Planning Control Committee Report

3 SPECIAL URGENCY (NON-KEY DECISION) *(Pages 35 - 44)*

Support for the Voluntary Sector – non-key decision.


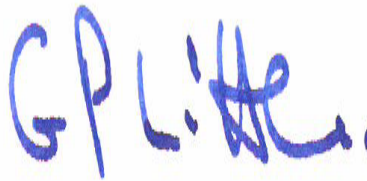
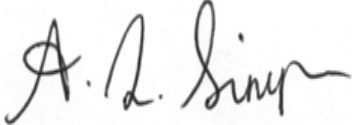
4 NOTES FROM THE MEETING *(Pages 45 - 48)*

URGENT DECISION FORM



TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 8 th April 2020		Ref No:	
Type of Decision:			
Cabinet Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject matter:			
SUPPORT FOR ADULT SOCAIL CARE PROVIDERS –COVID 19 PANDEMIC			
Reason for Urgency:			
To provide offer of support to our Adult Social Care Providers during the COVID-19 Pandemic. They require urgent confirmation of the support we can and will offer to ensure their sustainability and continued support our most vulnerable residents.			
Freedom of Information Status IN PUBLIC DOMAIN			
Equality Impact Assessment			
[Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]		This does not negatively impact on a group of people	
Decision taken:			
SEE BODY OF THE REPORT			
Decision taken by:		Signature:	Date:

Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair		9.4.2020
		9.4.2020
After consultation with:		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)		9.4.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor Stella Smith consulted	14.4.2020
Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor Nick Jones consulted	9.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor Tim Pickstone consulted	9.4.2020

****Although not a requirement of the constitution Councillor James Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.**

To support social care providers we propose providing the following offer to each of our care providers.

This includes but is not limited to:

PPE

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Where they have had to purchase additional or specific PPE, over and above regular stock, to protect staff and support our customers during this pandemic, we will fund these purchases.

Care Home Block booking of available beds

We are paying the full cost of any vacancy held by our Older People's Residential and Nursing homes. This is aimed at ensuring we maintain capacity within the community sector.

Staffing

Where, due to COVID-19, staffing capacity has required them to bring in external agency staff at a cost to their organisation, we will pay the difference in cost.

The council will contribute to recruitment costs by paying for a DBS costs of £40

Care Home One to one

Where a resident is diagnosed with COVID-19 and due to their presenting needs requires them to bring in additional staff to support them on a one to one or two to one basis, this increase in care will be funded at £16.13p/h.

Care at Home new staff payments

Where they bring any new staff from 1st April 2020, we will pay them upfront for the hours they employ them for, regardless of whether they are providing support. For example, if they employ a carer for 30 hours a week, we will pay upfront for those 30 hours. That way they can ensure they have capacity to pick up packages immediately.

Enhanced rate

From 1st April, over the next 3 months (subject to review) the hourly rate will be £17.13.

Commissioned hours

We will pay the commissioned hours rather than actual time delivered during this period.

Holding packages

We will pay to keep open a customer's care package for 5 days whilst they are in hospital. Providers should then be able to pick up a customer's package immediately on discharge.

Additional payments for quick discharges

Where providers start a new customer from hospital or Choices for Living Well on either the same day, or a date requested by the relevant team, they can claim an additional one off payment of £100. Where they start a new customer from hospital or Choices for Living well over the weekend they can claim a payment of £150.

For further detail on the offers to each provider sector I have embedded the proposed provider letters.

This will be funded via the COVID-19 NHS award. (See Appendix 1 to 3)

Financial implications

The total cost of the proposals cannot be fully quantified as they will be dependent upon the number of clients requiring care, the type of care required, the additional requirements put onto Providers in respect of Personal Protective Equipment and also the length of time of the crisis. However based on the worst case scenario of 12,000 patients having to be discharged from hospital, broad assumptions of 10% requiring residential care for 6 weeks and a 40% requiring domiciliary care requirement for 3 weeks, the overall net cost will be £4.5m. This includes funding of new staff.

This cost is over and above what is contained in the 2020/21 budget and will be funded from the NHS additional funding allocation of £1.3bn. The forecast costs will be captured and

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reported as part of the weekly submission to the NHS. Monitoring arrangements are also in place to collect the actual throughput of clients and the impact on the financial position so that any significant increase or decrease in forecast costs can be quickly identified and reported. (See Appendix 4)

Associated Risks

Risks of taking no action are:

- Providers are unable to care for those people of Bury who require support. The increased costs they will suffer could make a number of them financially unsustainable leaving customers without care.
- This will in turn cause flow out of the hospital into the community to reduce creating even greater impact on our borough's hospitals.
- Carers could be left to support customers without the appropriate Personal Protection Equipment increasing the risk of cross infection and staff becoming infected themselves.

Risks of taking action:

- Difficult to fully derive the final cost of the support offer as the numbers of PPE required are unknown, the number of customers requiring support are unknown and the other associated increase in costs for providers are unknown.

Risk to Bury Council:

- Covid 19 expenditure not captured in its entirety and therefore puts any refund to Bury council at risk. **Mitigation:** Continue to remind stakeholders of their responsibility to record Covid 19 expenditure
- Covid 19 funding insufficient **Mitigation:** Establish available Covid-19 cash envelope, record expenditure accurately (see above) and, report/summarise expenditure regularly.

Conclusion

The offer outlined above is in line with other authorities across Greater Manchester. The current situation is unprecedented and in order to ensure the most vulnerable people of Bury are able to receive the care and support they require when required, and our Provider staff are appropriately protected this offer requires approval.

Report Author: Matthew Logan

Job Title: Provider Relationship Lead

Date: 8th April 2020

Reasonable Worse-Case Scenario – Lesley Jones	Current reasonable worst-case modelling suggests the potential cases are expected to be spread over an approximate period of 18 months
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	Total No of ASC clients that come through CWB via hospital discharge or some form of deflection to avoid hospital admission during the pandemic period
Of the total No of ASC clients how many go into care homes and the average length of stay for those clients	% of Clients into Care Homes
	Average Weeks Stay
	Weekly Unit Cost
Of the total no of ASC clients how many go into home care and the average length of care package for these clients	% of Clients into Home Care
	Average Weeks Stay
	Average Hours of Home Care per client per week
	Hourly Unit Cost

Bury Council Estimated Provider Costs	
Cost Type	Description
External Provider	Care Home Costs
	Domiciliary Care
	Additional Costs incurred by Providers

Other costs	Recruitment of Additional Care Staff
	Spurr House Rapid Discharge Beds
	Recharge of Staff Costs from Killea budget to CCG Covid 19 pot
Total	

Mitigations

In House Provision	50% of Dom Care Costs Go Throug Reable
	Care Home Admissions go through Spurr, Healthland, Bealeys and Killelea
	Care Home Block Booking (i.e purchase every res and nursing bed so we have it available to quickly discharge people from hospital.
Sub Total	

