

Geoff Little
Chief Executive

Our Ref CA
Your Ref C/CA
Date 30 June 2020
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Lynne Ridsdale
Deputy Chief Executive Bury Council

TO: All Members of Council

Councillors : J Black, S Briggs, R Caserta, R.Cathcart, P Cropper, T Cummings, C Cummins, J Daly, I Gartside, R Gold, J Grimshaw, D Gunther, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, T Holt, S Hurst, K Hussain, D Jones, N Jones, G Keeley, O Kersh, K Leach, J Mason, G McGill, A McKay, C Morris, B Mortenson, E O'Brien, T Pickstone, M Powell, A Quinn, T Rafiq, I Schofield, D Silbiger, A Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, C Tegolo, K Thomas, D.Vernon, R Walker, S Walmsley, C Walsh, M Whitby, S Wright and Y Wright

Dear Member/Colleague

Council

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

Date:	Wednesday, 8 July 2020
Place:	Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Time:	7.00 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:	https://councilstream.com/burycouncil/109

AGENDA

The Agenda for the meeting is attached.

Reports are enclosed only for those attending the meeting and for those without access to the Council's Intranet or Website.

The Agenda and Reports are available on the Council's Intranet for Councillors and Officers and also on the Council's Website at www.bury.gov.uk – click on **Agendas, Minutes and Forward Plan**.

Copies of printed reports can also be obtained on request by contacting the Democratic Services Officer named above.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "G P Little".

Chief Executive

AGENDA

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Council are requested to declare any interests which they have in any items or issues before the Council for determination.

2 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 20 May 2020. (Copy attached).

3 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive communications from the Mayor and any announcements by the Leader of the Council or the Chief Executive on matters of interest to the Council.

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To answer questions from members of the public, notice of which has been given, on any matter relevant to the Council or its services to the community. Up to 30 minutes will be set aside for this purpose. If time permits, further questions will be invited from members of the public present.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

If any.

6 LEADER'S STATEMENT AND MEMBER QUESTION TIME (Pages 5 - 18)

To receive a Statement from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet and to answer written questions from Members of the Council to the Leader and Cabinet Members on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties which affect the Borough, provided the necessary written notice has been given.

7 REPORT ON SPECIAL URGENCY (Pages 19 - 30)

A report from the Leader is attached.

8 SCB COUNCIL VOTING REPORT (Pages 31 - 48)

Report from the Deputy Monitoring Officer attached.

9 APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER (Pages 49 - 50)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive.

10 NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) COVID-19 Recovery:

The Council Notes:

COVID-19 has had an adverse effect on the communities here in Bury. This Council needs to place on record its thanks to the key workers, residents, businesses and organisations for going above and beyond. This Borough owes you a debt of gratitude. Now is the time to plan for the recovery phase, to support our residents and local businesses, in the changing need for public services.

Bury Council requires a plan to prepare and kickstart the economic recovery following the impact of COVID-19 and provide our residents and businesses with a strategic vision for the future. The plan should involve all stakeholders in order to develop the best possible forward plan for the council, our residents and businesses.

The Council resolves:

The Council therefore resolves to create "*The Bury MBC COVID-19 Recovery Plan*".

The Bury MBC COVID-19 Recovery Plan will focus on:

- Economic impact, recovery & growth for our high streets, Bury Market and businesses
- Residents - improving the skills-base to lift wages for lower income residents and adapt to the changing needs of local businesses
- Health and Social Care delivery
- Financial resilience and ensuring minimal waste of taxpayers' money to ensure money reaches frontline council services such as bins, highways and tackling flytipping which saw an increase over lockdown.
- Transformation of Bury MBC to ensure that we deliver services efficiently and more accessible to residents.
 - A review in to the spatial framework and our environment - with an inevitable economic slowdown, there will be less of a need for housing. Lockdown has made us appreciate the environment we have around us and the council should recognise what we can do to enhance it to deliver health benefits for our residents.

Progress updates should be provided to the Joint Executive team on a weekly basis and the Cabinet as a standing item each month. A report will be presented at the September Full Council Meeting.

A cross-party working group will be established to monitor and track the progress of the recovery. The Group will remain in operation as long as there is a need for a recovery response to COVID-19. The plan will be evidence based and will closely monitor the impacts and the effectiveness of the responsiveness of Bury Council in a post-COVID world.

In the names of Councillors R Caserta, P Cropper, J Daly, I Gartside, D Gunther, J Harris, S Hurst, K Hussain, N Jones, G Keeley, O Kersh, I Schofield, D Silbiger, D Vernon, R Walker, and Y Wright

(ii) Securing a Fair Deal for Private Renters and Selective Licensing

This Council Notes:

1. The significant contribution that private-rental property makes to the borough's housing market.
2. That poor housing management and low standards in the sector can lead to the failure of a local housing market. Low demand and antisocial behaviour can result in unsettled communities, along with other social and economic problems.
3. That private renters spend a higher proportion of their income on housing than with other tenures, and that moving costs can be prohibitively expensive, with high letting fees and large deposit requirements.
4. The impact that the Coronavirus pandemic has had on private renters, with recent research finding that 1 in 8 have fallen behind with housing costs due to lost income as a result of the crisis.
5. The potential of 'selective licensing', already successfully used by some of our neighbouring authorities such as Manchester and Oldham, requiring landlords in finite geographical areas to register with the Council enabling certain standards to be enforced.

The Council Resolves:

1. To give full consideration to introducing a selective licensing scheme in specific areas, such as in Prestwich, Radcliffe and East Bury, to tackle antisocial behaviour and support wider housing market renewal and regeneration and to help develop more sustainable communities.
2. That by the end of this calendar year, a report be brought to Overview and Scrutiny and then to Cabinet, reporting back on whether a selective licensing approach is appropriate for parts of Bury. The report should include:
 - a comprehensive assessment of privately rented accommodation in Bury
 - an update on criminality and antisocial behaviour and any link between

this and the private rented sector

3. To continue to work with Six Town Housing, to address how the Council can help bring empty properties into use through assisting with private sector renting, in return for nomination rights.
4. To call on the Government to provide greater assistance for those private renters who are particularly struggling during the Coronavirus pandemic.

In the names of: Councillors M Powell, T Pickstone, C Tegolo and S Wright

(iii) Independent inquiry into the handling of coronavirus

This council notes with sadness that up to the 12th June 2020 there have been 228 deaths of Bury residents attributed to coronavirus. Our thoughts are with the families and friends of those that we have lost. We also wish to pay tribute to the hard work of our health and care staff, volunteers across Bury, local businesses and council officers. Our community has stepped up and stepped in when this government has abjectly failed to do so. Ten years of Conservative austerity, aided and abetted by the Liberal Democrats for five of those years, have seen the very institutions that have been at the forefront of this effort run down, yet still they responded magnificently.

Our local council, NHS and the voluntary and community sector, as well as local businesses have been at the forefront of the response to this devastating health crisis over the past months. They have supported the creation of community hubs that have brought together hundreds of local volunteers; they have been on the frontline in our hospitals, care homes and other health and care settings; they have donated to the food banks that are supplying much needed essentials to hard working local families; they have worked tirelessly and often with little recognition to keep council services running and got support to where it has been needed in the community; and they have manufactured or sourced PPE to support our frontline staff.

This crisis has brought out the best in community spirit, but while there is much to praise about the community response to COVID-19 this council believes that the Conservative government has systemically failed to manage the crisis from day one and has made vital errors in the handling of this crisis when it comes to national policy decisions.

We note with sadness that the UK has the highest death toll in Europe and these deaths will haunt this country for years. The failure of this Conservative administration to deal with the COVID crisis from day one is nothing short of a national scandal.

Critically, the government has failed to provide the reassurances needed to local government on funding. Local councils up and down the country face serious long-term financial harm as a result of coronavirus due to increased costs, lost revenue and a funding shortfall.

Here in Bury, the council is facing losses of £29 million. After a decade of cuts totalling over £102 million, this council, like many other councils nationwide cannot undertake more austerity without cutting further services and jobs that would push us to the brink of insolvency due to no fault of our own. The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government promised local councils "whatever it takes" but we are still waiting.

This government has also catastrophically failed our BAME communities. It was clear as the death toll was rising that this crisis was disproportionately affecting those from BAME backgrounds. The British Medical Association and other organisations called for an urgent investigation, but this was ignored and significantly delayed by the government. An investigation was eventually carried out belatedly, but the government then missed its own deadline for publishing the official review into the matter. A version of the report was then leaked, but with the recommendations buried, and now that the final report has been published the government is yet to confirm that it will be implementing all the recommendations.

In Bury, we are proud of our diverse communities, yet we know that those from religious minorities are more likely to be adversely affected by coronavirus. Recent ONS data show that Muslim men have the highest death rates among all religious groups, with Jewish men also recording a higher mortality rate. This council is shocked that in the face of such clear evidence, this government is not prioritising the protection and care of our BAME communities.

More broadly, it is clear that this government made fatal errors in the handling of the health and care response to this crisis. As the crisis was unfolding, the prime minister himself missed five Cobra meetings, missed eight calls with EU leaders, missed two opportunities to bulk buy PPE and ventilators with the EU and went on holiday for two weeks.

The government failed time upon time to recognise the urgent need for PPE, as well as the need to roll out a major testing programme.

Tragically this government failed to learn the lessons of Exercise Cygnus in 2016. This was an exercise when a pandemic was simulated. Cygnus predicted the very failings of this government, they were forewarned but took no notice. It allowed mass events to go ahead like race meetings, concerts and football matches. It had the advantage of seeing what was unfolding in Europe but failed to act, failed to prepare, failed to protect its own citizens.

Then there is the scandal of care homes where our senior citizens were discharged from hospitals without being tested.

More recently, we have seen another missed deadline as the Health Secretary has admitted that the NHS contact tracing app will be scrapped in its current form with a new version in development for winter. The original release date was the end of May. On tracing and testing, this was abandoned on March 12th only for the PM to state in May that we would have a “world class” system in place for June 1st. This date now looks to have been pushed back to September.

These grotesque failings have hit public confidence in the government’s handling of the crisis, but nothing has raised questions over the prime minister’s ability to lead the country through this emergency than his abject failure to deal with his own special adviser who was found to have broken the lockdown rules. Dominic Cummings broke the rules, refused to apologise and yet he remains in a job. People across Bury have made significant personal sacrifices in order to follow the rules to protect themselves and others, but it is clear that there is one rule for us and another for the prime minister and his inner circle. This breaks down trust at a time when trust in government, public figures and our national institutions is integral to the handling of this crisis.

We must learn from the lessons of COVID-19.

Therefore, this Council proposes that we should:

- 1) call on the government to commission an independent inquiry into its handling of coronavirus and that;

This council resolves to:

- 1) write to the prime minister to demand an independent inquiry into the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This inquiry should be wide ranging in scope bringing in evidence from national and international experts and local and community stakeholders. It should report back in a timely manner – we suggest before the end of this year – with clear recommendations on what the government needs to do to make amends for the mistakes made thus far, but importantly to ensure those same mistakes are not made again.

In the names of Councillors J Black, S Briggs, R Cathcart, A Cummings, C Cummins, R Gold, J Grimshaw, M Hayes, S Haroon, T Holt, D Jones, K Leach, G McGill, C Morris, B Mortenson, E O’Brien, A Quinn, T Rafiq, A Simpson, L Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, K Thomas, S Walmsley, C Walsh and M Whitby

11 **SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

If any

12 **COMBINED AUTHORITY UPDATE** (Pages 51 - 54)

Questions, if any.

