

Geoff Little
Chief Executive

Our Ref JG
Your Ref C/JG
Date 17 November 2020
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Legal & Democratic Services
Division

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 (Chair), 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, 25 November 2020
Place:	Virtual Meeting
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:	

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



Chief Executive

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 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.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 7 - 14)

The Minutes of the last Meeting held on 9 September 2020 are attached.

4 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.

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Pages 15 - 36)

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.

6 BOUNDARY COMMISSION REVIEW (Pages 37 - 112)

A report from Councillor Eamonn O'Brien Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Growth and Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Resources and HR is attached.

7 BURY CONSTITUTION AND MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (Pages 113 - 270)

A report from Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member, Corporate Affairs and HR is attached.

ANNEXES

1. ContentsV6 and Part 1 - Introduction to the Constitution V5 – Document Pack page 37
2. Part 2 - Articles V13 – Document Pack page 43
3. Part 3 Section 1 V5 – Document Pack page 69
4. Part 3 (Sections 3 , 4 and 5) Responsibility for Committee Functions V13, Cabinet Functions V7 ; and Scrutiny Functions V4 including a new Employment Panel, Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee; Safeguarding Scrutiny Sub-Committee ; - Document Pack page 77
5. Part 3 – Officer Scheme of Delegation V5 – Document Pack page 99
6. Part 4 – Council Procedure Rules (Standing Orders) V12 – Document Pack page 103
7. Part 4 – Cabinet Procedure Rules V6 – Document Pack page 125
8. Part 4 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules V7 – Document Pack page 131

9. Part 5 – Public Participation Protocol V5 – Document Pack page 145
10. Part 8 - Covid-19 Interim Arrangements V3 – Document Pack page 153
11. Member Development Strategy 2020/22.V1 Final – Document Pack page 159.

Equality Impact Assessment V 2 – Document pack page 165

8 **GMSF** (Pages 271 - 490)

A report and supporting documentation from the Leader of the Council, Councillor O'Brien, is attached.

Appendix 1 – Index of Documents

Appendix 2A. GM1.1 Heywood Pilsworth Topic Paper October 2020

Appendix 2B. GM1.2 Simister Bowlee Topic Paper October 2020

Appendix 2C. GM7 Elton Reservoir Topic Paper October 2020

Appendix 2D. GM 9 Walshaw Topic Paper October 2020

Appendix 2E. GM8 Seedfield Topic Paper October 2020

Appendix 3. Treatment of UDP Policies

Appendix 4. Equality Analysis Form

All documents can be found under the respective headings at:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>

9 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

a **LICENSING ACT 2003 - REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY** (Pages 491 - 586)

A report from Cllr Sandra Walmsley – Chair Licensing and Safety Panel is attached.

Minute from the Licensing & Safety Panel from its Meeting on 15 October 2020:

The Executive Director (Operations) submitted a report with regard to the requirement for the Local Authority as Licensing Authority to prepare and publish a statement of Licensing Policy at least every five years. The existing Statement of Licensing Policy was agreed by Council on the 21st October 2015 and took effect from the statutory deadline of the 7th January 2016. To comply with the statutory five year review period, the outcome of the review must be agreed before the 7th January 2021.

If the Authority does not have a revised policy in place by 7th January 2021 it will be unable to fulfil its duties under the Act.

In preparing the Policy a Licensing Authority had to have regard to the

Secretary of State's guidance under Section 182 of the Act.

A copy of the proposed new statement of Licensing Policy was attached to the report.

The consultation had been in accordance with Cabinet Office guidelines which required a twelve week period of consultation. Feedback from the consultation was attached to the report and incorporated where relevant.

The Policy would need to be agreed by Council to adopt at its meeting on the 25 November 2020 for implementation by 7 January 2021.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That Council agree to adopt the Licensing Policy as outlined in the report.

b Corporate Plan (Pages 587 - 614)

A report from Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member, Corporate Affairs and HR is attached.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

That Council agree to adopt the Corporate Plan as outlined in the report.

10 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME (Pages 615 - 624)

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.

Verbal questions on the work of the Cabinet since the last Council meeting will be allowed subject to a limit of one question per Councillor.

Questions and answers attached

11 NOTICES OF MOTION

No Notices of Motion have been received.

12 JOINT AUTHORITIES - REPORT BY THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE AND QUESTIONS (Pages 625 - 628)

(A) A report from the Council's representative on the work of TfGM, Councillor Gold

(B) Questions (if any) on the work of the Joint Authorities to be asked by

Members of the Council for which the necessary notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2

13 **UPDATE ON COMBINED AUTHORITY ACTIVITY** (Pages 629 - 636)

A report from the Leader of the Council, Councillor O'Brien is attached.

14 **REPORT ON SPECIAL URGENCY** (Pages 637 - 642)

A report from the Leader of the Council, Councillor O'Brien is attached

15 **DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

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

Members are asked to bring to the meeting their copy of Digest **

16 **QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS**

Questions on the work of Outside Bodies or partnerships on which the Council is represented to be asked by Members of the Council (if any).

Minutes of: COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 9 September 2020

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor , in the Chair)
Councillors S Briggs, R Caserta, 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, 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

Apologies for Absence J Black, R.Cathcart and G Keeley

Public Attendance: There were no Member of the public present at the meeting.

C. 192 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made at the meeting in relation to items on the agenda:

1. Councillor Quinn declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration as his son and daughter work for the NHS, CAB and he is a member of the Trade Union, Unite.
2. Councillors Vernon, Hussain and Cropper declared personal interest in the CXXX Liberal Democratic motion as they work for the local MP.
3. Councillor J Daly declared a personal interest in CXXX Liberal Democratic motion as the Member of Parliament for Bury North
4. Councillors Harris and McGill declared personal interests in CXXX Conservative motion as Members of the Bury Market Regeneration task group
5. Councillor Simpson declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration as an NHS employee.
6. Councillor S. Wright declared a personal interest all matters under consideration as his wife works for a school in the Borough.
7. Councillor Leach declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration as an NHS employee.

C. 193 MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 8 July 2020 be signed by the Mayor as a true and correct record.

C. 194 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worshipful Mayor informed Members that tomorrow, 10 September 2020 is World Suicide Prevention Day.

The Mayor reported that Bury Samaritans is this year's Mayor's charity and that they do a tremendous job in supporting people through very difficult times. It is more important than ever to mark World Suicide Prevention Day and the Mayor asked if members will join him in sharing information about the day through their social media channels tomorrow.

C. 195 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions were received in advance of the meeting.

C. 196 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Meeting of Cabinet 2nd September 2020 – Treasury Management Report

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Tariq and it was:-

RESOLVED:

Council approves the Treasury Management Review 2019/20 report and the prudential and treasury indicators presented in the report.

Meeting of Cabinet 2nd September 2020 – Appointments Update

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Tariq and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That the changes to the Cabinet Portfolio be noted.

C. 197 APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERIM SECTION 151 OFFICER

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O'Brien and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That Lisa Kitto be appointed as interim Section 151 Officer and Director of Financial Transformation with immediate effect and until the successful appointment of a permanent Director of Financial Transformation and Section 151 officer is made.

C. 198 REPORT ON SPECIAL URGENCY

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Tariq and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That Council notes the Executive Key Decisions that have been taken as urgent items and that these decisions are exempt from call-in in.

C. 199 LEADER'S STATEMENT AND MEMBER QUESTION TIME**(a) Written question (Notice given)**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor E O'Brien, made a statement on the work undertaken by him since the date of the last Council meeting.

The Leader and the relevant Cabinet Members answered questions raised by Councillors on the following issues:

NO	ISSUE	QUESTIONER	ANSWERED BY
1	Guidelines for wearing masks in schools	Cllr Powell	Cllr Tariq
2	Thanking Bury Businesses	Cllr Whitby	Cllr O'Brien
3	Improving Community Safety in the Chesham Area	Cllr Walmsley	Cllr D Jones
4	Post of Executive Policy Support	Cllr Y Wright	Cllr O'Brien
5	Veterans Covenant	Cllr Gold	Cllr D Jones
6	Safe and secure opening of schools	Cllr Susan Southworth	Cllr Tariq
7	Standards Complaints	Cllr Caserta	Cllr O'Brien
8	Prestwich Walk in Centre	Cllr S Wright	Cllr Simpson
9	Vulnerable Children	Cllr Whitby	Cllr Tariq
10	Affordable housing	Cllr Gold	Cllr O'Brien
11	Member's Allowance	Cllr Schofield	Cllr O'Brien

Due to the lack of time to answer questions 12 to 21 inclusive, the Leader gave an undertaking that copies of those questions and responses will be circulated to all Councillors. The Leader also gave an undertaking to make these available on the Council Web Site.

b) Verbal Questions

1	Covid restrictions and townships	Cllr N Jones	Cllr O'Brien
2	Prestwich redevelopment	Cllr Powell	Cllr O'Brien
3	10 point Covid recovery plan and the fit and fed initiative	Cllr Susan Southworth	Cllr Tariq
3	Leader's role	Cllr Gunther	Cllr O'Brien
4	Testing centres	Cllr Morris	Cllr Simpson
5	Mcr Airport and impact on finances	Cllr S Wright	Cllr O'Brien
6	Car parking charges	Cllr Gartside	Cllr L Smith

C. 200 COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES

(a) The Council received a report on the work of the Combined Authorities.

(b) The following questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.2.

No.	Issue	Questioner	Answered by
1.	GMSF	Councillor Tegolo	Councillor O'Brien
2.	Metrolink	Councillor Powell	Councillor Gold (Representative on Transport for Greater Manchester)
2.	Enforcement of COVID Rules	Councillor Gunther	Councillor Gold (Representative on Transport for Greater Manchester)Written Response

C. 201 NOTICES OF MOTION

A motion had been received and set out in the Summons in the names of:

Councillors M Powell, C Tegolo and S Wright

(i) Protecting the public's say in the planning process

This Council notes:

1. The publication by Government of the White Paper, 'Planning for the Future' on 6 August 2020, which set out proposals on reforms to the planning process for the future.
2. That the vast majority of planning applications are given the go ahead by local authority planning committees, with permission granted to around 9 out of 10 applications.
3. That research by the Local Government Association has said that there are existing planning permissions for more than one million homes that have not yet been started.

This Council is concerned that the proposals seek to:

1. Reduce or remove the right of residents to object to applications near them.
2. Grant automatic rights for developers to build on land identified as 'for growth'.
3. Remove section 106 payments for infrastructure and their replacement with a national levy.

This Council Further Notes:

1. The Royal Institute for British Architects called the proposals 'shameful and which will do almost nothing to guarantee delivery of affordable, well-designed and sustainable homes'. RIBA also said that proposals could lead to the next generation of slum housing.
2. The reforms are opposed by the all-party Local Government Association, currently led by Conservative Councillors.

This Council Believes:

1. That existing planning procedures, as currently administered by our own team in Bury, allow for local democratic control over future development, and give local people a say in planning proposals that affect them.
2. That proposals for automatic rights to build in 'growth' areas, and increased permitted development rights, risk unregulated growth and unsustainable communities.
3. That local communities must be in the driving seat on shaping the future of their communities, and local determination of the planning framework and planning applications play an important part in this process.

This Council resolves to:

1. Take part in the consultation in the planning proposals, and to make representations against the proposals as outlined in this motion.
2. Write to and lobby both of our Members of Parliament, urging them to oppose these proposals and to circulate their replies to members.
3. Highlight its concerns over these proposals with the public and local residents.

On being put, with 46 for voting for, 0 voting against, and with the Mayor and Councillor James Daly abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(ii) Thank Our Key Workers Properly and Deliver Fair Funding for Bury Public Services

A motion had been received and set out in the Summons 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

We the undersigned (detailed above) wholeheartedly thank our key workers, NHS staff and council employees for keeping essential services running throughout this pandemic. We thank many of our officers who have moved into different roles to support our communities and thank the trade unions for working with us to enable this.

We commend our care workers, who cared for our most vulnerable residents in the most difficult of circumstances. However, whilst we clapped our carers every week during lockdown, many are still not fairly paid for the vital work they do. The Resolution Foundation estimates that half of all frontline care workers are not paid the Foundation Living Wage.

Bury Council currently has a projected budget deficit of £7m and this is likely to rise over the next five years to £77m as a direct result of Covid, loss of income to council services and additional cost pressures over the period of the pandemic. After 10 years of austerity and with £100m already cut from our budget, our financial position is extremely challenging.

This means that in Bury, we cannot afford to pay our own employees and our social care providers the real Living Wage. In order to do this, we would need an additional £11.4m over the next five years, with £5.6m needed in the first year.

As the government undertakes its Comprehensive Spending Review, we are calling on all parties to join our campaign to thank our key workers properly, protect their jobs and fight for fair funding so that we can afford to pay the real Living Wage. This would not only enable us to deliver high quality public services and value our staff, but deliver on our priorities for our borough. From creating jobs to improving our environment, investing in our roads and transforming health and social care, we will continue to be hamstrung by significant underfunding by national government if we are not funded fairly.

The Secretary of State promised to fund councils to 'do what it takes' in response to coronavirus, but we need more than just to cover our costs in this crisis. If we really want to build back better and level up, we need a fair settlement for Bury that empowers and enables our council and our communities to reach their potential.

Therefore, this Council resolves to:

- 1) Put on record our thanks to our key workers, NHS and Council staff
- 2) Thank our trade unions for their support and cooperation during the Coronavirus response
- 3) Write to the Secretary of State calling for all costs from Covid to be covered, as he promised, and fair funding for public services to be guaranteed
- 4) Demand that the costs of paying the real Living Wage be covered in future finance settlements for local authorities

On being put, with 32 for voting for, 0 voting against, and with the Mayor and the Conservative Group abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(iii) Shop Safe, Shop Local

A motion had been received and set out in the Summons 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

The Council Notes:

Businesses on our high streets, business parks and markets operating throughout the Borough have suffered greatly as a result of COVID-19. Many of whom shut their doors and found ways to help out in the community during this difficult time. As things slowly return to normal, it's now time for Bury Council to give back to our local businesses to help get them back on their feet.

The Council has received £169,235 in funding from the Government's Reopening High Street Safety Fund. However, there are still too many barriers for people in visiting our high streets, such as parking charges and concerns surrounding the safety of paying a visit to our six townships of Prestwich, Whitefield, Radcliffe, Tottington, Ramsbottom and Bury.

As the restrictions lift slowly and we move back to a sense of normality we need to encourage residents to shop local. We need play our part in protecting Bury's prosperity and safeguarding local jobs. In doing this, we need to kick start our local economy.

The Council Resolves:

Bury Council to introduce the following measures to encourage residents to Shop Safe, Shop Local and support our high streets.

- 2 Hours Free Parking on weekdays and Saturdays, to encourage shoppers to visit our local high streets and help revive our local economy until January 31st, 2021
- The installation of contactless hand sanitization stations, to reassure people that our high streets are safe to visit.
- Support Bury Market day traders with a six month rent cash grant
- All market traders to receive an additional 3 month rent free period
- Multi-channel marketing campaign in promoting our six townships and Bury Market to encourage residents to Shop Safe, Shop Local

On being put, with 20 for voting for, 26 voting against, and with the Mayor abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion lost.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Notes: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 10.04 pm

- NOTE:**
- The Council tracker was duly noted
 - There were no scrutiny review reports or specific items called in by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - There were no questions on the work of Outside Bodies or Questions on the Delegated Decisions of the Council.

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COUNCIL QUESTIONS - PUBLIC
GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK
25 NOVEMBER 2020

Responses

1 - H LEES

Question:

The traffic of Heywood Old Road at the moment at peak times is dreadful. My concern is that more houses and the proposed school (Edgar Wood Academy) will increase the amount of traffic and it will become gridlocked.

There is no way of widening the road - it is crazy to think that you are considering making more traffic. Also the speed that people drive on the road is an accident waiting to happen.

We have already got more houses in our area on Langley Lane - we have lost so much green area. You are ruining the landscape!!!!

Response:

Detailed transport evidence has been carried out as part of the proposed allocation (this is known as a Locality Assessment). This looks at the site's potential impacts on both the local and strategic road network, as well as identifying possible forms of mitigation. The proposed policy wording for the proposed allocation at Simister and Bowlee has been informed by the Locality Assessment and requires mitigation measures to be implemented to enable the proposed level of development to be accommodated. This will include junction improvements to provide additional capacity and more free flowing traffic.

The proposed policy wording supporting the allocation at Simister and Bowlee states that development must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan that has been previously approved by the Council and must facilitate the required supporting transport services and infrastructure including traffic restrictions on Simister Lane to prevent this route from being a form of access/egress to and from the allocation.

2 - P ROCHFORD

Question:

Why are you classing Simister as an area of deprivation? It is not nor has ever been?

Response:

It is not entirely clear where the assertion that we are classing Simister as an area of deprivation stems from.

However, if it is referring to the GMSF and its description of the Northern Gateway proposal being located in what is currently an area that includes significant pockets of high deprivation, then this is not to say that Simister itself suffers from deprivation but that the wider area includes some notable concentrations of deprivation.

In particular, the Northern Gateway is accessible to people living within the 10% most deprived areas in England, including parts of East Bury and Whitefield.

Supplementary Question:

Where will the traffic head when the traffic at Heywood old road is not moving which is doesn't now at peak times? Evidence already provided. Also has any thought been given to the fact that you refer to these new residents as potentially working in Pilsworth, would they simply not drive through Simister, cut through Unsworth and on to Pilsworth without the need for any lights? and therefore potentially endangering the lives of the children at parrenthorn and at Margerets with increased traffic on the road near to those?

Response:

Detailed transport evidence has been carried out as part of the proposed allocation (this is known as a Locality Assessment). This looks the site's potential impacts on both the local and strategic road network, as well as identifying possible forms of mitigation. The proposed policy wording for the proposed allocation at Simister/Bowlee has been informed by the Locality Assessment and requires mitigation measures to be implemented to enable the proposed level of development to be accommodated. This will include junction improvements to provide additional capacity and more free flowing traffic.

The proposed policy wording supporting the allocation at Simister/Bowlee states that development must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan that has been previously approved by the Council and must facilitate the required supporting transport services and infrastructure including traffic restrictions on Simister Lane to prevent this route from being a form of access/egress to and from the allocation.

3 - L HOLLAND

Question:

Please can we see the evidence base that Bury council have used to show that they have explored all brownfield sites options for Bury? As I am aware that there is brownfield sites across Bury that have not been explored as part of proposals in this plan.

Response:

The Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) is published on the Council's website and identifies all the housing sites that have been considered by the Council. The SHLAA summary report provides details of the methodology used. This includes consideration of employment sites, public sector land, town centre sites and sites suggested as part of previous call for sites exercises, as well as other sources.

If there are considered to be other sites that might be suitable for development but that have not been considered, we would welcome information being provided so that they can be assessed and considered as part of the next update of the SHLAA. There is a form available on the Council's website to suggest additional sites.

Supplementary question:

Industrial northern gateway. Why would you have an area in purple on the plan that is for outside the plan period but you are stating it will be for employment space? And why are there already houses proposed to be built in the centre of it on the plan now if it is all to be employment space in the future?

Response:

When reviewing Green Belt boundaries, national planning policies requires us to consider their intended permanence in the long term, so that they can endure beyond the plan period.

It is considered necessary to release the site in full at this stage given that the scale of the proposed development means that it will need to be supported by significant strategic infrastructure and this level of investment needs the certainty that the remaining development and associated economic benefits will still be able to come forward beyond the plan period.

The proposed houses identified in the centre of the Heywood Pilsworth allocation are live-work units at Brick House Farm with existing planning permission and are under construction. They were granted planning permission because they are in accordance with the current adopted Bury Unitary Development Plan, which will continue to be used to assess planning applications until the GMSF is adopted (which is dependent on the outcomes of the Examination).

4 - A GILDEA

Question:

On the current plan, building will include an area around Heywood Old Road and Bluebell lane. This is of deep concern. The natural way for future dwellers to get into Manchester when Heywood Old Rd is busy is to take the short cut through Simister. The road is not wide enough to take extra traffic and any possible reconfigurations will spoil the nature

of the village as well as increase the level of pollution we already suffer from due to the motorway network. Could you make further reductions to building here or ensure that traffic does not use Simister Lane?

Response:

The proposed policy wording supporting the allocation at Simister and Bowlee states that development must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan that has been previously approved by the Council and must facilitate the required supporting transport services and infrastructure including traffic restrictions on Simister Lane to prevent this route from being a form of access/egress to and from the allocation.

5 – A CROSS

Question:

Why does the Council support these proposals when almost 1 in 10 of Bury's precious and irreplaceable green belt land will be lost forever under the plans? Does the Leader not agree with me, that if we have learned anything from the current pandemic, it is just how vital our outdoor spaces are for our personal physical and mental health, and for our social and familial well-being too.

Response:

For Bury, the Government's standard methodology gives a Local Housing Need target of 10,217 homes over the plan period. However, the GMSF process allows for a redistribution of Bury's need within Greater Manchester and Bury has been able to reduce the housing target to 7,670 homes. This reduced target allows us to protect more Green Belt than would be the case if we had to meet our full needs.

The original 2016 draft of the GMSF proposed the release of 1,210 hectares (20%) of the Borough's Green Belt. However, we have sought to minimise the impact on Bury's Green Belt as far as possible and have made a number of amendments meaning that the Publication GMSF is now proposing a net loss of 520 hectares (9%) of the Borough's Green Belt.

The proposals in the Publication GMSF would mean that 55% of the Borough would remain Green Belt land, which is the third highest proportion of any district in Greater Manchester, behind only Rochdale and Wigan.

Essentially, the GMSF allows us to plan and manage future growth in Bury. Without a plan we run a very real risk of a developer 'free-for-all' and planning by appeal which could lead to a greater loss of Green Belt and development taking place in inappropriate locations without the supporting infrastructure it needs.

Supplementary Question:

Why isn't ALL building in Greater Manchester on brownfield sites and from town centre regeneration?

Response:

The vast majority of new housing in Greater Manchester will continue to be on brownfield land and there is a strong focus in the GMSF on directing new housing towards sites within the existing urban area. This will help to address existing dereliction and poorly used sites, as well as reducing the need to release greenfield and Green Belt land for development.

However, there is simply not enough land within the urban area or on brownfield sites which means that we have no option but to consider Green Belt sites in order to meet the housing targets and to provide a defensible buffer on top of the supply.

6 - M WILLIAMS

Question:

The GMSF is a hugely important change to our region and Borough. It is essential as many people as possible get to have a say on it. As such, why is the Council only providing a consultation over Christmas during the middle of a pandemic?

Response:

It should be noted that the proposed start date for consulting on the GMSF in early December is no longer an option, given recent events.

There is a need to review the next steps for the plan and this will take some time. However, the Government has been clear that the challenge posed by Covid-19 is not a sufficient reason to delay plan preparation. In terms of Local Plans, the guidance is clear that the Government want to see Local Plans progressing through the system as a vital means for supporting economic recovery in line with the Government's aspirations to have up-to date plans in place across the country by 2023.

Supplementary Question:

What would be the implications, financial and otherwise, of moving the consultation to a time people are not focused on protecting their loved ones, and perhaps even seeing them for the first time this year?

Response:

As with the original question, this is no longer an option.

7 - R FALLON

Question:

Has the air quality in Simister been taken into account in the above plans? Simister currently has unhealthy levels of particulates.

Response:

A wide range of actions will be required to improve air quality to appropriate levels, and support objectives relating to health and quality places. Many of these actions are beyond the scope of the GMSF, but the primary focus will need to be on transport given its primary contribution to air pollution.

An initial Air Quality Assessment has been undertaken to support the allocation and this identifies that any stand-off from the motorways required due to the noise constraints for residential elements of the scheme is likely to be sufficient as a form of mitigation to prevent any future receptors experiencing levels of pollution greater than the Air Quality Objective limits.

However, there will be a requirement for more detailed work on air quality to inform detailed masterplanning of the proposed allocation and any subsequent planning application.

Alongside the GMSF consultation, the GMCA are also consulting on The Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan which aims to bring nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) air pollution levels from road vehicles within legal limits by 2024 at the latest, as directed by Government.

8 - C BIRCHMORE

Question:

According to the Bury Council website the GMSF target for Bury is 7,670 homes. Bury Council has previously confirmed that it can build 4,100 homes on brownfield sites. Given the GMSF target of 7,670 this means that Bury Council would be required to build 3,570 homes on greenbelt. In the table with the heading "Bury's proposals for new housing" the total number of homes to be built on greenbelt is 6,440 homes. This means that Bury Council is proposing allowing enough greenbelt to build 2,870 homes more than is required as part of the GMSF. If both the proposed Elton Reservoir and Walshaw sites were cut in half that would reduce the amount of homes that could be built on greenbelt by 2,375 homes which is still less than the proposed over release of land. Why are none of the councillors asking about this?

Response:

For Bury, the Government's standard methodology gives a Local Housing Need for 10,217 homes over the plan period. The GMSF process allows for a redistribution of Bury's housing need within the conurbation to reflect the availability of land or to reflect strategic policies. As a result, Bury has been able to reduce the baseline housing target over the plan period to 7,670 homes.

However, as a Borough, we do not have enough land within the urban area or on brownfield sites to meet even this reduced target. Bury's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment identifies that there is only enough land to accommodate 3,963 homes. This supply largely consists of brownfield sites within the existing urban area, including the potential development sites within our town centres and other brownfield sites such as the former East Lancashire Paper Mill site and the former Tetrosyl site at Bevis Green in Walmersley.

This supply shortfall means that Green Belt sites are proposed to be released through the GMSF to meet the reduced target as well as providing a defensible buffer on top of the supply.

The sites in Bury that are proposed for housing in the GMSF have the capacity to deliver 4,840 homes within the plan period with an additional 1,600 homes beyond the plan period on the Elton Reservoir site.

Together, the baseline supply and the proposed housing within the plan period on Green Belt sites are estimated to have the capacity to deliver around 8,803 units. This provides a 14.8% buffer on top of the supply to allow for sites not coming forward as envisaged over the plan period. Buffers are a standard requirement in development plans to provide flexibility in the supply and there is a 17% buffer against the total Greater Manchester target.

The GMSF proposals include the release of Green Belt land beyond the plan period for residential development at the Elton Reservoir site. This is because the site is key to delivering significant upfront investment into essential strategic infrastructure and the site needs long term certainty on the scale of development to withstand these initial costs. The natural development of this site, using standard build out rates, will mean that the scale of delivery will extend beyond the plan period.

It should be noted that if the GMSF had a baseline housing target for Bury that reflected the minimum Government target of 10,217 homes, there would still be a need for a buffer to be identified on top of this. At 14.8% this would equate to an additional 1,514 units. It would still only be feasible for the Elton Reservoir site to deliver 1,900 within the plan period, with 1,600 post plan. The total housing figures (including post-plan) would therefore equate to 13,331 as opposed to the current GMSF figures of 10,406 (an increase of 2,925).

9 - G STAPLES-JONES

Question:

Question to the leader of the council Eamonn O'Brien; Given that only 2,000 people replied to the GMSF consultation out of a Borough of roughly 189,000, which is a 1.05% response - how do Bury Council feel justified in having fairly consulted the local population, when they havant even consulted a quarter of the people who live here on these plans to concrete over large parts of Borough?

Response:

The Council undertook extensive consultation on the revised draft of the GMSF in 2019. This included writing to every household in the Borough, making relevant material available for inspection at all libraries and other public buildings and holding a number of public drop-in sessions where people could come and speak to Council officers about the proposals.

The consultation and engagement that we undertook exceeded all statutory requirements – particularly notifying every household in the Borough. In my view, therefore, I feel that the Council did all it could to engage with local residents and stakeholders and to inform them how to make their views known if they wished to do so.

Supplementary Question:

If this is fair and acceptable to the council then why do we bother having 51 councillors and not just one councillor, as according to the precedent set with the GMSF we do not need a majority or a democratic mandate within the Borough anymore.

Response:

As mentioned in my previous response, the Council notified every household in the Borough of consultation on the revised draft of the GMSF in 2019 and exceeded statutory requirements for consultation.

10 - S CLUER

Question:

In light of what is happening in both Salford and Stockport, will the council leader be making the sensible decision to postpone any further decisions on the GMSF?

Response:

I can confirm that the GMSF item on the agenda for this evening's business will not be moved and the decision on this will therefore be postponed.

11 - J SHEPPARD

Question:

In September 2019, in response to a question asking how much Bury Council had spent on the GMSF, I was informed the Council had contributed £147,596 to commission a joint consultation team with other Councils. It was stated that the money used had come from a ring-fenced account of contributions from developers set up to mitigate loss of employment opportunities. Firstly, who are those developers? and now, 14 months on, can you please give an updated breakdown of the

expenditure on the GMSF and more detail on how the money from the ring-fenced account has actually been used since then.

Response:

The previous response highlighted that Bury Council jointly commissioned a consultancy team, with Rochdale and Oldham, to produce a high-level masterplan of the sites that collectively make up the sites that are collectively referred to in the latest GMSF as the M62 North East Corridor. Bury Council's total contribution to this joint-commission was £147,596.20.

Since then, a joint bid by Bury and Rochdale Councils has been successful in securing £250,000 from Evergreen funding to support the establishment of a fund to cover the costs of further work required on the Northern Gateway site to ensure that Bury and Rochdale Councils fully understand issues such as necessary highways and transport interventions and to help the districts shape and control elements of the site going forward – such as identifying potential development plots, phasing, target sectors and value capture.

Access to the £250,000 Evergreen Fund was subject to match-funding from both districts (£125,000 from each district). However, Bury's previous contribution of £147,596.20 qualified as our match funding.

The money used came from a ring-fenced account made up of developer contributions that have been paid to the Council to mitigate against the loss of employment land to other, higher value types of development, such as housing or retail.

12 - C SMITH

Question:

Please can the committee explain in detail how the GMSF, the inherent loss of Greenbelt land and the extra pollution that will be produced by the addition of over 10,000 homes fits in with the plans to introduce a clean air tax within Bury?

Response:

Clearly air quality is an important consideration and one which Bury, along with the other Greater Manchester authorities is seeking to address.

This is evident in Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan, which proposes to introduce Clean Air Zones right across the conurbation.

In terms of the GMSF, its roll is to locate sites in the most sustainable locations, with increased densities in locations that are immediately close to public transport, such as urban centres or in and around public transport hubs.

The GMSF also includes the policy basis for requiring new technology in developments, such as requirements for new properties to have electric vehicle charging points and good designs and use of sustainable materials.

We know that the Government is due to ban diesel and petrol cars in the next decade and this will accelerate the growth in less polluting vehicles on our roads.

Supplementary Question:

Radcliffe has no secondary school. Where will the children of the new houses proposed within the GMSF be educated? No new schools are proposed in this area within the GMSF, so presumably they will have to travel to neighbouring areas. Again, how does this increase in commuting fit in with a clean air policy?