Adjusted Forecast Cost Impact

ial for up to 1,800 death
mately three-month peri

sts and Other Co
£'000
5,400
2,555
-

244
301
16
8,516

-1,277
-1,838
-890
-4,006

4,510

s, **12,000 people needing hospital admissions** and 3,800 cases needing
od, with deaths peaking at around 400 deaths per week and 800 people ne

12,000

10%

6

£750.00

40%

3

11

£16.13

Costs linked to the £1.3Bn CCG Covid Pot

Notes

Based on 10% of 12,000 anticipated hospital discharges into Care homes for 6 weeks at a cost of £750 per week

Based on 40% of 12,000 anticipated hospital discharges into Home Care for 3 weeks at a cost of £16.13/hr for an average of 11 hours per week

Unknown

Recruiting additional care staff to deploy:

1. Intermediate Care and Reablement – Council Provision

2, Independent Sector Care Providers, Care homes, Supported Living and Care at home, who have insufficient staffing to maintain safe service levels

Commission 27 Rapid Hospital Discharge Beds at Spurr House:

Due to the higher complex needs of patients received at Killelea 2 night staff to be recharged to the NHS Enhancing COVID Hospital discharge allocation

g ICU admission. The bulk of these
eeding ICU admission.


Home	Beds
Spurr	27
Heathlands	19
Killelea	36
Bealeys	12
Total	94




Total annual bed days	34,310
Average Admissions per month	21
Average admissions in a year	1,633.81
Average admissions In the 12 week	408

URGENT DECISION FORM



TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 06.04.2020		Ref No:	
Type of Decision:			
Cabinet Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject matter: Contractual flexibilities and relief available to contracted suppliers providing services to Bury Council in response to Procurement Policy Note 02/2020 issued by UK government			
Reason for Urgency: Decisions relating to social distancing, the closure of schools and changes to working practices implemented in response to the Covid-19 crisis have an impact on many contracts between the council and third party providers. This has been recognised by the publication of PPN 02/20 which advises contracting authorities to introduce flexibilities and relief in order to ensure that providers are able to survive the financial difficulties during this period and be available to restart services promptly when required to do so. Requests for relief have already been received in relation to home to school transport provision, the car parking service, the dog warden service and a number of other Children's Services contracts such as alternative education and care provision. Our position will be outlined to contractors (see attached letter) and contract managers will review any requests for relief. Decisions on the form of relief granted will be signed off by Executive Directors and reported to the Head of Strategic Procurement who will maintain a corporate register. This will be kept under review by the Section 151 Officer to ensure financial risk is appropriately managed. This action is urgently required in order to reduce the risk of market failure and to ensure future continuity of key services.			
 20200324 - Message to Contrac			
Freedom of Information Status For Publication			

<p>Equality Impact Assessment</p> <p>[Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]</p>	<p>Changes policy in relation to payments to contractors but is intended to have a positive rather than negative impact.</p>	
<p>Decision taken:</p> <p>To inform contracted providers of services of the Council's position in relation to PPN 02/20 and advise them of the action they need to take in order to access relief. To delegate responsibility for agreeing appropriate relief to Executive Directors. For decisions regarding relief to be reported to the Head of Strategic Procurement and monitored by the S151 Officer.</p>		
Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:
Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair	 	9.4.2020 9.4.2020
After consultation with:		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)		9.4.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor R Caserta consulted	9.4.2020

Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor N Jones consulted	9.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor T Pickstone consulted	9.4.2020

****Although not a requirement of the constitution Councillor James Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.**

Background

This provides the context that the reader may need to have in order to consider the paper in full. This could include background on the current position, the drivers for change or the decision being required

MAIN BODY OF REPORT

This sets out the options that are available and the different ways in which the objective can be achieved.

This should include an appropriate options appraisal of the potential approach to be taken to deliver the objective.

Financial implications

The cost of the proposal are difficult to quantify and more likely to affect cash flow than create any additional cost. Clearly supporting cash flow for the suppliers is essential and any impact on the council's cash flow is manageable and will be monitored as part of the council's treasury/money management processes.

Payment in advance of goods received carries a financial risk in the event that goods that have been paid for are not received. The overall financial risk will be dependent upon the quantity and the value of goods for which payment in advance is agreed and will need to be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Legal implications

Any legal implications associated with the report should be detailed in this part – seeking advice from legal colleagues as appropriate.

Associated Risks

Any risks or issues associated with the proposal should be presented at this part of the report. This can include risks associated with addressing proposal or risks of not taking any action

Conclusion

Summarise key issues and decisions/actions required.

Report Author
Job Title
Date

URGENT DECISION FORM



TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 8th April 2020		Ref No:	
Type of Decision:			
Cabinet Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject matter:			
<p>Rough Sleeper provision within Bury to enable self-isolation and lock down. Fairways Lodge – Prestwich.</p>			
Reason for Urgency:			
<p>Context Manchester City Council have sourced and started to use the Fairways Lodge hotel for their rough sleepers and have done so since Thursday the 26th March. This occurred without any consultation with Bury Council. Bury Homelessness services only became aware of this arrangement on Monday the 30th March.</p> <p>Contact has been made with MCC to discuss this arrangement and following that contact an opportunity to work in partnership with MCC has been developed to allow Bury rough sleepers to also be placed in this hotel and be local.</p> <p>The Hotel has 36 rooms and Bury will have access and use of 18 rooms for our rough sleepers.</p> <p>Bury currently has 18 known rough sleepers to our service and its become a high priority to provide local provision for our Rough sleepers rather than placed in the centre of Manchester.</p> <p>As at 8th April 16 rough sleepers were moved into Fairway with the intention to move the remaining 2 into the provision before Easter.</p> <p>The hotel has 24/7 security to help manage the facility and to ensure the rough sleepers self-isolate within their room as required and lock down. There is also MCC staff at the facility to support the existing hotel staff and security. This is also being complemented by Bury's homelessness team.</p> <p>Links are also being created with Health and their provision / services to provide support to the rough sleepers while at Fairways Lodge.</p> <p>The CEO and Deputy CEO of Bury Council including the lead Councillor for Housing and finance have been kept fully briefed on the use of this hotel / facility for our rough sleepers due to the high profile of this co-hort across GM and the need for a local offer urgently.</p>			

Financial Implications

MCC have though procured this accommodation through their procurement processes and in associated with the GMCA rough sleeper accommodation framework that's been developed quickly to meet the challenges of rough sleeping.

The cost is £150 per night per person and includes the room, cleaning facilities, meals, security and support staff. Initial discussions have taken place with GMCA and the expectation and understanding is that MHCLG will meet the full costs of all rough sleeper provision across GM due to Covid-19. The total cost of placing 18 of our rough sleepers in this provision for 12 weeks would be £226,800.