13 **DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Questions on the delegated decisions made by the Regulatory Committees and Scrutiny Committees published since the last ordinary meeting of the Council, providing four clear working days' notices has been given of the question.

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Minutes of: THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF BURY

Date of Meeting: 20 May 2020

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (T Holt in the Chair);
Councillors J Black, S Briggs, R A Caserta, R Cathcart, , P Cropper, C Cummins, A J Cummings, J Daly, I B Gartside, R Gold, J Grimshaw, D L Gunther, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, S Hurst, K Hussain, D Jones, N Jones, O Kersh, K Leach, J Mason, G McGill, C Morris, B Mortenson, E O'Brien, T D Pickstone, A Quinn, M Powell, T Rafiq, I Schofield, D Silbiger, A Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, S Smith, Sarah Southworth, Susan Southworth, T Tariq, C Tegolo, K Thomas, D Vernon, R E Walker, S Walmsley, C Walsh and M Whitby and Y Wright

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Councillors G Keeley, S Wright and A McKay

Public attendance: Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the meeting was undertaken via Microsoft Teams and streamed live on the Council's website.

C.01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

C.02 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18 March 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C.03 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor reported that this has been an extremely difficult few weeks and paid tribute to all key workers on the frontline of hospitals and care homes, in shops, delivering public services. The key workers have been backed by an army of volunteers in the fantastic community hubs, getting vital support out to the most vulnerable.

C.04 CONSTITUTIONAL UPDATES REPORT

The Leader moved, and Councillor Tariq seconded, Constitutional Updates Report be approved and adopted.

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Councillor Nick Jones moved and Councillor Cropper seconded an amendment to the report to retain the current Cabinet Structure.

On being put, with 18 voting for, 26 against and with the Mayor abstaining, the Mayor declared the vote on the amendment lost.

On being put, with 29 voting for, 0 against and 17 abstaining, the Mayor declared the substantive motion carried.

C.05 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS 2020/21

A) APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Simpson moved that Councillor E O'Brien be elected Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

Councillor Tariq seconded the nomination.

On being put, with 29 voting for, 0 against and with 18 abstaining, the Mayor announced that Councillor E O'Brien was duly elected Leader for a four year term of office.

B) ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS REPORT

The Leader moved, and Councillor Tariq seconded, that the report on the Annual Appointments for the 2020/21 Municipal Year be approved and adopted, and **On being put, with 46 voting for, 0 against it was;**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Strong Leader arrangements adopted by the Council in 2011/12, with an increase in the Cabinet to 9 Members be confirmed for 2020/2021.
2. That the appointments of the Political Groups' Leaders and Deputy Leaders as set out in Appendix A to this report be received.
3. That the appointment of the Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members and spokespersons for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix B to this report be noted.
4. That the appointment of the Regulatory Committees, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and other bodies covered by the Political Balance Rules, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix C to this report, be approved.
5. That the appointment of other bodies not covered by or exempted from the Political Balance Rules, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix D to the report, be approved.

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6. That the appointments to the Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Joint Authorities for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix E to the report, be approved.
7. That the appointments to the various other internal bodies, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, set out in Appendix F to the report, be approved.
8. That the appointments to outside bodies for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year as set out in Appendix G to the report, be approved.
9. That the Members Allowance Scheme for 2020/2021 as set out in Appendix H be noted.
10. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leaders of the political groups on the Council, be authorised to determine any appointments to bodies which remain to be filled and any changes in appointments or any new appointments to be made during the 2020/2021 Municipal Year and that any such appointments be reported to the Cabinet for information.
11. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make consequential changes to the Constitution as a result of any changes to Cabinet Portfolios

C.06 STATE OF THE BOROUGH DEBATE

Councillor E O'Brien Leader of the Council, made a statement on the State of the Borough describing the main achievements of the Council during 2019/2020.

C.07 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR 2020/21

Councillor Richard Gold moved that Councillor Tim Pickstone be elected to the office of Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2020/2021, with Mr Wayne Burrows as his consort.

Councillor Tegolo seconded the nomination.

The Worshipful the Mayor, after calling for and not receiving any other nominations, declared the nomination carried and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Tim Pickstone be duly elected Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2020/2021, with Mr Wayne Burrows as his consort.

The newly-elected Mayor then occupied the Chair, made and signed the Declaration required by the Local Government Act 1972 and thanked the Council for the honour conferred on her in electing him Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury.

Councillor Tim Pickstone, the newly elected Mayor assumed the Chair.

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C.08 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND CONSORT AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Cropper, seconded by Councillor Hayes and it was:

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Trevor Holt be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for 2020/21 and the Council hereby expresses its thanks to Councillor Holt and Mrs Evelyn Holt for the diligent manner in which they have undertaken the duties of Mayor and Consort of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury during the Municipal Year now ending and places on record its appreciation of their devotion and performance of the important duties attaching to their offices.

C.09 VOTE OF THANKS TO OUTGOING DEPUTY MAYOR AND OUTGOING DEPUTY MAYORESSES

It was proposed by Councillor Tariq and seconded by Councillor Walsh and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That this Council hereby expresses its thanks to Councillor Shaheena Haroon and Mr Raja Haroon Khan, for the diligent manner in which they have undertaken the duties of Deputy Mayor and Deputy Consort of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury during the Municipal Year now ending and places on record its appreciation of their devotion and performance of the important duties attaching to their offices.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(NOTE: The meeting started at 2pm and finished at 4.48pm)