Response:

The GMSF will need to be supported by significant investment in the sub-region's infrastructure including roads, public transport, energy and utilities as well as schools and health facilities.

The Policy supporting the proposed housing allocation at Elton Reservoir includes a requirement for the development to make provision for a new secondary school to meet the needs of the prospective school-aged residents. Any planning applications for development on this sites will need to be in line with this policy requirement for them to be approved.

13 - C HEATON

Question:

Why are you not working hard enough to find sites to spread out the house builds instead of cramming thousands into 3 areas...surely smaller numbers in more areas is the way forward.. this would ease congestion in of people and cars and not have such a major impact.

Don't destroy whole areas of greenbelt leave parts of it in all areas not total destruction

Response:

Bury Council remains committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land and these are spread across the existing urban area.

However, the proposed GMSF sites are designed of a scale that will enable them to deliver essential social and physical infrastructure within and around the site.

If the GMSF proposed multiple smaller sites across the Borough, these would not be able to deliver the investment needed to deliver the infrastructure required.

14 - A DRURY

Question:

Please explain how failure to adopt GMSF will lead to a developer free for all? Surely each development would then be judged individually on

its own merit by the Council with input from local residents as they are now? And we don't have a developer free for all now so please justify this assertion

Response:

We understand that a plan of this kind will never be universally popular but it is vital that we get a plan in place that allows us to properly plan and manage future growth and to ensure that new development is supported by the infrastructure needed.

Without a strong plan in place, there is a serious risk that we will get inundated by speculative planning applications on Green Belt. Even if the Council were to refuse these applications, there is a very real chance that developers would appeal against these refusals and that future development will be determined through the appeal process. This could lead to a greater loss of Green Belt and unplanned and unmanaged development with inadequate supporting infrastructure.

The reason that we don't currently have a developer free-for-all is because we are fairly advanced in the process of getting a plan in place. Because of this, an appeal would be less likely to succeed. However, if the GMSF were abandoned and there was no chance of getting a plan in place, it is likely that developers will submit speculative applications for development across the Borough, including other sites currently designated as Green Belt.

15 - B WILKINSON

Question:

Now that Stockport have been promised changes to the GMSF, and Salford have postponed the decision, how can Bury vote on the GMSF as the Council can now have no idea what the changes will show? If the plan is to be changed, it must go out for public consultation again, or be abandoned. Bury can have no alternative but to adjourn the vote until the amendments are clear and the plan has been put to all the Councils again, and the voters, for consultation.

Response:

The Council no longer intends to vote on this item at this meeting.

16 – K CAMERON

Question:

Why will the Council not disclose minutes of all meetings taken place to decide which areas are being allocated to the GMSF? Building on Walshaw is so unbelievably ridiculous and I would like to see how this was decided.

Response:

Naturally, meetings did take place between Council Officers and Members to discuss the GMSF, including the sites that are proposed for development. However, these meetings were held on an informal basis and no minutes were taken so this information is not held.

It is important to point out that a public authority needs a safe space to develop ideas, debate live issues, and reach decisions away from external interference and distraction, particularly when part of the process of formulating and developing policy.

The need for public authorities to have a “thinking space” for policy development still in the course of completion is important and it protects the integrity of the formal decision-making process and public consultation which follows. The disclosure of information on meetings would inhibit free and frank discussions in the future, and that loss of frankness and candour would damage the quality of advice and lead to poorer decision making.

It is not judged to be in the interest of the public to make information available on sites that may or may not be proposed as a site allocation, nor to publish draft development proposals that are ‘work in progress’ and therefore subject to change.

Such an action would only serve to cause confusion as to what is the most up-to-date position, and could contradict the efforts of the GMCA and Bury Council to communicate the proposals in a proportionate and effective manner.

Supplementary Question:

How will the Council deal with all of the angry residents if they continue to try and push through building on Walshaw when they are preparing to go legal?

Response:

Once a plan has been submitted to the Government, the appointed Inspector will take control of the examination process from start to finish. The Inspector’s role is to examine whether the submitted plan meets the tests of soundness defined in the NPPF and meets all the relevant legislative requirements, including the duty to co-operate.

The Examination would take into account all comments raised during consultation on the Publication version of the plan and, if requested by the Inspector, there may be an opportunity for participants to submit more detailed statements to support the comments made during consultation on the Publication plan. Hearing sessions may also be arranged and these may provide an opportunity for participants to make verbal representations.

Any participant in the process is entitled to instruct legal assistance to inform any representation and, if given the opportunity, to verbally present their case at the Hearing sessions.

17 – G BOOTH

Question:

How is it in 46 years Bury's population has only risen by 8430 yet you want to build as many houses in 15 years which would mean less than 1 person per house, Why?

Response:

It is important that we plan to provide a range of new homes to accommodate the housing needs of a growing population, including much needed affordable homes.

The Government has introduced a standard methodology for calculating Local Housing Needs to provide local authorities with a clear and consistent understanding of the number of new homes needed in an area.

For Bury, the Government's standard methodology gives a Local Housing Need target of 10,217 homes over the plan period. This is the baseline starting point for a plan to consider.

The GMSF process allows for a redistribution of Bury's target within the conurbation to reflect the availability of land or to reflect strategic policies. As a result, Bury has been able to reduce the baseline housing target over the plan period to 7,670 homes

Supplementary Question:

Why do you all insist the GMSF is good for everyone when you keep trying to sugar coat it by adding green spaces, surely common sense tells you that we already have green spaces and 100's of houses for sale or empty as for industrial we have over 20 sites sat empty and rotting?

Response:

Bury Council remains committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land.

We have included all brownfield sites that we are aware of within the existing supply of housing land within the Borough. However, there is simply not enough brownfield land available to meet even the reduced housing targets identified in the GMSF let alone the higher level of housing need that we would be required to provide for using the Government methodology.

18 - L SWYERS

Question:

Do you agree that building on greenbelt land helps to reduce pollution and if so, why?

Response:

The GMSF proposals for Bury include a number of strategic transport interventions, including improved public transport that will help the movement of our residents.

The GMSF also plans for development to be in the most sustainable locations, with increased densities in locations that are immediately close to public transport, such as urban centres or in and around public transport hubs.

It also introduces a policy basis for requiring new technology in developments, such as requirements for new properties to have electric vehicle charging points and good designs and use of sustainable materials.

Conversely without the planned delivery of sites it is possible that we would lose control of where development occurred and would be unable to secure much needed infrastructure. Likewise, we would be unable to introduce new standards and requirements in new developments.

Supplementary Question:

Do you also agree that by destroying places of ecological value helps with our mental health and well-being - if you disagree why are you in favour of building over it?

Response:

The proposed site allocations in the GMSF are supported by a wide range of detailed evidence. This includes various wildlife surveys of both species and habitats as well as proposals for ecological mitigation and enhancement.

In addition, policies supporting the proposed site allocations in the GMSF require development proposals to minimise impact on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation.

19 - C BOWDLER

Question:

Why are the council determined to build over our greenbelt land when there is other space available without having to touch greenbelt land?

Response:

Bury Council remains committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land.

Indeed the Council has been successful in delivering housing on brownfield sites, with around 90% of housing completions in the past decade being on brownfield land.

As a result, Bury does not have the large swathes of brownfield land that exists in other local authority areas up and down the country and in parts of Greater Manchester. In fact, we have the lowest amount of available brownfield land of the ten Greater Manchester authorities.

We have included all suitable brownfield sites within the existing supply of housing land identified in the Borough.

However, there is simply not enough brownfield land available to meet our housing needs – whether that be measured by the Governments housing target or the reduced housing target that the GMSF proposes.

This is evidenced in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. If there are considered to be other sites that might be suitable for development but that have not been considered, we would welcome information being provided so that they can be assessed and considered.

Supplementary Question:

Is it for profit?

Response:

No. The preparation of the GMSF is not a profit-driven exercise. The Council has a statutory obligation to produce a development plan that makes provision for future development needs.

20 – J DARBYSHIRE

Question:

The destruction of the green belt is a very serious crisis that we face. Why is Bury Council on the one hand recognising the need to develop policy and actions to improve air quality, advice regarding the dangers of flooding and provide support services for our current physical and mental health crisis and yet at the same time PLANNING TO CREATE THE MAJOR CAUSE of each of these crisis? All research is overwhelming on what the impact of our green belt loss will do to each of these and Bury Council will not have the funds to repair the damage they have caused let alone improve upon the position we are already in.

Response:

The GMSF is not being prepared in isolation. It is one of the suite of strategic documents setting out how Greater Manchester can achieve the ambition set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy.

One of the key aims of the GMSF is to assist in tackling health inequalities across the sub-region. Greater Manchester has a wide range of attributes and enormous potential, but its long-term prospects will be contingent on delivering major improvements in public health. It cannot be considered a success unless existing health inequalities are addressed.

This will require a diverse range of coordinated measures, many of which lie outside the scope of the GMSF.

The GMSF does, however, provide a strong policy framework that includes measures to reduce risks to human health, including addressing flood risk and

reducing levels of air pollution. These policies will ensure that appropriate mitigation will need to be delivered as part of any new developments.

21 - A DAISLEY

Question:

What other sites have been considered?

Response:

In November 2015, a 'Call for Sites' exercise was launched whereby local residents, businesses, land owners and developers were invited to identify sites that they think could be suitable for housing or employment development. The suggested sites within the Green Belt are shown on the following plan.

Across Greater Manchester, there were hundreds of sites put forward for development. Around 80 sites in Bury have been put forward for development that are currently designated as Green Belt land. These sites amount to over 500 hectares and would have the potential to deliver thousands of new homes if released. These sites were all considered as part of the GMSF process.

Supplementary Question:

Do any Bury labour councillors live near the proposed sites in Walshaw/Elton

Response:

The tone of this question would appear to be an attempt to undermine the integrity of Labour Councillors and is not helpful in discussion around the GMSF.

22 - P COOKE

Question:

Have the council considered the health and wellbeing of the electorate in seeming to be intent on destroying the Green Belt, especially considering the recent pandemic lockdowns?

Response:

One of the key aims of the GMSF is to assist in tackling health inequalities across the sub-region.

Greater Manchester has a wide range of attributes and enormous potential, but its long-term prospects will be contingent on delivering major improvements in public health. It cannot be considered a success unless existing health inequalities are addressed.

This will require a diverse range of coordinated measures, many of which lie outside the scope of the GMSF, but it will be vital that the positive contribution

of the GMSF is maximised as far as possible. As a result, the overall strategy and many of the policies and proposals in other parts of the plan will support improvements in health and wellbeing, and reductions in health inequalities, including:

- Promoting a successful economy for Greater Manchester, where everyone is able to share in the benefits of growth, given that household income is a key determinant of good health;
- Increasing the supply of high quality and affordable homes that meet minimum size and accessibility standards, helping to ensure that everyone has a decent place to live;
- Enabling people to adopt healthier lifestyles, including through the development of a high quality green infrastructure network, encouraging the provision of a wide range of recreation and sports facilities, including supporting an increase in walking and cycling; and
- Reducing the risks to human health, including through taking an integrated catchment-based approach to addressing flood risk, reducing levels of air pollution, providing cooling and shading to combat high temperatures, promoting high levels of fire safety, and designing places to minimise opportunities for crime, terrorism and anti-social behaviour.

Supplementary Question:

Why are some councillors seemingly intent on ruining our green and pleasant land for future generations for a very shortsighted quick profit when enough affordable housing can be provided using brownfield sites?

Response:

First and foremost, the preparation of the GMSF is not a profit-driven exercise. The Council has a statutory obligation to produce a development plan that makes provision for future development needs.

Bury Council remains committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land but simply does not have sufficient sites to meet the needs of a growing population.

23 - J DUCKWORTH

Question:

Can every councillor answer this question honestly with hand on heart?

Has every empty house been filled, and every single brown field site been considered before using greenbelt?

Response:

In terms of empty homes, returning these to a useful purpose would not count towards the Borough's housing requirement, so even if all of the Borough's

empty properties were occupied, there would still be a requirement to build the new homes to meet needs.

Bury Council remains committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land but simply does not have sufficient sites to meet the needs of a growing population.

24 - M HOLDER

Question:

Do you think the destruction of precious greenbelt land is absolutely necessary and in the best interest of your constituents even though there are brownfield sites which have not been considered?

Response:

Bury Council remains committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land.

Indeed the Council has been successful in delivering housing on brownfield sites, with around 90% of housing completions in the past decade being on brownfield land.

As a result, Bury does not have the large swathes of brownfield land that exists in other local authority areas up and down the country and in parts of Greater Manchester. In fact, we have the lowest amount of available brownfield land of the ten Greater Manchester authorities.

We have included all suitable brownfield sites within the existing supply of housing land identified in the Borough.

However, there is simply not enough brownfield land available to meet our housing needs – whether that be measured by the Governments housing target or the reduced housing target that the GMSF proposes.

This is evidenced in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. If there are considered to be other sites that might be suitable for development but that have not been considered, we would welcome information being provided so that they can be assessed and considered.

Supplementary Question:

Have you thought about how the extra traffic on our roads will be managed when Bury already becomes gridlocked so easily? As well as the extra air noise and fumes

Do the right thing

How involved have developers been in the planning meetings? Could it be construed as 'bribery'? Don't let money be your incentive for ruining the countryside

Response:

The GMSF is not being prepared in isolation. It is one of the suite of strategic documents setting out how Greater Manchester can achieve the ambition set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy. It sits alongside other plans and strategies, including the Transport 2040 Delivery Plan.

It is acknowledged that future growth and development will need to be supported by investment in infrastructure including roads, public transport, energy and utilities as well as schools and health facilities.

This will include a need for a range of transport and highway interventions that will be required to support the new development proposals in Bury, including new link roads, junction improvements, improved access to public transport and measures to encourage more walking and cycling.

The preparation of the plan is not a money-driven exercise. The Council has a statutory obligation to produce a development plan that makes provision for future development needs.

We have included all brownfield sites that we are aware of within the existing supply of housing land within the Borough. However, there is simply not enough brownfield land available to meet even the reduced housing targets identified in the GMSF let alone the higher level of housing need that we would be required to provide for using the Government methodology.

25 - J HOLT

Question:

It has been said that if the GMSF is not adopted the alternative of a 'free for all' will be worse.

What other options for a fairer distribution of sites have been put forward or discussed?

Response:

The sites in Bury that have been proposed for employment and housing development in the GMSF have evolved as the GMSF has progressed through its various stages of preparation and these have all been subject to extensive consultation. The changes to the sites have been made to reflect new and updated evidence and public views expressed in response to consultation on the previous drafts.

The changes have resulted in a significant reduction in the proposed net loss of Green Belt in the current Publication GMSF compared to what was originally proposed in the first draft in 2016 and what was subsequently proposed in the revised draft in 2019.

We understand that a plan of this kind will face some objection but it is vital that we get a plan in place that allows us to properly plan and manage future growth and to ensure that new development is supported by the infrastructure needed.

Without a strong plan, there is a serious risk that we will get inundated by speculative planning applications on Green Belt and that future development will be determined through the appeal process. This could lead to a greater loss of Green Belt and unplanned and unmanaged development with inadequate supporting infrastructure.

Supplementary Question:

Can you give an HONEST answer to how the sites were selected?

Response:

In November 2015, a 'Call for Sites' exercise was launched whereby local residents, businesses, land owners and developers were invited to identify sites that they think could be suitable for housing or employment development. The aim of this was to identify all suitable brownfield sites and urban sites to feed into the supply.

Following the 'Call for Sites', all sites were initially assessed against a series of key principles as described in a Background Paper entitled 'Approach to Accommodating the Land Supply Shortfall' (October 2016).

The approach to site selection used for the 2016 draft has subsequently been reviewed and refined at each stage. This was partly in response to comments raised during consultation and also because the preparation of a development plan is, by its very nature, an iterative process that needs to evolve and be justifiable as 'an appropriate strategy' in accordance the National Planning Policy Framework.

Furthermore, it should also be noted that, as part of the process of preparing the drafts of the GMSF, it is also necessary to consider *all* the evidence base to ensure that sites are deliverable. The site selection process is just one part of that evidence.

26 - M WALSH

Question:

Under The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, it is vital that wildlife & habitats are considered as part of the project to avoid habitat loss, fragmentation & the damaging impact of daily human activity on nature. As part of choosing the sites, where I understand Elton Reservoir Basin Country Park is home to five of the UK's native species of amphibians - Great Crested Newts, Palmate Newts, Smoot Newts, Common Frog, Common Toad and other sites, what Reports regarding wildlife, state of nature & biodiversity, taking into account the protected & priority species was and has been carried out?

Response:

The proposal at Elton Reservoir, as with other sites proposed for development through the GMSF, is supported by a wide range of detailed evidence. This

includes various wildlife surveys of both species and habitats as well as proposals for ecological mitigation and enhancement.

This evidence is all available on the Greater Manchester Combined Authority's web site.

Supplementary question:

Do Councillors, presently in favour of these developments, under the GMSF, realise that over 1,200 species have become extinct or threatened with extinction (State of Nature Report 2016) and that there are 1,150 priority 'species' in the UK which are threatened species and require conservation, and accordingly, need humans and those elected, to help protect them?

Response:

The State of Nature Report does present some concerning findings about changes to the UK's wildlife.

However, many factors have led to these changes over recent decades, but the Report is clear that changes to agricultural practice has been by far the most significant driver of species decline.

Climate change has had a significant impact too, although its impact has been mixed, with both beneficial and detrimental effects on species.

The GMSF is not just about development. It also includes a wide range of other policies designed to create a greener Greater Manchester including policies on green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity.

In addition, policies supporting the proposed site allocations in the GMSF require development proposals to minimise impact on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation.

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Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	25 November 2020
Title of report:	Local Government Boundary Commission for England's Review of Bury Council
Report by:	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Growth
Decision Type:	Council Decision
Ward(s) to which report relates	All Wards

Executive Summary:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England has identified Bury as requiring a review of Council Size (number of councillors) and warding arrangements as it is almost twenty years since the last review was carried out.

The review will be carried out in a number of stages, initially looking at Council Size and then distribution of Wards, including consideration of any ward name changes.

The Council has established a Member Working Group chaired by the Leader of the Council and consisting of the leaders of all political parties in the Borough. The work of the group is supported by officers from Legal and Democratic Services, Planning and Communications sections.

The working group has supported the proposed contents of the Council Size Submission.

This report was presented to and approved by Cabinet on the 11 November 2020.

Recommendation(s)

That: Council is asked to recommend to Council that:

1. The Council's response, as part of the preliminary period reviewing the number of councillors, to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed;
2. Authority be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive to submit the response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, making any minor amendments as required for submission.

Key considerations

1. Background

- 1.1 In 2019, the Council was contacted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) about undertaking a review of the number of councillors in Borough and the distribution of ward boundaries. Progress with this work has been delayed by the impact of the global pandemic.
- 1.2 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body established by Parliament in April 2010. It is not part of government and are accountable to Parliament through the Speaker's Committee.
- 1.3 The LGBCE has a responsibility, set out in law, to review every local authority 'from time to time'. Bury Council was selected as it has not had a review since 2003. By the time the recommendations of the current review are implicated, the current boundaries will have been set for nearly 20 years.
- 1.4 The key aim of the review is to ensure the future delivery of electoral equality, with each councillor broadly representing the same number of voters. The LGBCE ideally requires no ward to show a variance from the average number of voters of no more than 5%, although recognises this there can be factors, just as geography or local characteristic which make this not possible. However, where wards show variance of more than 10%, serious concerns are raised as to the equity of political representation.
- 1.5 At the present time, two wards have been identified as having a variance over 10% from the Borough average, as shown in the table below:

Ward Name	No. Cllrs	Electorate 2019	Variance 2019 (%)
Besses	3	8494	-2.3%
Church	3	8591	0.4%
East	3	8908	0.3%
Elton	3	8898	2.0%
Holyrood	3	8913	2.1%
Moorside	3	9191	5.2%

North Manor	3	8286	-4.1%
Pilkington Park	3	7811	-10.9%
Radcliffe East	3	9394	5.6%
Radcliffe North	3	8869	3.1%
Radcliffe West	3	8756	0.1%
Ramsbottom	3	9333	7.7%
Redvales	3	9579	7.4%
Sedgley	3	9238	5.1%
St Mary's	3	8512	-3.9%
Tottington	3	8184	-4.9%
Unsworth	3	7496	-13.1%

*Data based on December 2018 electoral registers.

- 1.6 This situation is predicted to increase by 2026, with more wards demonstrating inequality in representation as new housing developments are completed and demographic changes occur within households, reinforcing the need for ward patterns to be revised as part of the later stages of the review:

PD - Ward Code	Projected Electorate - Mid Year 2026		
	Electorate	Absolute Deviation	% Deviation from average
Besses	8,422	-300	-3.4
Church	8,479	-243	-2.8
East	8,943	221	2.5
Elton	8,805	83	1.0
Holyrood	8,806	84	1.0
Moorside	9,073	351	4.0
North Manor	8,631	-91	-1.0
Pilkington Park	7,713	-1,009	-11.6
Radcliffe East	9,612	890	10.2
Radcliffe North	8,814	92	1.1
Radcliffe West	8,666	-56	-0.6
Ramsbottom	9,360	638	7.3
Redvales	9,481	759	8.7
Sedgley	9,312	591	6.8
St Marys	8,646	-76	-0.9
Tottington	8,118	-604	-6.9
Unsworth	7,390	-1,332	-15.3
Total	148,269		
Average	8,722		

- 1.7 The initial stage of the review will consider the appropriate future size of the council and, therefore, there is potential for an increase or decrease in the number of councillors in the Borough.

2. Stage 1 - Analysis of the Current Size

- 2.1 The first stage of the review will consider the relevance of the current Council size and whether this should be increased, decreased or remain the same.

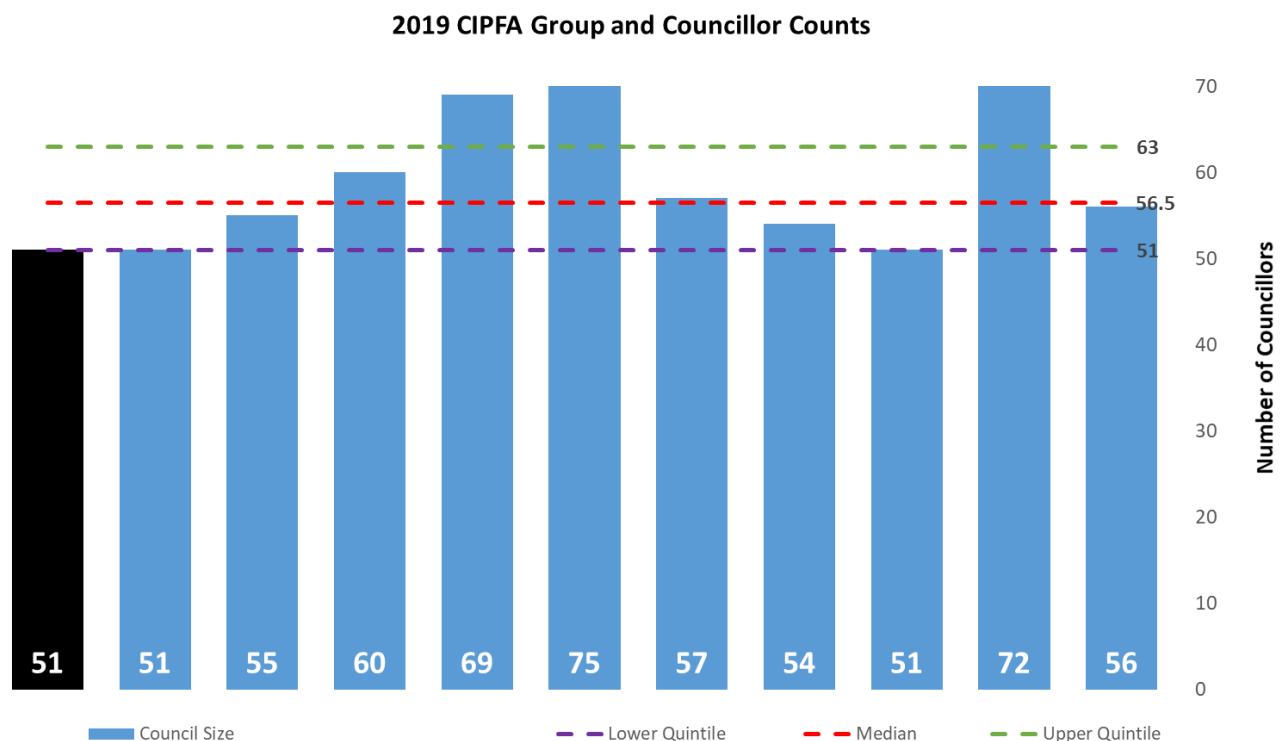
- 2.2 The proposed size of the Council will consider the Governance arrangements, the Scrutiny function, and the representative role of Councillors in local communities.

- 2.3 Bury currently has 51 councillors, representing 17 wards:

Number of Councillors	Number of Electors	Councillor:Elector Ratio
51	148,453	2,911

- 2.4 When making decisions about the size of the council, the LGBCE will make comparisons with the CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) nearest neighbour group.

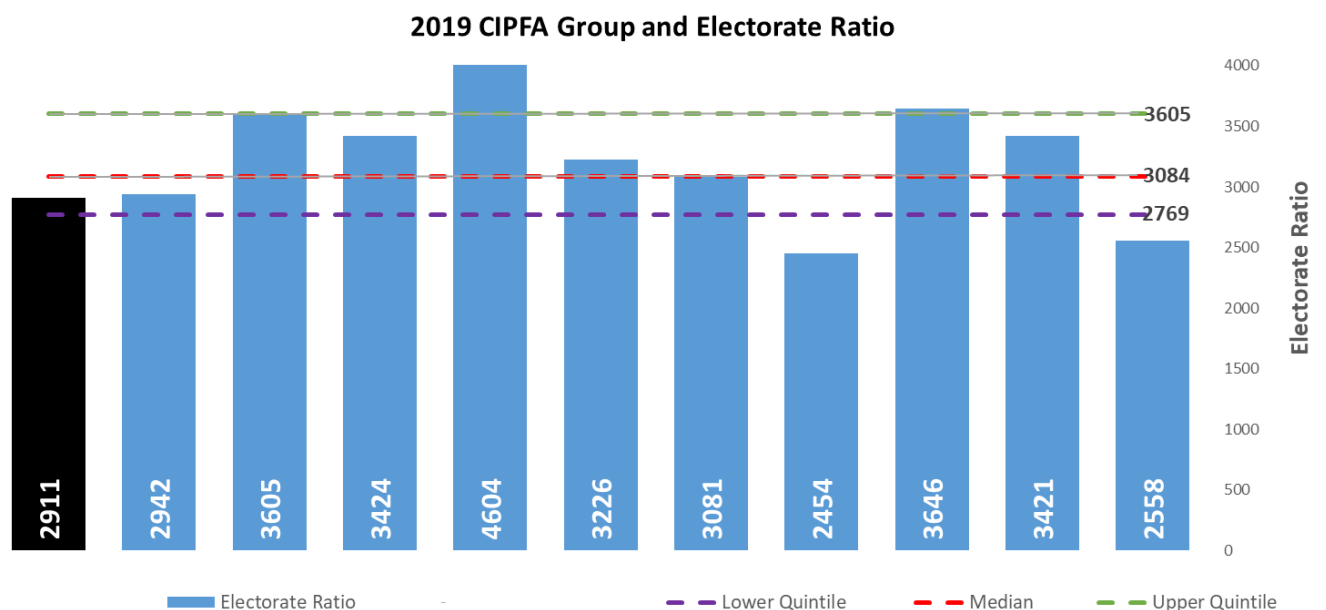
- 2.5 As shown in the bar chart below, Bury (shown in black) has one of the smallest number of councillors in its CIPFA group.



- 2.6 While this could indicate that Bury has a shortfall in the number of councillors, particularly when comparisons are made with other Greater Manchester authorities who have considerably more councillors and yet have equal

responsibilities and commitments to support the work of the combined authority. (E.g. Bolton at 60, Wigan at 75, and Tameside at 57).

- 2.7 However, the number of electors represented by each councillor should also be considered, as this indicates the potential workload and time commitment required from each councillor. The table below shows this information against the same comparator group. This shows a slightly different picture with some councils with more councillors than Bury having higher commitments per councillor in terms of the number of electors they each represent on average. Overall, in terms of elector representation per councillor, Bury does not appear to show as underrepresentation as the bar chart looking at councillor numbers alone appears to show.



3. Stage Two – Warding Patterns

- 3.1 The second stage of the review will look at how wards are distributed within the Borough. While these have often followed historic townships or areas, these alone are insufficient to justify the continuation of existing ward boundaries, as these can change over time. However, it is recognised that community interests and identities need to be considered when drawing new boundary lines and, at this stage, the LGBCE will undertake significant consultation with such groups. Similarly, topographical features such as watercourses, railway lines or arterial roads which provide barriers between or definition to wards will also be considered.
- 3.2 Warding patterns must not be considered as part of any rationale for the size of the Council. These will only be reviewed after the future Council size has been agreed.

4. Conclusion of the Review

- 4.1 The results of the review will result in ward boundaries being redrawn which match the distribution of the population and the geography of communities across the Borough.
- 4.2 The implementation of the results of the review will result in 'all out' local elections.
- 4.3 Future reports and analysis will be brought to Cabinet and Council at each stage of the review, when this work is undertaken and completed.

5. Conclusions and Other Alternatives Considered

- 5.1 For the reasons highlighted, the Council recommends that Bury should retain the existing number of 51 councillors. It is believed this level is required to provide a sufficiently diverse range of members for effective governance of the borough.
- 5.2 A greater number of members would increase resilience and representation and contribute to more manageable workloads. However, it has been concluded that an increase is difficult to justify at a time when budgets and services are under severe financial and demand pressures.
- 5.3 On the 11 November 2020, the submission was presented to and approved by Cabinet for debate and approval by Council.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Council is asked to agree:
 - 1. The Council's response, as part of the preliminary period reviewing the number of councillors, be submitted to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England as set out in Appendix 1;
 - 2. Authority be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive to submit the response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, making any minor amendments as required for submission.

Community impact / Contribution to the Bury 2030 Strategy

The completion of the review will ensure more effective councillor representation for the electorate of the Borough.

The new Council size and distribution will support the Bury 2030 Strategy by empowering local communities and individuals, and giving clearer responsibility and accountability to Councillors.

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

The first stage of the review will consider the size of the Council. By ensuring a more equitable distribution of electors across councillors, there will be greater opportunity to fulfil the Council's Equality Duty. For example, areas which might have increased in population through immigration in recent years, could have been under-represented under the current distribution, whereas the review allows a more balanced distribution.