The council has not received any specific funding for rough sleeps and therefore in the event that the costs are not met by MHCLG, they will fall to the council. Funding of £5.4m has been made available to the council as part of the government's allocation of £1.6bn to local authorities. Support for rough sleepers is recognised as being eligible against the funding. At this stage it is not known whether the funding will be sufficient to meet the full cost and loss of income to the council. Derailed monitoring processes are in place to assess and report on the positon.

By providing our rough sleepers with accommodation quickly to lock down and self-isolate this reduces the risk of spread of the virus and then reduces the risk of our rough sleepers becoming ill and then reduces the wider public health risks. There is a significant cost benefit associated with this provision, particularly for health with the reduction in the possible admissions to hospital and the significant greater cost of hospital care compared to the cost of providing this accommodation.

Legal Implications

Spoken to Bury Councils Legal services and no particular legal concerns apart from highlighting that Bury has no specific contractual arrangement and the hotel provision has been procured via MCC and the wider GMCA framework to provide hotel provision across GM for rough sleepers. Referrals into the provision are being managed by a centralised allocations team specifically set up to manage the rough sleeper accommodation due to Covid-19.

Risks

Bury Homelessness services became aware of the provision following complaints from the community due to the rough sleepers not adhering to the lock down directive and congregating outside. Therefore a potential risk and impact on the community. This risk can now be managed better with Bury Council staff working in collaboration with MCC staff and hotel staff to enforce were possible the lock down requirement but also working in partnership with GMP. Links and communication has already started with GMP around this provision to help reduce community concerns.

There are staffing risks due to them working in the hotel and the lack of PPE to enable them to work safe but a risk assessment has been produced to minimise that risk and we are continually trying to source appropriate PPE. Bury Council staff have been made

aware of this risk assessment to ensure the risks are minimised and include items such as social distancing, cleaning hands regularly etc.

Conclusion

This hotel will provide a quick and appropriate local provision to ensure all our known rough sleepers have safe and secure accommodation to enable them to self-isolate and lock down to reduce the spread of the virus.

Equality Impact Assessment

[Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? **If yes** – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]

n/a

Decision taken:

Decision taken by:

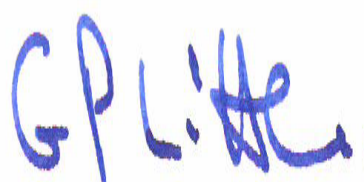
Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair

Signature:



Date:

9.4.2020



9.4.2020

After consultation with:

Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)



9.4.2020

If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor R Caserta consulted	9.4.2020
Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor N Jones consulted	9.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor T Pickstone consulted	9.4.2020

**Although not a requirement of the constitution Councillor James Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.

Report Author P.Cole

Job Title – Interim Head of Housing Needs & Options


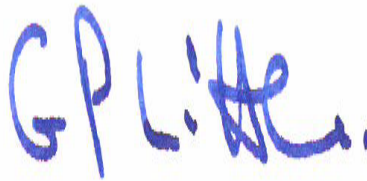
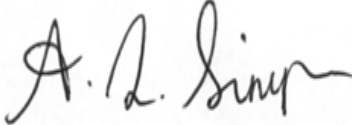
Date 8th April 2020

URGENT DECISION FORM



TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 06/04/2020	Ref No:	
Type of Decision:		
Cabinet Decision	✓	Council Decision
Key	✓	Non-Key
Subject matter:		
Extension to the Integrated Sexual Health Service contract (April 2021)		
Reason for Urgency:		
<p>The contract is due to end on March 31st 2021 with no current option to extend. Preparatory work in advance of a tender process had commenced earlier in 2020, and has now been paused. The contract would be extended under Regulation 72 (1)(c) of the PCR2015 for a period of 12 months due to the COVID-19 situation.</p>		
Freedom of Information Status		
Equality Impact Assessment [Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]		
Decision taken:		
The Chief Executive approves an extension of the Integrated Sexual Health Service from 1 st April 2021 to 31 st March 2022. The planned redesign will take place at a later date when it is appropriate and safe to do so.		
Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:

Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair		9.4.2020
		9.4.2020
After consultation with:		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)		9.4.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor Stella Smith consulted	14.4.2020
Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor N Jones consulted	9.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor T Pickstone consulted	9.4.2020

****Although not a requirement of the constitution Councillor James Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.**

Background

We are currently experiencing an outbreak situation in the UK and globally. This has been classified as a global pandemic by the World Health Organisation.

There are commercial actions that we must make swiftly to ensure we are able to stabilise services, rather than engage in the intended open tender exercises, whilst we collectively respond to the impact of COVID-19. In such exceptional circumstances this is permissible under current public procurement regulations using regulation 72 (1) (c). The conditions for relying on regulation 72 (1) (c):-

- (1) The need for modification has been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen;
- (2) The modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract; and
- (3) Any increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract or framework agreement

are met.

Details of decision required

Local authorities are mandated to commission and fund comprehensive, open-access HIV/STI testing services; STI treatment services (excluding HIV treatment); and contraception services for the benefit of all persons of all ages present in their area.

The Integrated Sexual Health Service contract, provided by Virgin Care Ltd, is a collaborative contract between Rochdale, Oldham and Bury Council's (ORB). Rochdale Borough Council is the lead commissioner of this contract which has been in place since January 2016.

Arrangements between the three Councils are set out in a tri-borough agreement, which will be refreshed in line with the new contract. Rochdale and Bury have included the provision of a specialist young person sexual health service (whereas Oldham have commissioned this separately).

The current contract expires on 31/03/2021, there is no option to further extend. Preparations for a tender process were underway which included the redesign of sexual & reproductive health systems taking into account the increased opportunities given by Local Care Organisations/Alliances and Primary Care Networks. This work has now been paused.

An extension period of 12 months is required to enable appropriate consultation with all stakeholders in relation to pre-procurement planning and for the subsequent open and robust procurement process.

Financial implications

The whole current contract value is £3,118,536. Bury's share is £904,068 plus a fee to Rochdale MBC as Lead commissioner. There is no intention to increase or reduce this contribution.

Bury Legal implications

Procurement Policy Note - Responding to COVID-19 Information Note PPN 01/20 March 2020 makes provision for the following;

This PPN and associated guidance covers options that may be considered in relation to procurements under the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (for the current financial thresholds, see PPN 06/19):

- direct award due to extreme urgency (regulation 32(2)(c));
- direct award due to absence of competition or protection of exclusive rights;
- call off from an existing framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system;
- call for competition using a standard procedure with accelerated timescales;
- extending or modifying a contract during its term.

Associated Risks

Sexual Health services are mandated public health services. The demand for these services is likely to increase during the Covid-19 emergency. The Sexual Health Provider Virgin Care, like most other healthcare services are experiencing limitations and using the latest national guidance from [BASHH](#), has needed to adapt the service to be able to ensure high risk or priority conditions are dealt with timely and appropriately. This has included liaising with Primary Care to ensure neither option is flooded beyond capacity.