Q	Party	Question
1	Conservative	<p>Could the leader advise on what basis the decision to exclude home and mobile based business from the discretionary funding? Cllr Y Wright</p>
	Cllr O'Brien	<p>The Council have not taken a decision to exclude home workers and mobile based businesses from the Government's discretionary grant funding.</p> <p>The Council have worked within the guidance provided by Government based upon the combined lobbying of LEP areas, Combined Authorities and Councils across the UK.</p> <p>The Council have followed the Governments guidance to support those businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small and micro businesses, • Businesses with relatively high ongoing fixed property-related costs • Businesses which can demonstrate that they have suffered a significant fall in income due to the COVID-19 crisis • Businesses which occupy property, or part of a property, with a rateable value or annual rent or annual mortgage payments below £51,000. <p>The discretionary grant was developed as a direct result of lobbying to government, something that Bury Council and our neighbours have been doing since this crises began.</p> <p>Collective evidence on the ground identified a gap in support for those businesses with monthly property costs that fell outside of the support through the Small Business Grant and the Retail and Hospitality Grant because they do not have their own rateable value.</p> <p>These businesses still have property related costs to maintain whilst their business is not operating or not operating a full capacity. In addition many of these Bury businesses are employers.</p> <p>Bury's discretionary grant allocation of £1.957 million will not reach all Bury businesses.</p> <p>The decisions that have been taken as we move into phase two and potentially phase 3 have been made to support those sectors that are fundamental to the Bury economy outside of the Small Business Grant and the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant.</p> <p>Home workers and mobile based businesses are valued in the Bury economy and it is acknowledge that it is a gap in support. This concern has been shared via our networks and through the GMCA.</p> <p>Note for elected member NB Phase 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisations servicing the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure sector • Retail, Leisure and Hospitality organisations who are marginally over the £51k rateable value threshold • Early Years Providers • Cultural institutions that contribute to town centre footfall and the visitor economy • Those organisations that could have applied for Phase 1 but missed the deadline. <p>Phase 3</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those micro businesses that rent a chair or a room within a health, beauty, male grooming businesses. It is proposed that a grant is allocated to cover the purchase of new stock, marketing materials and fixed rental cost. It is proposed that a one off grant of £1000 is allocated. The applicants would be required to provide evidence of occupancy and continued occupancy. • Those micro businesses that rent storage space in order to run their businesses. It is proposed that a one off grant of £1000 is allocated. The applicants would be required to provide evidence of occupancy and continued occupancy and loss of income.
2	Labour	<p>Can the Leader outline what support this Council has given to Bury businesses throughout lockdown, including how the discretionary grant fund has been used? Clr Richard Gold</p> <p>Supplementary: Will the Leader clarify the support that has been made available to Bury market traders affected by the coronavirus outbreak, both from the Government and from this Council?</p>
	Cllr Black	<p>Supporting Bury businesses prior to the COVID-19 crises has been a key priority for Bury Council. This priority has become more crucial during lockdown. We have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reached out to over 4,000 local businesses directly • established a dedicated Bury Means Business Covid 19 help team • Made and continue to make direct calls to businesses giving help, advice and signposting to specialist in-depth support. <p>Underpinning this work has been the allocation of financial support through grants. The initial grant scheme was allocated at pace by the Councils Business Rates team.</p> <p>£35,915,000 has been allocated to 5,062 businesses so far.</p> <p>Hot on the heel of the initial financial grant schemes came the announcement of the Discretionary Grants. This grant was designed as a direct result of lobbying to Government. Bury Council played its part by pushing up gaps in Government support. In record time a process was created and to date over 400 applications have been received for phase 1. Tracey Flynn to send updated detail as this number will increase by the time of the meeting.</p> <p>The speed and scale in which the Council have been able to respond to this crises is a reflection of the dedication of our officers. Teams that do not under normal circumstance work together have rallied, rolled up their sleeves and got the job done.</p> <p>Going forward we will be focussing on recovery. To this end we will be supporting town centre recovery, safe opening support, supportive compliance and further signposting engagement.</p> <p>Supplementary: Bury Market have received an excellent package of support from Bury Council. The forced closure of Bury Market brought uncertainty to our market traders.</p> <p>We reacted swiftly. From the 16th March Bury Market traders received a two-month rent</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<p>holiday.</p> <p>Our collective lobbying to Government presented a further opportunity to support market traders via the discretionary grant.</p> <p>In our local scheme we allocated grant funding to both lease holders and day traders. We are the only authority in GM to take this stand.</p> <p>The discretionary grant was launched on the 1st of June and within two weeks the majority of allocation where made to the value of nearly half a million pounds.</p> <p>In the near future there will be further support for market traders as officers continue to develop a sustainability plan for markets in Bury. Support will include an opportunity for traders to increase their digital skills, convert to cashless transaction, and develop a marketing strategy for their business</p>
3	Labour	<p>The Council has reported that it stands to lose more than £30 million this year for dealing with the frontline Covid response and a loss of income. Could the leader confirm how much of this has been covered by government funding and what, if any shortfall there is now? ClIr Sandra Walmsley</p>
	ClIr O'Brien	<p>The £30m figure quoted relates to our first assessment of the cost of COVID-19, and was net of some of the costs that were being fully funded by specific government grants. Our latest COVID-19 financial impact assessment for 2020/21, gross of any funding, is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional costs £12.4m - Loss on collection fund (Council Tax and Business Rates) £15.9m - Loss of other income £14.2m <p>This totals £42.5 (n.b. the loss of collection fund impact, whilst it relates to 2020/21, will not hit the council financially until 2021/22 because of the way the collection fund operates with a 12 month time-lag).</p> <p>The Council has been allocated £18.4m government funding towards these pressures as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 grant £10.6m (from the £3.2b national pot) - Test and trace grant £1.1m - NHS funding (via CCG) £2.4m - Infection control grant £2.4m - Hardship grant £1.9m <p>This leaves an estimated net impact (shortfall) of £24.1m re 2020/21.</p> <p>Note: there is still a great deal of uncertainty in the figures, in line with the level of uncertainty about the ongoing trajectory and impact of the pandemic. However, these figures are a prudent best estimate using similar assumptions and methodology to the rest of the Greater Manchester councils. They only relate to 2020/21, although there is bound to be a significant ongoing impact for several years to come.</p>
4	Conservative	<p>Can the Cabinet Member for the Cultural Economy advise on the Councils plans regarding parking charges both in Bury Town Centre and across the townships? ClIr N Jones</p>
	ClIr O'Brien	<p>The Council has no plans to reintroduce car parking charges in Bury Town Centre at this</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<p>moment in time. However, this matter is under constant review. It is worth noting that there has never been any charging regime for car parking in the following townships: Ramsbottom, Tottington, Radcliffe and Whitefield and car parking charges in Prestwich were abandoned many years ago.</p>
5	Lib Dem	<p>How is the Council monitoring whether Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available and being used in all care settings, including residential and domiciliary? Cllr Powell</p>
	Cllr Simpson	<p>At the commencement of lockdown, all social care providers were asked to complete a daily online survey which included data regarding their supply of appropriate PPE. As the situation escalated, alongside the survey, each commissioned provider was contacted weekly, by phone, to discuss PPE availability in more detail (how many days supply they had of key items, whether supply was on order, when that was expected and how long that supply would last).</p> <p>The emergency PPE process was documented and shared with all health and social care provider's in Bury and described the Public Health England guidance on appropriate use, donning, doffing and disposal of PPE. In the lead up to and during the peak, this was included on the daily Health and Social Care bulletin sent to all providers. The process assisted providers to source their own PPE through alternative suppliers, national supply routes and access to Bury's local resilience forum emergency supply of PPE to bridge the gap. The process has been updated and shared as guidance has changed and is still in place.</p> <p>All providers are invited to complete a daily sitrep report and if any issues are raised, a Provider Relationship Officer contacts them by phone to discuss, if the issue is regarding PPE they signpost them to the PPE process. All provider's regardless of reporting on the Sitrep receive a weekly welfare check from the Provider Relationship Team.</p>
6	Labour	<p>What work has the Council undertaken to support our rough sleepers during the Covid-19 crisis and what support is in place to help end homelessness once and for all? Cllr Beth Mortenson</p>
	Cllr Cummins	<p>During COVID 19, the Council has worked quickly and robustly to identify all rough sleepers in the borough and provide support and temporary accommodation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We initially used hotel accommodation and specific commissioned services to provide the required support. • have since moved all our known rough sleepers into better intermediate and supported accommodation • This has provided positive benefits and outcomes for our rough sleepers with the necessary support to address the barriers towards more settled and longer term sustainable housing <p>The Council continues to work collaboratively with our wider partners to address and end homelessness 'once and for all' in the Borough and we have developed a Rough Sleepers Operational panel which is a multi-agency forum that brings all partners together to provide interventions and solutions to help keep rough sleepers off the streets.</p> <p>The Council now has a robust Rough Sleepers Outreach Service that identifies rough sleepers, or those sleeping on the streets, to access accommodation and provide interventions towards their support and health needs. Since the start of the Covid outbreak</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<p>we have had great success in moving on 20 rough sleepers into their own move on accommodation and off the streets.</p> <p>Bury is part of the GM Housing First initiative that supports the most entrenched rough sleepers and then wrap support packages around them to sustain their tenancy.</p> <p>Bury will be continuing to deliver and provide 'A Bed Every Night' (ABEN) from the 1st July 2020 to the 31st March 2021. This will be a 24/7 supported provision for 15 rough sleepers. Pathways have been developed for move on, either into supported accommodation or their own independent housing.</p> <p>In terms of our statutory and priority needs customers that are covered and supported by Housing legislation and the new Homelessness Reduction Act, we are currently supporting and helping 481 open homelessness cases and we had 304 new homeless presentations during May 2020 alone. We have 27 families with 37 children and 10 single people in our dispersed temporary accommodation in addition to our rough sleepers. The average stay in our temporary accommodation is 60 days and aligned to good practice we do not use Bed and Breakfast for temporary accommodation.</p> <p>Burys Homeless offer continues to develop with pace working in partnership with all our stakeholders in Bury to break the cycle and end homelessness.</p>
7	Labour	<p>In light of events in the US where George Floyd was murdered by a police officer and the subsequent Black Lives Matter campaign, could the leader confirm how the Council will support our black, Asian and minority ethnic communities across Bury? Cllr Grimshaw</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>What work are we doing internally as an organisation to listen to our black, Asian and minority ethnic staff and respond to their needs?</p>
	Cllr Rafiq	<p>As a Borough proud of our diversity and our vibrant mix of race, culture and communities. We have seen the very best of communities working together to tackle Coronavirus and it is crucial to be equally united in tackling racism and inequality.</p> <p>Bury Council has an active BAME staff group, which prior to Covid-19 was meeting 6 times a year to allow colleagues to raise any concerns or issues. Any issues of concern identified from the group are brought to the attention of the Human Resources Team, who take responsibility for escalation. The Council is currently funding the Chair of the BAME group to undertake the GM Race Equality Change Agents Programme – part of a GM pledge to tackle race equality issues across GM, which Bury Council has signed up to.</p> <p>Supplementary</p> <p>On 10th June Bury Council announced the launch of an equalities review, subsequently also agreed by the CCG Governing Body on 24th June. An independent partner has been commissioned to undertake an equalities audit across both the Council and OCO with the intention of producing a strategy and outcomes framework that will be an intrinsic part of the organisation's transformation programme.</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<p>The review will consider all protected characteristics, including race and crucially is to be co-designed and delivered in conjunction with employees. Engagement will take place partner organisations across the Borough and details are being developed for a specific listening event with the BAME communities of Bury. The format, approach and details of this are being designed with leading BAME community and voluntary organisations to ensure the event is as inclusive as possible.</p> <p>In response to Covid-19, and in line with the national guidance, all staff have been asked to complete a personal risk assessment which will help to identify any issues and concerns that may arise in the context. The risk assessment approach enables staff and managers to have sensitive and comprehensive conversations to identify any existing underlying health conditions that may increase the risks for staff in undertaking their frontline roles, in any capacity.</p> <p>The Council continue to support all staff to work from home where it is possible to do so as we continue to live with COVID. We have undertaken an extensive programme to ensure our work environment are COVID Secure and all staff have access to the Employee Assistance Programme which is available 24/7.</p>
8	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader of the Council tell me when he is going to take back control from greedy developers and put Bury in the driving seat of development by producing a local plan? Cllr Harris</p>
	Cllr O'Brien	<p>There is a statutory requirement for each local authority to produce an up to date development plan. The National Planning Policy Framework specifies what needs to be in that development plan and this includes a combination of strategic and non-strategic policies.</p> <p>Together with the other nine districts in Greater Manchester, Bury is in the process of preparing a two-tiered development plan with the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework covering the key strategic policies, such as the needs for future housing and employment floor space. The Local Plan will then cover the non-strategic planning policies covering locally-specific issues.</p> <p>In terms of housing, the national guidance states that, as a minimum, plans should provide for objectively assessed needs for housing and that this is determined using the Government's published methodology.</p> <p>The key point to stress is that without the GMSF process, Bury's Local Plan would need to include these strategic policies and provide for the level of housing set out in the national methodology. A plan that does not meet the Government's housing targets (whether that is a combined GM plan or a stand-alone Local Plan) is highly unlikely to get approval by the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>It is simply incorrect to think that the Local Plan offers some sort of escape route away from national policy.</p> <p>Moreover, without the GMSF, Bury would be faced with having to accommodate even more housing as it would be significantly more difficult to off-set some of its housing needs to neighbouring districts within Greater Manchester – as has been the case under the collaborative approach being taken in the GMSF.</p>

Q	Party	Question
9	Lib Dem	<p>Will the Leader write to the Highways Agency demanding that the public consultation period for the proposed M60 changes be further extended, because of current restrictions around social distancing and public meetings? Cllr Tegolo</p>
	Cllr Lucy Smith	<p>The Council has contacted Highways England regarding this request. Highways England were keen to point out that they had already fully considered the impact of Covid-19 and associated restrictions and had put measures in place to ensure the delivery of a successful public consultation. These included extending the statutory minimum four-week consultation period to one of eight weeks and providing telephone events to replace face-to-face engagement events. They are seeing a good level of response and do not intend to extend the consultation period further. Highways England are, however, keen to work with any political parties in promoting the consultation in order for it to reach as many people as possible.</p>
10	Labour	<p>Can the Leader provide information on the extent to which food bank use has gone up in Bury since the start of the COVID-19 crisis? Cllr Morris</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>Can the Leader confirm what support is available to help those organisations doing so much to support our most vulnerable at this time? In my own ward in Elton, Brandlesholme Community Centre, with much support from my ward colleague Cllr Susan Southworth I must admit, has risen to the challenge of coronavirus admirably. As well as providing much needed support for those self-isolating and shielding, it is also now Bury North’s first culturally appropriate food aid provider. As the economic impact of COVID-19 bites, these community groups need to be supported as they have done so much to support us over recent months.</p>
	Cllr David Jones	<p>Since the onset of Covid-19 and the consequent lockdown measures, the number of people requiring support from Food Banks has reportedly increased and a number of new groups have established food banks in response to locally identified need. There were no prior means of collecting and collating data on demand from foodbanks and little was known about the full range of groups operating in the Borough. However, significant amounts of work has been undertaken to build relationships with the foodbanks with the aim of developing them into a self-sustaining collaborative network. This network has now been established ‘Bury Food-aid group’. In addition a named lead foodbank has been identified to link to each of the neighbourhood community hubs.</p> <p>As part of this process the council in collaboration with the food banks has developed a data collection system to help better understand local provision and trends. This data collection system is in its infancy but does now have several months’ worth of data available. The data has shown a gradual increase in the number of foodbanks completing data returns but it is still likely to be an under-representation of actual provision. To date, we have information for 16 foodbanks/providers from across the borough and the data suggests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Food provision pre Covid-19 shows 233 total households across Bury were being supported through food banks * Our most recent data suggests 612 total households are now being supported as (23rd June 2020)