Consultation in the second stage of the review, will also be under-taken with all local and community groups, providing an opportunity for all communities to have a voice in the future format of the Council.

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Opportunity to provide greater elector representation.	Undertaking the review after a period of almost twenty years justifies the review.
Confusion amongst the electorate if their wards are redrawn.	Communications with the electorate, particularly at election periods, will minimise this.
Risk in that by remaining at the same number of councillors, they will struggle to meet the increased expectations of them locally and regionally.	Current austerity regime and pressure on local authority budgets does not justify increase in the number of councillors in the Borough.

Consultation:

A working group, chaired by the Leader of the Council and consisting of all Opposition Group Leaders, has been involved in the completion of the Council Size Submission and consulted on the proposals.

The LGBCE will undertake extensive consultation as part of Stage 2 of the review.

Legal Implications:

As set out in the report.

Financial Implications:

There are no costs arising from the proposals.

Report Author and Contact Details:

Marcus Connor – Corporate Policy Manager

Background papers:

Local Government Boundary Commission for England, Bury Electoral Review, Member Briefing

Local Government Boundary Commission for England, Council Size Submission, Bury Council (enclosed)

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
LGBCE	Local Government Boundary Commission for England

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Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Council Size Submission

Bury Council

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How to Make a Submission

1. It is recommended that submissions on council size follow the format provided below. Submissions should focus on the future needs of the council and not simply describe the current arrangements. Submissions should also demonstrate that alternative council sizes have been considered in drawing up the proposal.
2. The template allows respondents to enter comments directly under each heading. It is not recommended that responses are should unduly long; as a guide, it is anticipated that a 15 to 20-page document using this template should suffice. Individual section length may vary depending on the issues to be explained. Where internal documents are referred to URLs should be provided, rather than the document itself. It is also recommended that a table is included that highlights the key paragraphs for the Commission's attention.

About You

3. The respondent should use this space to provide the Commission with a little detail about who is making the submission, whether it is the full Council, Officers on behalf of the Council, a political party or group, or an individual.

The Council Size Submission is being submitted on behalf of Bury Metropolitan Borough Council.

Reason for Review (Request Reviews Only)

4. Please explain the authority's reasons for requesting this electoral review; it is useful for the Commission to have context. *NB/ If the Commission has identified the authority for review under one of its published criteria, then you are not required to answer this question.*

Not applicable.

Local Authority Profile

5. Please provide a short description of the authority and its setting. This should set the scene for the Commission and give it a greater understanding of any current issues. The description may cover all, or some of the following:
 - Brief outline of area - are there any notable geographic constraint for example that may affect the review?
 - Rural or urban - what are the characteristics of the authority?
 - Demographic pressures - such as distinctive age profiles, migrant or transitional populations, is there any large growth anticipated?
 - Are there any other constraints, challenges, issues or changes ahead?

Background

Bury is an ambitious and largely prosperous post-industrial mill-town, located to the north of the Greater Manchester conurbation. It comprises six diverse townships, each with their own unique identity, - Bury, Ramsbottom, Tottington, Radcliffe, Whitefield and Prestwich – with a total population of 190,108 (ONS 2018 estimate). The population has shown a steady growth over the last 20 years, rising by 7.3% since the 1981 census and in more recent years 5.2% since 2001 and 2.5% since 2011. The majority of this increase has been in the over 45s and under 19s. The greatest proportion of the Borough's current population is White (89%), with Asian (7%) forming the second largest community particularly focussed in the Bury East area. It should also be noted that to the south of the Borough is the largest Jewish community in the country outside of London; although this community is co-located in the neighbouring boroughs of Manchester and Salford, the majority is within Bury.

The Borough is proud of its great heritage and culture, being awarded the honour of being Greater Manchester's first Town of Culture in 2020, with sole status being extended into 2021 due to impact of the Covid 19 pandemic, and remaining the conurbation's only town centre to have achieved Purple Flag status.

This identity is reflected in the pride local communities have in the town and the strengths of the internal and external partnerships that exist with communities and the public, private and voluntary sectors. This has been particularly demonstrated in the response to the national Covid 19 emergency of 2020, which has seen over 800 community volunteers step up to provide support to the most vulnerable people in our communities. It is intended that this co-operation will be continued in a post-Covid world with the Voluntary Community and Faith Alliance (VCFA) taking the lead at coordinating these efforts, currently acting as the focal point for 300 locally-, regionally-, and nationally-based organisations operating in the Borough.

The role of the community will also be a key part of Bury's 2030 Strategy, launched in 2020. This document has been developed in 2019 with over 1,000 responses received from the community and through a workshop held in early 2020 attended by around 100 local community and organisational leaders. Community Hubs are a legacy from the positive and cohesive work established through the Council's response to the pandemic. Bury's councillors will play an enhanced role in working with their local communities to support the work of the Community Hubs and delivery of this strategy over the next ten years. As 'Community Connectors', councillors will work to identify and resolve the needs of individuals and local groups within the network of resources available to them and as part of the wider democratic framework of accountability of the Council as a whole.

Geographically, the Borough is a mix of urban and rural areas set within 24,511 acres, representing just under 8% of the conurbation. It is recognised for its recently modernised town centre and the strength of its retail offer (with the town centre being the third largest shopping area in Greater Manchester - after Manchester City Centre and the Trafford Centre – in terms of spend), and does not intend to rest on its laurels with early plans to carry out a new town centre masterplan, with the area of Bury Market and that between the old and new Rock areas being key

locations for development. Similar initiatives are also focused on the townships, in particular, the Radcliffe Regeneration Strategy to develop its shopping centre and market and surrounding areas, and comparable work in Prestwich and Ramsbottom shopping centres. The Borough also has a reputation for great schools, beautiful areas of green space, a high quality, varied housing offer, and excellent transport links, all of which make it a highly sort after destination for individuals and families to live and for business to locate.

The excellent transport links (with the M66 forming a north-south link and connecting with the M60 at Simister Island to the south of the Borough), quality bus network and numerous Metrolink stations (with Bury Town Centre being one of the network's key terminal nodes), make the Borough an excellent location for commuters working in the conurbation's core or further afield, and for businesses wishing to attract high quality employees and customers, while also meeting distribution targets.

As previously noted, Bury places tourism and culture highly amongst its local priorities for supporting the local economy. In previous years, the town has built on its assets both in its town centre located Cultural Quarter but also amongst its townships. Attracting around 5.4 million visitors annually with an annual spend of approximately £300 million, the range of attractions such as the East Lancashire Railway, Transport Museum, Fusiliers Museum, Art Gallery, Irwell Sculpture Trail, and the Met. In 2020, the town looked set to build on this prestige and prosperity, being awarded the Town Of Culture status, following the success of the Victoria Wood exhibition and unveiling of her statue in Library Gardens in 2019, and the HAPPY festival. However, the lockdown restrictions of the pandemic severely curtailed these celebrations and Bury's tenure as Town of Culture has subsequently been extended for a further year. The Cabinet Member for Cultural Economy is committed to supporting this project and making it a success in the future.

The Borough's population is generally well qualified, according to NOMIS January to December 2019 data:

- Social Group 1-3 (managers, directors and senior officials professional occupations, technical – 49.1% (higher than the North West - 41.1% and Great Britain - 48%)
- Social Group 4-5 (administrative & secretarial, skilled trades) – 22.5% (higher than the North West 20.5% and Great Britain – 19.7%)
- Social Group 6-7 (caring, leisure, sales and customer services) – 15.4% (slightly lower than the North West – 17.7% and Great Britain – 16.1%)
- Social Group 8-9 (plant and machine operatives, elementary occupations) – 13.0% (considerably lower than the North West – 17.7% and Great Britain – 16.3%)

For the same period, 44,500 members of the Borough's population held NVQA, representing 39%, compared to 36.1% for the North West and 40.3% for Great Britain, also demonstrating the relatively high level of qualifications they hold.

However, the Borough's population are concentrated in a number of industries some of which (highlighted), due to the consequences of lockdown and other Covid 19 restrictions, may show the local economy to be vulnerable to long-term changes in behaviour and lifestyle:

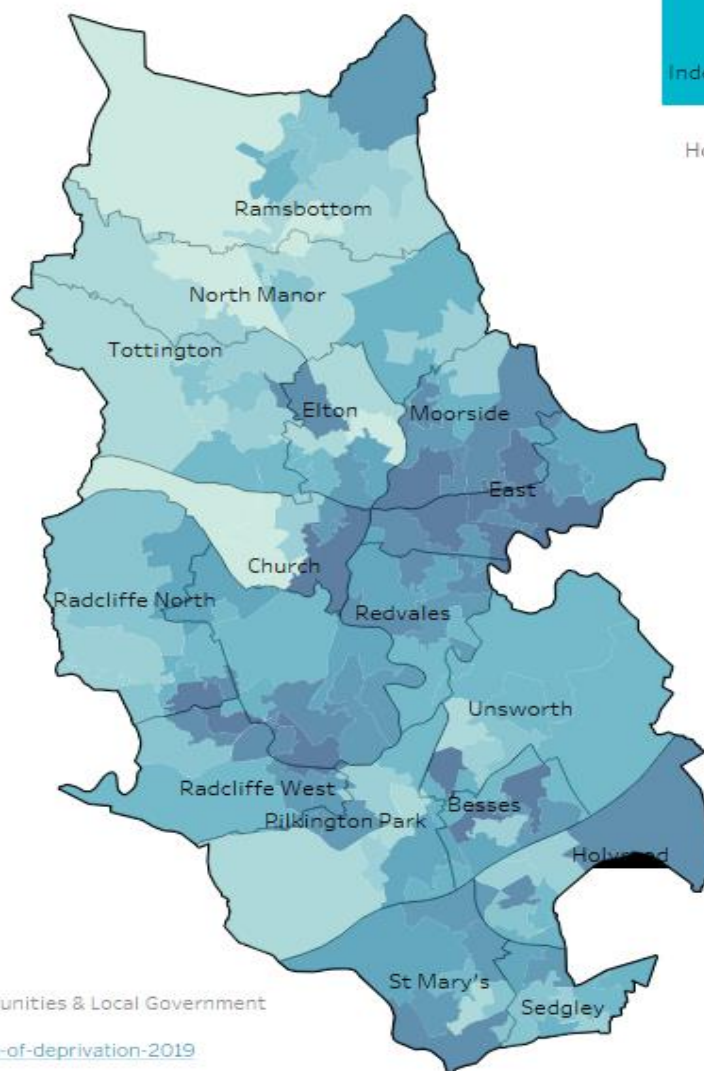
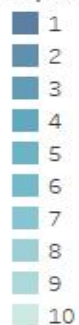
- Wholesale and retail – 14,000 (19.7%) compared to 16.9% in the North West and 15.2% in Great Britain
- Human Health and Social Care – 11,000 (15.5%) compared to 13.4% in the North West and 13.2% in Great Britain
- Manufacturing – 7,000 (9.9%) compared to 9.6% in the North West and 8.1% in Great Britain
- Education – 7,000 (9.9%) compared to 5.5% in the North West and 4.8% in Great Britain
- Transport and Storage – 5,000 (7.0%) compared to 16.9% in the North West and 15.2% in Great Britain
- Professional, Scientific, Technical – 5,000 (7.0%) compared to 8.3% in the North West and 8.7% in Great Britain
- Admin and Support Services – 5,000 (7.0%) compared to 9.0% in the North West and 9.1% in Great Britain
- Accommodation and Food Service – 4,500 (6.3%) compared to 7.1% in the North West and 7.6% in Great Britain

While generally prosperous, there are Local Super Output Areas of the Borough in the most deprived parts of the country, therefore, there are socio-economic problems which need to be addressed (as shown on the map below):

Indices Of Deprivation 2019

Deprivation Decile

(Where 1 is in the 10% most deprived LSOA's in England)



Map Selection

(Maps Of Domains and Sub-Domains)
Index of Multiple Deprivation

Hover over Lower Super Output Area (LSOA)
For further details

Indices of Deprivation from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
Released 26th September 2019 and available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>

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Ordnance Survey 100023063

© OpenStreetMap

Created By: Performance and Intelligence, Bury Council

These levels of deprivation are reflected in the statistics of the Local Authority Health Profile 2018, with the picture being varied when compared to the averages in England. The local life expectancy for both males and females is lower than the England average, with the difference being most acute when England is compared to the locally most deprived areas. Locally the difference between the most and least deprived areas is 11.3 years for males and 8.5 years for females.

Council Size

6. The Commission believes that councillors have three broad aspects to their role. These are categorised as: Strategic Leadership, Accountability (Scrutiny, Regulation and Partnerships), and Community Leadership. Submissions should address each of these in turn and provide supporting evidence. Prompts in the boxes below should help shape responses.

Strategic Leadership

7. Respondents should provide the Commission with details as to how elected members will provide strategic leadership for the authority. Responses should also indicate how many members will be required for this role and why this is justified.

Topic		
Governance Model	Key lines of explanation	➤ <i>What governance model will your authority operate? e.g. Committee System, Executive or other?</i> ➤ <i>The Cabinet model, for example, usually requires 6 to 10 members. How many members will you require?</i> ➤ <i>If the authority runs a Committee system, we want to understand why the number and size of the committees you have represents is most appropriate for the authority.</i>
	Analysis	Bury Council operates a Strong Leader Cabinet model of governance. This was introduced in 2011/12 and there are no plans to change this. The Council comprises 51 Councillors, with three Councillors representing each of the Borough's 17 wards. The current composition is: • Labour 28 • Conservative – 16 • Liberal Democrat – 4 • Radcliffe First – 2 • Independent - 1

	Expectations of all councillors are summarised at <<insert link to constitution>> The Leader of the Council is elected for a four year term or until the expiry of his / her term of office as a councillor. The Council's constitution (<< insert link>>) provides for the Leader to appoint at least 2 and a maximum of 10 Executive Members to sit on Cabinet with him/her. Following the appointment of the new Leader in May 2020, there are currently 9 Cabinet Members with portfolios (including the Leader) supported by 10 deputies. There were 9 meetings (2 cancelled) and 11 meetings (1 cancelled) in 2018/19 and 2019/20 respectively, with meetings lasting on average 30 minutes. During 2020/21, there have been 4 meetings up to September 2020, lasting on average 2 hours. Cabinet made 52, 47 and 37 decisions respectively on each of the years 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 (to September). Appendix 4 shows all items discussed at Cabinet since January 2019. During the Covid Pandemic and in light of the local lockdown restrictions the Council established an Emergency Powers Group. The group was established to facilitate the taking of emergency decisions, and met on 9 occasions. Members of the Group included the four Group Leaders, the Scrutiny Chairs and the Deputy Leader and First Deputy. Up until September 2020, this group had made 18 decisions. As a result of the pandemic daily meetings of Informal Cabinet were also established, the purpose of these meetings was to brief elected Members on issues appertaining to the pandemic. With the exception of the Leader, all Cabinet members typically have full or part time employment or study in addition to their Cabinet duties. As a result, virtually all meetings take place in the evening. As can be seen from the increase in the length of time of Cabinet meetings and number of decisions made in the current year, the Council has increased the levels of involvement of Cabinet members in leading on the future direction of the Council. The extraordinary circumstances brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic has allowed the Council to explore the use of new technology to engage with members and also to involved them more effectively with decision making. It is intended that this increased level of involvement will continue in the future, which will, in turn, increase the time commitment expected from

		portfolio holders and their deputies. We firmly believe that the current number of 51 councillors provides adequate scope for the ruling party to select a sufficiently skilled Cabinet, and supporting deputies, with the range of expertise required to fulfil the duties of a portfolio holder. Even with increased demands of members from new ways of working in 2020 and greater expectations from councillors, services have continued to be delivered, therefore we believe that this model will still be effective in the future (Appendix 7 shows details of attendance at meetings). We believe that this same commitment, backed up by additional support through briefings from senior officers and a structured and detailed member development and training programme, will be able to continue even with the increased demands from a growing electorate. However, we believe that any reduction in the number of councillors would severely limit the ruling party's ability to function as effectively as possible which would impact its increasing responsibilities and strategic direction, as outlined above. We believe that there could be scope to justify an increase in council size, however, we firmly believe that this would be inappropriate in the current austerity climate, given cuts to the funding of public services and financial pressures that have increased during the Covid 19 response. As previously stated, we also feel that this increase is unnecessary for the Council to continue to operate as it currently is in the future even with an increasing population, as members are committed to the Borough and will be supported by senior officers and new detailed member training and development programmes.
Portfolios	Key lines of explanation	➤ <i>How many portfolios will there be?</i> ➤ <i>What will the role of a portfolio holder be?</i> ➤ <i>Will this be a full-time position?</i> ➤ <i>Will decisions be delegated to portfolio holders? Or will the executive/mayor take decisions?</i>
	Analysis	The Cabinet is currently made up of the Leader and 8 portfolio holders, with portfolios and responsibilities split between the 9 members as follows: • Leader; Finance and Growth • Deputy Leader; Children, Young People and Skills • First Deputy; Health and Wellbeing • Environment and Climate Change • Communities and Emergency Planning • Transport and Infrastructure • Cultural Economy

	• Corporate Affairs and HR • Housing Services On average, Cabinet members are invited to attend 43 meetings (including those in Greater Manchester / AGMA) per year, compared to an average of 29 meetings across all councillor (Appendix 3). Also, see appointments 2020/21 <<insert link>>. Cabinet members are supported by 10 Deputy Cabinet Members, giving greater resilience and future continuity to each portfolio, with the relevant deputies taking the lead in particular areas: • Finance and Growth (and Ramsbottom Town Plan) • Children Services (and Radcliffe Regeneration) • Communities and Emergency Planning • Health and Wellbeing – two deputies with one having Lead on Public Health • Environment and Climate Change – two deputies • Housing Services • Transport and Infrastructure • Corporate Affairs and HR Cabinet Members do not sit on Scrutiny Committees. Bury currently has two internal scrutiny committees, 'Overview and Scrutiny Committee' and 'Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee'. As previously stated, the workload for current cabinet members is challenging given that almost all are in full or part time employment of education. However, we believe that there are currently sufficient councillors for any ruling local administration to select a skilled Cabinet to cover all the responsibilities and provide strong strategic direction to the Council. This expertise will be enhanced to meet increasing demands from the future electorate, with senior officer support and member training. Also as previously stated, we believe that any reduction in overall councillor numbers would significantly impact on this ability. We accept that there is a potential to make a case for increasing councillor numbers, but we do not believe this is appropriate at the present time. The Council can operate effectively with the current number of councillors, as can be evidenced by the fact that all Cabinet and deputy posts are filled. It should also be

		noted that during 2020, the level of Cabinet member involvement has increased, however, the current members have managed this changing workload. Therefore, for the reasons previously stated, it is believed that this number will be effective for the future delivery of strategic leadership in the future.
Delegated Responsibilities	<i>Key lines of explanation</i>	➤ <i>What responsibilities will be delegated to officers or committees?</i> ➤ <i>How many councillors will be involved in taking major decisions?</i>
	Analysis	Portfolio holders are appointed as the lead and spokesperson on all matters within their portfolio. Full details and expectations of each portfolio holder are shown in the Council Constitution <<insert link>>. The Leader has not delegated any decision making to portfolio holders individually, however, they are each responsible for presenting reports within the remit of their portfolio and ensuring that they are considered by the Leader and Cabinet collectively. Decisions have been delegated to the Leader and Cabinet as a whole and in the current administration, executive decisions are only made in the forum of a formal Leader and Cabinet meeting. The Leader has not exercised his executive decision making power alone, instead sharing this responsibility with all portfolio holders in meetings. There are no plans to amend this practice in future. Appendix 4 provides details of the busy timetable for, and significant nature of, the decisions made by the Leader and Cabinet. In particular, the matters considered as part of special measures adopted during the pandemic, show the increased role of these decision makers. Cabinet Members also answer public and member questions. All Council meetings have the first half hour set aside for questions from members of the public in attendance on matters relating to the reports being presented. Portfolio holders are expected to attend these meetings, with officer support, to present reports within their remit and answer any questions from the public or councillors in the meeting. Therefore, Portfolio holders are expected to spend whatever time is necessary to be briefed by officers, become familiar with the detail of the proposals and prepare for the meeting. Similarly, in meetings of the full Council, portfolio holders are required to answer any questions on matters within their portfolio. These could arise as part of the question and answer period from councillors, on items relating to motions of the Council, or from members of the public as part of the open question time at the meetings. Appendix 5 shows the number of public and member questions asked of portfolio holders at

	Council meetings. Cabinet portfolio holders are also required to attend meetings of Overview and Scrutiny bodies to give account of their actions and the decisions of the Leader and Cabinet in relation to their portfolio responsibilities if required to do so. The Council's Scheme of Delegation contains a comprehensive list of those decisions which are reserved for decision by Leader and Cabinet. It includes all major strategic executive decisions and those where member involvement is perceived to be essential. The Scheme of Delegation can be found in the attached link to the Council's Constitution <<insert link>> Being a Cabinet Member represents a significant time commitment. The Leader and Cabinet meet formally to make decisions approximately 12 times a year, with meetings now lasting approximately 2 hours depending on the issues to be discussed. All Cabinet meetings (as is the case with virtually all Council meetings) are held in the evenings as all except the Leader are in full or part time employment and / or education, having to fit their significant responsibilities around their daily lives. Some of the Cabinet members have had to either reduce their working hours or work on a compressed hour model to allow them sufficient time to devote to their Cabinet responsibilities. Cabinet members also attend regular briefings with Executive Directors and senior/lead staff to be updated on, discuss and agree direction on issues relating to their portfolio. Their frequency and duration will depend on the size of the portfolio and the current issues relating to it, however, they will at least take place on a monthly basis, lasting approximately 2 hours. They represent the Council at political meetings of local government associations, both national and regional, in particular as part of the Council's work in the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA). The Council's involvement with AGMA, has considerably increased the workload of portfolio holders (and other members as delegated Council representatives). It is vital that the Council's voice is heard and championed on the regional stage. Being the smallest of the ten metropolitan borough councils in AGMA, it is important that our needs are not overlooked. It is creditable that despite its size, it has still been able to provide representation at an AGMA level in the same way as other, much larger, authorities. Cabinet members are also required to meet other stakeholders in relation to their portfolio responsibilities

	on a regular basis. They carry out these duties in addition to the representative role of a local councillor, and, as a result, can place increased pressure and workload of their other ward colleagues. Attached at Appendix 6 is the diary template completed by 12 councillors for the week of Sunday 23rd February to Saturday 29th February 2020. Central to this model of political governance is the statutory role of overview and scrutiny. The Council is committed to strong and challenging overview and scrutiny. This is dealt with in detail at Section 8. Annually, there are typically 7 meetings of Full Council, taking place every 2 months, with extraordinary meetings convened when business dictates. It is Chaired by the Mayor (who has casting voting) and attended by the Leader and all 50 ward councillors who are expected to attend. Full Council has responsibility for taking such decisions as those affecting the constitution, the budget and policy framework as well as appointing the overview and scrutiny and other committees. Council Meetings At all Council meetings there is a standing item for the hearing of Notices of Motion, presented by Councillors. There is also up to 30 minutes at each meeting devoted to Public Questions in addition to those raised by councillors prior to the meeting (See Appendix 5). This helps to build accountability and responsibility for portfolio holders. The minutes and records of attendance show that most Councillors regularly participate in Council meetings by asking questions, making amendments or announcements, and presenting petitions. In addition to the executive and scrutiny roles performed by councillors, they are also heavily involved in decision making in other ways. The Council has established a number of formal committees, sub committees, as well as advisory, statutory, consultative and other bodies. Details of these bodies and the number of meetings appear in the list of Annual Appointments 2020/21 <<insert link>>.

Accountability

8. Give the Commission details as to how the authority and its decision makers and partners will be held to account. The Commission is interested in both the internal and external dimensions of this role.

Topic	
Internal Scrutiny	The scrutiny function of authorities has changed considerably. Some use theme or task-and-finish groups, for example, and others have a committee system. Scrutiny arrangements may also be affected by the officer support available.
<i>Key lines of explanation</i>	➤ <i>How will decision makers be held to account?</i> ➤ <i>How many committees will be required? And what will their functions be?</i> ➤ <i>How many task and finish groups will there be? And what will their functions be? What time commitment will be involved for members? And how often will meetings take place?</i> ➤ <i>How many members will be required to fulfil these positions?</i> ➤ <i>Explain why you have increased, decreased, or not changed the number of scrutiny committees in the authority.</i> ➤ <i>Explain the reasoning behind the number of members per committee in terms of adding value.</i>
Analysis	The Council appoints an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee to discharge the functions conferred by Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 or Regulations under Section 32 of the Local Government Act 2000. Both scrutiny committees have been established since June 2012. The committees comprise of 12 elected members (although in total 26 of the 42 councillors not on Cabinet are involved in these meetings in some way), are politically balanced and meet in public, with the first half hour of all meetings being available as public question time. Overview and Scrutiny Committee can also appoint Overview Project Groups to undertake reviews. Details of Bury's Overview and Scrutiny Committees are as set out below. Cabinet members are excluded from membership of either scrutiny committee, and deputy cabinet members can only be appointed to the committees where they do not have any involvement of influence. Persons who are not members of the authority may attend these committees, there are up to five co-opted members in a voting capacity in respect of education functions on Overview and Scrutiny, to represent three faiths, (Church of England, Catholic, Jewish) and primary and secondary parent governors – although only one post (Catholic) currently has nomination and normally these members only stay for education / schools reports. Scrutiny committees are seen as an essential tool to promote accountability in the local authority's decision-

making processes.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a key role in helping to develop policies for the Council, scrutinising organisations external to the Council and holding the Leader / Cabinet Members to account.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee can:

- Initiate public inquiries into matters of local concern. These can lead to reports and recommendations which advise the Leader / Cabinet Members and the Council as a whole on its policies, budget and service delivery.
- Monitor the decisions of the Leader/Cabinet members. A decision that has been made by the Leader / Cabinet Member and not yet implemented can be 'called in'. This enables the Committee to consider whether the decision is appropriate. The Scrutiny Committee may recommend that the Leader / Cabinet Member reconsider the decision in light of findings and comments made.
- Be consulted by the Leader / Cabinet Member or the Council on forthcoming decisions and the development of policy.

The impact of the Covid pandemic has limited the number of meetings held in 2020/21, with only 3 meetings to date, compared to 6 and 9 in 2018/19 and 2019/20 respectively. Meetings have typically lasted for 1 hour 40 minutes on average in the last two years, although this has increased to 2 hours 35 minutes in 2020/21.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has established one sub-committee, the Children's Safeguarding Sub-Committee, consisting of a political balance of six members of the committee and meeting on average three times a year, and most recently has undertaken a review of school achievement in the Borough.

Health Scrutiny

The Health and Social Care Act 2001 made Local Authorities, with health and social care responsibility, responsible for reviewing and scrutinising health services in their area.

Health Scrutiny Committee focuses on adult social care specific areas and conducting policy development and pre-decision scrutiny (each committee meets 8 times a year and will have 12 members), and acting as statutory consultee in relation to proposals for substantial changes in health provision.

There is strong emphasis on joint working with the NHS service provision. As a result, there are also Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees established to scrutinise the work of the Pennine Acute NHS Trust and the Pennine Care NHS Trust, working with other boroughs in Greater Manchester:

- **Pennine Care NHS Trust Joint Health Scrutiny Committee**
- **Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust Joint Health Scrutiny committee**
- **Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Joint Health Scrutiny Panel**

These cross-local authority boundary Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committees were established by Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport and Tameside councils to consider issues affecting the health of local people (the overview role) and to call the NHS into account on behalf of the local communities (the scrutiny role).

During 2018/19 and 2019/20, the committee has had six meetings per year scheduled (although one was withdrawn in 2019/20. To date in 2020/21, there have been 3 meetings of the committee. The average length of time per meeting has ranged from 1 hour 40 minutes in 2018/19, to 2 hours in each of 2019/20 and 2020/21.

This comprehensive system sees scrutiny members engaged in scrutinising the full range of Council business and ensures that policy and service development in Bury has strong member input. It also allows members the opportunity, as community leaders, to make sure the local community's needs are reflected in the decisions made by the Council and its partners.

The time commitment involved in being a scrutiny member is significant. In addition to the large volume of

meetings that take place each year, a lot of activity takes place outside of formal meetings, including consultation with residents and service users, visits and service observations.

Openness, transparency and public scrutiny are very important to Bury and a key element of the corporate strategy. The only change made to the overview and scrutiny arrangements in recent years has been the previously mentioned additional establishment of a standing Child Safeguarding Sub- Committee. This began life as a task and finish group, but it soon transpired that ongoing child safeguarding matters meant that there was ongoing scrutiny work needed in this area.

Since the tragic cases of child trafficking and abuse in Rochdale, the work of this Sub Committee is all the more important. It is proposed to extend the terms of reference of this sub-committee to include adult safeguarding.

The Council's constitution provides for a membership of between 3-6 on Task and Finish Groups. Given the scope of the work of the select committees, and their future focus, this number is deemed to be sufficient to secure a breadth of knowledge and interest in assisting in the development of policy, but not so large as to be unwieldy.

The Council is currently conducting a Governance Review of the Constitution with the aim of making the Borough even more democratic, open and transparent and, in line with these principles, it anticipated that Bury will continue to operate a comprehensive scrutiny structure. In particular, though there are currently no task and finish groups in place, it is likely that the Governance Review of the Constitution and the appointment of a dedicated scrutiny officer will explore a greater emphasis on the involvement of scrutiny members in the early development of policy than hitherto through the use of such groups. This will require significant Member input in terms of meeting attendance and associated duties (site visits, service observations, consultation).

Although there has been one 'call in', neither Council scrutiny committee has made any recommendations to Cabinet in recent years.