With regards to the contract extension, the terms of the extension are to be negotiated with ORB and the provider. ORB should also consider that the provider may request contractual relief (as described in PPN 02/20).

Conclusion

The Chief Executive approves an extension of the Integrated Sexual Health Service from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. The planned redesign will take place at a later date when it is appropriate and safe to do so.

Report Author Shenna Paynter

Job Title Public Health Programme Manager

Date 6th April 2020

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URGENT DECISION FORM



TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 24/03/2020		Ref No: BGI C19/0003	
Type of Decision:			
Cabinet Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Key	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key	<input type="checkbox"/>
Subject matter:			
Planning Control Committee - Application Decision Making Due to Coronavirus / Covid-19 Restrictions			
Reason for Urgency:			
Statutory Function and need for on-going decision making – Planning Decisions			
Freedom of Information Status			
Equality Impact Assessment			
[Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]		YES	
Decision taken:			
Decision taken by:	Signature:	Date:	
Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair		27.3.20	
After consultation with:			
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)	YES – CHAIR OF PCC / LEADER OF THE COUNCIL		
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Not required		

Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor N Jones Consulted	9.4.2020
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Councillor T Pickstone consulted	9.4.2020

****Although not a requirement of the constitution Councillor James Mason, Leader of Radcliffe First was also consulted.**

Background

Planning Control Committee - Application Decision Making Due to Coronavirus / Covid-19 Restrictions

Bury Council's Planning/Development Management Section currently receives circa 1200 planning applications per year.

The Council's constitution is currently written to enable planning decisions to be issued in a reasonable and timely manner by a set of criteria that determines which applications are to be considered by the Council's Planning Control Committee and which are delegated decisions to be made by the Director for Business, Growth and Infrastructure.

Presently, some 93% of decisions are delegated to the Director and the remaining applications are made by the Planning Control Committee. This is consistent with the Government's view on the levels of delegated decisions.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) provides guidance on how the decision making process should be done so as to ensure that most applications that are straightforward are decided as early as possible thus to enable the economy to maintain momentum. Those applications that are considered to be place making and have more widespread public interest, are heard and decided in public meetings made by the Council's Planning Control Committee. The Local Government Act and the Council's constitution require meeting of this nature to be held in person and in public. There is no right to speak or address the Committee, but Bury Council chooses to permit it.

The United Kingdom has been hit by the worldwide pandemic of Coronavirus/Covid-19 which has seen over the last few weeks and in particular days, restrictions being introduced by the Government on social interaction, which is seen as a key way to slow how the highly contagious infection spreads.

The issue therefore arises on how the planning process can still continue to function at all levels and this paper seeks to pay particular attention to the Committee decision making process.

Current Government Restrictions Affecting Planning Decision Making

The situation in the UK has been changing quickly in the most recent days. The latest guidance found on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> that has direct implications upon public decision making processes are:

- Broad Advice
 - Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
 - Stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people
 - Self isolation for certain groups and following recent illnesses

- Stopping public gatherings
 - To make sure people are staying at home and apart from each other, the Government is also stopping all public gatherings of more than two people.
- Exceptions for very limited purposes:
 - where the gathering is of a group of people who live together – this means that a parent can, for example, take their children to the shops if there is no option to leave them at home
 - where the gathering is essential for work purposes - but workers should try to minimise all meetings and other gatherings in the workplace

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Advice/Response 24 March 2020

- It is important that authorities continue to provide the best service possible in these stretching times and prioritise decision-making to ensure the planning system continues to function, especially where this will support the local economy.
- We ask you to take an innovative approach, using all options available to you to continue your service. We recognise that face-to-face events and meetings may have to be cancelled but we encourage you to explore every opportunity to use technology to ensure that discussions and consultations can go ahead. We also encourage you to consider delegating committee decisions where appropriate. The Government has confirmed that it will introduce legislation to allow council committee meetings to be held virtually for a temporary period, which we expect will allow planning committees to continue.
- We encourage you to be pragmatic and continue, as much as possible, to work proactively with applicants and others, where necessary agreeing extended periods for making decisions.

From 4 April 2020

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/councils-given-new-powers-to-hold-public-meetings-remotely>
- Local Government Secretary confirms local authorities can hold public meetings remotely by video or telephone;
- Government removes requirement for physical attendance at meetings;
- Public will still have access to public meetings through remote means;
- Change ensures effective local decision making and transparency during the national effort to fight the coronavirus pandemic.

The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) 25th March 2020

Appeals can still be made for non-determination of planning applications and proposals, appeals against decisions issued and conditions imposed on consents and permissions. PINS have restricted submission to on line only and existing appeal hearings and site visits have been cancelled and will be rescheduled.

Planning Officer's Society

This is a professional group represented by Planners across all sectors. The depth of expertise has been pooled to put together a practical solution to all the angles of decision making for the Development Management process and can be found using this link <https://www.planningofficers.org.uk/news/dm-decision-making--covid-19>. The report is attached for information and provides a good guide to the options available under the current difficult times.

Bury Council's Issues and Options

Issues

24th March PCC was postponed due to the rapid increase in precautionary and mandatory measures required by the Government at the time. The current stated period will be reviewed broadly on 13th April 2020. The next PCC meeting is scheduled for 21st April 2020. Indications are that restrictions will be maintained in some way but as yet there is no firm outline or proposal of what this would be. There is therefore uncertainty.

Statute has not changed to remove timeframe restrictions which heavily controls the planning process be that on publicity or determination dates. Planning decisions are required to be made within statutory timescales (8/13 weeks). Risks of not doing this - Appeal for non-determination and costs

claim / LPA "designated" if numbers fall below Government threshold / have to re-pay fee after 26 weeks.

PCC meetings are normally publicly attended. However, high numbers of people that normally attend would mean that social distancing would not be achievable for either the public or Members and Officers. In any event, this would be classed as a gathering, which currently is prohibited.

The agenda requires a two week time for report writing, production and publication. The agenda must therefore be ready and publicised no later than 13th April 2020.

Postponement – 5 items have already been delayed. Whilst applicants and agents were accepting of this one off, the Council's Local Planning Authority must have provisions in place so that postponement does not become indefinite or without end.

Streaming – The Council Chamber has web streaming capabilities for full Council meetings and this is used for each meeting. The Government have issued primary legislation to permit virtual meetings, but secondary legislation is not yet in place to permit the intentions to come in to force under regulatory controls. Irrespective of the streaming capabilities, the meeting may involve some Members who are in the at risk group and may exclude Members or staff from attending due to isolation or shielding reasons. The Council does not have streaming/conference capabilities to all would need to be involved.