Q	Party	Question
		<p>* This represents a 162% increase in need over a 14 week period</p> <p>* However, the intelligence gathered from the foodbanks from the latest 'Bury Food-aid Group' meetings suggests that they have seen a slight decline in need over the last 2 weeks (weeks 12-14).</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>In my own ward in Elton, Brandlesholme Community Centre, with much support from my ward colleague Cllr Susan Southworth I must admit, has risen to the challenge of coronavirus admirably. As well as providing much needed support for those self-isolating and shielding, it is also now Bury North's first culturally appropriate food aid provider. As the economic impact of COVID-19 bites, these community groups need to be supported as they have done so much to support us over recent months.</p> <p>The work the foodbanks have been doing has been fantastic, the way they have stepped up during the crisis is a credit to Bury. In addition the offers of a culturally appropriate food which have been created shows the ingenuity and responsiveness of our foodbanks. The Council recognises the importance of supporting the foodbanks and as such to date food banks have been supported directly through the Bury Council member fund (£10k) and through the Bury COVID-19 fund (£10k) - totalling £20k.</p> <p>In addition, local food banks and food providers have been supported by the Council and VCFA to obtain funding from the GMCA (£10k), Forever Manchester fund (£102k) and from the GM High Sheriff fund (£5k). Across the food network a total of £137k has been awarded to support their fantastic work.</p> <p>In addition we have supported the food banks in kind by assisting them to set up a self-supporting network 'the Bury food-aid group' where they can share support and put together collaborative bids or buy in larger quantities at discounted prices should they wish. In addition we have obtained offers of support from local businesses of centralised food storage at no cost to them should they wish to use this. The council will continue to work with the foodbanks to understand the demand and any challenges they are experiencing and create a collaborative approach to addressing these.</p>
11	Labour	<p>The Radcliffe SRF consultation is currently underway and is an incredibly important step to delivering ambitious plans for the future of the town. What is the Council doing to ensure as many Radcliffe residents engage with the consultation? Cllr Tony Cummings</p>
	Cllr O'Brien	<p>The importance of town centre strategies and masterplans, such as the Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework, in assisting in the recovery and subsequent growth of our town centres has been referred to previously and we feel that it is vital that residents and key stakeholders are actively engaged in preparing plans for their towns.</p> <p>During the preparation of the draft Radcliffe SRF, comprehensive early engagement with a range of key stakeholders was undertaken and this was crucial in gaining valuable information and insight into the different concerns of groups and understanding key challenges facing Radcliffe.</p> <p>This stakeholder engagement needs to continue in order to seek the views and inputs from the wider public, key businesses and other key partners to ensure that the final framework is</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<p>fit for purpose and this is why we are currently undertaking a widespread six-week public consultation on the draft SRF.</p> <p>Clearly, with the current guidelines on social distancing we haven't been able to make documents available in key public buildings or to undertake a programme public 'drop in' sessions as would normally be the case but to compensate for this, we have taken the unprecedented step of delivering SRF leaflets to every household in Radcliffe summarising the content of the SRF and advising people how they can find out more and get involved. We have also put an increased emphasis on online and digital engagement with all information available on the Council's website and the consultation being extensively promoted via social media to raise awareness of the SRF, to issue reminders of the consultation closing date and to direct users to the formal consultation website. We are also looking to engage interested parties through a webinar.</p> <p>For those that do not have access to the internet, we have made printed copies of the SRF summary document and response form available on request.</p> <p>Promotional banners and posters have also been produced for various locations in and around Radcliffe Town Centre.</p>
12	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader explain why he approved interim resource at the cost of £700 per day to review the Council constitution over a 9 month period? Cllr Caserta</p>
	Cllr O'Brien	<p>The Council has engaged a strategic advisor to provide leadership across a range of legal and democratic functions including reviewing the council's constitution; mentoring and supporting the staff in the context of a vacant Assistant Director post; reviewing the service structure; developing a plan for Member development; supporting the Boundary Commission review and planning for the 2021 election.</p> <p>One aspect of this work is a review of the Council's constitution which has not been reviewed for many years. A number of amendments were proposed in the last Council meeting, within which a recommendation was also endorsed that the whole constitution is updated.</p> <p>The post is funded from provision within the Council's 2020/21 budget, within which allocation for short term transformation resource was planned for on the basis that there is not capacity within a number of services, including democratic services, to drive improvement as well as maintain delivery</p>
13	Labour	<p>How is the track and trace nationally linking in with our local arrangements and is it effective? Cllr Trevor Holt</p>
	Cllr Simpson	<p>Contact tracing in England is organised into three tiers. Tiers two and three are the national system. Tier one is a regional and local system that deals with complex cases and cases linked to high risk settings, like care homes and prisons. In Greater Manchester, tier one is made up of a Greater Manchester Integrated Contact Tracing Hub (GM ICTH), and local areas' own arrangements. Cases from tiers two and three that need to be referred to Tier one are sent to the GM ICTH. The GM ICTH can refer contacts identified locally for follow up by the national system.</p>

Q	Party	Question
		<p>The GM ICTH tells local authorities about any referrals it gets for cases in their areas. The GM ICTH does most of the contact tracing but can get help from local authorities where needed, such as with hard to reach groups where local authorities' contacts can be important. Local authorities and their partners support people and settings like schools, care homes, GP practices, or businesses to deal with any consequences of cases or outbreaks, like the closure of a setting. Local authorities provide proactive advice to help settings reduce the risk of outbreaks. Local authorities can send outbreaks identified locally to the GM ICTH for contact tracing and extra help managing outbreaks. In some cases this has meant contact tracing started sooner than it would have if the GM ICTH had needed to wait for a notification from the national contact tracing system. This helps to minimise the chance of infected contacts passing on the infection.</p> <p>While the system across GM is new, it is working well. Cases and outbreaks are being referred between GM ICTH and local teams. Lessons from outbreaks in one part of Greater Manchester are shared so that all areas can learn from them. There are regular meetings across GM that include local authorities to develop the system. An IT system is being built that will be used by local areas and the GM ICTH so that the whole system works as one.</p>
14	Lib Dem	<p>What have been the attendance rates in Primary schools across the borough who have begun reopening for non-key worker children and how do these compare to other Greater Manchester boroughs? Councillor Powell</p>
	Cllr Tariq	<p>Schools were required to close with effect from 23rd March 2020 to all pupils, but to continue to meet the needs of vulnerable children and the children of key workers. The majority of schools have remained open to serve these two groups, many of them doing so throughout the Easter period, and the June half term. From initially seeing daily attendance of 250 children in the last week of March, this had increased to 1,200 by the end of May.</p> <p>The ambition by Government was that, in addition to being open to serve vulnerable children, and the children of key workers, all primary schools should re-open to Reception, year 1 and year 6 pupils from 1st June, and secondary schools should re-open to year 10 pupils from 15th June.</p> <p>The Council made the decision to advise schools to delay opening, and subsequently indicated that all schools should aim to re-open to the specified year groups no later than 22nd June. Government subsequently supported a more flexible approach to re-opening.</p> <p>With the exception of two Academies, all schools met this revised date and were open to specified year group cohorts by the 22nd. The two Academies opened a few days later.</p> <p>The daily pattern of attendance fluctuates because of the arrangements that individual schools have put in place. For example, many primary schools have established rota's so that not all children are in attendance at the same time, but over the course of a week, an increased number of children have the opportunity to attend. Similarly, secondary schools have admitted no more than 25% of year 10's at any one time, but over a week, all year 10's will attend.</p> <p>The daily attendance rate therefore provides a snapshot of the typical number of children attending on a daily basis, but not the number of children that may be attending over the course of the week.</p>

Q	Party	Question
		On the 23 rd June, with all but two schools open to wider cohorts, there were 4,214 children in attendance. This represents 14.5% of the total 4-16 cohort. This is the second highest attendance rate in GM, behind Stockport. The 4,214 in attendance was made up of 27.5% children of key workers; 10.4% vulnerable children; and the nursery (3.3%), Reception (8.6%), Year 1 (11.4%), Year 6 (17.7%), and year 10 (10.9%)
15	Labour	GM have highlighted the needs to support Care Leavers to ensure that they have the very best chances in life. How are the Council supporting Bury's Care Leavers? Susan Southworth
	Clr Tariq	<p>The Council's budget resolution included the establishment of a Care Leaver Fund. Funding of £100k over a 2 year period was made available. This money will be used to support services to care leavers over and above what would normally be provided in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the involvement of care experienced young people in decision making • Support care experienced young people into independence • To increase the opportunities, experiences and aspirations of Bury's care experienced young people (up to 25) to advance in life. • Advance the education of those persons in particular but not exclusively by enabling the provision of training and support • Promote the good, mental and physical health of care experienced young people <p>At these difficult times this additional support will be crucial to ensure that care leavers are not doubly disadvantaged by the impacts of COVID</p>
16	Conservative	Can the leader advise how many of Labour Councillors have taken the voluntary 10% Council allowance cut as outlined at the May Annual Council. Clr Keeley
	Clr O'Brien	All labour councillors with the special responsibility allowance have accepted and agreed to the 10% cut.
17	Labour	<p>What assessment has been made of the impact of the government's decision to exclude colleges from the £1 billion COVID catch up plan for our two fantastic further education institutions in Bury? Clr Morris</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>It strikes me as odd that a government so committed to 'levelling up' would snub our colleges. While the Tories may see further education as an afterthought, can the Leader confirm what action he can take support our colleges at this time.</p>
	Clr Tariq	We understand that both colleges governing bodies are representing their concerns to government. We work in close and productive partnership with both colleges; celebrate their offer to the students of Bury, and are committed to support their representations.
18	Lib Dem	How many individuals have so far been supported by the different community hubs and will these continue to operate as the lockdown and other restrictions are gradually eased? Clr Wright
	Clr David Jones	On 30th June 2020, the Hubs had responded to requests for support from 2587 people. This included households where more than 1 person received support. Government started

Q	Party	Question
		<p>collecting statistics about number of people using the Hubs and then changed it to number of households. In response, 1526 households received direct weekly support from the hubs. 806 were extremely clinically vulnerable (shielded households) 720 were clinically vulnerable (sub shielded households e.g. over 70). The Government has announced new guidance for shielded people- with some relaxations from 6th July and then a pause in shielding at the end of July. The Hubs have developed a plan to support shielded residents come out of Lockdown including helping them secure prioritised supermarket delivery slots through a DEFRA scheme and by doing escorted first visits back to a supermarket. Discussions are underway to handback the collection and delivery of medications with local pharmacies over the next six weeks. Work has also begun to keep and embed the neighbourhood hubs into the proposed new neighbourhood working model alongside an early help offer and the Integrated Neighbourhood Health and Social Care Teams. To help get this going some of the Covid-19 Test and Trace Government funding available in Bury will fund the first twelve months for 5 Hub Managers, 5 Community Connectors and 2 Community Engagement Officers.</p>
19	Conservative	<p>The Labour group on the LGA have recently stated they wanted to review all statues/monuments in their areas. What is the position of Bury Council and are they intending to conduct such a review? Cllr Dene Vernon</p>
	Cllr Jane Black	<p>Heritage is an important aspect of Bury’s culture, and as inaugural Greater Manchester Town of Culture, the Council is exploring how best to commemorate people from Bury who have had significant positive impacts on wider society, as we saw last year with the unveiling of a statue to Victoria Wood. It is important that such monuments reflect the demographics and cultures of our Borough activity will be taking place to engage the views of local residents on ‘blue plaques’ to celebrate the people and places from across all our cultures and communities that have made a positive contribution to the richness of Bury’s heritage.</p>
20	Labour	<p>Can the Leader give an update on the installation of new street lights in Bury? Cllr Martin Hayes</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>How will this investment benefit our Borough?</p>
	Cllr Lucy Smith	<p>The £5.5m street lighting column replacement programme has been delayed due to the covid-19 crisis and lock down restrictions. However, significant progress has been made designing schemes during the lockdown period and many schemes are now “shovel ready”. The first batch of replacements are now scheduled to commence in mid-July.</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>This programme of work will replace street lighting columns that are beyond their serviceable life, whilst reducing our energy consumption and carbon emissions, through the use of the latest CMS controlled LED technology.</p>
21	Conservative	<p>Bury Market is a brilliant asset for Bury Council, one which benefits the wider Bury economy greatly. The hardworking traders have been hit hard due to COVID-19 and a reduction in footfall. Will the Leader agree that Market rents should be reviewed and benchmarked against other Markets across the UK? Cllr. Jackie Harris</p>

Q	Party	Question
	Cllr Jane Black	A full package and measures have been put in place to support Bury Market traders made up of £1.7m Government and Council assistance. This has been described by the National Association of British Markets Association as one of the best packages pulled together in the country. We shall continue to benchmark and review Bury Market and invest in its promotion to ensure it retains its status as being of the best markets in the North West.
22	Conservative	The regeneration of our high streets is going to be vital post COVID-19. Can the Leader assure the Council that Bury Council and its partners will submit a competitive bid to future government high street funds? Cllr. Dorothy Gunther
	Cllr Eamonn O'Brien	<p>High streets across the country have been facing increasingly significant challenges for many years – largely as a result of changing retail patterns involving a rapid increase in on-line retailing; falling consumer demand since the 2008/2009 economic crisis; intensive price competition; and consumer’s growing preference to spend on ‘experiences’ – such as travel and eating out.</p> <p>The present Covid-19 situation will serve only to accelerate a pattern of decline in town centres which has been evident for some time. Based on these challenges, towns need to diversify and re-define their role – reducing their reliance on the retail sector to create unique places that are attractive for people to live, work and play whilst transforming the town centre into a day and night time visitor destination.</p> <p>You can be assured that the Council will explore all opportunities to support the regeneration of our town centres, including bidding for any available funding streams.</p> <p>However, what is clear is that for funding bids to have the best chance of success, they must be based on tangible projects that have been comprehensively planned within the context of a cohesive strategy for the wider town centre.</p> <p>It is for this very reason that we are currently working on developing robust town centre strategies and masterplans, such as the Strategic Regeneration Framework for Radcliffe.</p> <p>It is vital that we have these plans and strategies in place as a way of setting out a clear vision with investable projects that we can use to secure funding and this will be particularly important as we emerge and attempt to recover from the economic impacts arising from the on-going Covid situation.</p>
23	Lib Dem	Can the Leader clarify why the decision has been made, during financially difficult times, to spend an additional £0.5 million per year on new director and assistant director positions? Councillor S Wright
	Cllr Eamonn O'Brien	The Cabinet has determined a requirement for significant internal transformation, to secure the systems, processes, skills and capacity to achieve its ambitions for outcome improvements. This work began two years ago and, following investment in a new leadership team, has resulted in the establishment of new delivery platforms across health and care including the LCO and OCO; the delivery of a balanced budget last year which increased reserves for the first time in many years; a financial strategy for 2020/21 and establishment of a corporate core.