Scrutiny meetings are well attended. Although we expect scrutiny challenge to continue to play a significant role in the governance of the Council in the future, we believe that these demands can be met through the current 51 councillors. As stated previously, the commitment of members to the people of the Borough,

		together with increased officer support and planned member training, will provide councillors with the skills and expertise needed to meet the demands of an increasing future electorate. Therefore, we do not believe a reduction in number is viable if scrutiny is to be effective in the future. However, we do not believe there an increase in warranted as this is insensitive, particularly in the current climate of austerity (with several years of reductions in Council budgets and increased demand on resources to support the public sector response to the local impact of the global pandemic).
Statutory Function		This includes planning, licencing and any other regulatory responsibilities. Consider under each of the headings the extent to which decisions will be delegated to officers. How many members will be required to fulfil the statutory requirements of the council?
Planning	<i>Key lines of explanation</i>	➤ <i>What proportion of planning applications will be determined by members?</i> ➤ <i>Has this changed in the last few years? And are further changes anticipated?</i> ➤ <i>Will there be area planning committees? Or a single council-wide committee?</i> ➤ <i>Will executive members serve on the planning committees?</i> ➤ <i>What will be the time commitment to the planning committee for members?</i>
	Analysis	The Council has one main Planning Committee comprising 13 members with 12 planning committee meetings in a regular year. Generally, there is a good level of attendance at what can be a very intense and complicated meeting, with 9.3 and 9.5 members attending on average over 2018/19 and 2019/20 respectively. A Planning Control committee meeting lasts on average 3 hours and there will be preparation time to read the committee reports and review the planning application documents (average 1 day per meeting). Only a minority of planning applications are determined by members, with 5%, 5% and 4% being considered in 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 respectively. Most decisions will be determined by delegated decisions. This reinforces for the position in terms of the most recent changes to the operation of the committee. New Legislation, General Permitted Development Order 2015 (GPDO) gave people more scope to build bigger extensions under permitted development thus resulting in fewer people needing to apply for planning permission. Also, this supported the need to encourage planning control committees to determine more important place making planning applications rather than small scale development proposals in line with Planning Advisory and Government Planning guidance. Some examples of place making applications considered are:

		• 63633 - Bevis Green Works, Mill Road, Bury, BL9 6RE – 8/10/19 - PCC https://councildecisions.bury.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=2430&Ver=4 • 62969 - East Lancs Paper Mill, Church Street East, Radcliffe, Manchester, M26 9PG – 18/12/18 - PCC https://councildecisions.bury.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=2251&Ver=4 • Radcliffe Metrolink Car Park, Spring Lane, Radcliffe, Manchester, M26 2ST – 65354 - https://councildecisions.bury.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=134&MId=2644&Ver=4 There are no plans to change this approach in the near future. The Planning Advisory service state that usually, a Cabinet Member would not be appointed to the Planning Committee. No Cabinet members have been appointed to the Planning Committee in Bury for the year 2020-2021. Meetings have been well attended over the last two years, demonstrating the commitment of councillors to these duties. With a more place-making approach, as mentioned above, the use of members' time to support these meetings will be more effective, enabling them to meet the demands of an increasing Borough population. This should reduce additional commitments for site visits prior to meetings, as so ensure meetings continue to be well attended. We believe that this commitment will continue in the future, being effectively met through the existing number of 51 councillors. Likely increased number of planning applications means that a reduction in councillors would be inappropriate, however, by ensuring members' time continue to be used in the most effective way will mean that an increase in members would be unnecessary.
Licensing	Key lines of explanation	➤ How many licencing panels will the council have in the average year? ➤ And what will be the time commitment for members? ➤ Will there be standing licencing panels, or will they be ad-hoc? ➤ Will there be core members and regular attendees, or will different members serve on them?
	Analysis	There is one Licensing and Safety Committee. This deals with all aspects of licensing in line with the Licensing Act 2003. There are 13 members on the Committee, with average attendance of 8.6 and 8.5 members over each of the last two years. If there is an application for expedited review of a licence then a

		remote hearing will be held with three members; usually the Chair, Vice Chair and one other member from the Committee. The Council programmes meetings of the Licensing and Safety Committee approximately every four weeks. Last year, [13] were held. The meetings will generally consider issues such as award or withdrawal of premises licences or applications for / withdrawal or suspension of hackney carriage / private hire licences. Member preparation time may take a day for each meeting. Special meetings, called expedited hearings are meetings conducted by email in special circumstances when the police require a temporary closure of a premises due to serious criminal activity. Demands on members' time for this meeting has increased this year, rising from just over an average of one hour per meeting in 2018/19 and 2019/20 to two hours in 2020/21. This demonstrates the increased expectations and involvement expected from members. While it could be stated that this justifies an increase in the number of members, we believe that attendance rates show these demands are sustainable with the current number of members. However, we firmly believe that a decrease in the number of members could seriously impact on the Council's ability to perform effectively in this area.
Other Regulatory Bodies	<i>Key lines of explanation</i>	➤ <i>What will they be, and how many members will they require?</i> ➤ <i>Explain the number and membership of your Regulatory Committees with respect to greater delegation to officers.</i>
	Analysis	Standards Committee The Council has appointed a Standards Committee consisting of 9 elected members to promote the highest ethical standards among members and to consider allegations of breach of the member code of conduct. The meeting is chaired by the Mayor. There are 4 meetings per year of the main committee, with the issues considered in the current year including, the Code of Conduct for Members, Constitution Review, the highly relevant holding of virtual meetings and the Member Development Strategy. Sub committees can be called consisting of 3 members to deal with complaints or allegations of breach of the member code of conduct.

		Audit Committee The Council has appointed a Committee of 9 non-executive-council members, with attendance over the last two years of 6.25 and 7.5 members. The Committee meets 4 times a year and receives finance updates on the state of the Council and is part of the annual budget setting process. It has engaged CIPFA to carry out a fundamental review of the work of the Committee and its remit alongside a review of the internal audit service. This Review will offer guidance on best practice and may make recommendations to full Council about its future role and composition. The Council is committed to rigorous internal regulation and it is not anticipated that the membership of the Audit Committee in future will be diminished, particularly as the Council grapples with significant budget reductions and increasing demand. The Council strongly supports the introduction of independent member input into the role of this regulatory body in future.
External Partnerships		Service delivery has changed for councils over time, and many authorities now have a range of delivery partners to work with and hold to account.
	<i>Key lines of explanation</i>	➤ <i>Will executive members serve on decision-making partnerships, sub-regional, regional or national bodies?</i> ➤ <i>How many councillors will be involved in this activity? And what is their expected workload? What proportion of this work is undertaken by portfolio holders?</i> ➤ <i>What other external bodies will members be involved in? And what is the anticipated workload?</i>
	Analysis	Partnerships and Outside Bodies NHS Clinical Commissioning Group Partnership – One Commissioning Organisation Service delivery has changed for councils over time, and many authorities now have a range of delivery partners to work with and hold to account. The Council has established an innovative partnership with the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group in Bury. In July 2019 the Council agreed to the setting up of the Strategic Commissioning Board as a joint committee of the Council to operate from 1 October 2019. The Report makes it clear that this joint committee will not replace either of the existing statutory bodies, instead it will be a Joint Committee of the two statutory organisations established under Regulation 10(2) of the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000.

The Board was to be given wide ranging responsibility for all matters relating to health, social care and the Council's "health related" functions (set out in full below), which can be delegated to it (subject to reserved matters). As the Report recognised, Council was not able to complete the delegations to the SCB as the Council's health related functions are executive functions and Cabinet would need to formally agree this before the delegated powers could be used.

On 4 September 2019 the Cabinet agreed to delegate its executive functions for health, social care and health related functions as set out below with effect from 1 October 2019.

It was also envisaged that there will be alignment of wider Council, CCG and public services by inclusion so far as legally possible within the role of the Board, so that members of the Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body and Councillors can contribute to and make decisions to benefit the population of Bury. In respect of this and the aligned funds, the Board will be an advisory group making recommendations for decision to the Cabinet or CCG Governing Body.

Provision was also to be made to ensure the duties and responsibilities of the statutory roles of Director of Children's Services, Director of Adult Social Care Services, Director of Public Health, Section 151 officer and Monitoring Officer are reflected in the decision making arrangements. This has not yet been confirmed

The necessary amendments to be made to the council constitution will be confirmed as part of the Constitution Review going to November 2020 Council. Updated Bury Council Constitution

In conclusion, it is confirmed that the SCB is a properly constituted joint committee with delegated powers to make decisions in relation to the Council's health related functions subject to the reserved matters (in a separate schedule) but which generally have to be carried out by a specified body or officer.

In October 2019, the SCB endorsed a paper that set out the governance and supporting administration arrangements that have been developed to enable the Strategic Commissioning Board to operate efficiently and effectively in discharging the duties delegated to it from the Council Cabinet and CCG

It reflected the ambition of the Locality Plan to desire to form a 'One Commissioning Organisation' which would have a remit to:

- Bring together health and social care commissioning functions of the CCG and Council into one structure;
- Create pooled and aligned budget arrangements for health and social care;
- Develop a single health and social care commissioning strategy;
- Create a shared approach to maximizing social value;
- Strategically commission for outcomes against a wide ranging and dynamic local evidence base; and
- Recognise the role of the new Local Care Organisation as a single provider accountable for delivering all age services at a neighbourhood level.

Significant progress has been made in many aspects of the ambition of the one commissioning organisation listed, and further strengthen by the appointment of the joint post of Executive Director for Strategic Commissioning.

Persona

Persona was created 1 October 2015 and is a local authority trading company which supports adults with social care in Bury. Their aim is to enable adults to thrive not just survive, despite the challenges they may face due to age, disability or vulnerability.

At the time of the formation of Persona, the Council nominated a non-executive member to their board. . The Council is currently seeking to identify an appropriate nominee to the Persona Board, as this position involves more than them simply being the Council representative but will require them to have a particular skill set to understand the work carried out by Persona, their financial structures, and be able to commit a considerable portion of their time

Six Town Housing

In 2005, the Council established a wholly owned company; Six Town Housing to manage Council owned housing stock of approximately 7,577 core social rent properties and 363 leasehold properties; along with 137 other properties (103 owned directly by Six Town Housing and 34 on behalf of Mosscafe St Vincent's Housing Group (MSV)). It currently nominates four Councillor Directors to its Board and receives its report and agrees

	its Annual Report to Tenants and Business Plan on an annual basis. The Council has also established Radcliffe Regeneration Board, with a view to the regeneration of Radcliffe, an area in desperate need of regeneration. In addition, the Leader and/or the Council makes appointments of Councillors to approximately 50 partnership organisation and external bodies such as, Age Concern, Voluntary Service Bury, SLAM, Local Government Association Committees and Greater Manchester Councils working groups, There is a total of 78 appointments in this category. A full list of these appointments can be found in the Annual Appointments for 2020/21 <<insert link>>.

Community Involvement

9. The Commission understands that there is no single approach to community leadership and that members represent, and provide leadership to, their communities in different ways. The Commission wants to know how members are required to provide effective community leadership and what support the council offers them in this role. For example, does the authority have a defined role and performance system for its elected members? And what support networks are available within the council to help members in their duties?

Topic		Description
Community Leadership	Key lines of explanation	➤ <i>In general terms how do councillors carry out their representational role with electors?</i> ➤ <i>Does the council have area committees and what are their powers?</i> ➤ <i>How do councillors seek to engage with their constituents? Do they hold surgeries, send newsletters, hold public meetings or maintain blogs?</i> ➤ <i>Are there any mechanisms in place that help councillors interact with young people, those not on the electoral register, and/or other minority groups and their representative bodies?</i> ➤ <i>Are councillors expected to attend community meetings, such as parish or resident's association meetings? If so, what is their level of involvement and what roles do they play?</i> ➤ <i>Explain your approach to the Area Governance structure. Is your Area Governance a decision-making forum or an advisory board? What is their relationship with locally elected members and Community bodies such as Town and Parish Councils? Looking forward how could they be improved to enhance decision-making?</i>
	Analysis	All councillors take an active role in the communities they represent. As shown from the diary monitoring, members attend meetings with individuals and groups in their wards as required. The restrictions associated with the Covid 19 pandemic have led to councillors having to be innovative to work in different ways. Surgeries have normally been held by councillors to allow their constituents to contact them with any queries they might have. However, these have had to be suspended, with members offering a range of other ways for communication being offered, such as telephone or email. The Council's website has been updated for each member to clarify alternative arrangements offered by each councillor. Members also have a £1,000 discretionary budget to support community initiatives in their wards. The mechanisms for the distribution of this funding is at the discretion of each councillor. All councillors are school governors, allowing them to be aware of and influence issues affecting young people in the Borough, and also acting as role models. The Council also operates a Youth Cabinet which is attended by a number of councillors. To empower the

		younger members, chairing duties are shared between a councillor and member of the Youth Cabinet. The group meets six times a year, with meetings lasting for two hours, and has received reports from its members on a range of issues, including the appointment of new senior members of staff involved with education and the launch of the Town of Culture status, and debating issues ranging from reintroduction of the death penalty to Christmas Day during Covid restrictions. The success of the Youth Cabinet at involving younger people in politics has been demonstrated in recent years by one current councillor and at least one former councillor having amongst its members. Finally, members also have a duty and commitment to young people, both in their responsibilities as Corporate Parent and supporting the Children's Trust Board. As has been previously noted, the positive impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has been the local community response and the Council's establishment of Community Hubs to provide support to, in particular, the most vulnerable members of the community and especially those people required to 'shield'. This work will be developed with the local Voluntary Community and Faith Alliance (VCFA) but local Councillors will be expected to take an increasingly hands-on approach to liaising with and supporting the communities that they represent. Their new role of 'Community Connectors' will require a greater time and resource commitment as they act as enablers to their constituents. Although it is expected that the role of councillors supporting their local communities, including as Community Connectors, will increase in the future, we believe that the current number of 51 councillors will be sufficient to ensure this is delivered effectively. Members will be fully briefed and developed into their new roles, including through a new and improved member development programme which will allow them to meet the demands of this increasing workload. A reduction in the number of councillors would potentially impact on their ability to effectively support their constituents, particularly with this increasing role, therefore, we believe a reduction is not viable. While it could be argued that an increase in the number of councillors will be needed due to this increasing member role with their communities, we believe that the public would not feel this is justifiable given the cuts to other services from reduced Council budgets over recent years and nationally well-publicised impact of the response to Covid 19 on the nation's public sector finances.
Casework	<i>Key lines of explanation</i>	➤ <i>How do councillors deal with their casework? Do they pass it on to council officers? Or do they take a more in-depth approach to resolving issues?</i>

		➤ <i>What support do members receive?</i> ➤ <i>How has technology influenced the way in which councillors work? And interact with their electorate?</i>
	Analysis	Councillors will take the lead to champion their casework. The diaries attached <<insert link / Appendix>> show their estimated time commitment over the course of one week. Councillors will typically liaise with Executive Directors for response. Recently, the Council trialled a Council Casework system to allow problems to be reported using an App. However, a combination of teething problems with the system and limited take up, has led to this work being undertaken through the Council's Contact Centre. This has been seen to be a more effective way of resolving problems, as queries can be more efficiently and immediately be sent to the correct point for response, rather than the Casework System potentially introducing an additional layer of bureaucracy. While many councillors have embraced new initiatives and used new technology, some have preferred the personal contacts and officer networks that they have developed over a number of years. While this can result in faster resolution to their queries, this can often not be the most appropriate or most efficient use of resources. As previously mentioned, an increased population in the Borough could bring about more demands on councillors' time. Therefore, we believe that a reduction in the number of councillors would severely impact on our ability to deliver our new goals. However, we believe that an increase in councillors is also inappropriate (given the pressure on public sector finances mentioned earlier in this report). We also intend to support members and the public to direct their queries down the most appropriate channels (using the Council's Contact Centre or Internet) rather than going to councillors as first point of contact for the resolution of what might be a relatively minor query.

Other Issues

10. Respondent may use this space to bring any other issues of relevance to the attention of the Commission.

We believe that the time commitments of councillors is detailed in the sections above. However, we would also stress the commitment expected of a cross section of members to the Council's AGMA (Association of Greater Manchester Authorities). Bury is the smallest of the ten councils in AGMA, and so has fewer members available to support the range of AGMA and associated meetings. In particular, the Leader of the Council devotes a considerable amount of time to this work. This time commitment can vary according to the issues being discussed, however, notably in recent weeks, the joint AGMA response to Tier 3 discussions has taken up a considerable amount of time.

Summary

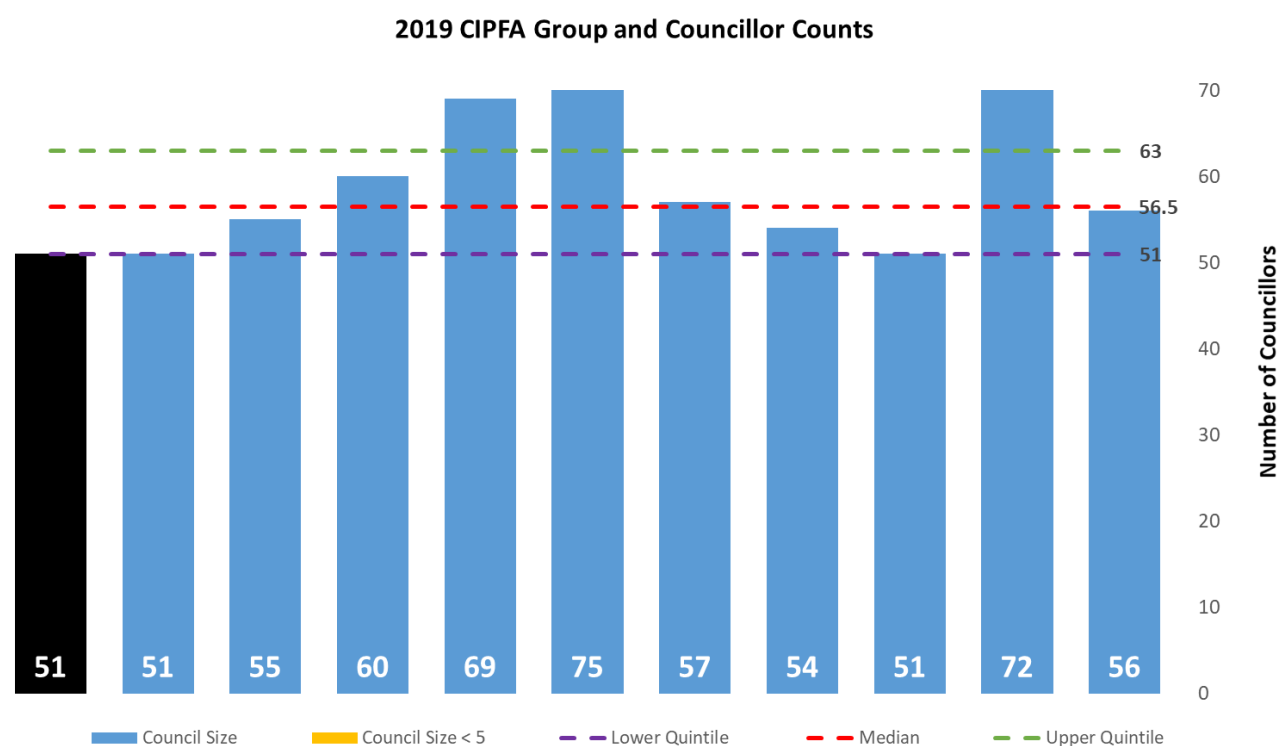
11. In following this template respondents should have been able to provide the Commission with a robust and well-evidenced case for their proposed council size; one which gives a clear explanation as to the number of councillors required to represent the authority in the future. Use this space to summarise the proposals and indicate any other options considered. Explain why these alternatives were not appropriate in terms of their ability to deliver effective Strategic Leadership, Accountability (Scrutiny, Regulation and Partnerships), and Community Leadership.

As part of our work to review the Council size, we have considered a reduction in the number of councillors. However, we have compared our size both with CIPFA nearest neighbours and other authorities in the Greater Manchester region and feel that we are already a small council and any reduction in the number of councillors would severely impact on our councillors' ability to work with and support their individual constituents and community groups in their wards. This will be increasingly relevant as councillors take on their role as Community Connectors to support our Bury 2030 strategy.

Similarly, the role of elected members in both strategically leading (via Cabinet and deputies) and challenging (via scrutiny) future direction of the Council has increased this year. We intend to maintain and further develop this level of involvement and related time commitment in the future.

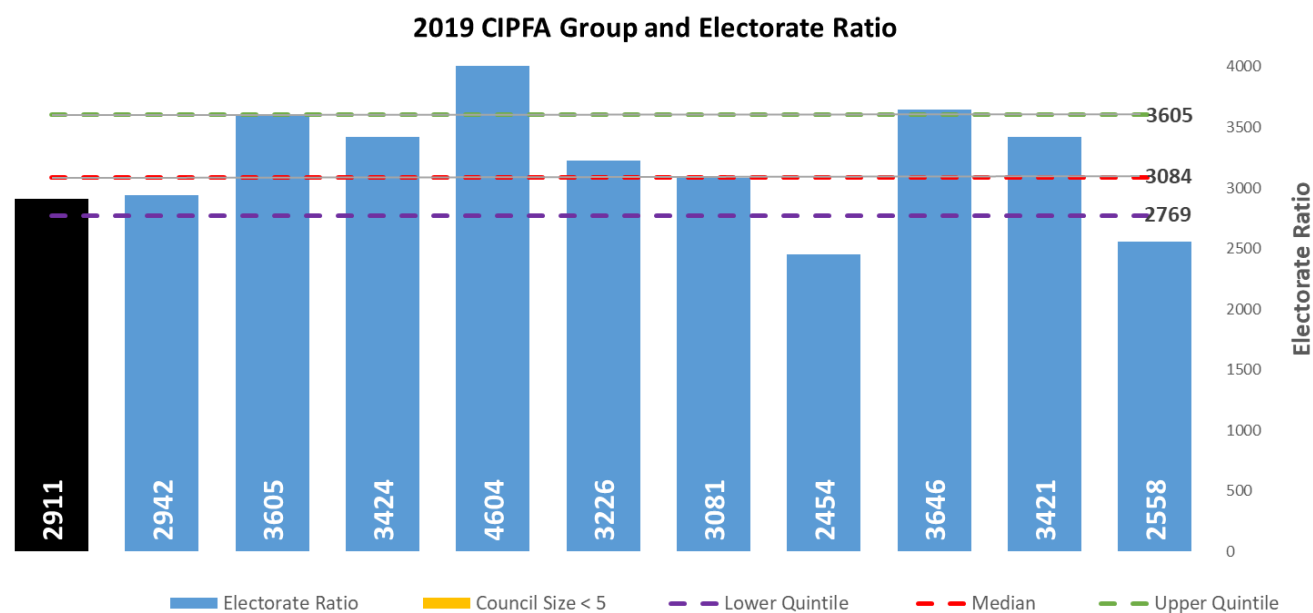
We have also compared the average number of constituents to councillor in the CIPFA nearest neighbour group and across Greater Manchester mentioned above. We believe that these ratios are currently very similar across all authorities, however, with Bury's ratio predicted to increase in the future with expected population group in the Borough workloads per councillor

are set to further increase as Bury is a highly popular residential area, both through smaller-scale development opportunities, but also in our response to increase development as part of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF).



While this could indicate that Bury has a shortfall in the number of councillors, particularly when comparisons are made with other Greater Manchester authorities who have considerably more councillors and yet have equal responsibilities and commitments to support the work of the combined authority. (E.g. Bolton at 60, Wigan at 75, and Tameside at 57).

However, the number of electors represented by each councillor should also be considered, as this indicates the potential workload and time commitment required from each councillor. The table below shows this information against the same comparator group. This shows a slightly different picture with some councils with more councillors than Bury having higher commitments per councillor in terms of the number of electors they each represent on average. Overall, in terms of elector representation per councillor, Bury does not appear to show as under-representation as the bar chart looking at councillor numbers alone appears to show.



Almost all of Bury's councillors are in full or part time employment or education, therefore, if any reduction in numbers occurred, this would place excessive and unsustainable pressure on remaining councillors and potentially result in a loss of skills basis and expertise.

Due to the current, relatively low number of councillors in the Borough, we have considered the appropriateness of increasing the number. We believe that due to increasing workloads, we would have a strong case to increase the number of councillors. However, due to the current austerity regime and financial pressures placed on the country as a whole and local councils in

particular as a result of the global pandemic, we believe that any such request would be inappropriate and insensitive at the present time. We also believe that the strong commitment of our councillors to their constituents, together with increased senior officer support, and a thorough member training and development programme will meet the increased demands we expect from councillors in their future roles and with increasing electorates. This is coupled with better Council communication with the public on direct reporting issues they have with services rather than looking at councillors as first point of contact for problem resolution.

Therefore, we propose that the number of councillors in Bury remains unchanged at 51.

We recognise that the LGBCE can determine whether there are one, two or three councillors per ward. We request that the current situation of 3 councillors per ward remains the same.

By remaining at three councillors per ward, this allows workloads to be evenly distributed amongst the councillors elected per ward, maximising the individual skills, interests and particular expertise of different councillors. As stated previously, the majority of Bury's councillors work or study, full or part time, and can often have commitments to young families. By distributing the workload of a particular ward to make it more manageable, allows parties to attract the most skilled and able candidates. Having three councillors per ward also allows for better local support networks to newer candidates. Also, in the event of any sickness (something particularly relevant at the present time) or maternity / paternity absence, the other councillors will be able to pick up workloads on a temporary basis, thereby ensuring that no constituents are denied representation for even a short period of time.

There are currently 9 councillors with cabinet responsibilities, along with 10 deputies, representing over a third of the current number of elected members in the Borough. By allowing these councillors to devote time to supporting the strategic direction of the Council, remaining councillors in a ward are able to pick up any additional workloads from their constituents.

Finally, we request that we remain at three councillor wards in the best interests of democracy. Bury is peculiar in that while many wards are represented by three councillors from the same political party, there are also a number that vary in political composition on a frequent basis potentially either as a response to national government of the time, local issues or individual popularity of a candidate. Electors may not feel as inclined to make these individual choices or statements if they had only one candidate to choose from.

We know that you will take our submission into account prior to making your final decisions. We also look forward to working with you in the New Year, as part of the next stages of this review.

Appendix 1 – Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – Population and Electorate Forecast 2020-26 - Methodology Outline Statement

Step 1 – Calculate the Average Electorate Registration Rate for the Borough (2017 to 2020)

	2017 (Jan)	2018 (Jan)	2019 (Jan)	2020 (Jan)
Registered Electors	140,800	141,703	142,469	148,659

	2017 (Mid Yr)	2018 (Mid Yr)	2019 (Mid Yr)	2020 (Mid Yr)
Voting Age Population	146,012	146,966	147,659	148,254

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Registration Rates (%)	96.4	96.4	96.5	100.3

Average Registration Rate

Last 4 Years (to Jan 2020)	97.4

Note: the 100.3% registration rate will need explaining – the ONS population estimates count students at their term time address but students can register and are eligible to vote at their term time and home address. Registration rates also influenced by the December 2019 Parliamentary elections which were contentious (the Brexit election) and Bury contained two marginal seats (push by parties to get their support registered) – anecdotal.

Step 2 – Calculate the Projected Total Electorate for the Borough as at 2026

	2026
Projected Voting Age Population (ONS 2018 based)	152,227
Projected Electorate (based on 97.4% Registration Rate)	148,269

Step 3 – On a Site by Site Basis - Calculate the Number of New Dwellings By Polling District To Be Built by 2026

Site Ref	Location	Polling District	Units Contributed 2020 to 2026
HL/2353/00	Land to the west of Manchester Road, Ramsbottom, Bury, BL0	AA	35
HL/2833/00	258 Whalley Road and Adjacent Land, Shuttleworth, Ramsbot	AA	1
HL/2949/00	Land adjacent to Fletcher Bank garage (opposite Peel Brow) V	AA	2
HL/2578/00	Land west of Woodhill Farm, Bank Lane, Ramsbottom	AA	15
HL/2070/00	Cobden Mill, Square Street, Ramsbottom	AC	13
HL/2681/00	Land off Dorothy Street, Ramsbottom, Bury, BL0 9QJ	AD	1
HL/2694/00	Bank Top Farm, Moorbottom Road, Holcombe, Bury, BL8 4NP	AF	1

**** Sample Extract of the site by site data**

Note: The BCE guidance emphasises that only sites with a high degree of certainty should be included in the forecasts. As such only Category 1 (sites under construction) and Category 2 (sites with Planning Permission) were included. A size threshold of 30 units is suggested in the guidance but sites of 10 or more units were included due to the high number of completions on small windfall sites across the Borough. The SHLAA provides further details on deliverability / trajectories etc.