Executive/Extraordinary Emergency Provisions – The Council's constitution says *"In cases of emergency, a Chief Officer after consultation with the Chair of the appropriate Committee or Leader of the Council and with the relevant Opposition Spokesperson and leader of the second largest opposition group, shall be empowered to make urgent decisions when necessary on Council Functions relevant to their service area. Such urgent decisions shall be processed through the Chief Executive and shall be submitted to the appropriate Committee for information."*

This obviously relates to exceptional circumstances which are prevalent at the moment. In very exceptional and extreme circumstances, where decisions are required to be taken, this can be done through agreement between the parties described.

Following this process, the decisions can still be made on planning applications without public or Member and staff health risk. Public responses would not be precluded by still producing the agenda and publicising it as normal. The public can still make written representations up to the point of determination and already received written comments are included in the report in any event. PCC Members would have a working week to provide written comments on the items, which can be collated and feed in to the Executive decision making process.

Legal Challenge - All decisions wherever they are made are subject to potential legal challenge through Judicial Review. It could not be reasonably argued that the current pandemic has not given rise to the need for extraordinary actions and as such all of the above matters would always be subject to challenge.

Applicants - still have the right of appeal if a decision has not been issued within the statutory time or outside any agreed timeframe. Decisions still are required to be taken within the 8,13 or 16 week period and in any event within 26 weeks unless through extended times as agreed, otherwise fees can be requested to be refunded.

Third Parties – Objections and support can be provided to the LPA on applications and are duly reported. These are an important part of the planning process and weigh in the planning balance where they make material planning representations.

Options: Risks/Benefits

1. Need to consider whether it is appropriate/necessary to use emergency powers if the Council can lawfully hold meetings virtually. However, IT is clearly not in place at the moment and the PCC meeting is too close to facilitate delivery of this for the April meeting.
2. Wait until PCC meetings can be safely held again and try to agree extensions of time. This is better for public engagement/openness but not recommended because Government advice is to prioritise decision-making. It could potentially be 6 months or so delay, which is an unacceptable delay for applicants.

3. Coronavirus legislation is now in force with the necessary secondary legislation and hold virtual PCC meetings – The legislation is permits remote meeting and this would maintain transparency / openness. However, the Council is not ready IT-wise but is working upon innovation to deliver this. For clarity, this would not be live-streaming but a video/telephone conference.
4. Use urgency powers – Lacks openness/transparency and to a degree is undemocratic. However, The Council could look at going further than only consulting the Chair - could ask all PCC members for views and contact objectors for a written version of what they would have said in their address to PCC. This option could be used in the interim and cover the April meeting and subsequent for an interim **six month period** and be reviewed in the meantime whereby, discussions between the Chief Executive, Chair, IT, Planning and Democratic Services seek to deliver the virtual solution as soon as possible in time for when secondary legislation is in place.

Consultation

The Chair of the Planning Control Committee was consulted whom discussed the matter with the Leader of the Council. The response was as follows:

"Having read the report "Planning Control Committee - Application Decision Making Due to Coronavirus / Covid-19 Restrictions" and the accompanying guidance for planners and information from the government, I agree with recommendation 4 of the report.

Emergency powers, with the suggested adjustments, should be used under the proviso that a virtual solution is sought as soon as is reasonable, so that members of the planning control committee can scrutinise applications and members of the public can see that the legally defined processes have been followed.

This decision is made from a purely legal perspective following changes to government legislation to try to facilitate "business as usual" during this global pandemic.

I do however wish to place on record my disagreement with the national guidance that planning should try to continue and would urge national government to temporarily remove the time limits placed on decisions for planning departments meaning that these major decisions can be deferred till such a time as the emergency has abated. Although planning and economic development are very important issues, at this time of global crisis I believe that planning decisions should not be placed in the same category of emergency response as health care. This however is a personal perspective and does not affect my decision as chair of planning to concur with recommendation 4 of the report."

Recommendation

Option 3 be carried out as the current circumstances lead to the most appropriate means of ensuring that the planning process continues, with as much inclusivity as can be currently delivered. The option includes the use of moving to virtual meetings when IT permits. The use of this power is suggested for a limited period only and reversion to a more open process for Committee decision making when the Council are able to. This process closely follows that of the Planning Officer's Society recommendations (page 6) and a move to Virtual meetings (page 7 onwards).

David Marno
Head of Development Management
27/3/2020


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URGENT DECISION FORM



TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Date: 9.4.2020		Ref No:	
Type of Decision:			
Cabinet Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Subject matter:			
Bury Community Hubs – Voluntary & Community Capacity			
Reason for Urgency:			
This report sets out proposals for the engagement and resourcing to support voluntary and community sector to support vulnerable residents during the Covid 19 emergency, through the Bury Community Hubs			
Freedom of Information Status In public domain			
Equality Impact Assessment			
[Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? If yes – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]			
Decision taken:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To recognise the extensive contribution of local organised and informal community groups and all volunteers to the Covid 19 response. All volunteers are thanked sincerely for their civic contribution; - To note the process for accessing Standing together monies through the CSP and note the criteria against which applications will be assessed; - To note the carry forward of the £42,000 underspend on members discretionary budgets and that these will be used to support hardship in the current financial year and that any additional funding requirements will be a 'first call' on the 2020/21 discretionary budgets; - To note the financial position of the VCFA and that further work will be undertaken by the council to consider options for long term financial sustainability. 			
Decision taken by:		Signature:	Date:

Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair		9.4.2020
After consultation with:		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)	Councillor Sharon Briggs	9.4.2020
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Not required	
Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Not required	
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Not required	

COVID 19 – Emergency Powers Group

Meeting Date	09 April 2020	Action	Approve
Item No.		Confidential	No
Title	Bury Community Hubs – Voluntary & Community Capacity		
JET Sponsor	Lynne Ridsdale, Deputy Chief Executive		
Author	Lynne Ridsdale, Deputy Chief Executive		
Executive Summary This report sets out proposals for the engagement and resourcing to support voluntary and community sector to support vulnerable residents during the Covid 19 emergency, through the Bury Community Hubs			
Recommendations Approval is sought for the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- To recognise the extensive contribution of local organised and informal community groups and all volunteers to the Covid 19 response. All volunteers are thanked sincerely for their civic contribution;- To note the process for accessing Standing together monies through the CSP and note the criteria against which applications will be assessed;- To note the carry forward of the £42,000 underspend on members discretionary budgets and that these will be used to support hardship in the current financial year and that any additional funding requirements will be a 'first call' on the 2020/21 discretionary budgets;- To note the financial position of the VCFA and that further work will be undertaken by the council to consider options for long term financial sustainability.			
Financial Implications Proposals are contained within existing budgets			
Legal Implications			

1 Background

A number of Community Hubs have been established within Bury to co-ordinate support for vulnerable people whilst they are shielded or in advisory isolation as a result of the current Coronavirus pandemic. The Hubs are led by Council staff who identify local need and connect vulnerable people with help, which is largely drawn from the community and voluntary sector.