Q	Party	Question
		<p>The strength of the new team is evident in the COVID emergency and recovery response which has involved system-wide leadership across health and social care; community advice, leadership and support and the proactive management of all council services to maintain the vast majority of provision on a remote basis.</p> <p>Looking forward, additional capacity and skills are required to deliver further new priorities which have been determined by the council and with reference to feedback from the LGA Peer Review in 2018. The future work plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fundamental review and re-set of the council’s financial strategy framework including the capital programme • leadership to develop a clear strategy to achieve the borough’s challenging ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030 • Development and delivery of a bold community strategy including the establishment of a neighbourhood model which will mainstream the success of the Community Hubs which were established as part of the emergency response. <p>The Cabinet planned for additional capacity requirements to deliver these objectives during this financial year and made provision in the 2021 budget from which these posts will be funded.</p>
24	Conservative	<p>Does Bury Council plan to follow the lead of other councils across the country such as Plymouth and Sheffield in introducing wildflower embankments across the borough? Such a project could bring back nature and wildlife to our road sides, reduce the need for cutting and mowing and make Burys roadsides more salubrious. I know this was something the former Head of Operations was looking into, is there a progress report please? Cllr. Paul Cropper</p>
	Cllr Alan Quinn	<p>Bury Council is mindful of the need to protect the ecosystem and to promote biodiversity and is reviewing the maintenance regime for highway verges and green spaces.</p> <p>Options being considered include allowing areas to return to nature promoting the growth of indigenous plants and sowing wild flowers.</p> <p>These options will not be appropriate for all highway verges as it is essential not to compromise the safety of road users, nor will it be appropriate for all green space settings, where for example, more formal maintenance is fitting.</p> <p>We intend to trial a small select number of sites in financial year 2021/22, with wider roll out planned if successful.</p>
25	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader update the council on delegated decisions carried out by the new Deputy Leaders since the last meeting? Cllr. Sam Hurst</p>
	Cllr O’Brien	<p>Delegated decisions are made pursuant to the powers delegated in the Council’s constitution and are recorded and published in accordance with those provisions on the Council’s website</p>
26	Lib Dem	<p>Could the Leader inform members what proportion of school pupils have had weekly personal contact from their teachers whilst schools have been closed and could this information be provided by Key Stage? Councillor C Tegolo</p>
	Cllr Tariq	<p>This level of detail is not available to the authority at this time. Schools are collating this information as they are required to report daily to the DfE about their contact with children.</p>

REPORT FOR DECISION



DECISION OF:	The Council
DATE:	8 July 2020
SUBJECT:	Monitoring of Urgent Items and Exemption of Call-In
REPORT FROM:	The Leader of the Council
CONTACT OFFICER:	Janet Witkowski, Acting Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
TYPE OF DECISION:	Non key decision
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain.
SUMMARY:	The report advises Council of Executive Key Decisions that have been taken as urgent items under Rule 18 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and that have been exempt from call-in, because the decision needed to be implemented as a matter of urgency, since 25 March 2020.
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	That Council notes the Executive Key Decisions that have been taken as urgent items and which were exempted from call-in.
IMPLICATIONS:	No implications.
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	No financial implications.
Equality/Diversity implications:	None.
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	The Council's Constitution requires that Executive Key Decisions that have been taken as urgent items under Rule 18 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and

	that have been exempt from call-in, be reported within 3 months to a meeting of the Full Council. This reports provides details of those decisions taken since 25 March 2020.
Wards Affected:	All Wards.
Scrutiny Interest:	No.

1.0 Monitoring of Urgent Decisions

- 1.1 Under Rule 18 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, it is reported that the following executive key decisions have been taken as special urgency items and as such have not met the required publication period of 28 days (and less than five days' notice for open items) on the Council's Forward Plan.
- 1.2 An Emergency Powers Group was set up to facilitate the making of urgent decisions where practicable, comprising the Leader, relevant Cabinet members, Chair of Scrutiny Committee ,Leader of the Opposition and other Group Leaders and relevant officers.

(i) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 26.3.2020 - Progression of five Council owned sites for new housing development**

Decisions Taken:

1. To approve the first phase a package of sites for redevelopment for housing for sale and rent on Council owned sites.
2. To approve that up to £1.5m of funding available for this programme in the 2019/20 capital programme can be used for feasibility works up to contract signing and that further funding requirements will be subject to future reports to Cabinet;
3. To approve that these progress with Wilmot Dixon through the Procurement Hub framework.
4. To support pursuit of bids to Homes England or their Wave partners for funding.
5. That all these sites come back to Cabinet with full financial appraisal consideration before any contractual commitments with a contractor partner or agreements to loan finance are finalised.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

To enable work to continue on these sites to continue with the target start on site and submission to Homes England for funding in 2020.

(ii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 2.4.2020 – commissioning external support to undertaken checks for taxi driver renewals**

Decision Taken:

To waive procurement rules to allow for the Licensing Service during the COVID-19 Pandemic to permit Personnel Checks, an external company, to undertake Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for "taxi" driver renewals online.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

To enable an online solution to be implemented so as to ensure the safe working practices for staff in light of Covid-19, and to ensure business continuity so that mandatory DBS checks can be maintained.

(iii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 2.4.2020 - Fees and Charges**

Decision taken:

That fees and charges for 2020/21 remain at the 2019/20 for a period of 6 months after which they will be reviewed.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

Fees and charges across the council are due to increase on 1 April. The decision to apply an inflationary increase was made prior to the COVID-19 crisis. Any decision to freeze fees and charges at their 2019/20 need to be made urgently to avoid bills at a higher level being issued.

(iv) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 9.4.2020 - 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**

Decisions taken:

1. 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.
2. To delegate responsibility for agreeing appropriate relief to Executive Directors.
3. For decisions regarding relief to be reported to the Head of Strategic Procurement and monitored by the S151 Officer.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

This action is urgently required in order to reduce the risk of market failure and to ensure future continuity of key services.

(v) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 9.4.2020 - Extension to the Integrated Sexual Health Service contract**

Decision taken:

To extend the contract under Regulation 72 (1)(c) of the PCR2015 for a period of 12 months with Virgin Care Ltd, which is a collaborative contract with Bury, Rochdale and Oldham councils.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

The contract is due to end on March 31 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.

(vi) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 9.4.2020– Support for Adult Social Care Providers during the Covid-19 pandemic**

1. To offer social care providers the following support.

PPE - 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 – the Council will pay 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, the Council 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, the Council 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 – the Council will pay the commissioned hours rather than actual time delivered during this period.

Holding packages – the Council 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.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

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.

(vii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 9.4.2020 – Rough Sleeper Provision**

Decision taken

To agree to the use of Fairways Lodge Prestwich to accommodate rough sleepers in Bury.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

It is a high priority to provide local provision for our Rough sleepers in light of the Covid-19 pandemic to enable them to self-isolate and lockdown to reduce the spread of the virus.

(viii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 16.4.2020 - Hardship Support for Individuals and Businesses**

Decisions taken:

1. To note the allocation of £1.888m hardship monies to the council and the criteria on which is to be allocated.
2. To note the forecast expenditure of £1.545m on the funds and the remaining unallocated amount of £0.343m.

3. To agree the proposals to allocate the remaining £0.343k as follows:
 - £100k to the councils existing hardship fund so that is used to provide emergency support to those in crisis;
 - £50k match funding to support the council's proposals to maximise access to the welfare system and take-up of benefits through partnership working with the citizen's advice bureau;
 - £193k to support those in need of additional welfare support – to be allocated throughout the year based subject to the availability of funding.
4. To develop a Service Level Agreement with the Citizens Advice Bureau to work in partnership with the council to support those trying to access the welfare systems and to maximise their benefits and that the solution utilises the one-off monies made available as part of the 2020/21 budget resolution.
5. To note the potential impact on the council tax income of increased eligibility for the Council Tax Support Scheme and that this is currently a financial risk that will need to be managed and monitored throughout the year.
6. To note the existing flexibilities regarding the payment of council tax to support those who are experiencing financial problems;
7. To approve the creation of an 'In Work Poverty Hardship Fund' by utilising a balance of £42,000 carried forward from the 2019/20 financial year from members allowances. Note that subject to approval that details on the criteria of the scheme and access arrangements to come forward.
8. To Note the support to businesses that is currently available and the mechanisms in which Bury businesses are able to access advice and support

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

It provides details of support required for individuals and businesses during the pandemic.

(ix) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 22.4.2020 – Community Hubs**

Decision taken:

1. The Community Hub Teams do not take a role in proactively contacting residents identified as vulnerable to Covid 19. Proactive case management will instead continue within health and care teams and Housing with referrals to Hubs for support outside of service provision as appropriate and referrals will continue to be taken from the National Shielding Contact Centre.
2. A digital consultation exercise is held to invite wider communities to indicate what support they would like from the Hubs and the help and capacity they can bring.

3. Communication continues around the work of the Hubs including encouraging residents to self-identify and agree to the Council processing their information in order that we may update our records and provide proactive support
4. Community Hubs are developed to provide community infrastructure; manage formal referrals and develop and direct residents to self-help materials
5. A Public Service Partnership hub is established to take a data-led approach to management of issues outside the community and health & care remit
6. A detailed neighbourhood model of governance is developed.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

A key part of Bury's Covid 19 emergency response has been the establishment of five Community Hubs, to provide the infrastructure to support vulnerable people. The initial priority was to support those clinically vulnerable.

(x) **Leader Decision 23.4.2020 - Strategic Investment**

Decision taken:

Approval of support for a key asset and other recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Chief Finance Officer.

Delegation of authority to the Chief Executive, Council Solicitor and Joint Chief Finance Officer to carry out the necessary actions and activities to give effect to this decision.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

There is an urgent requirement for the Council to consider support to a key asset in Greater Manchester as a result of the global pandemic COVID-19.

The asset is of strategic economic and financial importance to Bury, GM and the North West and provides a significant number of jobs to local residents. The legal or financial position of the Council or the interests of the Council and/or the residents of Bury would be prejudiced if the matter is not determined before the next scheduled Council meeting where it could be considered.