Step 4 – Calculate the Average Number of Electors per Dwelling by Polling District (4Yr Average)

PD	Jan-17			Jan-18			Jan-19			Jan-20			Jan 2017 to Jan 2020 (Average)		
	Electorate	Dwellings	Elect:Dwell Ratio	Electorate	Dwellings	Elect:Dwell Ratio	Electorate	Dwellings	Elect:Dwell Ratio	Electorate	Dwellings	Elect:Dwell Ratio	Electorate	Dwellings	Elect:Dwell Ratio
OA	1,072	574	1.87	1,068	574	1.86	1,069	574	1.86	1,091	575	1.90	1,075	574	1.87
OB	1,236	883	1.40	1,271	884	1.44	1,293	891	1.45	1,373	891	1.54	1,293	887	1.46
OC	3,279	1,979	1.66	3,402	1,980	1.72	3,432	1,980	1.73	3,521	1,980	1.78	3,409	1,980	1.72
OD	1,551	970	1.60	1,547	970	1.59	1,561	970	1.61	1,631	970	1.68	1,573	970	1.62
OE	841	580	1.45	830	578	1.44	832	578	1.44	893	578	1.54	849	579	1.47
GA	1,973	1,273	1.55	1,984	1,270	1.56	2,002	1,271	1.58	2,046	1,273	1.61	2,001	1,272	1.57
GB	2,001	1,084	1.85	2,012	1,084	1.86	2,023	1,084	1.87	2,071	1,084	1.91	2,027	1,084	1.87
GC	1,483	801	1.85	1,482	801	1.85	1,487	801	1.86	1,527	801	1.91	1,495	801	1.87
GD	1,497	756	1.98	1,490	756	1.97	1,481	756	1.96	1,503	756	1.99	1,493	756	1.97
GE	1,430	794	1.80	1,410	794	1.78	1,424	795	1.79	1,460	795	1.84	1,431	795	1.80

** Sample Extract

Step 5 –Calculate the Number of New Electors from New Build Development by Polling District

Site Ref	Location	Polling District	Av. Electors per Dwelling	Units Contributed 2020 to 2026	Electorate Contributed 2020 to 2026
HL/2353/00	Land to the west of Manchester Road, Ramsbottom, Bury, BL0	AA	1.74	35	61
HL/2833/00	258 Whalley Road and Adjacent Land, Shuttleworth, Ramsbot	AA	1.74	1	2
HL/2949/00	Land adjacent to Fletcher Bank garage (opposite Peel Brow) V	AA	1.74	2	3
HL/2578/00	Land west of Woodhill Farm, Bank Lane, Ramsbottom	AA	1.74	15	26
HL/2070/00	Cobden Mill, Square Street, Ramsbottom	AC	1.52	13	20
HL/2681/00	Land off Dorothy Street, Ramsbottom, Bury, BL0 9QJ	AD	1.71	1	2
HL/2694/00	Bank Top Farm, Moorbottom Road, Holcombe, Bury, BL8 4NP	AF	1.89	1	2
HL/2340/00	Redisher Works, Holcombe Old Road, Holcombe Brook, Rams	AF	1.89	22	42
HL/2647/00	Masons Arms, 241 Walmersley Old Road, Bury, BL9 6RU	BA	1.78	3	5
HL/1981/00	Works opposite 101 Mather Road, Bury	BA	1.78	24	43
HL/2303/00	Tetrosyl Site, Bevis Green Works, Walmersley Old Road, Bury	BA	1.78	190	338
HL/2995/00	Land off Kay Street, Summerseat, Bury	BB	1.72	16	28

** Sample Extract of the site by site data

Step 6 –Calculate the Unconstrained Electorate Forecast for each Polling District (Projected Electorate + New Build Electorate)

PD	Ward	Jan 2020 Electorate	New Build Electorate 2020 to 2026	Existing Electorate Plus New Build
OA	Besses Ward	1,091	0	1,091
OB	Besses Ward	1,373	0	1,373
OC	Besses Ward	3,521	26	3,547
OD	Besses Ward	1,631	0	1,631
OE	Besses Ward	893	16	909
GA	Church Ward	2,046	0	2,046
GB	Church Ward	2,071	0	2,071
GC	Church Ward	1,527	0	1,527

** Sample Extract

Step 7 – Calculate the Constraining Factor To Apply to the Unconstrained Forecasts

UNCONSTRAINED ELECTORATE (2026)	150,541
ONS BASED CONSTRAINED ELECTORATE FORECAST (2026)	148,269
CONSTRAINING FACTOR APPLIED TO PD UNCONSTRAINED ELECTORATE	0.985

Step 8 – Calculate the Constrained Electorate Forecast (Projected Unconstrained Electorate x Constraining Factor)

PD	Ward	Jan 2020 Electorate	New Build Electorate 2020 to 2026	Unconstrained Electorate (Existing Electorate Plus New Build)	Electorate Constrained to ONS 2026 Projection
OA	Besses Ward	1,091	0	1,091	1,075
OB	Besses Ward	1,373	0	1,373	1,352
OC	Besses Ward	3,521	26	3,547	3,493
OD	Besses Ward	1,631	0	1,631	1,606
OE	Besses Ward	893	16	909	895
GA	Church Ward	2,046	0	2,046	2,015
GB	Church Ward	2,071	0	2,071	2,040
GC	Church Ward	1,527	0	1,527	1,504

Step 9 – Calculate Electoral Forecasts and Variance for each Ward (to 2026)

PD - Ward Code	Projected Electorate - Mid Year 2026		
	Electorate	Absolute Deviation	% Deviation from average
Besses	8,422	-300	-3.4
Church	8,479	-243	-2.8
East	8,943	221	2.5
Elton	8,805	83	1.0
Holyrood	8,806	84	1.0
Moorside	9,073	351	4.0
North Manor	8,631	-91	-1.0
Pilkington Park	7,713	-1,009	-11.6
Radcliffe East	9,612	890	10.2
Radcliffe North	8,814	92	1.1
Radcliffe West	8,666	-56	-0.6
Ramsbottom	9,360	638	7.3
Redvales	9,481	759	8.7
Sedgley	9,312	591	6.8
St Marys	8,646	-76	-0.9
Tottington	8,118	-604	-6.9
Unsworth	7,390	-1,332	-15.3
Total	148,269		
Average	8,722		

Appendix 2 – Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – Projections of Residential Developments

Attached

Appendix 3 – Councillor Meeting Commitments

Please see separate Excel spreadsheet.

Appendix 4 – Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – Cabinet Timetable and Agendas

30 January 2019

- Local Government Association (LGA) Corporate Peer Challenge Review report
- Corporate Performance Update Quarter 2 2018/19
- Agreement of Bury Council NJC Pay Spine 2019

20 February 2019

- Corporate Financial Monitoring Report April 2018 to December 2018
- Draft Housing Revenue Account 2019/20
- Revenue Budget 2019/20
- Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators 2019/20

12 March 2019

- Bury Council Policy for Highway Safety Inspection.
- Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan – Business Case (OBC)
- Mutually Binding Agreement 2019/20
- Strategic Investment (Manchester Airport) ***Closed item***

17 April 2019

- Approval of revised Housing Management Agreement between the Council and Six Town Housing plus related matters

25 June 2019

- Revenue and HRA Outturn 2018/19
- Capital Outturn 2018/19
- Treasury Management Annual Report 2018/19
- Council's use of Glyphosate Herbicide

24 July 2019

- Corporate Financial Monitoring Report – April 2019 to June 2019
- Bury Town Centre Business Improvement District Proposal (BID)
- Outline business case – Persona Care & Support
- Greater Manchester (GM) Full Fibre Roll Out
 - Revised Supplementary Planning Document – Alterations and Extensions to Residential Properties
 - Annual Residents Parking Review
 - Acquisition of 458 Bury New Road, Prestwich - Part a
 - Acquisition of 458 Bury New Road, Prestwich - Part b ***Closed item***

4 September 2019

- Establish a Corporate HR Service for the Council
- Strategic Commissioning Function (Governance of the Integrated Health & Social care Commissioning System)
- Replacement of Concrete and Steel Lighting Columns, including LED Lantern Replacement
- ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS UPDATE 2019-20
- Fire Station Disposal Closed item

23 September 2019

- Urgent Business-Bury FC Update Report
- April Cabinet Report – Update

16 October 2019

- Prestwich Way Forward Options
- Approval of a Management Arrangement between the Council and the Jewel Foundation
- Annual Appointments Update 2019-20

13 November 2019

- Corporate Financial Monitoring Report – April 2019 to August 2019
- Children’s Centres – Management Arrangements
- Radcliffe – Secondary School Provision

11 December 2019

- Treasury Management Strategy – Mid Year Review 2019/20
- Waste Levy Allocation
- SPD6 Consultation Report
- Physical Activity Strategy

13 January 2020

- Corporate Restructure Proposals
- Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework
- Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan – Tackling Nitrogen Dioxide Exceedances at the Roadside – Update
- Town of Culture 2020
- Appointment of Mayor 2020/21

26 February 2020

- Radcliffe – Secondary School Provision
- Lease of land off Spring Lane, Radcliffe
- Full Fibre Update
- Month 9 Corporate Financial Monitoring Report
- Treasury Management Report
- Housing Revenue Account
- Joint Revenue & Capital Programme

11 March 2020

- Bury Integrated Commissioning Fund
- ICT Capital Strategy
- Radcliffe Regeneration Update

13 May 2020

- Markets Task Force Report
- East Lancashire Paper Mill (ELPM)
- LCO Contract Extension
- Budget Update

10 June 2020

- Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework
- Corporate Capacity Proposals
- Proposals for Springs Tenants Management Organisation
- Covid 19 update
- Resetting the Education Service in Bury / additional support
- First Phase Housing sites ***Closed item***
- I-Trent Contract ***Closed Item***

29 July 2020

- Covid-19 Response and Recovery Update
- The Council's Financial Position – 2019/20 Outturn
- The Council's Financial Position 2020/21 as at 30 June 2020
- Approach to Developing the medium term financial strategy 2021/22 – 2025/26
- Reserves Strategy
- Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan – Tackling Nitrogen Dioxide Exceedances at the Roadside – Update
- Highway Investment Strategy - Tranche 2
 - Greater Manchester Highways Alliance Procurement Framework
 - Civil Financial Penalty Policy
 - Vehicle Replacement Strategy (Part A)
 - Next phase modelling of the housing development programme (Part A)
 - Local Outbreak Plan Resource Proposal
 - Vehicle Replacement Strategy (Part B) ***Closed Item***
 - Next phase modelling of the housing development programme (Part B Report) ***Closed Item***
 - Gypsy and Traveller Compensation arrangements ***Closed Item***

2 September 2020

- Treasury Management End of Year monitoring Position 2019/20
- Covid-19 Update
- Dedicated Schools Grant Recovery Plan
- Corporate Core Restructure
- Final Senior Management Capacity Proposals
- Clean Air Plan Consultation
- Car parking Charges
- Vehicle Replacement Strategy
- Bury Town Centre Masterplan
- Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework
- Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF) **Closed Item**
- Procurement and tender of new gym equipment (£500k) across all three Leisure Centres **Closed Item**
- Contract for the supply of Gas to Council Premises **Closed Item**
- Park View Primary School – New Build Extension / Internal Remodelling and Demolition of Two Horsa Hut Buildings **Closed Item**

14 October 2020

- Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Development of the 2021/22 Budget
- Covid 19 update
- Bury Strategy 2030
- Adoption of Revised Statement of Community Involvement
- Public Consultation on the Draft Housing Strategy
- Agile Working Model Pilot in Bury Town Centre sites
- Terms of Reference for the Radcliffe Regeneration Delivery Board

Appendix 5 – Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – Number of Council Questions since April 2019

Date of Meeting	Members of Public Present	Public Questions Submitted in Advance of Meeting with Supplementary Question Allowed	Public Questions Asked at Meeting, with no Supplementary Questions Allowed	Councillor Questions Submitted Prior to Meeting (Responded to at the Meeting)	Councillor Questions Asked at the Meeting
10 April 2019	35	3	4	23 (13)	9
15 May 2019 (Annual Council and Mayor Making)	12 / 160	-	-	-	-
10 July 2019	46	-	7	33 (18)	8
11 September 2019	70	2	8	33 (9)	-
27 November 2019	Cancelled	-	-	-	-
22 January 2020	30	11	-	30 (5)	-
26 February 2020	25	7	-	-	-
18 March 2020	None due to Covid restrictions	-	-	-	-
20 May 2020	None due to Covid restrictions	-	-	-	-
8 July 2020	None due to Covid restrictions	-	-	26 (9)	6
9 September 2020	None due to Covid restrictions	-	-	-	-
21 October 2020 (Special Meeting)	Cancelled	-	-	-	-

Appendix 6 – Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – Template from Councillor Diary Monitoring

Week in the Life of a Bury Councillor **(Sunday 23 February – Saturday 29 February 2020)**

Councillor _____

Councillor for _____ Ward

Bury Councillor for _____ years _____ months

Overview of all my Councillor roles:

(e.g. please state membership of which Council committees / working groups; school governor of which school; Council representative on which meetings internal / external to the Borough)

-
-

Daily Councillor-related duties:

EXAMPLE - DATE	
Morning	9am – 10am to deal with casework 11am -12 noon canvassing or One hour meeting with other ward councillors or DAY JOB
Afternoon	e.g. 2pm -4pm attended GM meeting in Rochdale One hour meeting with xxx officer to discuss xxx One hour meeting with local residents to discuss xxx One hour chair's pre-meeting prior to scrutiny meeting or DAY JOB
Evening	e.g. 7pm – 9pm Political group meeting One hour surgery or DAY JOB

Date	
Morning	
Afternoon	
Evening	

Appendix 7 – Bury Metropolitan Borough Council – Councillor Attendance at Meetings

Meeting	No of Members	Attendance 2018/2019	Attendance 2019/2020
Council	51	44	41
Cabinet	7	6	6
Planning Control Committee	13	9.3	9.5
Licensing & Safety Panel	13	8.6	8.5
Audit Committee	9	6.25	7.5
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12	9.6	9.6
Health Scrutiny Committee	12	7.5	9
Health & Wellbeing Board	4	2.6	2

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Site_Ref	Location	Category	Devel_desc	App_No	Capacity	PD_Code	Av_Elect_p	Ward
HL/1708/01	The Manor	1	5 Detached	60846	5	HB	1.53	Redvales W
HL/1997/01	Adj 2 Barnf	1	1 Detached	63332	1	QB	1.96	St. Mary's \
HL/2070/01	Cobden Mi	1	21 dwelling	63702	22	AC	1.52	Ramsbotto
HL/2132/01	Former PJ f	2	36 apartme	45274	36	FF	1.39	East Ward
HL/2144/01	Bridgefield	1	1 Dwelling	62446	1	FB	1.67	East Ward
HL/2481/01	Land Adjac	1	Block of 4 a	51875	4	ND	1.66	Pilkington f
HL/2581/01	201 Manch	1	COU to ret	53436	4	HE	1.76	Redvales W
HL/2603/01	27 Pot Gre	1	Erection of	54574	1	BC	1.93	North Man
HL/2647/01	Masons Ari	1	Conversion	61787	3	BA	1.78	North Man
HL/2672/01	Land adjac	1	Outline - R	56856	5	MB	1.63	Radcliffe W
HL/2681/01	Land off Dc	1	Erection of	56849	1	AD	1.71	Ramsbotto
HL/2683/01	Former Rec	1	CoU PH to	58521	20	LA	1.71	Radcliffe N
HL/2694/01	Bank Top F	1	Conversion	63360	1	AF	1.89	Ramsbotto
HL/2703/01	Land at rea	1	Erection of	63409	2	PC	1.93	Holyrood V
HL/2164/01	Land adjac	1	Erection of	57317	1	KE	1.81	Radcliffe E
HL/2756/01	21/23 Dear	1	Create sho	59181	2	KC	1.25	Radcliffe E
HL/2740/01	299A Ains	1	Change of i	58720	3	LC	1.77	Radcliffe N
HL/2750/01	Brook Farr	1	4 no. dwell	58827	5	PB	1.99	Holyrood V
HL/2764/01	Rear of 1 lv	1	Erection of	59345	1	BD	1.85	North Man
HL/2768/01	Bleaklow M	1	Demolition	63767	24	BF	1.73	North Man
HL/2807/01	Garage site	1	3 no. Dwell	59971	3	FB	1.67	East Ward
HL/2831/01	Brook Hou	1	Convert dw	60576	4	JA	1.73	Unsworth \
HL/2916/01	Land adjac	1	Erection of	61613	1	LC	1.77	Radcliffe N
HL/2917/01	Garage Col	1	Demolition	61635	1	PE	1.84	Holyrood V
HL/2930/01	Land adjoir	1	Erection of	61832	1	PE	1.84	Holyrood V
HL/2937/01	391A Bury	1	2 storey bu	62104	1	PD	1.51	Holyrood V
HL/2945/01	Prestwich C	1	Residential	62237	17	QA	1.57	St. Mary's \
HL/2961/01	48 Parkswa	1	erection of	63259	1	RC	1.94	Sedgley W
HL/2972/01	399 Rochda	1	Extension a	63167	2	FD	1.82	East Ward
HL/2973/01	Heaton Ho	1	C/U from ti	63186	6	HE	1.76	Redvales W
HL/2298/01	17 Sheepfo	1	1 House	56422	1	RA	1.89	Sedgley W
HL/1981/01	Works opp	2	Residential	61196	24	BA	1.78	North Man
HL/2004/01	11 Bury Ro	1	COU to 5 a	62315	8	KB	1.39	Radcliffe E
HL/2252/01	Royal Britis	1	Demolition	63917	19	KD	1.84	Radcliffe E
HL/2178/01	Land adjac	2	Erection of	63002	14	LC	1.77	Radcliffe N
HL/2183/01	Former Par	2	7 houses a	63534	19	QC	1.68	St. Mary's \
HL/2303/01	Tetrosyl Sit	2	268 Dwellin	63533	268	BA	1.78	North Man
HL/2340/01	Redisher W	2	Demolition	59715	22	AF	1.89	Ramsbotto
HL/2353/01	Land to the	1	RM 35 no. i	63617	35	AA	1.74	Ramsbotto
HL/2394/01	Site of forn	1	RM - const	64462	109	QA	1.57	St. Mary's \
HL/2453/01	Land Adj Si	1	Residential	64256	5	KD	1.84	Radcliffe E
HL/2578/01	Land west c	2	Demolition	64656	15	AA	1.74	Ramsbotto
HL/2652/01	Mountheat	2	Erection of	63324	124	RD	1.57	Sedgley W
HL/2654/01	Land adjac	2	Erection of	64518	15	KB	1.39	Radcliffe E
HL/2675/01	Former Rac	2	Conversion	62712	10	KC	1.25	Radcliffe E
HL/2797/01	51 Rainsou	2	Demolition	62765	15	QA	1.57	St. Mary's \
HL/2833/01	258 Whalle	1	VoC for 60	64377	1	AA	1.74	Ramsbotto

HL/2841/01 Victoria Mi	1 Extension &	60762	13 CB	1.86 Tottington
HL/2881/01 The Oddfel	1 CoU to 5 fl	61018	6 HE	1.76 Redvales W
HL/2924/01 Bleaklow H	1 Demolition	63388	3 BF	1.73 North Man
HL/2942/01 Land at we	1 Erection of	63808	1 RA	1.89 Sedgley Wa
HL/2944/01 Elizabethar	1 Demolition	62220	15 OC	1.72 Besses War
HL/2947/01 Land adjac	1 Erection of	62308	1 GE	1.8 Church Wa
HL/2948/01 Land at Edv	1 Erection of	62337	3 MB	1.63 Radcliffe W
HL/2949/01 Land adjac	1 Erection of	63612	2 AA	1.74 Ramsbotto
HL/2950/01 The Old Sch	2 Conversion	63376	12 MA	1.44 Radcliffe W
HL/2951/01 Land adjac	1 Erection of	62296	1 FC	1.45 East Ward
HL/2963/01 17-19 Parsc	1 COU from l	62995	8 FF	1.39 East Ward
HL/2966/01 Land at Coj	1 demolition	63117	1 NE	1.88 Pilkington f
HL/2985/01 85 Bury Olc	2 Erection of	63003	11 OE	1.47 Besses War
HL/2992/01 21 Silver St	1 Prior appro	63606	19 FF	1.39 East Ward
HL/2995/01 Land off Ka	2 Erection of	63630	16 BB	1.72 North Man
HL/3015/01 Victoria Bu	2 Prior notifi	64172	12 FF	1.39 East Ward
HL/3023/01 Derby Char	1 Prior notifi	64718	14 FF	1.39 East Ward
HL/2374/01 Acorn Busin	2 Prior notifi	59332	19 FE	1.39 East Ward
HL/3044/01 14-16 St M	1 COU from r	63520	2 FF	1.39 East Ward
HL/2740/01 299a Ainsw	1 CoU ground	60149	1 LC	1.77 Radcliffe N
HL/2200/01 Former Anc	2 Outline App	64128	108 DC	1.53 Elton Ward
HL/2305/01 Land at Spe	1 NMA for 15	63499	191 KF	1.46 Radcliffe Ea
HL/2539/01 Spenside, E	1 Erection of	60512	5 KF	1.46 Radcliffe Ea
HL/2146/01 East Lancs l	2 400 dwellir	62969	400 KB	1.39 Radcliffe Ea
HL/2287/01 Land adjac	1 Demolition	60723	11 KB	1.39 Radcliffe Ea
HL/2632/01 Old Bartles	1 Conversion	58191	1 CF	1.83 Tottington

Easting	Northing	Traj_Units_	Proj_Elect_	Comments1
380623	408713	1	2	
381623	402934	1	2	
379164	416634	13	20	
379774	410781	36	50	
382407	410977	1	2	
380569	404699	4	7	
380339	409654	4	7	
378120	415190	1	2	
380895	414190	3	5	
378506	405755	5	8	
378735	416105	1	2	
375247	410091	20	34	
377287	416054	1	2	
382273	405239	2	4	
377787	408916	1	2	
378602	407058	2	3	
377721	408427	1	2	
383726	405897	5	10	
377875	415138	1	2	
376488	414933	24	42	
382314	410990	3	5	
381949	407804	3	5	
377647	408607	1	2	
381250	404836	1	2	
381325	404254	1	2	
382166	404405	1	2	
381311	402104	17	27	
382304	402966	1	2	
381869	410658	2	4	
380446	409565	6	11	
382950	403298	1	2	
380882	413392	24	43	
378856	407560	8	11	
378176	407532	19	35	
377509	408481	14	25	
380761	403036	19	32	
380964	413923	190	338	
377791	415412	22	42	
379957	416654	35	61	
380888	401928	109	171	
378034	407633	5	9	
379897	417330	15	26	
381788	402321	124	195	
378912	407479	15	21	
378678	407093	10	13	
380817	402203	15	24	
380051	417741	1	2	

377603	411694	13	24
380142	410135	6	11
376381	415028	3	5
383333	403436	1	2
381314	406019	15	26
379042	410991	1	2
378789	406602	3	5
380046	416829	2	3
379241	406059	12	17
381533	411203	1	1
380572	410999	8	11
378681	405323	1	2
381114	404988	11	16
380337	410702	19	26
379398	415067	16	28
380363	410754	12	17
380436	410808	14	19
381208	410969	19	26
380211	410632	2	3
377721	408427	1	2
378847	411317	36	55
378161	409546	45	66
378167	409644	3	4
379263	407494	125	174
379159	406946	11	15
376099	412795	1	2

	Councillor	Council	Cabinet	PCC	LSP	O & S	H O & S	Audit	Standards	H & WBB	Strat Comm	M Dev	YC	TJCC	CJCC	Corp Par	Dem Arran	JHOSC	LHP	ELR	HRA	GM/AGMA	
A	7	12								6	4			5								8	42
B	7		11				4						4		5								31
C	7				7										5					11			30
D	7												4		5								16
E	7							4			4	5											20
F	7		11		7			4							5							11	45
G	7	12								6												4	29
H	7																						7
I	7													5	5								17
J	7				7		4														11		29
K	7			11		8											4	4			4		38
L	7					8			6								4					2	27
M	7					8																	15
N	7		11		7			4															29
O	7		11			8	4	4				5		5								2	46
P	7			11		8					4			5				5		10			50
Q	7			11									4	5									27
R	7					8																	15
S	7	12								6												3	28
T	7															4							11
U	7		11	11								5	4					1					39
V	7					8																	15
W	7			11	7			4															29
X	7		11								4												22
Y	7																						7
Z	7		11										4										22
AA	7			11								5											23

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Equality Analysis Form

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

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Department	Corporate Core	
Service	Elections and Land Charges	
Proposed policy	Boundary Review Council Size Submission	
Date	25 November 2020	
Officer responsible for the 'policy' and for completing the equality analysis	Name	Marcus Connor
	Post Title	Corporate Policy Manager
	Contact Number	0161 253 6252
	Signature	
	Date	16 October 2020

2. AIMS

What is the purpose of the policy/service and what is it intended to achieve?	To review the future size of Bury Council. This will ensure greater equality of representation for the electorate in the Borough. Will help to ensure that councillors are better able to meet the internal and external demands for their time.
Who are the main stakeholders?	Bury Councillors. Future candidates at Bury Council local elections. Current and future electorate. Community and voluntary organisations operating in the Borough. Members of Parliament (although this review does not impact on their electoral boundaries).

3. ESTABLISHING RELEVANCE TO EQUALITY

3a. Using the drop down lists below, please advise whether the policy/service has either a positive or negative effect on any groups of people with protected equality characteristics.

If you answer yes to any question, please also explain why and how that group of people will be affected.

Protected equality characteristic	Positive effect (Yes/No)	Negative effect (Yes/No)	Explanation
Race	Yes	No	Will ensure equal representation across the Borough especially addressing wards with high number of electors per councillor, e.g. areas with high growth due to immigration.
Disability	No	No	
Gender	No	No	
Gender reassignment	No	No	
Age	No	No	
Sexual orientation	No	No	
Religion or belief	No	No	
Caring responsibilities	No	No	
Pregnancy or maternity	No	No	
Marriage or civil partnership	No	No	

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

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

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

Go straight to Question 4

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

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

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

4. EQUALITY INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

4a. For a service plan, please list what equality information you currently have available (including a list of all EAs carried out on existing policies/procedures/strategies),

OR for a new/changed policy or practice please list what equality information you considered and engagement you have carried out in relation to it.

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

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

Details of the equality information or engagement	Internet link if published	Date last updated
Outcome of the review will reduce variance from Borough average in wards.		
Consultation on ward patterns will be carried out in Stage 2 of the review.		

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

None identified at this stage.

5. CONCLUSIONS OF THE EQUALITY ANALYSIS

What will the likely overall effect of your policy/service plan be on equality?	Increased equality of representation across the Borough. Electors will have more equitable chance to speak to / make their views known to their councillor. Voice of each elector will be more equally represented by their respective local councillor.
If you identified any negative effects (see questions 3a) or discrimination what measures have you put in place to remove or mitigate them?	Not applicable.
Have you identified any further ways that you can advance equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations? If so, please give details.	Will contact all community organisations as part of Stage 2 of the Review to look at warding patterns.
What steps do you intend to take now in respect of the implementation of your policy/service plan?	None at present time as these cannot be taken until full completion of the review in November 2021.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

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

Monitor future distribution of electors by ward in the future.

COPIES OF THIS EQUALITY ANALYSIS FORM SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO ANY REPORTS/SERVICE PLANS AND ALSO SENT TO YOUR DEPARTMENTAL EQUALITY REPRESENTATIVE FOR RECORDING.

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Classification: Open	Item No.

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	25 November 2020
Title of report:	Bury Constitution Review and Member Development Strategy
Report by:	Deputy Chief Executive Lynne Ridsdale
Decision Type:	This is not a Key Decision
Ward(s) affected	All

Executive Summary:

- Annual Council in May 2020 agreed to commission a review of the Bury Constitution as a matter of priority.
- On 1 July 2020 the Standards Committee agreed terms of reference, scope and time scale for the Constitution Review to be led by the Democratic Arrangements Forum (DAF). It received a progress report on the 12 October 2020.
- DAF has been meeting to carry out the Review in 5 phases. This included a Technical Review to ensure the Constitution was legally compliant with all relevant legislation.
- This Report updates members on the Review and makes Recommendations to improve the Constitution in line with legislation and best practice.
- The Member Development Group met on the 14 September 2020 to review current arrangements for member development following the member survey in August 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic and other challenges facing the Council and recommend the Member Development Strategy set out at Appendix 1 for approval.
- On 12 October 2020, the Standards Committee approved the Member Development Strategy to ensure Councillors are up to date with the Constitution and ethical governance (the Members' Code of Conduct and standards regime).

- On 24 November Cabinet will consider the proposals and a verbal update will be given at the meeting. This report is seeking approval from Council to formally approve the recommended changes to the Constitution.

Recommendations:

That: Council notes the:

1. Work of the Democratic Arrangements Forum in reviewing the Constitution and proposing revisions in line with the Technical Review to ensure legal compliance;
2. Member Survey results set out at section 4 of this report;
3. Work of the Member Development Group in recommending a new Member Development Strategy.
4. Work to update Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules and Council to agree to delegate authority to agree future revisions to the Audit Committee.
5. New Part 3 Section 6 – Additional Arrangements which sets out the role of the DAF and the Independent Remuneration Panel.
6. New Part 7 – Cabinet Portfolios, membership of committees and the Council's Management Structure which will be a useful guide to who does what.

That: Council agrees to adopt the:

7. Contents and Part 1 - Introduction to the Constitution at Annex 1;
8. Revised Part 2 - Articles at Annex 2;
9. Revised Part 3 Section 1 Council Functions at Annex 3 and the Local Choice Functions described at paragraph 12.1 of this report;
10. Revised Part 3 (Sections 3, 4 and 5) Responsibility for Committee, Cabinet and Scrutiny Functions at Annex 4 including a new definition of key decision; a new Employment Panel, Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee and Safeguarding Scrutiny Sub-Committee.
11. Proposal that Committees comprise 9 (Audit and Standards) or 11 members.
12. Revised Part 3 - Officer Scheme of Delegation at Annex 5;
13. Revised Part 4 - Council Procedure Rules (Standing Orders) at Annex 6;
14. Revised Part 4 - Cabinet Procedure Rules at Annex 7;
15. Revised Part 4 - Scrutiny Procedure Rules at Annex 8;
16. New Part 5 - Public Guidance Protocol at Annex 9;
17. Covid-19 Interim Arrangements at Annex 10;
18. Member Development Strategy 2020/23 set out at Annex 11 ;

That Council agrees to :

19. Implement the proposed changes to the Constitution in two phases with Parts 1,2 4,5 and 7 coming in to force on 1 January 2021 and changes to Part 3 – Responsibility for Functions (Committee Terms of Reference) save for new Audit Committee terms of reference , coming into force at the annual council meeting in May 2021.
20. Authorise the Interim Monitoring Officer to publish a final version of the Constitution (removing track changes, correct numbering, editing or formatting errors) and including the minor updates to Part 3: Council and Local Functions

described at paragraph 12.1 and the Access to Information Rules described in paragraphs 13.6 and 13.9, with a version history, Glossary and Index.

21. Request a DAF review of the Overview and Scrutiny function in early 2021 to ensure better alignment with corporate priorities and partnership arrangements.

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Constitution sets out how the Council operates; how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. The Council has a legal duty to publish an up to date Constitution and keep it up to date with any necessary changes being normally considered at the annual council meeting. The Council made a number of changes to the Constitution at its annual meeting in May 2020 and agreed to a further full Review during 2020/21 as a priority.
- 1.2 The Report to Council in May 2020 indicated that the current scrutiny arrangements needed review alongside arrangements for meetings and decision making generally.
- 1.3 Under Article 9 of the Constitution, the Standards Committee is responsible for oversight of the Constitution.
- 1.4 On 1 July 2020, the Standards Committee agreed terms of reference, scope and time scale for the Constitution Review to be led by the Democratic Arrangements Forum (DAF), comprising all political group leaders and chaired by the Mayor. DAF has been meeting to carry out the review in 5 phases.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Constitution must contain:
 - (a) the Council's standing orders/procedure rules;
 - (b) the members' code of conduct;
 - (c) such information as the Secretary of State may direct;
 - (d) Such other information (if any) as the authority considers appropriate
- 2.2 A Constitution Direction was issued by the Secretary of State in December 2000 that requires 80 matters to be included within council constitutions, covering members' allowances schemes, details of procedures for meetings, details of joint arrangements with other local authorities and a description of the rights of inhabitants of the area.
- 2.3 The Council's Constitution currently comprises 325 pages organised into 7 Parts (many divided into a number of sections). In total there are 54 sections and schedules. The document is difficult to navigate as the contents page does not number the sections and there is no Index and a very limited search facility.

3 ROLE OF DEMOCRATIC ARRANGEMENTS FORUM (DAF)

- 3.1 DAF have been meeting in accordance with these agreed Terms of Reference:

- develop a shortened, streamlined and improved Constitution
- review the decision making process to be explained and set out in the new Constitution
- review the Overview and Scrutiny arrangements across the Council
- provide policy advice to the Constitution Review by the Interim Monitoring Officer/Strategic Advisor.
- carry out a survey of all members on how the Constitution can be improved
- approve the text of amendments to the Constitution to give effect to Council policy.
- Ensure that the partnership arrangements with the CCG are reflected in the new Constitution
- steer the Constitution Review to completion.
- assist the Interim Monitoring Officer/Strategic Advisor in recommending to full council a revised version of the constitution by December 2020 (25 November Council)
- agree a programme of training and development for members and officers on the new Constitution during 2020/21.