At present, the focus of the Hubs is on the provision of food and medicine to the most vulnerable residents only, but over time the role may be expanded to support a wider wellbeing offer.

This paper:

- Summarises some of the key relevant community capacity which is key to the Covid 19 response, including the Bury Voluntary, Community and Faith Alliance (VCFA)
- Indicates the wider capacity that may be drawn into the response, with respect mental health and bereavement support in particular
- Proposes funding arrangements to support the critical community capacity required
- Confirms the re-direction of residual Councillor discretionary budgets, to support hardship

2 Covid 19 response - Community Capacity and response to date

The scale of response required to the current pandemic, with around 3000 people identified in Bury as vulnerable, means that community capacity is critical. Public service resources will be wholly insufficient to meet the potential volume of need. The work of community groups to date has been exceptional and demonstrates the strength of community spirit in the borough which will be at the heart of the Bury 2030 strategy.

The Bury Voluntary, Community and Faith Alliance (VCFA) is playing an important role in arranging and directing volunteer capacity to the Hubs. The VCFA was set up in 2018 to meet the following strategic objectives:

- To develop and sustain a robust Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector in Bury.
- To build capacity within the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector.
- To network across and behalf of the Bury VCF Sector.
- To advocate the interests of the VCF sector at a strategic level in partnerships and networks locally, regionally across Greater Manchester.
- To support organisations and groups within the VCF sectors stability.
- To develop a volunteering strategy, model and mechanism for Bury.
- To provide Commissioning support to organisations and group's within the VCF sector.
- To enable innovation amongst the VCF sector, identifying funds to host an innovation fund which would help maintain or develop services in Bury.
- To support neighbourhood working, hub development and the Bury locality plan programmes of work.
- To ensure income generation; supporting the VCF sector to source and secure funding from a range of national sources including trusts; foundations; lottery and the private sector.
- To provide information dissemination; providing a 2-way dialogue between the VCF sector and stakeholders; disseminating information to the VCF sector and feedback to stakeholders from the VCF sector.
- To ensure continuous improvement.
- To ensure value for money in the services provided.
- To ensure flexibility and responsiveness to the challenges and changes of the ever changing landscape, locality plan and other Bury wide priorities.

The VCFA have around 500 registered and largely DBS-cleared volunteers, all of whom have been connected with local Hubs and engaged in response teams.

In addition, there is a wider network of smaller non-constituted resident or volunteer groups which are playing a key role in the response and with whom Hubs are now seeking to engage. Some of the active groups have operated for some time, for example Corrie Gardeners and Rammy Men; others have emerged as a direct response to the current situation such as Bury Mutual Aid through the Kind Bury movement. These groups are underway with such work as arranging donations and delivering food parcels; making contact with vulnerable residents to tackle loneliness and isolation; shopping and delivering food and arranging pharmacy supplies.

It is important that volunteering capacity is operating safely and targeted at those in greatest need. To support this the Council is seeking to engage with local groups through the network of Hubs and to direct their support to our most vulnerable residents. A volunteering statement, appended, has also been developed which sets out the key principles to be applied in our volunteering response.

3 Future direction for Community Hubs and Capacity – Mental health & Wellbeing

The focus on emergency volunteering to date has been the provision of essential supplies. Over time however, as the Hubs establish and the impact of the pandemic evolves, it is likely that our community response may have to widen to include a wider wellbeing offer to tackle loneliness and isolation, as well as to provide support to families and communities who are bereaved or begin to experience greater stress or anxiety as a result of the situation.

The voluntary sector contribution to mental health and wellbeing support will be in addition to normal commissioned provision and expanded pan-GM services, including extended digital services and the GM bereavement service.

The network of local community groups who provide bereavement and low-level mental health support on a socially distant basis is appended. In the coming weeks this network will be engaged by the Community Hubs and their work reflected in the Bury Directory.

4 Funding community capacity

Funding for the voluntary and community sector will be an important determinant of their activity. The Council does not have any additional funds to support the community response to Covid 19 but recognises the criticality of local groups. It is therefore proposed to use grant flexibilities to re-direct existing resources to the community response, to harness and enhance community capacity wherever possible. The anti-loneliness funds identified in the Council's 2020/21 budget will also be reviewed for use in the current context

Immediate proposals for funding solutions are defined for:

- the VCFA itself and
- smaller, non-constituted community groups
- hardship funding and support to food banks.

Bury Voluntary Community and Faith Alliance

The Bury VCFA was established in 2018 with a three year business plan and initial two years of funding (£250,000 for each of the first two years), to meet the strategic objectives described above. The intention is that the VCFA would be self-financing and independently sustainable by year three.

Over the last two years the VCFA has developed a network of over 500 community organisations and c500 registered volunteers. Plans for financial independence were due to be developed this year but will now inevitably stall. At present, a financial shortfall of c£150,000 per annum is being forecast for the 2020/21 financial year.

Available funding will however enable operations to continue until at least June 2020. The Council will continue to monitor the position and will be working to look at options to support the VCFA to achieve financial sustainability going forward.

Funding for individual community groups

Standing Together grant totals c£150 000 and is awarded to each Borough's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) through GMCA. There is no criteria for the monies other than a requirement for the Community Safety Partnership to agree funding allocations. A series of allocations have already been made for the current financial year however there remains an unallocated balance. It is proposed that the current residual balance will be distributed to support the work of individual groups, subject to approval by the CSP.

Proposed conditions for financial allocations from Standing Together are that funding should:

- be used to resource activity in relation to the Covid 19 response specifically and directed by Community Hubs, to meet the needs of vulnerable residents
- support appropriate coverage of vulnerable residents across all parts of the borough
- not exceed a total value of £1,000 per group.

Access to the funding will be through an application process to the CSP. Applicants would be asked to submit a short application which demonstrates these points. The opportunity for small-scale funding support will be communicated through Bury Council social media and web site. Further requests for funding support should be identified/received by Community Hubs and reported to the Bury partnership Group, which reports to Bury Gold command.

5 Wider hardship support / Foodbanks

A number of our voluntary groups are arranging the distribution and supply of food to people experiencing hardship, through existing food banks and new distribution groups. Support for these efforts is important and being monitored by the Council's Welfare Team, who have already made additional payments to Porchbox who supply many of Bury's food banks and offered staff to pack and distribute supplies.

Councillor discretionary budgets for 2019/20 had an underspend of £42,000 and provision has been made in the council's accounts for this money to be carried forward into the 2020/21 financial year. It is proposed that this funding be targeted towards supporting and providing hardship relief through our food banks. Any additional funds that may be required will be a 'first call' on the 2020/21 discretionary budgets

Further support is being secured through the Greater Manchester Combined Authority for the foodbanks. GMCA assistance is being secured with both the logistics of food supply and a further financial contribution from the Forever Manchester fund.