(xi) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 26.5.2020 - Distribution of the Infection Prevention Control Grant for Care Homes**

Decision taken:

1. To note Bury's allocation of £2.4m from the recently announced Infection Control Grant for Care Homes;

2. To note the grant conditions and the approve the distribution methodology developed by the Council;
3. To note that a further paper will be produced on the allocation of the remaining 25% of funding

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

To reduce transmission of coronavirus in care homes.

(xii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 26.5.2020 - Proposed Process for Dispersion of Discretionary Grant**

Decision taken:

To agrees the approach as detailed in the report to the Emergency Powers Group, including criteria, eligibility and process of payments in order to deliver the Government Top-up to local business grant funds scheme (Discretionary Grant) to eligible applicants

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

Funding needs to be released to business as a matter of urgency.

(xiii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 26.5.2020 - Covid 19 pandemic: Bury council Response to Central Government Guidance on Reopening of Schools Date 1st June 2020**

Decision taken:

That approval of the position set out in the letter that was sent to schools on 18th May 2020 advising governing bodies and head teachers that Bury Council's advice is to open schools as soon as they are satisfied it is safe to do so, following individual risk assessments of schools.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

In order to ensure that children and staff re safe a full risk assessment and appropriate safety procedures should be in place before additional groups of pupils are re-admitted. The full risk assessments to be completed by each school and the measures they may need to implement are unlikely to be completed by 1st June as per government guidance or by the next Cabinet Meeting scheduled for 10 June 2020. We are supporting school leaders with this very important and complex process and are aware that some schools, particularly larger schools, may need additional time to put safety measures in place.

(xiv) **Leader Decision 10.6.2020 -Revision to Discretionary Grant Programme**

Decision taken:

Approve new calculation of Discretionary Grant which is already operational and is time restricted and time limited and cannot be deferred. This will enable the payment of enhanced grants to key market traders in Bury many of whom may not be able to return without this financial support.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

The decision is urgently required to enable payment of the grants as a matter of urgency to those requiring urgent financial support.

(xv) **Executive Director Decision via Emergency Powers Group 15.6.2020 – Market Rent Concession**

Decision taken:

To approve a further extension of the rent free period to the end of June for Bury Market Traders recommencing trading on 15 June and to the 18 July for traders who can trade from 4 July.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

The Market reopens on Monday 15 June and an urgent was sought to confirm the extension of the rent free period which ended on 16 May.

(xvi) **Chief Executive Decision via Emergency Powers Group 29.6.2020 - Covid-19 Local Outbreak Plan**

Decision taken:

To approve the Bury Covid-19 Local Outbreak Plan for publication on 30th June 2020.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

There is a statutory requirement to publish the Local Outbreak Plan by 30th June 2020.

(xvii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 29.6.2020 - Discretionary Grant Scheme for Businesses – Phase 2**

Decision taken:

That a Phase 2 Discretionary Grant Scheme for Businesses be established to support the following 5 categories of business:

- Organisations servicing the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure sector.

- Retail, Leisure and Hospitality organisations who are marginally over the £51k rateable value threshold.
- Early Years Providers that can demonstrate:
 - Is on Ofsted's Early Years Register
 - Provides care and education for children up to 5 years old
 - Rateable value of over £15,000 up to £51,000
 - Operating within a commercial setting
 - Can demonstrate continued operation i.e. will not close
- Cultural institutions that contribute to town centre footfall and the visitor economy.
- Those organisations that could have applied for Phase 1 but missed the deadline.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

The Council's Discretionary Grant Scheme for Businesses was launched in June. When the scheme was launched it was envisaged that there may be an opportunity for a further extension (Phase 2) of the scheme however this would be subject to the availability of funding once those applications from eligible businesses for Phase 1 had been processed.

The phase 1 application deadline has been reached. To date 156 grant awards have been made totalling £0.673m. Whilst there are still some applications to be processed, it is estimated that the total amount will not exceed £1m thereby leaving at least c£0.957m available for Phase 2. This report sets out proposals for Phase 2.

The scheme is designed to support small businesses in the borough as they deal with the impact of COVID-19. It is therefore imperative that any additional funding that may be available is agreed and paid out as quickly as possible. The urgency process is needed in order that this can be achieved.

The scheme has been designed to seek to provide assistance to businesses who have not been eligible for other forms of support provide by the Government. Our objective is to secure business survivals, retain the local employment base and provide financial support to enable businesses to return once more normal trading conditions have prevailed.

(xvii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 29.6.2020 - Distribution of the remaining 25% Infection Prevention Control Grant to Care at Home (domiciliary care) and Supported Living Providers**

Decisions taken:

1. To note the allocation of £2.4m from the recently announced Infection Control Grant, with 75% already approved and distributed to Care Homes (as set out in xi in the report - Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group 26.5.2020) ;
2. To note the grant conditions and approve the distribution methodology developed by the Council;

3. To agree Bury's allocation of the remaining 25% of this funding to Care at Home (Domiciliary Care) and Supported Living providers to support infection control and workforce resilience in this sector.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was:-

To reduce transmission of coronavirus between carers and customers supported in their own homes by Care at Home providers and Supported Living providers and to support workforce resilience in this sector to deal with Covid-19.

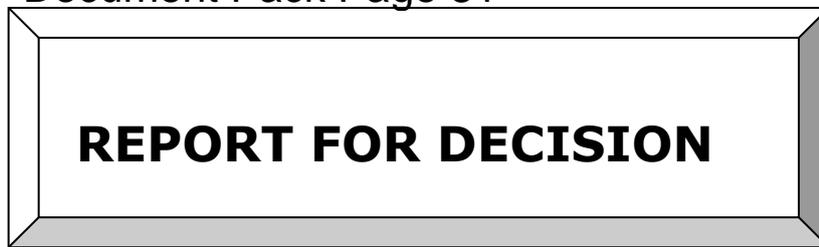
List of Background Papers:-

Council Constitution
Records of Urgent Decisions

Contact Details:-

Janet Witkowski
Acting Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
Email: j.witkowski@bury.gov.uk

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DECISION OF:	COUNCIL
DATE:	8 July 2020
SUBJECT:	Strategic Commissioning Board Membership, Voting and Terms of Reference
REPORT FROM:	Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
CONTACT OFFICER:	Janet Witkowski Acting Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
TYPE OF DECISION:	COUNCIL
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	This report sets out the revised membership and voting arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board following the recent changes to the Council's Cabinet and its the terms of reference.
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	<p>It is recommended that Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approves the revised membership, voting and quoracy arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board as set out in the attached report to the Board on 8 June 2020; • Approves the attached revised Strategic Commissioning Board Terms of Reference.
IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes No
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk	

Considerations:	
Equality/Diversity implications:	
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes Comments
Wards Affected:	
Scrutiny Interest:	

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR:

Joint Executive Team	Cabinet Member/Chair Briefed	Ward Members (if necessary)	Partners
Scrutiny Committee	Other Committee	Council	Comms

1.0 BACKGROUND

As part of the Bury Locality Plan for Health and Social Care Transformation 2017 to 2021 and to progress the wider public service reform agenda, a commitment was made to fully align and integrate health and social care in Bury, between the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to form Bury Health and Social Care One Commissioning Organisation.

As part of this commitment, the Council and CCG agreed to form a single "Strategic Commissioning Board" (SCB) in Bury to bring together the integrated governance of health and social care commissioning in its widest sense.

The SCB has therefore been established as a Joint Committee, under the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000 (as amended) to support the delivery of health and care integration in Bury. It has an agreed memberships, voting arrangements and Terms of Reference.

2.0 ISSUES

At the Annual Council meeting on 20 May 2020, the Council approved a number of the constitutional amendments and in particular changes to the Council's Cabinet, from the previous 7 portfolio's to 9. This change necessarily impacts on the voting arrangements of the SCB, and therefore amendments to the voting arrangements are now required, together with consequential amendments to its Terms of Reference.

The attached report to the SCB on 8 June 2020, sets out the proposed arrangements in light of these changes, in that the number of Cabinet member votes on the SCB increases to 9 and also to ensure an appropriate balance, the

CCG will allocate 9 votes to its Governing Body members.

In relation to quoracy, it is proposed that both the Cabinet and CCG voting members be increased to 4 representatives from the previous 3. In line with the Partnership Agreement and pooled budget arrangement, there should be equal votes on both sides in order for the decision to be compliant. The requirement for one joint Executive Officer also to be present to achieve quoracy will remain.

In addition, in view of the proposed changes to membership, voting and quoracy, the Terms of Reference for the SCB have been amended to reflect this and are attached to the SCB report.

The SCB on 8 June 2020 supported the proposed changes.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The Council is therefore asked to approve these changes for the reasons set out above and in the attached report.

It is recommended that Council:

- Approves the revised membership, voting and quoracy arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board as set out in the attached report to the Board on 8 June 2020;
- Approves the attached revised Strategic Commissioning Board Terms of Reference.

List of Background Papers:-

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE COMMISSIONING OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES (INCLUDING THE BETTER CARE FUND) 1 October 2019

Contact Details:-

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Meeting: Strategic Commissioning Board			
Meeting Date	08 June 2020	Action	Approve
Item No	05	Confidential / Freedom of Information Status	No
Title	Strategic Commissioning Board Membership and Voting		
Presented By	Geoff Little, Chief Executive and Accountable Officer		
Author	Lisa Featherstone, Deputy Director of Business Delivery		
Clinical Lead	-		
Council Lead	-		

Executive Summary

This paper sets out the revised membership and voting arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board following the recent changes to the Council Cabinet to enable the Board to continue to operate efficiently and effectively in discharging the duties delegated to it from the Council Cabinet and CCG Governing Body.

The Strategic Commissioning Board has been established as a Joint Committee, under the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000 (as amended) to support the delivery of health and care integration in Bury.

Whilst developing the governance arrangements, including voting arrangements, a number of discussions were undertaken with the Cabinet, Council, Governing Body, CCG membership and NHS England.

The arrangements were approved by all parties consulted and an overarching governance paper was submitted to the Strategic Commissioning Board in October 2019, including the final Terms of Reference which set out the voting arrangements in respect to the SCB. This reflected no more than 7 voting members and 2 non-voting members from the CCG and 7 voting members from the Council Cabinet plus two (2) opposition party representatives in attendance.

Following the Annual Council Meeting in May 2020, and subsequent changes to the Council's Cabinet there is an increased number of Cabinet members, from the previous 7 to 9.

This change impacts on the voting arrangements of the SCB, and whilst it is envisaged that all decisions will be made by consensus, appropriate provisions must be in place in the eventuality that a vote is required.

It is proposed that the Cabinet member votes on the SCB increases to match the number of Cabinet members. Additionally, and to ensure an appropriate balance, the CCG will also allocate 9 votes to its Governing Body members. In doing so, it will exclude the long-standing vacant clinical director post, and will include all posts required on a Governing Body by statute.

and recommended guidance, in addition to the three existing Clinical Directors.

In relation to quoracy, it is proposed that both the Cabinet and CCG voting members be increased to 4 representatives from the previous 3. In line with the Partnership Agreement and pooled budget arrangement, there should be equal votes on both sides in order for the decision to be compliant. The requirement for one joint Executive Officer also to be present to achieve quoracy will remain.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Strategic Commissioning Board:

- Supports the revised membership, voting and quoracy arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board as set out in the paper and revised Terms of Reference;
- Recommend the draft Terms of Reference to the respective governance arrangements for formal approval.