4 ALL MEMBER SURVEY

- 4.1 During July and August 2020, DAF commissioned an all member survey to alert councillors to the Review and to seek ideas for improvement. 17 members agreed to participate. The Survey consisted of a series of questions designed to test agreement to the 7 purposes of the Bury Constitution set out in Article 1. The results are set out in the Table below.

Question	Agree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree
The Bury Council Constitution provides guidance on how the Council provides leadership to the community and partnership with citizens, businesses and other organisations.	9 (52.9)	4 (23.5%)	4 (23.5%)
The Bury Council Constitution supports the active involvement of citizens in the process of council decision making; it is easy to understand and is up to date	8 (47.1%)	5 (29.4%)	4 (23.5%)
The Bury Council Constitution helps Councillors to represent their constituents more effectively.	8 (47.1%)	8 (47.1%)	3 (17.6%)

The Bury Council Constitution enables decisions to be taken efficiently and effectively.	5 (29.4%)	4 (23.5%)	8 (47.1%)
The Bury Council Constitution ensures that those responsible for decision-making are clearly identifiable to local people and that they explain the reasons for decision	7 (41.2%)	5 (29.4%)	5 (29.4%)
The Bury Council Constitution creates a powerful and effective means of holding decision makers to public account.	5 (29.4%)	5 (29.4%)	7 (41.2%)
The Bury Council Constitution ensures that proposals and decisions are effectively and fairly reviewed.	10 (58.8%)	2 (11.8%)	5 (29.4%)
The Bury Council Constitution provides a means of improving the delivery of services to the community.	6 (35.3%)	2 (11.8%)	9 (52.9%)

- 4.2 The Survey also asked participants to comment on their answers and identify ways in which the Constitution could be improved. The Table below sets out member's comments. The new Constitution will deal with many of the criticisms about the current document. The suggestions for improvement will be addressed in the new Constitution with diagrams and visual descriptions; new rules on question time; a new Part 7 showing cabinet members, deputy cabinet members, committee chairs and details of senior officers.

Member Survey Comments	August 2020
What's wrong with the Constitution?	How can it be improved?
Unsure if it is in date. It's very difficult to understand Too long, not accessible,	Very little about outside orgs It is a long document and contains a lot of detail. It would be useful to have

confusing in places. Not that easy to understand for the average citizen How do residents know of it? Too confusing Given its length and complexity, I don't think it helps us. Not sufficient scrutiny Amount of time allotted for discussion in Council insufficient. As it is so long and duplicative, then it doesn't make decision making efficient. "Not true...I challenge and no response from Senior Officers CEO and the Leader. If they don't like a question ...there is no response ...so no holding to account ...in fact the opposite!" No one knows how to influence change As the document is not very accessible, then I don't think it does increase accountability to local people. Many constituents deal with issues themselves but after no response turn to me for help ...	plain English summaries of each section, or links for members of the public to access these. More diagrams and visual descriptions Amount of scrutiny allowed does not let the public have their say at meetings. Follow up questions should always be allowed. I think there is too little public awareness of the constitution and how to apply it in holding the council and councillors to account No one knows who anyone is Better communication needed. I am not convinced that local people know who is responsible for decision making on specific issues. Members of the public are not certain n who is responsible for decision makings and how certain decisions, such as planning are made.

5. LEGAL HEALTH CHECK

- 5.1 The first phase of the Review comprised an independent review of compliance with legislative provisions and best practice. Its recommendations are included in the proposed changes.

6 LGA CORPORATE PEER REVIEW 2018

6.1 In November 2018, the Council invited the Local Government Association (LGA) to undertake a Corporate Peer Review. This provided an independent assessment of the Council's capacity to deliver Members' priorities for Bury.

6.3 The Peer Review looked at the Council's governance arrangements and suggested:

"Given the significant portfolio of transformation work required the council may also wish to consider reviewing its current scrutiny arrangements to ensure that they are able to achieve the right objectives for the council on the journey ahead. This should include the alignment of scrutiny to the corporate priorities and partnership arrangements as well as the type of member support this requires. This review may wish to check whether an appropriate level of challenge is currently in place and if this is fit for the journey ahead.

6.4 The Peer Review recommended:

"Scrutiny should be provided with the appropriate performance information and officer capacity to provide effective challenge and assist with policy development."

6.5 On 2 September 2020, Cabinet agreed to create a new full time democratic services officer post to lead the development and implementation of a new support service for the Council's overview and scrutiny function. It has also been agreed that the Head of Democratic Services will take on the statutory scrutiny officer role to promote and provide support and guidance to the scrutiny committees.

6.7 During September the Overview and Health Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee have considered updated strategic work plans to guide their work during the Covid 19 pandemic.

6.8 The Constitution review has identified the need to update and strengthen the Scrutiny Committee Rules in the Constitution. These are set out at Annex 8. The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee have been consulted about these proposed changes.

6.9 It is recommended that once the new Constitution is on place in early 2021, there should follow a Review of the Overview and Scrutiny function to ensure better alignment with corporate priorities and partnership arrangements.

7 NEW INTRODUCTION, ARTICLES AND FORMAT FOR THE CONSTITUTION

7.1 It is proposed to rewrite Part 1 of the current Constitution to set out the purpose of the Constitution. This is set out at Annex 1.

7.2 The revised Constitution will be available on the Council's website as a complete document that fully meets all accessibility legislation .This will make searching for key terms within the document easier. The new format will also make use of internal hyperlinks to allow a user to navigate quickly across the document.

- 7.3 Part 2 sets out the Articles of the Constitution which describes the roles and responsibilities of each aspect of the Constitution. A revised set of Articles which reflects all the proposed changes is at Annex 2.

8 RESEARCHING BEST PRACTICE

- 8.1 Officers have used the Model Constitution for Councils in England created in 2014 for the Lawyers in Local Government Group by the law firm, Womble Bond Dickinson. This is a user-friendly suite of documents which can be tailored easily by in-house lawyers and constitutional experts to suit any type of council.
- 8.2 Officers have also reviewed examples of Constitutions across the country especially by councils who have engaged with the NHS to create integrated new arrangements similar to Bury.

9 COMMITTEES' TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 9.1 It is suggested that there should be a diagram showing all the Council's committee and sub-committees and that each Committee has its membership and terms of reference set out in a standard format and includes all sub-committees and Panels. This is set out at Annex 4.
- 9.2 It is suggested that Committees comprise 11 members and that sub-committees comprise between 3 and 5 members.
- 9.3 It had been proposed at DAF that there should be a new Rule that the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should always be an opposition member. This has been agreed and is recommended for inclusion at Article 2.6.4.1.

10. PHASE 1 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

- 10.1 At its first meeting on 16 July 2020, DAF noted the terms of reference for the review and considered a Technical Review including a legal compliance check to ensure compliance with legislative provisions and best practice.

11. PHASE 2 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION –INTRODUCTION AND ARTICLES

On 5 August 2020, DAF considered Phase 2 and agreed to recommend that the Articles be updated as follows:

1. A new revised Part 1 – Summary to introduce the Constitution as set out at Annex 1.
2. Changes to the Committee Structure but requested a review of membership numbers based on 9, 11 and 13 member committees. DAF are recommending that Committees comprise 11 members.
3. Given the lack of business going to the Standards Committee following the enactment of the Localism Act 2011 (the committee has only met three times in the last 5 years), to consider the merger of the Standards Committee with the Audit Committee to create a new Audit and Governance Committee. This proposal has been deleted following consultation.

4. To add an Independent member(s) with specialist audit expertise to strengthen the Audit Committee
5. A new simpler definition of Key Decision based on a financial threshold of £500,000.
6. To make no changes to the Scrutiny function at this time other than to recognise the Children's Safeguarding Scrutiny Sub-Committee in the Constitution.

12. PHASE 3 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION - FUNCTIONS (TERMS OF REFERENCE OF COMMITTEES ETC.)

12.1 Council and Local Choice Functions

Article 4 sets out the Council's statutory functions and Part 3 Section 2 sets out the Local Choice Functions (specified functions which can be delegated to Council or Cabinet). It is proposed to move these into the new Functions Part and present them in a more consistent manner and update any legislative changes. No other changes are proposed to the existing arrangements other than to:

- Transfer responsibility for Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules from Council to Audit Committee.
- Authorise the Monitoring Officer, following consultation with the Chief Executive, to make in year technical updates to the Pay Policy statement to reflect changes to post holder details or approved changes to local or national pay policy
- Authorise the Monitoring Officer to make minor technical changes or those required by law only to the Constitution.

Annex 3 sets out the updated set of Council Functions for approval.

12.2 Cabinet functions and Key Decisions

These are set out at Annex 4 and include all the functions that are the legal responsibility of the Cabinet. They include a new definition of Key Decision. Legislation requires key decisions to be published in a monthly Forward Plan (with concessions for urgency) and to be subject to scrutiny and call-in. The current Bury definition with 10 categories is complex to operate and should be simplified. It is recommended that Bury adopt the following definition of Key Decision:

- Any decision in relation to an executive function which results in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or function concerned. A decision will be considered financially significant if it results in incurring expenditure or making savings of £500,000 or greater; unless the specific expenditure or savings have previously been agreed by full Council.

- Any other executive decision which in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer is likely to be significant having regard to :
 - (a) The number of residents/service users that will be affected in the Wards concerned;
 - (b) Whether the impact is short term, long term or permanent;
 - (c) The impact on the community in terms of the economic, social and environmental well-being.

12.3 Committee Functions

On 3 September 2020, DAF agreed to recommend a revised set of committee functions as set out in Part 2 and a revised Part 3 of the new Constitution including, subject to TU consultation a new Employment Panel of nine members (to ensure cross party membership) to deal with Chief Officer recruitment and discipline to replace the Human Resources and Appeals Panel, a new key decision definition and a review of membership numbers for committees. These are set out at Annex 4.

12.4 Scrutiny Functions

These are set out at Annex 4 and set out the delegated functions for the Overview and Scrutiny committee; new Safeguarding Sub-Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee.

12.5 Officer Scheme of Delegation

Annex 5 sets out a revised Scheme of Delegation to Officers. The new Constitution will authorise the Chief Executive to maintain an Officer Scheme of Delegation detailing all relevant delegations to chief officers, including the delegation of any proper officer functions which require that a designated officer is the “proper officer” for the purposes of that statutory provision.

The Monitoring Officer has issued Guidance to ensure that officer decisions which by law have to be recorded and published comply. This Guidance together with the proposed new Scheme of Delegation will require all officer decisions involving expenditure in excess of £100,000 to be published.

The Officer Scheme of Delegation will be regularly reviewed to ensure that it is up to date and will be published on the Council’s website.

13. PHASE 4 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION – RULES

- 13.1 On 7 October, DAF met to carry out a review of the Rules of Procedure in part 4 of the Constitution. These currently comprise 9 sets of rules as follows:

- Part 4 – Section 1 Council procedure rules – Standing orders
- Part 4 – Section 2 Access to information rules

- Part 4 – Section 3 Budget and Policy framework rules
- Part 4 – Section 4 Cabinet procedure rules
- Part 4 – Section 5 Overview and scrutiny procedure rules
- Part 4 – Section 6 Contracts Procedure Rules
- Part 4 – Section 7 Financial regulations
- Part 4 – Section 8 Officer Employment Procedure Rules
- Part 4 – Section 9 – Petition Arrangements

13.2 DAF considered each set of rules and recommend improvements to ensure legislative compliance, editorial consistency and ease of application.

13.3 COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES – STANDING ORDERS

13.4 These currently comprise 24 Rules which govern meetings of full council, committees and sub-committees. It is proposed to introduce a more comprehensive set of rules which will:

- Be set out in a more logical manner
- Use consistent terminology
- Include custom and practice
- Be more transparent
- use Tables where possible for a quick visual check
- Comply with relevant legislation and case law.

13.5.1 The proposed new Rules compared to the existing are set out in the Table below and set out in full at Annex 6 to this Report. The major changes are highlighted in yellow in the Table below.

Existing Rule	Topic	New Rule	Comment
	Introduction	4.1.1, 4.1.2	Need to introduce the Rules and explain their purpose.
	Application	4.1.3; 4.1.4, 4.1.5; 4.1.6	Need to show which rules apply to committee meetings
	Interpretation	4.1.7; 4.1.8	Chair's ruling is final
	Appointment of chair	4.1.10	In absence of Mayor, Deputy Mayor or appointed Chair. MO to oversee

			process
	Types of Council Meeting	4.1.11; 4.1.12; 4.1.13;	Table to show how meetings called
1	Annual Meeting		
1.1	Timing and Business	4.1.16; 4.1.17; 4.1.18; 4.1.19	Table to show business to be carried out. New 3 hour maximum meeting time rule proposed plus 30 mins Public Questions
	Notice of meetings	4.1.20; 4.1.21;	No change
	Conduct of the Meeting	4.1.22; 4.1.23	Authority of Mayor to rule
1.2	Selection of Councillors on Committees and outside bodies		
2	Ordinary Meetings		
3	Extraordinary Meetings		
3.1	Calling Extraordinary Meetings		
3.2	Business	4.1.14; 4.1.15	Table showing items to be decided at different types of meeting
4; 4.1; 4.2; 4.3; 4.4	Appointment of Substitute Members of Committee and Sub-Committees; Allocation/Number/Powers and Duties /Substitution	4.1.174; 4.1.175; 4.1.176	New rules give more detail and deal with substitution of ungrouped members
5	Date, time and place of	4.1.5	In Table

	meetings		
6	Notice of and summons to meetings	4.1.20; 4.1.21;	No change
7	Chair of meeting	4.1.22; 4.1.23	No change
8	Quorum	4.1.24; 4.1.25; 4.1.26;4.1.27; 4.1.28; 4.1.29;	Defines Quorum as minimum number of members. Quorum is a quarter of the whole number of voting members, or three, whichever is the greater. New rules deal with what happens next and provides a 10 minute grace period
	Variations in order of business	4.1.30; 4.1.31; 4.1.32;	Authority of chair to vary order of business unless mandatory in Table at 4.1.15
	Petitions	4.1.33; 4.1.34; 4.1.35; 4.1.36; 4.1.37;	Petition Scheme updated to allow petition to present Mayor with petition 30 mins before council meeting Details of the Petition Scheme would be in a new Guidance/Code in Part 5 of the new Constitution Public Participation

9 9a council ; 9.1; 9.2; 9.3; 9.4;9.5 9b committee 9.6; 9.7	Duration of Meetings Interruption of meeting Motions and Recommendations not dealt with Recorded Vote Motion which may be moved Close of Meeting Leader’s statement time	4.1.18; 4.1.19	Current rules are confusing New 3 hour rule to be agreed with clear outcomes
10 10.1; 10.2; 10.3; 10.4; 10.5; 10.6; 10.7; 10.8; 10.09; 10.10	Questions by the public General Notice of questions Order of Questions Number of Questions Scope of Questions Supplementary Questions Record of Questions Asking the Question at the Meeting Answers to Questions Written Answers Restrictions on asking public questions	4.1.38; 4.1.39; 4.1.40;4.1.41; 4.1.42; 4.1.43; 4.1.44; 4.1.45 4.1.46;4.1.47 4.1.48; 4.1.49; 4.1.50; 4.1.51 4.1.52; 4.1.53; 4.1.55 4.1.54; 4.1.55 4.1.55 4.1.56; 4.1.57; 4.1.58; 4.1.59	Public Questions – Rules need clarifying generally and updating to confirm 6 clear working days’ notice and give example on timing to help public; Questions can be asked of cabinet members, committee chairs as well as Leader

		Reference of a question to Leader/Cabinet or a Committee		
11; 11.1; 11.2; 11.3; 11.4; 11.5;	Questions by Members: Notice of Questions Scope of Questions Supplementary Questions Answers to councillor's questions Restrictions on asking questions Member Question Time Combined Authority Update Questions on Notice at Committee and Sub-Committee Meetings Response Supplementary Question		4.1.60; 4.1.61; 4.1.62 4.1.63; 4.1.64; 4.1.65; 4.1.66; 4.1.67; 4.1.68 4.1.69; 4.1.70; 4.1.71; 4.1.72 4.1.73; 4.1.74; 4.1.75; 4.1.76; 4.1.77; 4.1.78; 4.1.79	New rules are designed to highlight importance of these arrangement to democratic functions; clarify process and allow members to hold to account/ question cabinet members and committee chairs as well as Leader
12 12.1 12.2 12.3 12.4	Notices of Motion Notice Motion set out in Agenda Priority Business Scope Motions without Notice		4.1.80; 4.1.81; 4.1.82 4.1.83; 4.1.84 Check 4.1.89; 4.1.90 Exceptions 4.1.86; 4.1.87; 4.1.88 4.1.91; 4.1.92;	New rules to update existing rules
14 14.1 14.2	Rules of Debate No Speeches until Motion Seconded Right to Require Motion in		4.1.93; 4.1.94; 4.1.95; 4.1.96 4.1.97; 4.1.98;	New rules and table to simply showing when a member may speak and length

14.3	Writing		of speeches
14.4	Seconders's Speech		
14.5	Content and Length of Speeches When a Member May Speak Again		
14.6	Amendments to Motions	4.1.99; 4.1.100; 4.1.101; 4.1.102; 4.1.103; 4.1.104; 4.1.106; 4.1.107	No change
14.7	Alteration of Motion	4.1.108; 4.1.109; 4.1.110; 4.1.111	No change
14.8	Withdrawal of Motion	4.1.112; 4.1.113;	No change
14.9	Right of Reply	4.1.114; 4.115; 4.1.116; 4.1.117	No change
14.10	Motions which may be moved During Debate	4.1.118; 4.1.119	No change
14.11	Closure Motions	4.1.120; 4.1.121; 4.1.122	No change
14.12	Point of Order	4.1.123; 4.1.124	No change
14.134	Personal Explanation	4.1.125; 4.1.426	No change
1515.1	State of the Borough debate		No change
15.2	Calling of Debate		
15.3	Form of Debate		
15.4			

	Chairing of Debate		
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1616.1	Previous Decisions and Motions	4.1.129;	No change
16.2		4.1.130a;	
16.3	Motion to Rescind a Previous Decision at Council	4.1.13b	
	Motion to Rescind a Previous Decision at Committee	4.1.131; 4.1.132; 4.1.133	
	Motion Similar to One Previously Considered by Council		
17	Voting	4.1.134;	No change
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17.2	Chair's Casting Vote	4.1.136;	
17.3	Show of Hands	4.1.137	
17.4	Ballots	4.1.138; 4.1.139	
17.5	Recorded Vote	4.1.140;	
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17.7	Voting on Appointments	4.1.143; 4.1.144 4.1.145; 4.1.146	
18	Minutes	4.1.147; 4.1.148;	No change
18.1	Signing the Minutes	4.1.149;	
18.2	No requirement to sign minutes of previous meeting an Extraordinary meeting	4.1.150; 4.1.151;	
18.3	Form of Minutes	4.1.152; 4.1.153	
19	Record of Attendance		No change

20	Exclusion of the public	4.1.154; 4.1.155;	No change
21	Members' conduct	4.1.156;	No change
21.1	Standing to Speak	4.1.157	
21.2	Mayor Standing	4.1.158	
21.3	Member not to be heard further	4.1.159	
21.4	Member to Leave the Meeting	4.1.160; 4.1.161	
21.5	General Disturbance		
22	Disturbance by Public	4.1.162	No change
22.1	Removal of Member of the Public	4.1.163	
22.2	Clearance of Part of Meeting Room	4.1.164	
23	Suspension and amendment of Council procedure rules	4.1.165	No change
23.1		4.1.166; 4.1.167	
23.2	Suspension Amendment		
24	Application to Committees and Sub-Committees		See rules above 4.1.3; 4.1.4, 4.1.5; 4.1.6
	Recording, filming and reporting of meetings	4.1.168; 4.1.169	New mandatory rule
	Interests under the Member code of conduct	4.1.170; 4.1.171	New mandatory rule
	Confidentiality	4.1.172; 4.1.173	New mandatory rule

13.6 ACCESS TO INFORMATION RULES

13.7 These Rules are required by legislation to set out how the public and members can access council meetings; agenda and reports. The Rules set out the special processes that apply to cabinet decisions in relation to call in of key decisions, urgency and special urgency.

13.8 The main changes recommended are as follows:

- To update the regulations to note the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.
- To update other legislative references e.g. Charities Act 2011, information that has to be registered under this act is not exempt.

13.9 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK RULES

13.10 These Rules are required by legislation and set out the process for cabinet to develop the budget and policy framework for recommendation to council. The Rules also set out the process if council disagree with the cabinet's proposals and the right of the cabinet to have extra time to rework proposals. The Rule also requires decisions by the cabinet which may be outside of the annual budget or policy framework.

13.11 The Rules do not require any change apart from updating references to new parts of the new Constitution.

13.12 CABINET PROCEDURE RULES

13.13 These rules regulate cabinet meetings and cabinet decision making.

13.14 The main changes recommended by DAF and set out at Annex 7 are:

- To call them the Cabinet Rules and substitute Cabinet for Executive to make them easier to understand by the public.
- The Rules dealing with decision making and delegated functions have been moved to the Functions Part of the new Constitution. These Rules will now just deal with Cabinet meeting process.
- Rules dealing with appointment of Deputy Leader form part of the new Functions
- These new Rules set out who can attend and speak at Cabinet.
- It is suggested this includes members of the public and elected members who have submitted a written question in advance with a right to a supplementary if they are in attendance.

- It is suggested this should also include Scrutiny chairs if they are presenting any recommendations to cabinet from their committee.
- It is suggested this includes group leaders and ward members if there is an item affecting their ward
- It also gives the Leader a discretion to invite other members to speak
- The new Rules make it clear that reports are presented by relevant cabinet member with officer support.
- The new rules also deal with seating to make sure it is clear who is on the Cabinet
- It is suggested that the Leader submits a report from cabinet to each ordinary council meeting giving summary of cabinet decisions taken, recommendations on budget and policy framework, any reports required by scrutiny and a summary of any urgent decisions.

13.14 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

13.15 These rules regulate overview and scrutiny meetings. The existing Rules contain a mixture of topics; rules of procedure, appointment and also terms of reference.

13.16 The Rules have been edited and updated and are set out at Annex 8. It is suggested that the old rules dealing with membership and terms of reference be moved to Part Articles and Section 4 Functions of the new Constitution. The new Rules will focus on procedure at Overview and Scrutiny committee meetings

13.17 The main changes proposed are as follows:

- The definition of quorum will say one quarter of the voting membership or three members whichever is the greater. At present the rule refers to another part of the Constitution.
- It is proposed to have a full section on Task and Finish Groups (proposed new Rule 5.5.10) which are a key aspect of the statutory overview and scrutiny function.
- The existing rule requires that there should be at least 6 ordinary meetings of each Overview and scrutiny Committee each year. The new Rule references the Council's annual schedule of meetings and gives more flexibility to the chair to cancel or postpone meetings and for the committee to agree additional meetings as necessary.
- The new rules include the statutory Councillor Call for Action which allows any member of the council to request an item on the next available Overview and Scrutiny Committee Agenda.

- The new rules set out the overview and scrutiny role in policy review and development and rules relating to scrutiny reports and that the cabinet must consider them.
- The new rule also set out the duty of persons called to attend a scrutiny committee to attend.
- The Call in Rules are updated to take account of best practice and guidance.
- The new rules also details the scrutiny function relaying to pre-decision call in and the Forward Plan.

13.18 CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES AND FINANCE REGULATIONS

13.19 These technical rules regulate financial matters and contracts.

13.20 They are subject to review by the statutory Finance Officer and Monitoring officer. It is proposed that the Audit Committee be authorised to approve further revisions to these rules in the new Constitution,

13.21 OFFICER EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURE RULES

13.22 No changes are proposed to the existing Rules except to designate the Human Resources and Appeals Panel as the Employment Panel, which it is recommended consists of nine members of the council and must include at least one member of the cabinet. It is recommended that the Terms of Reference of the new Employment Panel include the existing terms of Reference for the Human Resources and Appeals Panel including employee appeals against dismissal and grievance, save for restructuring and HR policy matters which are executive functions. The revised Terms of Reference will form part of the Functions part of the new Constitution set out at Annex 4.

14 FINAL PHASE REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

14.1 DAF met on the 4 November 2020 to complete their work on reviewing the Constitution. This final review considered the Officer Scheme of Delegation set out at Annex 5 and how best to implement the proposed changes. DAF also recommend a new Protocol dealing with Public Participation set out at Annex 9.

15. PART 7 – CABINET PORTFOLIOS, MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND THE COUNCIL’S MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

14.1 A new Part 7 – Cabinet Portfolios, membership of committees and the Council’s Management Structure is set out at Annex 10. This will be kept up to date by the Monitoring Officer to provide details of cabinet portfolios, committee membership and committee chairs.

16. PART 8 - COVID-19 INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS

16.1. A new Part 8 - Covid-19 Interim Arrangements is set out at Annex 11 to locate all the variations to the Constitution arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and the

legal restrictions on meetings and other processes. The specific rules affected by these Interim arrangements will be added once the final form of the Constitution is agreed.

17. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2020/22

- 17.1 The Member Development Group has been appointed to promote learning and development for all councillors. It comprises Political Group Leaders and is chaired by Councillor Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs.
- 17.2 An all member survey was carried out during August 2020 to seek councillors' views on member development as part of the new Constitution and has been used to inform the Strategy for 2020/21 set out at Annex 11. An action plan to deliver the Strategy and keep members up to date with training and development opportunities is underway and will be monitored by the Member Development Group.

15. COMMUNITY IMPACT / CONTRIBUTION TO THE BURY 2030 STRATEGY

An up to date Constitution will ensure decision are taken lawfully and in an open and transparent manner.

16. EQUALITY IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS:

An up to date Constitution will ensure decisions contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed

17. ASSESSMENT OF RISK:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Legal Challenge	An up to date Constitution will ensure decisions are taken lawfully and in an open and transparent manner.

18. CONSULTATION:

The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny have been consulted on the revised Scrutiny functions and new Scrutiny Rules. The Chair of the Licensing Committee has been consulted on the proposed variations to the functions of the Licensing and Safety Panel. The Chairs of Audit Committee and Standards Committee has been consulted on the proposed changes.

Briefings have also been held with the Conservative; Labour; Liberal Democrat and Radcliff Independent Groups.

19. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The legal implications are set out in the report and below. The Review and changes, together with the input of elected members is welcomed.

Section 9P of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended sets out the duty of the Council to prepare and keep up to date its constitution as follows:

(1)A local authority must prepare and keep up to date a document (referred to in this section as its constitution) which contains—

- (a)a copy of the authority's standing orders for the time being,
 - (b)a copy of the authority's code of conduct (if any) for the time being under section 28 of the Localism Act 2011,
 - (c)such information as the Secretary of State may direct, and
 - (d) such other information (if any) as the authority considers appropriate.
- A local authority must ensure that copies of their constitution are available at their principal office for inspection by members of the public at all reasonable hours. A local authority must supply a copy of their constitution to any person who requests a copy and who pays to the authority such reasonable fee as the authority may determine.

22. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications arising from this Report.

23. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to note the work of the DAF and the Standards Committee in reviewing the Constitution and the progress that has been achieved. The draft documents have been proof read and checked by the legal services team.

An all member briefing will be held prior to Council to further explain the proposed changes. Once agreed, a series of member and officer briefings and training events will be organised to ensure a smooth transition into any new arrangements.

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ANNEXES

1. Contents and Part 1 - Introduction to the Constitution

2. Part 2 - Articles
3. Part 3 Section 1 and 2, Council Functions
4. Part 3 (Sections 3 , 4 and 5) Responsibility for Committee Functions, Cabinet Functions; and Scrutiny Functions including a new Employment Panel, Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee; Safeguarding Scrutiny Sub-Committee ;
5. Part 3 – Officer Scheme of Delegation
6. Part 4 – Council Procedure Rules (Standing Orders)
7. Part 4 – Cabinet Procedure Rules
8. Part 4 – Scrutiny Procedure Rules
9. Part 5 – Public Participation Protocol
10. Part 8 - Covid-19 Interim Arrangements
11. Member Development Strategy 2020/22.

List of Background Papers:

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Report – November 2019
Lawyers in Local Government Model Form of Constitution
Created by Womble Dickenson Dees
Reports to Democratic Arrangements Forum July to October 2020
Reports to Standards Committee on 1 July and 12 October 2020
Member Survey – Bury Council August 2020
Technical Review of Constitution –August 2020
LGA Peer Review 2018
Reports to Member Development Group 2020

Glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
DAF	Democratic Arrangements Forum



The Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury known as Bury Council

Constitution v3.0

Adopted by Bury Council on 25 November 2020

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PART 1 - INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Introduction and summary

1.1. The Constitution

1.1.1. The Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury (known as Bury Council) is a metropolitan district authority operating executive arrangements with a Leader and Cabinet. The Council has agreed this Constitution which sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. Some of these processes are required by the law, while others are a matter for the Council to choose.

The Constitution is divided into several Parts which set out the Rules governing the Council's business.

1.1.2. Article 1 of the Constitution commits the Council to providing clear community Leadership and operating in a way which is transparent, efficient and accountable and upholds the values of the Council. The remaining articles and parts of the Constitution explain the rights of the public and how the key parts of the Council operate:

- Part 2 explains how key parts of the Council work;
- Part 3 explains the responsibilities of each part of the Council;
- Part 4 contains the detailed rules for each part of the Council ;
- Part 5 provides more details and guidance about how Councillors and Council employees work together and how the public can participate;
- Part 6 sets out the allowances that Councillors are paid;
- Part 7 explains the Cabinet and scrutiny committee roles and the Council's management structure; and
- Part 8 sets out the rules introduced to respond to the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic and are effective from 4th April 2020 until 7 May 2021 or earlier if revoked by further legislation
- Part 9 is a glossary explaining meanings of particular words and phrases used in the Constitution.

1.2. How the Council operates

1.2.1. The Council comprises 51 Councillors each elected every four years. Every year a third of the Councillors have to submit to an election .Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their ward. The overriding duty of Councillors is to the whole community of Bury, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them.

1.2.2 Councillors have to agree to follow a code of conduct to ensure high standards in the way they undertake their duties. The Monitoring Officer trains and advises on the code of conduct.



1.2.3 All Councillors meet together as full Council. Meetings of full Council are normally open to the public and the Councillors decide the Council's overall policies and set the revenue budget and capital programme each year. At its annual meeting, full Council appoints one Councillor to be the Leader of the Council.

1.3 How decisions are made

1.3.1 Most day to day service decisions are taken by senior employees of the Council. Elected Councillors sitting as the full Council will decide an overall framework of policies governing how services are to be provided.

1.3.2 The Leader of the Council approves the scheme of delegation of executive functions. The Council's Cabinet of Councillors will make recommendations to the Council about the policy framework and will itself take decisions that ensure services are provided within that framework.