The list of active food banks is below.

- Porchbox (provide food parcels to public services/ other foodbanks rather than direct provision to the public)
- Chesham Fold Residents Association
- ROC (Redeeming Our Communities) in conjunction with Carritas and Corrie Gardeners, Radcliffe
- Trust House, Whitefield
- Brandlesholme Food Bank
- Rammy Men provisions, Ramsbottom
- Ainsworth Support Group
- Gift (North), Prestwich – kosher provision
- L'Chaim, Prestwich – kosher provision

6 Recommendations

Approval is sought for the following recommendations:

- To recognise the extensive contribution of local organised and informal community groups and all volunteers to the Covid 19 response. All volunteers are thanked sincerely for their civic contribution;
- To note the process for accessing Standing together monies through the CSP and note the criteria against which applications will be assessed;
- To note the carry forward of the £42,000 underspend on members discretionary budgets and that these will be used to support hardship in the current financial year and that any additional funding requirements will be a 'first call' on the 2020/21 discretionary budgets;
- To note the financial position of the VCFA and that further work will be undertaken by the council to consider options for long term financial sustainability.

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Covid-19 Bereavement Support (updated 2 April 2020)

Online /Phone Support

Cruse Bereavement Care.	Provides a nationwide service of bereavement counselling, advice, information and social contact through its headquarters and more than 196 local branches, to anyone bereaved by death irrespective of age, race, religion, gender or sexual preference. Telephone: 034 5123 2304
The Compassionate Friends.	Gives support to parents whose children have died. Telephone: 084 5123 2304
Lullaby Trust.	For parents of a baby who has died suddenly and unexpectedly. There are leaflets and information for bereaved parents and health professionals. Telephone: 080 8802 6868 (24 hours)
Bereavement UK	A hub for bereavement support and information worldwide, including articles, podcasts and audio messages, they do not offer a support phone line.
GM Bereavement Service	Coming soon – GM are commissioning a new service, it will be delivered by Six Degrees in Salford. Currently, scoping local provisions, aiming to be live by end April. Judd Skelton Salford CCG is leading this.

Hospital Bereavement Service

<p>Bereavement Centre (Northern Care Alliance)</p> <p>Based at Fairfield Hospital</p> <p>0161 778 3859</p>	<p>Support for families and friends of patients who have died in hospital.</p> <p>The service performs a variety of administrative functions following the death of a patient, plus there is also a dedicated Swan Bereavement Nurse based at the hospital, called Millie Cooke. Assistant Director Fiona Murphy set up the Swan Model and is the lead for EOL plans.</p> <p>Each hospital has 1 dedicated Swan Bereavement Nurse.</p>
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GROUPS: Self-help and peer support

<p>Bury Hospice; Sunflower Group and café drop in.</p> <p>Tel No: 0161 725 9800 Ext.226</p>	<p>Supports children (4-11yrs) and adults bereaved, normal drop in's currently unavailable, remote support still being offered.</p> <p>Christine Green (Family Support Bereavement Coordinator)</p>
<p>Misakim</p> <p>1 Broughton Green, Salford</p> <p>Tel No: 0161 660 4446</p> <p>24 hours, 6 days (not from Fri sundown until Sat sunset) http://misaskim.co.uk/</p>	<p>Provide support and assistance to individuals experiencing crisis or tragedy from the Jewish Community, they are still operating with remote support via phone and email.</p> <p>info@misaskim.co.uk</p>
<p>Federation of Jewish Services</p> <p>Known as The Fed</p> <p>0161 772 4800 advice@thefed.org.uk</p> <p>https://www.thefed.org.uk/</p>	<p>Provides bereavement support to members of the Jewish community, remote support available.</p>
<p>Greater Manchester Neshomo</p> <p>https://www.neshomo.co.uk/</p> <p>Men: Daniel 07741 625 345</p> <p>maleoutreach@neshomo.co.uk</p> <p>Women: Tamar 07512 578 587</p> <p>femaleoutreach@neshomo.co.uk</p>	<p>Jewish befriending service, offering bereavement support, no face to face contact, support available by phone and video services</p> <p>Please note that this is not for any urgent support as e-mails may not be checked that same day.</p>
<p>Bury Phoenix Project: bereaved by suicide</p> <p>Rebecca Jackson</p> <p>Tel No: 07771644604</p>	<p>Rebecca leads this peer support group, there are currently no face to face groups, but there is also a closed Facebook Group: 'Bereaved by suicide in Bury'</p>

The Creative Living Centre / Samaritans Terry Holland from Samaritans leads this terryholland1948@gmail.com	Samaritan volunteers normally hold a bereavement support group at the Creative Living Centre in Prestwich, this is now on hold due to covid-19 and no alternative service had been put in place.
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One to One therapy support	
Care Concern Loss & Bereavement Counselling Service Based at the Nicky Alliance Day Centre Tel No: 0161 796 0807 care.concern@hotmail.co.uk	Grief, Loss and Supportive Bereavement Service. Counselling provided on a one to one basis in a safe and confidential environment, operating via phone now. Volunteers are trained in loss and bereavement counselling and support.

Therapy services with a bereavement element	
Healthy Young Minds – bereavement support is sub-contracted and delivered by Early Break at Fairfield Hospital www.healthyyoungmindspennine.nhs.uk 0161 716 1100 / 0161 716 1103	There are currently no face to face appointments available, phone and email support is being offered. Bereavement support is provided to children and their families.
Healthy Minds 0161 253 5258 https://www.penninecare.nhs.uk/your-services/service-directory/bury/mental-health/adults/bury-healthy-minds/	There are currently no face to face appointments available, phone and email support is being offered. The Healthy Minds service is for people over the age of 16 years, their therapy treatments include supporting those dealing with bereavement.

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Covid-19 Mental health & Wellbeing Support **last updated 30.03.20 (by Jannine Robinson Bury Council)**

Online /Phone Support

Every Mind Matters	https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/
Mental Health Foundation	mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak
Living Life to The Full	https://www.gmhealthhub.org/feeling/living-life-to-the-full Free online courses for Greater Manchester residents covering low mood, stress and resiliency. Work out why you feel as you do, how to tackle problems, build confidence, get going again, feel happier, stay calm, tackle upsetting thinking and more.
Shining a Light on Suicide	http://www.shiningalightonsuicide.org.uk/ Resources and support for those feeling suicidal or helping someone who is effected by suicide.
Silver Cloud: Bury digital support	Mental health and wellbeing platform coming soon. It will offer programmes on Stress, Resilience, Money worries and Sleep.
Samaritans	Tel 116 123 free phone 24/7
HOPEline UK (Papyrus)	Tel 0800 68 4141 / Text 07786 209 697 Listening service for those under 35 years old
SANeline	Tel 0300 304 7000 open 4.30pm – 10.30pm Emotional support
Silver Line	Tel 0800 4 70 80 90 open 24/7 Information, friendship and advice for older people
CALM Helpline	Tel 0800 58 58 58 open 5pm to midnight Support line for men

Pennine Care Services – revised services

Healthy Young Minds www.healthyyoungmindspennine.nhs.uk 0161 716 1100 / 0161 716 1103	There are currently no face to face appointments available, phone and email support is being offered.
Healthy Minds 0161 253 5258 https://www.penninecare.nhs.uk/your-services/service-directory/bury/mental-health/adults/bury-healthy-minds/	The Healthy Minds service is for people over the age of 16 years, who are registered with a GP in Bury. There are currently no face to face appointments available, phone and email support is being offered.