Links to Strategic Objectives/Corporate Plan	Yes
Does this report seek to address any of the risks included on the Governing Body / Council Assurance Framework? If yes, state which risk below:	No

Implications						
Are there any quality, safeguarding or patient experience implications?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has any engagement (clinical, stakeholder or public/patient) been undertaken in relation to this report?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have any departments/organisations who will be affected been consulted?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any conflicts of interest arising from the proposal or decision being requested?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any financial implications?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any legal implications?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any health and safety issues?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
How do proposals align with Health & Wellbeing Strategy?	The SCB will support delivery of the health and Well-being Strategy through collective decision making to support the health and well-being of the patients, residents and population of Bury.					
How do proposals align with Locality Plan?	Establishing the OCO is explicit within the Locality Plan.					

Implications						
How do proposals align with the Commissioning Strategy?	The SCB will support delivery of the Commissioning Strategy.					
Are there any Public, Patient and Service User Implications?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
How do the proposals help to reduce health inequalities?	The SCB will bring together the Council and CCG to ensure that future decisions are made jointly and for the benefit of the population of Bury					
Is there any scrutiny interest?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
What are the Information Governance/ Access to Information implications?						
Has an Equality, Privacy or Quality Impact Assessment been completed?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is an Equality, Privacy or Quality Impact Assessment required?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there any associated risks including Conflicts of Interest?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Are the risks on the CCG /Council/ Strategic Commissioning Board's Risk Register?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Additional details	The establishment of the SCB has been socialised with key stakeholders, including staff, elected members, clinicians and other interested parties over the last 6 months. This engagement has informed the shape and remit of the SCB, which has set out its membership and terms of reference in accordance with what is legally permissible under existing legislation.					

Governance and Reporting		
Meeting	Date	Outcome

Strategic Commissioning Board
Review of Membership, Voting and Quoracy

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Strategic Commissioning Board has been established as a Joint Committee, under the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000 (as amended) to support the delivery of health and care integration in Bury.
- 1.2 This paper sets out the proposed revised membership and voting arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board following the recent changes to the Council Cabinet

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In September 2015, NHS Bury CCG and Bury Local Authority signaled their ambition to work more closely to ensure better outcomes for the Borough of Bury through the most economic, efficient and effective use of the Bury pound to improve outcomes for the residents of the Borough.
- 2.2 The Terms of Reference for the Strategic Commissioning Board have previously been approved through the respective governance arrangements of each organisation with the first meeting of Board taking place in October 2019.
- 2.3 A paper setting out the Governance arrangements including voting arrangements was submitted to the Strategic Commissioning Board in October 2019. This included a proposal for no more than 7 voting members and 2 non-voting members from the CCG and 7 voting members from the Council Cabinet plus two opposition party representatives in attendance. These arrangements were also reflected within the Terms of Reference.

3.0 Membership and Voting arrangement of the Strategic Commissioning Board

- 3.1 The recent changes to the Council's Cabinet in May 2020, have resulted in there being 9 Cabinet members as opposed to the previous 7 members. In order to ensure that there is an appropriate balance between the CCG and Council voting arrangements it is proposed that the number of votes for the CCG and Council be increased to 9 votes each.
- 3.2 The Terms of Reference for the Strategic Commissioning Board have been amended to propose that the number of votes be increased to 9 for the Cabinet members and also in respect to Governing Body members (see Appendix 1, Section 14).
- 3.3 Additionally, it is proposed that the quoracy requirements also increase from the current 3 Cabinet members, 3 Governing Body members and one joint Executive Director to 4 members from both the Cabinet and Governing Body and 1 joint Executive Director.
- 3.4 The proposed revised membership and voting arrangements are also included at Appendix 2 of the report for information.

- 3.5 The SCB will aim to achieve consensus for all decisions and securing the support of both partners will be critical to the success of most of the decisions made. In exceptional circumstances where consensus cannot be reached, and should a vote be required, it will be by a simple majority of voting members present. If the vote is tied and a deadlock position is reached, the item of business will be referred back, with the minuted views of the Strategic Commissioning Board members, to the respective decision-making body from which the item of business is delegated.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 The Strategic Commissioning Board is recommended to:
- Supports the revised membership, voting and quoracy arrangements for the Strategic Commissioning Board as set out in the paper and revised Terms of Reference;
 - Recommend the draft Terms of Reference to the respective governance arrangements for formal approval.

Appendix 1: Strategic Commissioning Board Terms of Reference

Context

1. As part of the Bury Locality Plan for Health and Social Care Transformation 2017 to 2021 and to progressing the wider public service reform agenda there is a commitment to full alignment and integration between the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group to form Bury Health and Social Care One Commissioning Organisation.
2. As part of this commitment the statutory bodies have agreed to form a single “Strategic Commissioning Board” in Bury to bring together the integrated governance of health and social care commissioning in its widest sense.
3. The following document sets out the terms of reference for the Strategic Commissioning Board (SCB).
4. Any changes to these Terms of Reference must be approved by the Council Cabinet and the CCG Governing Body

Statutory Framework

5. The SCB is not a statutory body. It is not intended to replace any of the existing statutory bodies in the locality; instead it is a joint committee of the two statutory organisations, Bury Metropolitan Borough Council (“the Council”) and NHS Bury Clinical Commissioning Group (“the CCG”). The SCB will have overarching responsibility for all powers as have been delegated to it by the two statutory organisations (subject to any reserved matters) and set out in the associated Scheme of Delegation.

Role of the Strategic Commissioning Board

6. The SCB will be responsible for setting the principles and high-level strategic direction across the full responsibilities of health and care commissioning that is the responsibility of the two partners and will align wider Council, CCG and public services by inclusion so far as possible.
7. The SCB has been established to make decisions on the objectives, priorities, strategic design, commissioning and overall delivery of health and care services, including the oversight of their effectiveness, quality and performance.
8. In performing its role, the SCB will exercise its functions in accordance with duties delegated to it to support the delivery of the Bury Locality Plan for Health and Social Care Transformation 2017 to 2021, and its successor strategies and plans; including the Bury Strategy.
9. Members of the SCB have a collective responsibility for its operation. In undertaking its role, clinical and democratic accountability will be implicit within all decisions, as will respect for all professional areas of knowledge and expertise. Decisions will be based on achieving better outcomes and experience for the residents of Bury and those that use services within the Borough, better quality and better value.

10. The ethos of partnership working will underpin the programme of work, recognising that on occasion, difficult decisions may be required to benefit the population of Bury.
11. The SCB will have responsibility for providing a Bury response to Greater Manchester commissioning matters.

Core Business

12. As the SCB will operate as a “place based”, strategic, outcomes-based commissioner, the items of business for the SCB are likely to be:
 - a) Understanding the aspirations, strengths and needs of Bury communities
 - b) Leading collaboratively agreement of priorities for improvement
 - c) Leading collaboratively the agreement of commissioning and enabling strategies and associated use of financial and other resources
 - d) Enabling and supporting others to fulfil their roles within the system
 - e) Providing oversight and gaining assurance in respect of outcomes, quality, performance and finance
 - f) Providing leadership, oversight and assurance in respect of the development of an effective “One Commissioning Organisation”
13. The items of business for the SCB are unlikely to include detailed plans for operational service design and re-design.

Membership

14. The Strategic Commissioning Board shall consist of the following members:
 - Councillors – Cabinet Members of the Council to include no more than 9 voting Cabinet Members;
 - CCG Governing Body Members – 9 members to include 9 voting members, of which the majority will be clinicians;
 - The joint Chief Executive and Accountable Officer;
 - The joint Chief Finance Officer (including S151 responsibilities); and
 - The joint Executive Director of Strategic Commissioning.
15. In addition, other Officers and representatives will be invited to the SCB, and will be recognised as in attendance, enabled to participate fully in discussions to inform the decisions of the SCB, but will not hold voting rights. This will include, but is not limited to:
 - 2 opposition party representatives;
 - additional members of the CCG Governing Body (who are not members of the SCB)
 - additional members of the CCG/Council Joint Executive Team or any such equivalent successor team (who are not members of the SCB)

Chair

16. The SCB will be jointly chaired by the Council’s Leader on behalf of the Council and the CCG Chair on behalf of the CCG, with chairing responsibility rotated between meetings.
17. In the event of the Chair of the SCB being unavailable for all or part of the meeting, the

following deputising arrangements will apply:

- The Deputy Council Leader will deputise for the Council Leader; and
- The CCG Chair will nominate a deputy drawn from the CCG members of the SCB.

Quorum

18. The meeting will achieve quoracy if the following requirements are satisfied:

- A minimum of 4 elected members (voting), of which 1 must be the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council;
- A minimum of 4 Governing Body (voting) members, of which 2 must be practicing clinicians; and
- At least one joint Executive Officer.

Voting

19. It is anticipated that decisions will be made by consensus, however in the event that this cannot be achieved, a vote will be undertaken. Each voting member of the SCB will have one vote and a simple majority vote will be sufficient to carry the decision.

20. In the event that the vote is tied, and a deadlock position is reached, the item of business will be referred back, with the minuted views of the Strategic Commissioning Board members, to the respective decision-making body from which the item of business is delegated.

Deputies

21. Deputies are only permitted in respect to the Chairing of the SCB or Officer members.

22. With the exception of deputising arrangements for the Chair of the SCB, nominated deputies will not hold a vote nor will they count towards quoracy.

Frequency of meetings

23. The SCB will routinely meet at monthly times; a schedule of pre-arranged meeting dates will be distributed on an annual basis with a proposed annual calendar of business.

24. The meetings of the SCB shall be held in public:

- a) subject to any exemption provided by law
- b) the SCB may resolve to exclude the public from a meeting that is open to the public (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings or for any other reason permitted by both the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as amended or succeeded from time to time) and the Local Government Act 1972.

Attendance

25. Members are expected to attend every meeting.

26. Where a member is unable to attend a meeting, apologies should be notified in advance to

the Chair of the meeting.

Conduct of Meetings

27. The SCB will give no less than five clear working days' notice of its meetings.
28. The agenda and supporting papers will be published at least 5 clear working days in advance of the meeting, not including the publication day and the day of the meeting. Authors of papers presented must use the required template. Papers must be received by the committee secretary in line with the published deadlines unless, in exceptional circumstances, explicit agreement has been reached with the SCB Chair.
29. The SCB will be appropriately resourced to ensure the timely distribution of papers, production of minutes, action and decision tracking, and the maintenance of the formal record and documentation of the business of the SCB.
30. Presenters of papers can expect all SCB members to have read the papers and should keep to a summary that outlines the purpose of their paper/report and key issues arising since the time of publication which may materially influence the decision or actions of the SCB. SCB members and others in attendance may question the presenter.

Conflict Of Interest

31. As a statutory Joint Committee formed by the two statutory organisations, the SCB must comply with the standards set by the Local Government Act 2000 as set out in Part 5(a) of the Council's Constitution and Section 140 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (as amended) as set out in Section 6 of the CCG Constitution.
32. In addition, the Register of Interests will be maintained for the members of the SCB and published on the Council and CCG websites.

Reporting

33. A highlight report from the SCB will be submitted to the Governing Body and Cabinet meetings, drawing the attention of the respective Statutory Committee to any items where further action is required. The SCB minutes will be included as an appendix to this report.

Monitoring Compliance

34. Meetings of the SCB shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of both bodies Constitutions, Standing Orders, Scheme of Reservation and delegation of the respective partners and the duties delegated.
35. The SCB shall submit an annual report to the Governing Body and Council, incorporating progress, reporting arrangements, frequency of meetings and membership attendance. A summary of which will be included within the respective Governance Statements.

36. A review of effectiveness of the SCB will be undertaken at the end of the first year of operation and at further intervals as agreed appropriate.
37. The Terms of Reference of the SCB will be reviewed at least annually and submitted through the appropriate Governance arrangements for approval.