1.3.3 For most "key" decisions to be made by the Cabinet or by Cabinet members the Council is required to publish in advance information about the matter to be decided; who will be making the decision, the date or timescale for the decision, and the place where the decision will be made.

1.3.4 The Cabinet can only make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall budget and policy framework. If it wishes to make a decision which is contrary to the budget and policy framework, this must be referred to full Council to decide.

1.3.5 Full Council will appoint committees with power to carry out its non-executive and other functions (e.g. planning and licensing). Non-executive functions are those which the Cabinet does not have the power to carry out.

1.3.6 The Cabinet is held to account by the overview and scrutiny committees appointed by full Council.

1.4 The Council's employees

1.4.1 The Council has people working for it (called 'officers') to give professional advice, implement decisions and manage the day-to-day delivery of its services. Some officers have a specific duty to ensure that the Council acts within the law and uses its resources wisely. A protocol governs the relationships between officers and members of the Council. This protocol is included within the Constitution.

1.5 Citizens' rights

1.5.1 Citizens have a number of rights in their dealings with the Council. These are set out in more detail in Article 3. Some of these are legal rights, while others are given at the discretion of the Council, depending on the Council's own processes.

1.5.2 Where members of the public use specific Council services, for example as a parent of a school pupil or as a social care user, they may have additional



rights. These are not covered in this Constitution. Details of such rights may be obtained directly from the service concerned or from the Council's customer services.

- 1.5.3 The Council welcomes participation by its citizens in its work. A guide to public participation is included in part 5.

Ends

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BURY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

PART 2 – THE ARTICLES

Contents

- 2.1 Article 1 – The Council and the Constitution
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- 2.11 Article 11 – Decision making
- 2.12 Article 12 – Finance, contracts and legal matters



Article 1 - The Council and the Constitution

This article explains the Council's priorities and values, and the Constitution which is published on the Council's website. The Council has decided to operate a leader and cabinet model of governance.

Strategic priorities and values of the council

2.1.1 Priorities

2.1.1.1 The Council and its partners have adopted a 10 year strategic plan called Bury 2030 to provide strategic direction of the Council's work. Bury 2030 sets out priorities in order to improve the quality of life of the people in Bury and the measures used to show how far those priorities have been met. A delivery plan that sets out what actions the Council will take to achieve the priorities of Bury 2030 is agreed each year by the Cabinet and progress is reported on a quarterly basis. .

2.1.2 Values

2.1.2.1 The Council is committed to maintaining high standards of conduct by its staff and Councillors and has adopted the following values that underpin its work:

People: treating people fairly, with compassion, respect and dignity Excellence: striving for excellence, and the appropriate quality of service, care and life in Bury.

Openness: being open, transparent and accountable

Partnership: working in partnership, and with all our diverse communities

Listening: actively listening to, understanding and taking into account people's views and needs

Environment: protecting and promoting our outstanding natural environment and heritage for the benefit of all

2.1.2.2 Everyone who is elected or appointed to public office, works for the council, or provides services on the Council's behalf is required to follow general principles of ethical conduct. These principles are described in more detail in part 5 section 1 of the constitution.

2.1.2.3 Bury 2030 has created the following principles to guide the work of the Council in everything it does for Bury.

Inspiration – we are proactive and creative, building on our collective strengths to make a difference to what matters most to us by: • Really listening to understand each other and our shared potential • Growing relationships & new connections across boundaries • Being open to trying new things and doing things differently • Valuing the skills, strengths and successes of individuals and communities	Aspiration – We realise hopes and dreams by: • Demonstrating pride in our collective and individual achievements and in the place where we live • Ensuring everyone has an equal voice and equal life chances by harnessing and nurturing all talents • Championing innovation, always looking for ways to improve quality of life for all • Being courageous and stepping out of our comfort zone to help ourselves and others



Participation – We all take responsibility for making a difference by: • Committing to making positive, practical differences in addressing and tackling our challenges • Asking “what matters to you?” and “How can I help?” • Being flexible and putting our energies where we can make the most positive difference • Demonstrating dignity, kindness and respect in everything we do	• Opening doors at every opportunity Collaboration - We will bring our collective talents, energies and power together for the greater good by: • Bringing people together from all walks of life • Listening to and learning from all voices • Trusting and helping each other, always working together • Listening when others talk and then responding, helping and enabling • Supporting development and growth and removing barriers to collaboration

2.1.3 Powers of the Council

2.1.3.1 The Council’s duties and powers are set out in the law of England. A duty that requires the council to act in a particular way. A power that gives the Council discretion to act. The arrangements are complex and detailed.

2.1.3.3 The Council must meet high ethical and other standards in everything it does; it must comply with legal requirements; and it must use public money and other resources economically, efficiently and effectively, accounting fully for its actions. In order to discharge these responsibilities, members and senior officers must ensure the proper governance of the council’s affairs and the stewardship of its resources.

2.1.3.4 Powers are exercised by the Council and its functions carried out in accordance with the functions scheme (part 3). The council operates the “leader and cabinet” model of Executive arrangements. A description of these Executive arrangements is set out in a schedule to this part 2.

2.1.4 The constitution

2.1.4.1 This Constitution and all its appendices form the Constitution of the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury (known as Bury Council).

2.1.5 Purpose of the Constitution

2.1.5.1 The purpose of the constitution is to set out in a single place and clear language how the council works and how it makes decisions to

- a) enable the Council to provide clear leadership to the community in partnership with citizens, businesses and other organisations
- b) support the active involvement of citizens in the process of council decision-making
- c) help Councillors represent their constituents more effectively
- d) enable decisions to be taken efficiently and effectively
- e) create a powerful and effective means of holding decision-makers to public account
- f) ensure that no one will review or scrutinise a decision in which they were directly involved



g) ensure that those responsible for decision making are clearly identifiable to local people and that they explain the reasons for decisions

h) provide a means of improving the delivery of services to the local community

2.1.6 Meaning of the Constitution

2.1.6.1 If the constitution gives the council a choice about what to do, the council must choose the option that it thinks is closest to the purpose of the constitution in paragraph 2.1.5.

2.1.8 Review and changes to the Constitution

2.1.8.1 Reviews and changes to the Constitution will be in accordance with the functions scheme.

2.1.9 Suspension of the constitution

2.1.9.1 The only power to suspend the Constitution is in accordance with the council procedure rules.



Article 2 - Councillors

This article explains who Councillors are, what they must do and how long they serve.

Information about Councillors and the wards they represent and how to stand for election as a Councillor is on the Council's website and at Council contact centres.

2.2.1 Number of councillors and areas they represent

2.2.1.1 The Council has 51 elected members called Councillors. Each Councillor represents an area of the district known as a ward. The voters of each ward elect a Councillor to represent them.

2.2.2 Who can be a Councillor?

2.2.2.1 Anybody may stand for election as a Councillor provided they are

- a registered to vote in local government elections in the district, or have lived or worked there for the 12 months preceding the day of election, and are
- b not stopped by law from holding office as a Councillor

2.2.3 Elections

2.2.3.1 Anyone over 18 residing in the district is entitled to vote and be included on the electoral register.

2.2.3.2 The running of the elections is the responsibility of the Returning Officer. Electoral registration is the responsibility of the Electoral Registration Officer.

2.2.3.3 The Chief Executive of the council is the Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer. The Council has an elections office that helps the Chief Executive discharge these functions.

2.2.3.4 Electoral registration and elections are subject to strict rules and further information can be obtained from the Council's elections office or the Electoral Commission.

2.2.4 When elections happen and how long Councillors are elected for

2.2.4.1 Elections for one of the three seats in each ward will usually take place on the first Thursday in May every year. People elected as Councillors commence office on the fourth day after being elected and finish on the fourth day after four years.

2.2.5 Roles and functions of all Councillors

2.2.5.1 All Councillors must:

- a together be the makers of overall policy for the district in relation to its functions
- b contribute to plans and policies jointly with partners in matters that require cooperation and collaboration between those partners
- c represent, and speak up for their communities
- d deal with individual casework and speak up for citizens
- e balance different interests within their ward and represent it as a whole



f be involved in Council decision making

g be available to represent the council on other bodies; and

h maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics i together be the corporate parents for children looked after by the council.

2.2.6 Rights to information

2.2.6.1 Councillors have rights of access to council information in accordance with the article 13 and the access to information rules (part 4 section 2).

2.2.7 Responsibilities

2.2.7.1 Councillors must follow the Councillor code of conduct (part 5 section 1) and must follow this constitution and the rules, principles and codes within it whilst conducting Council business.

2.2.8 Allowances

2.2.8.1 Councillors will be entitled to receive allowances in accordance with the Councillors' allowance scheme (part 6).

2.2.9 Ceasing being a Councillor

2.2.9.1 A Councillor will cease being a Councillor if:-

a they resign by giving written notice, or

b they fail to attend meetings of the Council for a period of six months without prior approval of the Council meeting, or

c if they are stopped by law from holding office, or

d the period for which they were elected has come to an end and they have not been re-elected.

2.2.10 Political or other groups

2.2.10.1 Councillors may join a political group of two or more Councillors who belong to the same political party or have some other common interest. Political groups are recognised by law and in the constitutional arrangements within the Council.

2.2.10.2 The number of places that each political group has on the Council determines how many places are allocated to members of that political group on Council committees and other bodies.

2.2.10.3 There is no constitutional or legal requirement that a member of a group must vote on any matter in the same way as their political group. Usually on policy matters a political group will have a collective view and will vote together on the issue.

2.2.10.5 There are certain functions of the Council that are regulatory or quasi-judicial e.g. planning. A political group may not direct its members how to decide such matters.



Article 3 – Citizens and the Council

Bury Council is keen to engage with citizens living or working in the Borough and involve them in council activities. This article describes how Bury citizens can take part.

Citizens' rights

2.3.3.1 Citizens have the right:

- a) to take part in question time at any meeting of the Council where the agenda includes public question time;
- b) to speak during public speaking time at meetings of the Planning and Regulatory Committee;
- c) to contribute to investigations by Overview and Scrutiny Committees;
- d) to be consulted or in some other way participate in Council decision making in accordance with the arrangements the council has for such consultation and participation; and
- e) to information in accordance with the access to information rules
- f) to attend any public meeting

2.3.5 Citizens' responsibilities

2.3.5.1 A healthy democracy depends upon active citizenship. Citizens are encouraged to make conscientious use of their roles as both voters and members of a wider community. In particular, citizens are encouraged to:

- a) vote at every opportunity;
- b) respect the expression of differing opinions in public debate;
- c) promote tolerance and respect between their fellow citizens; and
- d) seek information about the decision-making role of Councillors and respecting the Council procedures which give effect to a representative democracy. The rights and responsibilities of citizens is set out in more detail in the public participation guide (part 5).



Article 4 - The Council meeting

This article explains the role of the Council meeting (which is when all councillors attend a formal meeting) and the role of the Mayor.

2.4.1 Council meetings

Types of Council meetings

2.4.1.1 There are three types of Council meeting:-

- a The annual meeting
- b Ordinary meetings
- c Extraordinary meetings

2.4.2 Rules applying to Council meetings

2.4.2.1 The Council rules (in Part 4 section 1) will apply to Council meetings.

2.4.3 Functions of the council meeting and functions scheme

2.4.3.1 The functions of the Council meeting are set out in the Functions Scheme (part 3)

2.4.4 The Mayor

Election

2.4.4.1 The Mayor and the Deputy Mayor are elected by Council annually.

2.4.4.2 The Mayor and Deputy Mayor cannot be members of the Cabinet.

Functions

2.4.4.2 The Mayor and, in their absence, the Deputy Mayor will have the following roles and functions:

- a) to uphold and promote the purpose of the Constitution;
- b) to decide what the Constitution means if there is a dispute, on advice from the Monitoring Officer;
- c) to chair Council meetings so that decisions can be taken efficiently and with regard to the rights of Councillors and the interests of the community;
- d) to make sure that Council meetings are a place for debating matters of concern to the local community and the place at which members who are not on the Cabinet are able to hold the Cabinet to account;
- e) to promote public involvement in the Council's activities and in the democratic process;
- f) to attend those civic and ceremonial functions which they or the Council consider appropriate; and



g) to approve, as urgent, decisions which will not be subject to call in, when no chair of a Scrutiny Committee is available.

Roles

The Mayor fulfils several roles:

2.4.4.3

a) Ceremonial role - The Mayor is the ceremonial head of the whole council and its districtwide representative at civic and social occasions. The Mayor has considerable discretion in exercising the ceremonial aspects of the office.

b) Non-political role - It is important that the Mayor maintains a non-political stance especially when chairing Council meetings. The Mayor must act entirely neutrally allowing different opinions to be fully and fairly presented and debated subject to any relevant procedure rules.

c) Mayor's announcements - Any group leader or committee chair may approach the Mayor before a Council meeting to suggest items for the Mayor to use in making announcements to Council. The Mayor has complete discretion as to which items they may think appropriate to announce.

d) Rules of debate - The Mayor's role in conducting meetings is to enforce the Council rules at the Council meeting as set out in part 4.

e) Casting vote - If there are equal numbers of votes for and against, the Mayor will have a second or extra casting vote. There will be no restriction on how the Mayor chooses to exercise a casting vote.



Article 5 - The Leader and the Cabinet

The Leader of the Council is the Councillor who is the political head of the Council. This article explains how the Leader is elected and what they do. It also explains how the Cabinet works and what it does. The Leader and Cabinet model are part of the Council's Executive arrangements. More information about the Cabinet is set out in Part 7 of the Constitution.

2.5.1 Leader of the council

Election

2.5.1.1 At the annual meeting Council will elect a Councillor to be the leader of the council ("the leader")

Role

2.5.1.2 The Leader is the political leader of the Council who, together with the chief Executive, provides overall leadership of the Council and its staff.

2.5.1.3 The Leader will normally chair meetings of the Cabinet, will lead in the formulation, co-ordination and presentation of the Cabinet's policies and will work closely with the Chief Cabinet on the carrying out of policies by the Council.

Ceasing being leader of the Council

2.5.1.4 The Leader will stay as the Leader of the Council until:

- a) four years from the date of their election; or
- b) they resign from office; or
- c) they are suspended from being a Councillor, although they may resume office at the end of the period of suspension; or
- d) they are no longer a Councillor; or
- e) they are removed from office by resolution on notice at a Council meeting; or
- f) by simple resolution of a motion without notice at a meeting of Council following a change in political control of the Council, as signalled to the Monitoring Officer, a change in political control being a change in the composition of the various political groups such that a different group or combination of groups now comprise a majority of the membership of the Council.

If Council passes a resolution to remove the Leader as outlined in (e) or (f) above, it will elect a new leader at that or a subsequent meeting.

2.5.2 The Cabinet

Role

2.5.2.1 The Cabinet has responsibility for all functions of the Council which are not by law, or under the functions scheme set out in part 3 section 3, the responsibility of another part of the Council.



Membership

2.5.2.2 The Cabinet must consist of a minimum of the Leader and two other Councillors up to a maximum of 10 Councillors including the Leader. The Leader appoints the Cabinet members and shall designate one of the Cabinet members as Deputy Leader.

Functions of individual members of the Cabinet

2.5.2.3 The Leader will decide what functions will be carried out by individual Cabinet members. The Leader will notify the Chief Executive and the Monitoring Officer of these functions in writing. The Monitoring Officer will make sure that they are set out in part 7 of the Constitution and Council be informed at its next meeting. Changes to the functions of individual Cabinet members will only take effect when the Leader has notified the Monitoring Officer.

Meetings of the cabinet

2.5.2.4 Meetings and other activities of the cabinet must comply with the cabinet rules (part 4 section 4). 2.5.3 Cabinet support members

2.5.3.1 The leader may appoint deputy cabinet members to provide informal support to one or more portfolio areas. Deputy cabinet support members are not members of the Cabinet, have no delegated Cabinet authority, and may not take Cabinet decisions.

2.5.4 Description of Cabinet arrangements

2.5.4.1 The following parts of the constitution comprise the Cabinet arrangements:-

- Article 5 in part 2 of the constitution – the leader of the council and the cabinet,
- the cabinet rules (part 4 section 4)
- Article 6 in part 2 of the constitution – scrutiny, and the scrutiny rules (part 4 section 5)
- Article 9 in part 2 of the constitution – joint arrangements
- Article 11 in part 2 of the constitution – decision making
- The functions scheme in part 3
- Cabinet portfolios scheme in part 7
- Budget and policy framework rules in part 4 section 3
- Access to information rules in part 4 section 2



Article 6 – Overview and scrutiny

Scrutiny is a statutory role fulfilled by councillors who are not members of the cabinet.

The role of the overview and scrutiny committees is to help develop policy, to carry out reviews of council and other local services, and to hold decision makers to account for their actions and decisions.

2.6.1 The overview and scrutiny committee

2.6.1.1 Council has decided that there will be one Overview and Scrutiny committee. Its remit is set out in part 6 of the constitution, and how they operate is in accordance with the functions scheme and scrutiny rules.

2.6.1.2 The overview and scrutiny committee has established a children's and adults safeguarding sub-committee. Its remit is set out in part 6 of the constitution.

2.6.2 The health scrutiny committee

2.6.2.1 The council has also established a health scrutiny committee. Its remit is set out in part 6 of the constitution.

2.6.3 Joint scrutiny committees

2.6.3.1 The Council is also a member of several joint scrutiny committees. Their remit is set out in Part 6 of the Constitution.

2.6.4 Composition

2.6.4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will comprise of eleven members of the council. It will have additional educational appointees with voting rights when considering education matters in accordance with the scrutiny rules. The council will appoint the Chair of the Committee from an Opposition Group .

2.6.4.2 The Health Scrutiny Committee will comprise of eleven members of the council. The council will appoint the Chair of the committee

Role

2.6.1.5 Between them the scrutiny committees oversee and scrutinise the work of the leader and cabinet and the council as a whole. This allows members outside the cabinet and citizens to have a greater say in council matters by investigating issues of local concern. This can include questioning cabinet members, committee chairmen, or senior officers of the council, and inviting people from outside the council to give opinions and expert advice.

2.6.1.6 The scrutiny committees also have the power to scrutinise the services provided by organisations outside the council e.g. NHS services and the work of the community safety partnership.



2.6.1.7. The scrutiny committees can make reports and recommendations to the Leader, of the Council and some partner organisations. The decision takers are not required to implement the recommendations but do have to consider any recommendations made.

2.6.1.8. The scrutiny committees can 'call-in' an Cabinet decision which has been made but not yet implemented. This enables them to consider whether the decision has been taken in accordance with the principles of good decision making. They may recommend that the decision taker reconsiders the decision. They may also be consulted by the leader, other cabinet members or Council on forthcoming decisions and the development of the budget and policy framework.

2.6.1.9. The council appoints a statutory scrutiny officer with statutory responsibilities to promote the role of the council's scrutiny committees within the council, support the work of the scrutiny committees by providing help and advice to scrutiny members and also those being scrutinised. (This role cannot be held by the head of paid services, the chief finance officer or the monitoring officer.)

2.6.1.10 The public can be involved in the scrutiny process and help shape and inform decision making and policy by:

- a. asking questions on a matter that is the function of the committee or is on a committee agenda;
- b. submitting evidence for consideration by a scrutiny committee or one of its task and finish groups
- c. suggesting items for inclusion in the work programme of the committee.



Article 7 - The Audit Committee

This article explains the Audit Committee which has been established by council

2.7.1 Role

2.7.1.1 The Audit Committee is responsible for proving assurance on the council's audit, governance (including risk management and information governance) and financial processes in accordance with the functions scheme

2.7.2 Composition

2.7.2.1 The Audit Committee comprises nine members of the council and may also include an independent person who is not a councillor but is appointed by council and has the same voting rights as other members of the committee.

2.7.2.3 The Independent Person

2.7.2.3.1 The Independent Person must be a person who has applied for the post following advertisement of a vacancy for the post, and appointed by a positive vote from a majority of all the Members of the Council at a meeting of the full Council.

2.7.2.3.2 A person is not eligible for appointment if they are:

- a Member, co-opted Member or officer of the Council;
- subject to Paragraph 10.3 below, have within the past five years been a Member, co-opted Member or officer of Bury Council,
- a relative or close friend of a person within the bullet points above.

2.7.2.3.3 For the purpose of paragraph 2.7.2.3.2 "relative" means:

- Spouse or civil partner;
- Living with the other person as husband and wife or as if they were Civil partners;
- Grandparents of the other person;
- A lineal descendant of a grandparent of the other person;
- A parent, sibling or child of the person within the above bullet points;
- A spouse or civil partner of a person within the above bullet points; or
- Living with a person within the above bullet points as husband and wife or as if they were civil partners.



Article 7A - The Standards Committee

This article explains the Standards Committee which has been established by council

2.7A.1 Composition

2.7A.1.1 The Standards Committee comprises nine members of the council including the Mayor. The Leader of the Council cannot be a member and not more than one member of the Cabinet can be appointed.

2.7A.1.2. Independent members may be appointed by the Council who are not Councillors or officers of the Council but they will not be entitled to vote at meetings.

2.7A.2 Role

2.7A.2.1 The Standards Committee is responsible for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Councillors, co-opted members and church and parent governor representatives in accordance with the functions scheme

2.7A.3 The Independent Person

2.7A.3.1 The Independent Person must be a person who has applied for the post following advertisement of a vacancy for the post, and appointed by a positive vote from a majority of all the Members of the Council at a meeting of the full Council.

2.7A.3.2 A person is not eligible for appointment if they are:

- a Member, co-opted Member or officer of the Council;
- have within the past five years been a Member, co-opted Member or officer of Bury Council,
- a relative or close friend of a person within the bullet points above.

2.7A.2.3 For the purpose of paragraph 2.7A.3.2 “relative” means:

- Spouse or civil partner;
- Living with the other person as husband and wife or as if they were civil partners;
- Grandparents of the other person;
- A lineal descendant of a grandparent of the other person;
- A parent, sibling or child of the person within the above bullet points;
- A spouse or civil partner of a person within the above bullet points; or
- Living with a person within the above bullet points as husband and wife or as if they were civil partners.



2.7A.4 Standards Hearings Panel – Sub Committee

2.7A.4.1 Composition

The Standards Committee will set up a sub-committee called the Standards Hearings Panel. It will comprise three elected Members of the Standards Committee, of whom one should be a Member of the minority party.

The Independent Person is invited to attend all meetings of the Hearing Panel and their views must be sought and taken into consideration before the Hearing Panel takes any decision on whether the Subject Member's conduct constitutes a failure to comply with the Code of Conduct and as to any action to be taken following a finding of failure to comply with the Code of Conduct.

2.7A.4.2 Role

To consider complaints under the code of conduct that cannot be resolved informally. Where a standards panel finds that a Subject Member has failed to comply with the Code of Conduct, the Standards Panel may:

- Publish its findings in respect of the Subject Member's conduct;
- Recommend to Council that the Member be censured;
- Recommend to the Subject Member's group leader (or in the case of ungrouped members recommend to Council) that he/she be removed from any or all committees or sub committees of the Council;
- Recommend to the Leader of the Council that the Subject Member be removed from the Cabinet, or removed from their portfolio responsibilities;
- Instruct the Monitoring Officer to arrange training for the Member;
- Recommend to Council that the Subject Member be removed from all outside appointments to which they have been appointed or nominated by the Council
- Withdraw facilities provided to the Subject Member by the Council such as a computer, website and/or e-mail and internet access; or
- Place such restrictions on the Subject Member's access to staff, buildings or parts of buildings which may be reasonable in the circumstances



Article 8 - Planning, Licensing and Other Functions

This article describes the following committees which council has established:

- a) The Planning Control Committee
- b) The Licensing and Safety Committee
- c) The Licensing Hearings Panel
- d) Health and Wellbeing Board
- e) Employment Panel
- f) Corporate Parenting Board

2.8.1 Planning Control Committee

Composition

2.8.1.1 The committee comprises 11 councillors

Role

2.8.1.2 The committee determines applications for planning and listed building consents which are not decided by an officer.

2.8.2 The Licensing and Safety Committee

Composition

2.8.1.1 The committee comprises 11 councillors

Role

2.8.1.2 The committee fulfils the council's licensing duties not undertaken by an officer as set out in the functions scheme at part 3 section 6.

2.8.1.2 The committee may establish one or more sub-committees consisting of three members of the licensing and safety committee to fulfil functions delegated to the licensing hearings panel as set out in the functions scheme at part 3 section 6.

2.8.3 Licensing Hearings Panel

Composition

2.8.1.1 The panel is a subcommittee of the Licensing and Safety committee and comprises 3 councillors from the Licensing and Safety Committee

Role

2.8.1.2 The Licensing Hearings Panel fulfils the council's licensing duties not undertaken by an officer as set out in the functions scheme at part 3 section 6.



2.8.4 Health and Wellbeing Board

Composition

2.8.2.2 The following shall be members of the health and wellbeing board:

- Leader of the council
- Cabinet member health and wellbeing,
- Executive member young people and children's wellbeing,
- Opposition Member for Health and Wellbeing
- Executive Director of Strategic Commissioning
- Executive Director of Children Young People and Culture
- Director of Public Health
- A nominated representative from the Voluntary Sector
- Two nominated representatives from the GP Clinical Commissioning Group
- A nominated representative from the Local Healthwatch
- A nominated representative from Greater Manchester Police
- A nominated representative of Greater Manchester Fire Service
- A nominated representative from Pennine Acute NHS Trust
- A nominated representative from Pennine Care Foundation Trust
- A nominated representative from the LCO

2.8.2.3 Council will appoint the Chair of the board annually who will be one of the cabinet members; a board member representing Bury clinical commissioning group will be appointed vice chair or annually by the board.

Role

2.8.2.3 The board will carry out the statutory functions as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, and any other functions delegated to it, as set out in part 3 section 3 of the constitution.

2.8.6 Employment Panel

2.8.6.1 Composition

The Employment Panel will consist of 5 councillors including the cabinet member responsible for Human Resources

2.8.6.2 Role

The Employment Panel is responsible for the employment functions as set out in the Officer Employment Procedure Rules including acting as the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee in relation to the statutory officers of the Council and other



related functions including Appeals against dismissal, grading and grievances by employees of the council and applications for premature retirement.

2.8.7 Corporate Parenting Board

2.8.7.1 Composition

The corporate parenting board will consist of 11 councillors comprising the Executive member responsible for children who will chair the Board plus 9 other non-Cabinet councillors.

2.8.7.2 Role

To oversee the council's and partner agencies responsibilities towards all children and young persons in care and care leavers and how their life chances can be improved.



Article 9 - Joint Arrangements

This articles explains how the council works with other bodies.

2.9.2 Joint arrangements generally

Joint arrangements for Council functions

2.9.2.1 The council may establish joint arrangements with one or more local authorities to exercise Council, or a mixture of Council and Cabinet functions, or to advise the council on any matter. These arrangements may involve the appointment of a joint committee with these other local authorities, including the determination of terms of reference.

Joint arrangements for cabinet functions

2.9.2.3 The cabinet may establish joint arrangements with one or more councils to exercise Cabinet functions. These arrangements may involve the appointment of joint committees, including the determination of terms of reference.

2.9.3 Joint arrangements with the NHS Clinical Commissioning group

2.9.3.1 On the 10 July 2019 the Council agreed to the setting up of the Strategic Commissioning Board as a joint committee of the Council to operate from 1 October 2019. The Report makes it clear that this joint committee will not replace either of the existing statutory bodies, instead it will be a Joint Committee of the two statutory organisations established under Regulation 10(2) of the NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000.

2.9.3.2 The Board was to be given wide ranging responsibility for all matters relating to health, social care and the Council's "health related" functions delegated to it (subject to reserved matters).

2.9.3.3 On 4 September 2019 the Cabinet agreed to delegate its Cabinet functions for health, social care and health related functions with effect from 1 October 2019.

2.9.3 Appointments to joint committees

2.9.3.1

a) Except as in (b) below, the cabinet may appoint only members of the cabinet to a joint committee dealing solely with cabinet functions, and those members need not reflect the political composition of the council as a whole.

b) Councillors who are not members of the cabinet may only be appointed to a joint committee where the relevant functions do not extend to more than two fifths of the district by area or population. In such cases, the cabinet may appoint a councillor who represents a ward wholly or partly in the area covered by the joint committee.

2.9.3.2 The rules on access to information and confidentiality as set out in article 13 will apply to members of joint committees in the same way as they do to members of the council.

2.9.4. Greater Manchester Combined Authority and Joint Committees

Joint arrangements include the Council's participation in the following Joint Committees:



- Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Cabinet Board, and its Commissions and sub-committees
(Including the Statutory Functions Committee)
- Transport for Greater Manchester Committee
- AGMA Joint Scrutiny Pool
- Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside London Adjudication Joint Committee (PATROLAJC)
- Bus Lane Adjudication Service Joint Committee
- Greater Manchester Police and Crime Panel
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority

2.9.5 Delegation to and from other local authorities

2.9.5.1 Full Council or the cabinet may delegate their respective powers and functions to another local authority or the Cabinet of another local authority.

2.9.5.2 The decision whether or not to accept such delegation from another local authority will be taken by full Council or the cabinet as appropriate.

2.9.5.3 The council has made no such delegations to date.

2.9.6 Contracting out

2.9.6.1 Full Council, for functions it is responsible for, and the leader or cabinet members, for Cabinet functions, may contract out to another body or organisation functions which may be carried out by an officer subject to the relevant legislative requirements.

2.9.7 Consultative committees

Standing advisory council on religious education (SACRE)

2.9.7.1 In accordance with the Education Act 1996 (as amended) the council has established a Bury SACRE to provide advice on matters concerned with the provision of religious education and collective worship as set out in the.

2.9.7.2 The council appoints the membership in accordance with the legislation, in four groups, as follows:

Group (A)

- One Roman Catholic representative (nominated by the Roman Catholic hierarchy);
- One Free Church representative (nominated by Churches together in Bury);
- One representative of other faiths as a whole;
- One representative of the Bahá'í faith;
- One representative of the Muslim faith;
- One representative of the Sikh faith. One representative of the Jewish faith. One representative of the Buddhist religion.
- Other than for the Roman Catholic and Free Church representatives the representatives should, as far as possible, be nominated by the appropriate local faith group.

Group (B)



- Three Church of England representatives (nominated in consultation with the Diocesan Education Authority).

Group (C)

- Three teachers' representatives, with one drawn from each of the primary, secondary and special education sectors (nominated through recommendation of recognised teacher associations) and one co-opted member.

Group (D)

- Three Bury Council members as local education authority representatives

2.10 Other bodies

Safeguarding Boards

2.10.7.3 In accordance with legislative requirements the council has established both an adults and a children's safeguarding board. Each is chaired by an independent person accountable to the chief Executive of the council for the effective operation of their respective boards; and working closely with the Executive director for children's services and the Executive director for adults and wellbeing.