Community Groups with revised services during the outbreak

Asian Development Association of Bury http://www.adab.org.uk/mental-health/	The ADAB centre is currently closed, phone and email support is available, 0161 764 6749.
Bury Involvement Group mentalhealth@buryinvolvementgroup.org	Support groups cancelled but offering Peer Support Line; Mon - Fri 9am – 5pm 07921 392 801. Supporting existing members and new members where possible. Some groups have also been established via a virtual internet link.
Creative Living Centre	All face to face sessions currently suspended,

admin@creativelivingcentre.org.uk	the centre is offering a phone line for emotional support and signposting advice 0161 696 7501.
Early Break http://www.earlybreak.co.uk/	Early Break will be offering a virtual service, staff will have an online/telephone presence in the usual working hours 0161 723 3880 info@earlybreak.co.uk
Federation of Jewish Services Known as The Fed https://www.thefed.org.uk/	Our social workers, advice workers and volunteer coordinators reassured, calmed and made arrangements to alleviate people's distress and intense isolation. The Fed is here - Caring For Our Community, if you need us we are only a call or message away 0161 772 4800 advice@thefed.org.uk
Greater Manchester Neshomo https://www.neshomo.co.uk/	Jewish befriending service, no face to face contact, support available by phone and video services Men: Daniel 07741 625 345 maleoutreach@neshomo.co.uk Women: Tamar 07512 578 587 femaleoutreach@neshomo.co.uk Please note that this is not for any urgent support as e-mails may not be checked that same day.
Bury Phoenix Project: Support After Suicide Rebecca Jackson	No face to face groups currently running, support is available via a closed a Facebook Group 'Bereaved By Suicide in Bury', it is facilitated by Rebecca Jackson. It is a safe space for those bereaved by suicide in the area to talk about anything they like and support each other.
Rammymen https://rammysos.org/	No groups currently running, phone support available 07395 10 6640.

COVID 19 – EMERGENCY POWERS GROUP

In attendance: Councillor D Jones (in the Chair)
Councillor N Jones
Councillor T Pickstone
Councillor J Mason
Councillor R Caserta
Councillor A Simpson
Councillor T Tariq

Officers: G Little – Chief Executive
L Ridsdale – Deputy Chief Executive
J Witkowski – Head of Legal Services
L Kitto – Interim Deputy Finance Officer
J Gallagher – Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for Absence Dr J Schryer (CCG representative)

1. UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF THE EMERGENCY

Geoff Little provided an overview of work being undertaken across the Council and Health and social care sectors to address the Covid 19 emergency. The update including information in relation to testing, personal protective equipment, enforcement and peak infection data. Colleagues in health and social care would continue work up stress testing plans to try and predict and plan for maybe several peaks in infection, as well as the lockdown being lifted and re-imposed. A proportion of the Council's workforce have been redeployed to support the Community HUBS and the contact centre.

Members sought assurances that there was sufficient PPE equipment for the Boroughs Care Homes.

The Interim Finance Officer reported that 450 grants totalling £17 million have been made available to business within the Borough.

It was agreed:

The verbal update be noted.

2. RECOVERY REPORT

Geoff Little provided Members with an overview of the Covid 19 recovery report which provided details of work being undertaken in the short, medium and long term to address the impact across the Borough of this emergency.

The report contains details of specific areas of work in respect of the local economy, the environment, housing and a revised Bury 2030 strategy. Geoff Little reported that the response to the pandemic had been led locally by Local government and this would be an opportunity to re-state the leadership role for local government going forward.

Members sought assurances that the Council would provide support to the Boroughs town centres following the pandemic.

It was agreed:

The verbal update be noted.

3. VOLUNTARY SECTOR REPORT

Lynne Ridsdale provided an overview of the role of the voluntary sector during the pandemic and as well as providing details of a proposal to make available additional monies to support the Boroughs food banks.

It was agreed:

- Recognises the extensive contribution of local organised and informal community groups and all volunteers to the Covid 19 response. All volunteers are thanked sincerely for their civic contribution;
- Notes the process for accessing Standing together monies through the CSP and note the criteria against which applications will be assessed;
- Notes the carry forward of the £42,000 underspend on members discretionary budgets and that these will be used to support hardship in the current financial year and that any additional funding requirements will be a 'first call' on the 2020/21 discretionary budgets;
- Notes the financial position of the VCFA and that further work will be undertaken by the council to consider options for long term financial sustainability.

4. VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Janet Witkowski, Deputy Monitoring Officer provided members with an update following the publication of Regulations in respect of virtual meetings and in particular the change in the requirements that members do not need to be physically present at a Local Authority meeting.

It was agreed;

The Deputy Monitoring Officer in conjunction with the Chief Information Officer will produce a written report providing options for consideration at the next meeting of the Emergency Powers Group.

5. SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS (EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS)

Members considered the following Urgent Council Decisions:

- Contractor relief
- Sexual health contract
- ASC Provider report
- Council Investment
- Rough Sleepers

Members discussed the decision to house homeless people at Fairways Lodge, members received assurances from the Cabinet member that as well as dedicated security staff onsite, there is also staff in attendance from the local Authority as well as regularly visits from police officers within GMP.

It was agreed:

That in accordance with the Council Constitution's Special Urgency procedure, the Chair of Scrutiny and the Group Leaders agreed that the decisions detailed above could not be reasonably be deferred.

A decision notice will be published on the Council website.

6. SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS (COUNCIL FUNCTIONS)

Members considered the following urgent Executive Decisions:

- Planning Report

Members discussed the different options and agreed that option three was the preferred option.

It was agreed:

That in accordance with the Council Constitution Special Urgency procedure, the Chair of the relevant Council Committees and the Group Leaders agreed that the reports detailed above could not reasonably be deferred

A decision notice will be published on the Council website.

7. FOR INFORMATION - LIST OF COVID 19 RELATED OPERATIONAL DECISIONS

8. FOR INFORMATION - NOTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

TO NOTE

UPDATE FROM THE LAST MEETING:

Lynne Ridsdale reported that the current number of staff absent from work was 350 – 100 of which are Covid 19 related.

COUNCILLOR D JONES
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 4pm and ended at 5.25pm.)

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