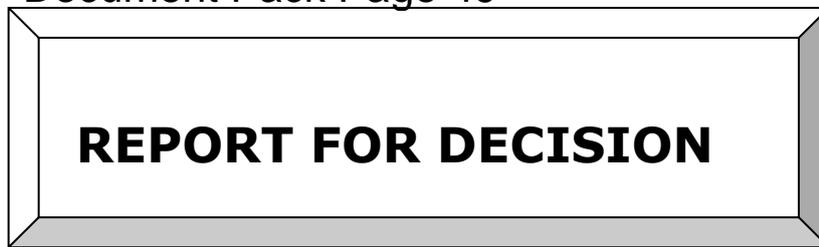
Appendix 2: Membership and Voting Status

Role	Current Post Holder	Membership Status	Voting Status	Deputy Permitted
Council Leader and portfolio holder for Finance and Growth	Cllr Eamonn O'Brien	Member	Voting	✓ (Deputy Leader)
Council Deputy Leader and Portfolio holder for Children, Young People and Skills	Cllr Tamoor Tariq	Member	Voting	
Council First Deputy and Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing	Cllr Andrea Simpson	Member	Voting	-
Council Elected Member and Portfolio Holder for Environment and Climate Change	Cllr Alan Quinn	Member	Voting	-
Council Elected Member and Portfolio Holder for Cultural Economy	Cllr Jane Black	Member	Voting	-
Council Elected Member and Portfolio Holder for Communities and Emergency Planning	Cllr David Jones	Member	Voting	
Council Elected Member and Portfolio Holder for Transport and Infrastructure	Cllr Lucy Smith	Member	Voting	
Council Elected Member and Portfolio Holder for Corporate Affairs and HR	Cllr Tahir Rafiq	Member	Voting	
Council Elected Member and Portfolio Holder for Housing Services	Cllr Clare Cummins	Member	Voting	
Council Opposition Member	Cllr Nick Jones	In attendance	Non-Voting	-
Council Opposition Member	Cllr Michael Powell	In attendance	Non-Voting	-
CCG Chair (Clinical)	Dr Jeff Schryer	Member	Voting	✓ (when Chair of Mtg)

Clinical Director	Mr Howard Hughes	Member	Voting	-
Clinical Director	Dr Cathy Fines	Member	Voting	-
Clinical Director	Dr Daniel Cooke	Member	Voting	-
Lay Member – Quality	Mr Peter Bury	Member	Voting	-
Lay Member - PPI	Mr David McCann	Member	Voting	-
Lay Member – Finance and Audit	Mr Chris Wild	Member	Voting	-
Governing Body Registered Nurse	Mrs Fiona Boyd	Member	Voting	-
Governing Body Secondary Care Consultant	Mr Peter Thompson	Member	Voting	-
Chief Executive and Accountable Officer	Mr Geoff Little	Member	Voting	✓
Joint Chief Finance Officer (S151 responsibilities)	Mr Mike Woodhead	Member	Voting	✓
Joint Executive Director of Strategic Commissioning	Vacant until July 2020	Member	Voting	✓
Governing Body Members (not members of the SCB)				
Director of Commissioning and Business Delivery / Deputy Chief Officer	Ms Margaret O'Dwyer	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-
Executive Nurse / Director of Quality	Mrs Catherine Jackson	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-
JET Members (not members of the SCB)				
Executive Director of Communities and Well-Being	Mrs Julie Gonda (interim)	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-
Director of Public Health	Mrs Lesley Jones	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-
Deputy Chief Executive (Corporate Core)	Lynne Ridsdale	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-
Executive Director of Operations	Ms Donna Ball	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-

Executive Director of Children and Young People	Mrs Karen Dolton	In Attendance	Non-Voting	-
Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services / Monitoring Officer	Mrs Jayne Hammond	In Attendance	Non – Voting and Advisory	-
Other Colleagues				
Head of Communications, Marketing and Engagement	Mrs Karen Johnston	In Attendance	Advisory	-
Business Support Unit Representative	Mrs Emma Kennett	In Attendance	Advisory and Minutes	-

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DECISION OF:	The Council
DATE:	8 July 2020
SUBJECT:	Interim Monitoring Officer
REPORT FROM:	The Leader of the Council
CONTACT OFFICER:	Lynne Ridsdale – Deputy Chief Executive
TYPE OF DECISION:	Non key decision
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain.
SUMMARY:	The purpose of this report is to request that the Council approves the appointment of an Interim Monitoring Officer.
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	It is recommended that Janet Witkowski be designated as the Council's Interim Monitoring Officer with immediate effect until a new Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services is appointed.
IMPLICATIONS:	No implications.
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? Yes
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	
Equality/Diversity implications:	None.
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes
Wards Affected:	All Wards.

Scrutiny Interest:	No.
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1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Council is legally required to designate certain statutory officer posts, including is the role of Monitoring Officer under the provisions of Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act1989.
- 1.2 The primary role of the Monitoring Officer is to ensure lawfulness and fairness of decision making. The Monitoring Officer contributes to the promotion and maintenance of high standards of conduct through the provision of support to the Standards Committee. The officer is also responsible for the maintenance of the Constitution and Register of Members' Interests. The Officer also provides advice on the scope of powers and authority to take decisions, maladministration, financial impropriety, and budget and policy framework issues to all Councillors.
- 1.3 In view of the forthcoming departure from the Council of the current Monitoring Officer (and Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic Services), Jayne Hammond, it is necessary to appoint a suitable replacement on a temporary basis, pending a permanent appointment to this position.
- 1.4 It is proposed to appoint Janet Witkowski as Monitoring Officer on an interim basis. Janet has been acting as Deputy Monitoring Officer for many years and has considerable relevant experience as Head of Legal Services.
- 1.5 An interim Strategic Advisor (Marie Rosenthal) has also recently been engaged to work on legal and governance matters including reviewing the Bury Constitution and can assist with monitoring officer duties during this period. Janet will be paid a small honorarium for taking on this additional responsibility

List of Background Papers:-

None identified

Contact Details:-

Lynne Ridsdale
Deputy Chief Executive
Email: L.Ridsdale@bury.gov.uk

		Question
1.	Lib Dem	<p>Do the existing plans to proceed with the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework remain intact and if so, when will the timetable for next steps and further consultation with the public be confirmed?</p> <p>Councillor Powell</p>
	Cllr Eamonn O'Brien	<p>The GMSF is a strategic plan for the whole city-region, and is part of a shared commitment to ensuring that growth and prosperity benefits all of our people and places.</p> <p>The plan will be the driver for securing the homes and jobs that Greater Manchester needs and will help the process of recovery and responding to the economic impacts caused by the coronavirus pandemic. The housing crisis hasn't gone away and the need for new jobs is growing more important as the pandemic has already had a significant economic impact on businesses.</p> <p>We have a statutory duty to provide a plan that meets the current and future needs of our residents and the Spatial Framework has and will continue to progress in line with national policy.</p> <p>It is vital that we are prepared for the challenges that lay ahead and that we seize the opportunity to build back in a way that's better and fairer for all. Our focus, as always, is on getting the right plan in place and a decision on the next stages of the Framework will hopefully be published shortly</p>
2.	Lib Dem	<p>Could the Council's Spokesperson on the GM Police and Crime Panel inform members how often Section 60 Stop and Search powers have been used in each of the last three years, and what proportion of these powers have been used on BAME members of the public? Councillor Tegolo</p>
	Cllr David Jones	<p>GMP rarely use Section 60 Stop and Search powers, particularly when compared to other similar Forces.</p> <p><u>2019/20 (Home Office pilot)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Section 60s authorised • 0 searches under the first 2 • 9 searches conducted under the third – 3xBAME, 2xWhite and 4xno answer self-defined question <p><u>2018</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Section 60 authorised & 1 stop and search conducted – no answer provided by the person stopped/searched on how they self-identify

		<p>2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Section 60 authorised & 1 stop and search conducted – no answer provided by the person stopped/searched on how they self-identify
3.	Lib Dem	<p>Could the Council's spokesperson on the Transport for Greater Manchester Authority inform members what the expected loss in fare income has been for the Metrolink system through the pandemic, and how much of this has been covered through Government grants?</p> <p>Councillor S Wright</p>
	Cllr Richard Gold	<p>During the lockdown, the significantly reduced levels of farebox revenues due to a fall in patronage of around 95% resulted in monthly deficits (after financing costs) of circa £5.3 million, compared to the budgeted break-even position.</p> <p>Following discussions between GM Mayor Andy Burnham, Transport for Greater Manchester and Government, an initial tranche of funding totalling £11.6 million was granted by the Department for Transport, for the period to 8 June. This covered circa £4 million (around 73%) of the monthly deficit position.</p> <p>On 23 May, the DfT announced a second, improved, tranche of financial support of £13.3 million for the period from 12 May to 3 August. This grant funding is subject to review and scrutiny by the DfT based on revenue losses and actual costs incurred. TfGM are required to submit 4 weekly returns to DfT with the actual revenue and cost breakdowns, which will then be used to adjust and pay the allocated funding accordingly.</p> <p>Current analysis projects that, without any further government support, Metrolink can expect to experience a deficit of between £30 million and £40 million by the end of the current financial year.</p>
4.	Labour	<p>Can the Leader call on the spokesperson for travel in GM to give council an update on the improvements to the Bury Metrolink line including upgrade to Heaton Park station?</p> <p>Councillor Quinn</p>
	Cllr Eamonn O'Brien	<p>There are a number of interventions currently planned for the Metrolink Bury Line, including related interventions that improve access to the Bury Line such as Bee Network schemes.</p> <p>The interventions summarised below are included in TfGM's 2020-2025 Transport Delivery Plan, with commitments to either deliver, or to complete the business cases, within the next five years. Bury Line improvements are currently not in the current iteration of the delivery plan but will be included in the next release.</p>

New Metrolink trams, and Park and Ride expansion at Radcliffe and Whitefield are fully funded. The rest of the interventions require funding to be secured, with various sources being considered, in particular through the Greater Manchester Infrastructure Programme (GMIP) and the Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF). Discussions are underway with Government regarding GMIP.

Bury Line improvements include:

- The delivery of additional Metrolink vehicles (27 new trams) and associated infrastructure, delivering more double-unit service on the Bury Line, to be introduced onto the network from 2020.
- Expansion of Park and Ride facilities at Radcliffe and Whitefield Metrolink stops, to be delivered by Spring 2020, subject to planning consent.
- Improvement to cycling facilities at nine stops along the Bury Line, the business case for which is currently in development. If funding from the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund is secured, a completion timeframe of Autumn 2021 is estimated.
- Bury Interchange redevelopment to increase attractiveness and improve efficiency as a focal point for urban growth in Bury town centre, with the aim to complete a business case for early delivery of improvements within the next five years.

Heaton Park Metrolink stop

Schemes to deliver improvements to stops along the Bury Line are currently under consideration. The location and scope will be subject to a prioritisation process to determine value for money. As an example, the types of interventions which are being considered (final plan subject to business case) at Heaton Park include:

- A ramped track crossing providing an alternative means of step free access between the platforms.
- A ramped access route to the stop.
- Refurbishment of platform and stair materials.
- Lighting and CCTV improvements.
- Entrance improvements including secure cycle parking.
- Shelter renewal.
- Carbon reduction enhancements (which could potentially include energy generation).
- Landscaping improvements.

		<p>The schemes are currently funded to design stage, and improvements to Heaton Park along with other stops along the Bury Line are included in the GMIP submission with supplementary funding from the MCF for cycling and smaller enhancements.</p>
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