Community Safety Partnership Board

2.10.7.4 In accordance with legislative requirements the council has established a community safety partnership, chaired by the cabinet member with responsibility for community safety.

Other partnerships

2.10.7.5 The council may, from time to time, work in partnership with one or more organisations in order to achieve a shared objective or aim, or in accordance with statutory requirement. The council has an agreed framework for partnerships' governance and maintains a register available for public inspection of such partnerships which are considered strategic.



Article 10 - The Chief Executive and Other Staff

This article sets out that the council will have a chief Executive, who is in charge of the council's staff and works with councillors to carry out the aims and objectives of the council. The article also sets out other senior staff posts and indicates which senior staff posts also have additional roles as the head of paid service, the monitoring officer and the chief finance officer.

2.10.1 Chief Executive

2.10.1.1 The council employs a Chief Executive who carries out the functions in the functions scheme at part 3 on behalf of the council and the Executive.

2.10.3 Senior officers

2.10.3.1 The council will employ people in senior posts (directors and assistant directors) who will assist the chief Executive. The functions of the chief Executive can be exercised by senior officers are set out in the functions scheme.

2.10.4 Designation of statutory officers

2.10.4.1 Council is required by law to designate senior officers as the head of paid service, the monitoring officer, the chief finance officer (herein referred to as S151 officer) and the statutory scrutiny officer. The head of paid service, statutory scrutiny officer and chief finance officer cannot also be the monitoring officer; the head of paid service, chief finance officer and monitoring officer cannot also be the statutory scrutiny officer.

2.10.4.2 The chief Executive is designated as the head of paid service and is responsible for the way in which the discharge of the council's functions by officers is co-ordinated, the number and grade of officers needed and how they are organised and deployed in the council, and reporting to Council as necessary.

2.10.4.3 The solicitor to the council is designated as the monitoring officer and is responsible for maintaining the constitution, ensuring decision-making is fair and lawful and reporting any actual or potential breach of a legal requirement to the Council meeting or Executive, and for dealing with complaints that councillors have breached the councillor code of conduct and reporting as necessary to the audit and governance committee. The solicitor to the council is authorised to issue, defend, settle or take part in any legal proceedings on the council's behalf where such action is necessary to give effect to decisions of the council or where they considers that such action is necessary to protect the council's interests.

2.10.4.4 The Director of Financial Transformation is designated as the section 151 officer appointed to fulfil the role set out in that section of the Local Government Act 1972 and is responsible for the proper administration of the council's financial affairs including reporting the actual spending or potential misspending of money to the Council meeting or cabinet.

2.10.4.5 The head of democratic services is designated as the statutory scrutiny officer and is responsible for promoting the role of the council's overview and scrutiny committees, providing support to the council's overview and scrutiny committees and their members, and for providing support and guidance to all members and officers of the authority in relation to functions of the authority's overview and scrutiny committees.



2.10.4.6 The council will provide the statutory officers with such officers, accommodation and other resources as are in the opinion of each of those officers sufficient to allow their individual duties, as specified in law, to be performed.

2.10.6 Conduct

2.10.6.1 Officers will comply with the code of conduct for employees (part 5 section 12) and will follow the protocol on member/officer relations (part 5 section 4).

2.10.7 Employment

2.10.7.1 The recruitment, selection and dismissal of officers will comply with the employment rules (part 4 section 9).



Article 11 - Decision-making

This article sets out how the council takes decisions.

2.11.1 Principles of decision making

2.11.1.1 When the council takes a decision it will:

- a) be clear about what the council wants to happen, how it will be achieved, who is accountable for the decision and who is accountable for implementing it and monitoring implementation;
- b) consult properly and have regard to the professional advice from its officers;
- c) have regard to the public sector equality duty and respect for natural justice and human rights;
- d) make the decision public unless there are good reasons for it not to be;
- e) give due weight to all material considerations, only take relevant matters into account, and make sure the action is proportionate to what the council wants to happen;
- f) explain what options were considered and give the reasons for the decision; and
- g) follow proper procedures

2.11.2 Responsibility for decision making

2.11.2.1 The council's activities are described in law as functions. The council as a whole cannot make every decision. The council has adopted the leader and Cabinet arrangement and therefore unless stated all functions are exercised by the cabinet.

How the council and cabinet discharge those functions are set out in the functions scheme.

2.11.5 Decision rules

2.11.5.1 The decision making procedures for all council, cabinet and committee meeting decision making is set out in part 4. 2.11.10

Codes

2.11.10.1 In making decisions and conducting its business the council and the bodies and person(s) exercising functions on its behalf will have regard to the codes and guidance set out in part 5 of this constitution.



Article 12 – Finance, Contracts and Legal Matters

This article sets out how the council manages its financial, contractual and legal arrangements including the use of the Common Seal of the Council.

2.12.1 Financial management

2.12.2 The management of the Council's financial affairs shall be conducted in accordance with the financial rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

2.12.3 Contracts

2.12.4 Every contract made by the Council shall comply with the Contracts Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

2.12.5 Legal proceedings

2.12.6 The Council Solicitor is authorised to institute, defend or participate in any legal proceedings in any case where such action is necessary to give effect to decisions of the Council or in any case where the Council Solicitor considers that such action is necessary to protect the Council's interests.

2.12.7 Authentication of documents

2.12.8 Where any document is necessary to any legal procedure or proceedings on behalf of the Council, it shall be signed in writing or electronically by the Council Solicitor or other person authorised by him/her, unless any enactment otherwise authorises or requires, or the Council has given requisite authority to some other person.

2.12.9 Signing of Contracts

2.12.10 13.4.2 Any contract entered into on behalf of the Council must be signed or sealed in writing or electronically in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in part 4 of this Constitution.

13.5 Common Seal of the Council

13.5.1 The Common Seal of the Council shall be kept in a safe place in the custody of the Council Solicitor. A decision of the Council, or of any part of it, will be sufficient authority for sealing any document necessary to give effect to the decision. The Common Seal shall be affixed to those documents which in the opinion of the Council Solicitor should be sealed. The affixing of the Common Seal shall be attested by the Chief Executive, Executive Director or Council Solicitor or some other person authorised by him/her.

13.5.2 The Common Seal of the Council can also be executed electronically in accordance with the provisions of the Electronic Communications Act 2000 and the arrangements in Article 13.5.1.

ENDS

Part 3 – Functions

Section 1 - Council Functions

The table below details the functions listed in The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000/2853 “the regulations” that are the responsibility of the Council and the general delegation arrangements

3.1.1 Table of functions

	What is the Council function ?	Who can carry the function out ?
1	Adopting and changing the Constitution including standing orders	Council meeting only Audit and Governance committee (finance procedure rules and contract procedure rules. Monitoring Officer (technical changes or those required by law only)
2a	Budget and policy framework Policy The adoption of the following plans and strategies: Annual Library Plan (if Secretary of State requests) under s1(2) of the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 Children and Young People’s Plan under the Children and Young People’s Plan (England) Regulations 2005 Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy under s5 & 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Development Plan documents under s15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 Licensing Authority Policy statements under s349 of the Gambling Act 2005	Council meeting only, recommended from Cabinet

	Local Transport Plan under s108(3) of the Transport Act 2000 Youth Justice Plan under s40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 And additionally: Corporate Plan Bury 2030 – Community Strategy Code of Corporate Governance Tenancy Strategy Risk Management Annual Report Economic Development and Growth Strategy Housing Investment Programme	
2b	Budget Approve a balanced Revenue Budget and specifically : • Approve the Council Tax Base • Approve the rate of Council Tax and relevant precepts • Approve the Gross Revenue Budget • Approve the net spending limit for each major service element (Directorate) And in doing so adopt the following plans or strategies to support the delivery of Council budget – • Revenue Budget for the next financial year • Capital Investment Budget for the next financial year • Medium Term Financial Strategy • Reserves Strategy	Council meeting only, recommended from cabinet

	• Statutory Council tax calculations • Treasury Management Policy, Treasury Management Practices and prudential indicators including the Minimum Revenue Provision • Capital strategy (including an asset management plan)	
3	Amending the budget and policy framework Note : can be Cabinet if Council agree under 2000/2853 Reg 4 a (ii) which requires a specific delegation per adoption	When approving a policy or strategy Council will specify the degree of in-year changes to the document which may be undertaken by Cabinet
3a	Other policies Licensing Authority Policy statements under s5 Licensing Act 2003 Taxi and Private Hire policy Pay Policy Statement under s38 of the Localism Act 2011	Council meeting only Pay policy statement - Council meeting only, recommended from Employment Panel Delegation to Monitoring Officer, following consultation with the Chief Executive, to make in year technical updates to the statement to reflect changes to post holder details or approved changes to local or national pay policy
4	Approving or amending any application to the secretary of state in respect of any housing land transfer	Council meeting only
5	Consider the review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control required and approve the Annual Governance	Audit and Governance Committee

	Statement	
6	Subject to the Urgency Procedure in the Access to Information Rules, making a decision contrary to the Policy Framework or the Budget, or part of it	Council meeting only
7	Electing the Mayor	Council meeting only
8	Appointing the Deputy Mayor; Committee Chairs	Council meeting Health and Wellbeing Board: the Leader of the Council appoints chairperson from those members of the Cabinet appointed to the Board, the Board appoints vice chair
9	Appointing the Leader of the Council	Council meeting only
10	Setting the terms of reference of committees, deciding on their size, composition and allocating seats proportionately to political groups	Council meeting only
11	The appointment by the authority of at least one independent person under the Localism Act 2011	Council meeting only
12	Discharge of Council functions by another authority	Council meeting only
13	Arrangements for joint exercise of Council functions or a mix of Council and Executive functions	Council meeting
14	Agreeing the Members' Allowances Scheme	Council meeting only
15	Functions relating to name and status of Bury Council as listed in schedule 1 section E of the Regulations	Council meeting only
16	Functions relating to community governance reviews as listed in schedule 1 section EB of the Regulations	Council meeting only

17	Confer title of Honorary Alderman or Freedom of the Borough.	Council meeting only
18	Functions relating to town and country planning and development control as listed in schedule 1 section A of the Regulations including enforcement	See appendix 1
19	Powers relating to the protection of important hedgerows and preservation of trees	Chief Executive
20	Rights of way functions as listed in schedule 1 section I i of the regulations	Chief Executive
21	Licensing and registration functions as listed in schedule 1 section B of the regulations	Chief Executive
22	Functions relating to smoke free premises as listed in schedule 1 section FA of the regulations	Chief Executive
23	Health and safety at work enforcement functions as listed in schedule 1 section C of the Regulations	Chief Executive
24	Elections functions as listed in schedule 1 section D of the Regulations	Chief Executive Employment panel for appointment of Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer If a polling station cannot be used the Returning Officer has delegated powers to use another polling station as a temporary solution.
25	Make, amend, revoke, re-enact or enforce byelaws	Council meeting only
26	Power to promote or oppose local or personal bills	Council meeting only

27	Approval of the appointment of Chief Executive	Council meeting only
28	Power to appoint staff, and to determine the terms and conditions on which they hold office (including procedures for their dismissal)	Chief Executive for all staff other than those within the remit of the employment panel Employment panel will also be a consultee for all terms and conditions (including policies). Employment panel for Officers listed within their remit
29	Approval of pay and severance packages in excess of £100,000	Council meeting only
30	Duty to make arrangements for the proper administration of financial affairs	s.151 Officer
31	Power to appoint Officers for particular purposes (otherwise called the appointment of proper Officers)	Chief Executive
32	Duty to designate posts to fulfil the functions of: the Head of Paid service, the Monitoring Officer, the s151 Officer, Statutory Scrutiny Officer, and to provide staff etc.	Council meeting only
33	To adopt revise or replace a Members Code of Conduct	Council meeting only
34	Power to make a limestone pavement order	Chief Executive
35	Duty to approve the Council's statement of accounts, income and expenditure and balance sheet, or record of payments	Audit and Governance Committee
36	Power to make closing order in respect to take away food shops	Chief Executive
37	Permit a co-opted member of a	Council meeting only

	scrutiny committee to vote at meetings of the committee	
38	Recruitment of panel members to Independent Remuneration Panel	Monitoring Officer
39	Powers relating to complaints about high hedges Chief Executive	Chief Executive
40	Powers to make an order identifying a place as a designated public place in relation to alcohol consumption	Chief Executive
41	Power to make or revoke an order designating a locality as an alcohol disorder zone	Chief Executive
42	Power to apply for an enforcement order against unlawful works on common land	Chief Executive
43	Power to protect unclaimed registered common land and unclaimed town or village greens against unlawful interference including instituting proceedings	Chief Executive
44	The appointment of a local auditor under Section 7 of the Council meeting only Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014	Council meeting only
45	Power to make payments or provide other benefits in cases of maladministration	Chief Executive
46	Functions relating to pensions as listed in schedule 1 section H of the regulations	Chief Executive
47	47 All other matters which by law, must be the responsibility of the Council	Council meeting only unless a specific delegation given from Council as listed in the attached appendix

3.1.1 Appendix

The table below details all other functions which by law, must be the responsibility of the Council and the specific expressed delegation arrangements

3.1.1A Table of functions

What is the Council function	Who can carry the function out
47A Adoption of neighbourhood development plans, and to approve any consequential amendments to the countywide policies map.	Cabinet
47B Granting of dispensations under s33 (2) Localism Act 2011	Subsection (b) (d) and (e) Audit and Governance committee Subsection (a) and (c) monitoring Officer with appeal to audit and governance committee from 28 September 2012
47C Council tax reduction scheme under S13A, Local Government and Finance Act 1992, as amended	Council
47D Recruitment of up to three independent persons pursuant to Section 28 (7) of the Localism Act 2011	Monitoring Officer
47E Make in year amendments to the capital programme to reflect additional external funding secured in year	Chief Finance Officer following consultation with the Cabinet Member responsible for Finance

ENDS

Section 3 - Other functions

This section contains a description of the bodies who have functions delegated to them by Council. Those functions are as follows:

- Town and Country Planning, Development Control (the Planning Functions)
- Licensing Functions
- Audit Functions
- Standards Functions
- Employment Functions
- Health and Wellbeing Functions
- Corporate Parenting Functions

3.5.1 Planning Control Committee

3.5.2 When the committee carries out the planning functions it will follow the Probity in Planning Code of Conduct (part 5 section 6)

3.5.3 The committee functions are:

Planning and Conservation:

All functions relating to town and country planning and development control as specified in Schedule 1 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, as amended, (the Functions Regulations).

Delegations

3.5.4 The committee's delegations are:

a) To deal with any applications for planning permission under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and related legislation or for listed building consent under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, subject to the inclusion of adequate detailed information relating to the application which is to the satisfaction of the Director for Business, Growth and Infrastructure as follows:

(i) Any application recommended for approval where there are three or more objections received from third parties from different households, with the exception of any domestic householder planning application which falls within the approved supplementary planning guidance note 6 or otherwise



would be accepted under Prior notification procedures in relation to enhanced permitted development rights; and

(ii) Any application which has raised a novel planning issue

- b) Any application in respect of which at least one Member of the Planning Control Committee has given prior written notice to the Assistant Director (Localities)/Resource and Regulation that he/she wishes the application to be determined by the Planning Control Committee, which must state clear planning reasons for the call in request and be authorised by the Chair of the Planning Control Committee.
- c) Any application relating to a development which would constitute a substantial departure from the provisions of any approved plan or policies, in particular the Unitary Development Plan or subsequent adopted Local Plan, which is recommended for approval and/or is not a repeat or duplicate application of one previously refused.
- d) Any application submitted by or on behalf of a Member of the Council or his/her spouse.
- e) the application is submitted by a council officer who is employed in the planning service or works closely with it, or is a senior manager as defined in the council's pay policy statement, or by a close family member such that the council officer has a material interest in the application
- f) Any application over and above the levels defined in (i) and (ii) detailed below, subject to the application not being a repeat or duplicate of an application previously refused:-
 - (i) 50 or more dwellings or, if it is known, where the site is 2.5 hectares or more;
 - (ii) for all other uses, where the floor space to be created is 5,000 square metres or more or the site is 0.5 hectares or more.
- g) (Any other application which, in the opinion of the Director for Business, Growth and Infrastructure merits consideration by the Planning Control Committee.
- h) The decision to enter land in Part 2 of the Council's Brownfield Land Register thereby triggering a grant of Permission in Principle where the criteria referred to at (a) to (f) above are met and any application for Technical Details Consent where the criteria at (b) to (f) above are met.



- i) Any application submitted on behalf of the Council where there is at least one objection received from third parties.

Street Naming

- j) To deal with the naming and re-naming of streets and the numbering and renumbering of properties, where objections have been received to proposals.

Tree Preservation Orders

- k) To deal with the making or confirmation of tree preservation orders, in accordance with Sections 197 to 214D of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (or as subsequently amended) and the Tree Regulations 2012 (or as subsequently amended) where objections have been received to proposals.

Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas

- l) To determine applications for grants for repair/maintenance works in respect of listed buildings where the amount of grant requested exceeds £5,000.
- m) To designate a conservation area under Section 69 of the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (or as subsequently amended).

General

- n) To give directions restricting permitted development under Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (or as subsequently amended).
- o) To deal with any functions relating to town and country planning and development control (development management) referred to in the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000, as amended, where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.



Commons Registration

- p) To deal with any functions relating to the registration of common land or Town and Village Greens and to register the variation of the rights of common as set out in Schedule 1 to the Functions Regulations, as amended, where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.

Public Rights of Way

- q) To deal with any functions relating to public rights of way referred to in the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000, as amended, where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.

3.5.5 The Licensing and Safety Committee Functions

- 3.5.6 The functions of the Licensing and Safety Committee are set out below. All other licensing and related functions not within the remit of the committee are delegated to the Chief Executive, who will maintain the Officer Scheme of Delegation detailing all relevant delegations to officers.

3.5.7 Private / Public Hire Vehicles, Gaming, Alcohol, Entertainment, Food, Gambling and miscellaneous Licensing:

Functions relating to licensing and registration as set out in Schedule 1 to the Functions Regulations and licences included in the Licensing Act 2003.

3.5.8 Health and Safety:

Functions relating to health and safety under any "relevant statutory provision" within the meaning of Part 1 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, to the extent that those functions are discharged otherwise than in the Council's capacity as employer.

3.5.9 Other functions of the Licensing and Safety Committee

- 3.5.10 The Licensing and Safety Committees other functions are:
 - a) To determine all new applications and all renewals for hackney carriage proprietor (vehicle), hackney carriage driver, private hire vehicle, private hire driver and private hire operator licences where the applicants do not comply with the relevant policy, guidelines, criteria or where there are grounds for refusal of the applications under the relevant legislation.
 - b) To determine the design of the plates and badges to be displayed in connection with hackney carriage and drivers' licences and private hire vehicles and drivers' licences.



- c) To determine all applications for sex establishment licences under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, Section 2 and Schedule 3.
- d) To deal with the approval of premises for the solemnisation of marriages in accordance with Regulation 46A of the Marriage Act 1994 (c.76) and the Marriages (Approved Premises) Regulations 1995 and to set the appropriate fees where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.
- e) To deal with matters relating to the functions of the Council relating to the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 and the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol Etc.) Act 1985 and Part III of the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Act 1987 where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.
- f) To determine the pre-requisites, minimum standards, terms, conditions and restrictions associated with and/or to be attached to any licence which falls within the purview of the Licensing and Safety Committee.
- g) To authorise the revocation or suspension of any Licence which falls within the purview of the Licensing and Safety Committee except in circumstances involving risk to the public safety in which case authority be delegated to the Head of Service (Public Protection) and/ or the Unit Manager (Licensing) after consultation with the Chair of the Committee to revoke or suspend a Licence with immediate effect subject to a report to the next Committee meeting.
- h) To determine any applications for licences where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.
- i) To deal with any licensing and registration functions referred to in the Local Authorities (Function and Responsibilities) Regulations 2000, as amended, where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.
- j) To deal with any health and safety matters under Part 1 of the Health and Safety Act 1974 where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.
- k) To make recommendations to Council in respect of licensing functions covered by the Licensing Act 2003, and to deal with all policy and monitoring matters relating to licensing functions covered by the Act.
- l) To determine refusals to grant revocations and variations of licences for Housing in Multiple Occupation under the provisions of the Housing Act 2004.
- m) To act as the single review body in respect of drivers working on Council school and college contracts



3.5.11 Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee functions

3.5.12 The Licensing Hearings Sub-committee determines all applications that fall within the Licensing Act 2003 which have attracted representations against them including:

- a) Applications for personal licences (if police objection);
- b) Applications for personal licences with unspent convictions;
- c) Applications for premises licences/club premises certificates (if relevant representation are made as specified in the Licensing Act 2003);
- d) Applications for provisional statements (if relevant representation are made as specified in the Licensing Act 2003);
- e) Applications to vary premises licences/club premises certificates (if relevant representation are made as specified in the Licensing Act 2003);
- f) Applications to vary designated premises supervisor (if police objection);
- g) Requests to be removed as a designated premises supervisor
- h) Applications for transfer of premises licence (if police objection);
- i) Applications for interim authorities (if police objection);
- j) Applications to review premises licences/club premises certificate;
- k) Deciding whether to object when the authority is a consultee and not the relevant authority considering an application;
- l) Determination of objections to temporary event notices;
- m) Determination of application to vary premises licence at community premises to include alternative licence condition (if police objection)
- n) Revocations of licences where convictions come to light

3.5.13 The Licensing Hearings Sub-committee determines all applications that fall within the Gambling Act 2005 which have attracted representations against them including:

- a) Application for Premises Licence
- b) Application for a variation to a licence
- c) Application for a transfer of a licence
- d) Application for a provisional statement
- e) Review of a premises licence
- f) Application of club gaming/club machine permits
- g) Cancellation of club gaming/club machine permits
- h) Decision to give a counter notice to a temporary use notice

3.5.13 Audit Committee Functions

3.5.14 The purpose of an audit committee is to provide independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework together with the



internal control of the financial reporting and annual governance processes.

3.5.15 Internal audit

- (a) To consider the Head of Internal Audit's annual report and opinion, and a summary of internal Audit activity (actual and proposed) and the level of assurance it can give over the Council's corporate governance arrangements
- (b) To consider summaries of specific Internal Audit reports and the main issues arising and seek assurance that action has been taken where necessary
- (c) To consider reports dealing with the management and performance of the providers of Internal Audit Services
- (d) To consider a report from Internal Audit on agreed recommendations not implemented within a reasonable timescale
- (e) To be able to call senior officers and appropriate members to account for relevant issues within the remit of the Committee
- (f) The Committee will not receive detailed information on investigations relating to individuals. The general governance principles and control issues may be discussed, in confidential session if applicable, at an appropriate time, to protect the identity of individuals and so as not to prejudice any action being taken by the Council.

3.5.16 External audit

- (a) Review and agree the External Auditors annual plan, including the annual audit Fee and annual letter and receive regular update reports on progress
- (b) To consider specific reports from the External Auditor
- (c) To meet privately with the External Auditor once a year if required
- (d) To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money
- (e) To recommend appointment of the council's local (external) auditor
- (f) Ensure that there are effective relationships between external and internal audit that the value of the combined internal and external audit process is maximised.

3.5.17 Governance

- (a) To maintain an overview of the council's Constitution, conduct a biennial review and recommend any changes to council other than



changes to the Contract Procedure Rules, Finance Procedure Rules which have been delegated to the committee for adoption

- (b) To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the council
- (c) To maintain an overview and agree changes to the council policies on whistleblowing and the 'Anti-fraud and corruption strategy'
- (d) To oversee the production of the authority's Statement on Internal Control and to recommend its adoption
- (e) To annually conduct a review of the effectiveness of the council's governance process and system of internal control which will inform the Annual Governance statement
- (f) The council's arrangements for corporate governance and agreeing necessary actions to ensure compliance
- (g) To annually review the council's information governance requirements
- (h) To agree the annual governance statement (which includes an annual review of the effectiveness of partnership arrangements together with monitoring officer, s151 officer, Caldicott guardian and equality and compliance manager reviews)
- (i) To adopt an audit and governance code
- (j) To undertake community governance reviews and to make recommendations to Council.

3.5.18 Accounts

To review and approve the Statement of Accounts, external auditor's opinion and reports on them and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.

3.5.19 to 3.5.23 Not used

3.5.24 Employment Panel Functions

3.5.25 Council has agreed that an Employment Panel be established that will fulfil the following functions:

- (a) Be the appropriate body including acting as the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee, to fulfil the employment functions as set out in part 4 section 9, the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in relation to: Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers including the Head of Paid Service (to include Returning Officer and Electoral Registration Officer functions), Deputy Chief Executive; Director for



Adults and Communities, Director of Children and Families; Director of Public Health, Monitoring officer and s151 officer.

- (b) Review the annual pay policy statement and make recommendations to Council
- (c) Be a consultee on all terms and conditions including policies for all staff
- (d) Approve the performance and development framework for annual assessment of the Chief Executive
- (e) Appeals against dismissal, grading and grievances by employees of the council and applications for premature retirement.

The Chair of the Employment Panel has delegated authority to suspend the Head of Paid Service.

3.5.26 Health and Wellbeing Board Functions

3.5.27 Bury Council has established a Health and Wellbeing Board in accordance with the provisions of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

3.5.28 The functions of the Board are:

- (a) To encourage those who arrange the provision of any health or social care services in Bury to work in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the people of Bury.
- (b) To provide such advice, assistance or other support as it thinks appropriate, for the purpose of encouraging the making of prescribed arrangements under S 75 National Health Service Act 2006.
- (c) To encourage those who arrange for the provision of any health related services in Bury to work closely with the health and wellbeing board.
- (d) To encourage the close working of those providing health or social care services with those who arrange for the provision of health related services in Herefordshire.
- (e) To prepare a health and social care joint strategic needs assessment for the district
- (f) To prepare a joint health & wellbeing strategy to meet those needs
- (g) Reviewing whether the commissioning plans and arrangements for the NHS, public health and social care (including Better Care Fund submissions) are in line with and have given due regard to the health and wellbeing strategy
- (h) To prepare and publish a local Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment under S206 of the 2012 Act and additionally:



- (i) To give its opinion, as appropriate, to Bury Council, the Clinical Commissioning group or NHS commissioning Board, as to whether they are discharging their duty to have regard to any assessment of relevant needs prepared by the Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group or NHS commission Board in the exercise of their functions.
- (j) To sign off annual plans and periodic performance submissions for the better care fund

3.5.29 Corporate Parenting Board

3.5.30 Bury Council has established a corporate parenting board to oversee work with children and young persons in care (CYPiC) and care leavers

3.5.31 The functions of the board are:

- a) To take an overview of the Council's and partner agencies responsibilities towards all CYPiC and Care Leavers and examine ways in which the Council as a whole and partner agencies can improve their life chances
- b) To ensure there are good joint working arrangements between Council departments and partner agencies, including working arrangements with the Children's Trust Board, Bury Safeguarding Children's Board and the Health & Wellbeing Board
- c) To monitor and scrutinise the performance of services for CYPiC and Care Leavers, supporting good practice and challenging and holding to account for poor practice
- d) To provide a forum for CYPiC and Care Leavers to participate and influence policy and to have an opportunity to talk about issues relating to their own direct experiences of services they have received.
- e) To ensure that positive experiences are maintained and lessons are learnt and changes made in the areas that require improvements.
- f) To maintain a strategic overview of all developments, plans, policies and strategies for CYPiC and Care Leavers and to make appropriate recommendations for action
- g) To monitor and scrutinise the plans/needs of children in secure accommodation.
- h) To ensure Members are regularly updated on issues affecting CYPiC and Care Leavers.



- i) To meet with looked after children and their carers on a regular basis to consult and celebrate achievements
- j) To act as the governing body of the Virtual School for CYPiC.

3.5.32 **Standards Committee**

3.5.33 The Standards Committee has the following functions:

3.5.34 Code of conduct

To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members of the Council

- (a) To recommend to Council the adoption of a code (the Code of Conduct) dealing with the conduct that is expected of members and co-opted members of the Council and its arrangements for dealing with complaints (the Complaints Procedure) that members and co-opted members have failed to comply with the code.
- (b) To keep the Code of Conduct and Complaints Procedure under review and recommend changes/replacement to Council as appropriate
- (c) To publicise the adoption, revision or replacement of the Council's Code of Conduct and Complaints Procedure
- (d) To oversee the process for the recruitment of the Independent Persons and make recommendations to Council for their appointment
- (e) To annually review overall figures and trends from Code of Conduct complaints.
- (f) To grant dispensations under Section 33 (2) (b) (d) and (c) Localism Act 2011 or any subsequent amendment
- (g) To hear appeals in relation to dispensations granted under section 33 2) (a) and (c) Localism Act 2011 by the Monitoring Officer
- (h) Advising, training or arranging to train Councillors, co-opted members, on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (i) To determine how to deal with complaints made against Councillors where it is alleged that they have failed to comply with the Code of Conduct.
- (j) To determine investigation reports compiled on behalf of the Monitoring Officer, including the power to establish hearing panels, where necessary.
- (k) To deal with any reports from the Monitoring Officer on any matter which is referred to it for determination;



- (l) To deal with reports of the Monitoring Officer regarding breaches of the protocols/guidance to Members accompanying the Council's Code of Conduct for Members which do not in themselves constitute a breach of that Code;
- (m) To report from time to time to Council on ethical governance within the Council.
- (o) To maintain an overview of complaints handling and Ombudsman Investigations
- (p) To consider and determine applications for exemptions from political restriction

3.5.35 Standards Hearing Panel

The Standards Hearings Panel is a sub-committee of the Standards Committee, which will undertake the functions set out below, where the matter cannot be resolved by the Monitoring Officer. The following functions have been delegated to it:

- i) To take decisions in respect of a Council Member who is found on a hearing held in accordance with the Council's Complaints Procedure to have failed to comply with the Council's Code of Conduct for Members ("the Subject Member"), such actions to include:-
 - (i) Publication of the findings of the Standards Hearings Panel in respect of the Subject Member's conduct;
 - (ii) Reporting the findings of the Standards Hearings to Council for information;
 - (iii) Recommendation to Council that the Subject Member should be censured;
 - (iv) Recommendation to the Subject Member's Group Leader (or in the case of ungrouped Members to Council) that the Subject Member should be removed from any or all Committees or Sub-Committees of the Council for a recommended period;
 - (v) Recommendation to the Leader that the Subject Member should be removed from the Executive, or removed from their Portfolio responsibilities;
 - (vi) Instructing the Monitoring Officer to arrange training for the Subject Member;
 - (vii) Recommendation to Council that the Subject Member should be removed from all appointments to which the Subject Member has been appointed or nominated by the Council;



(viii) Withdrawal of facilities provided to the Subject Member by the Council, such as a computer, website and/or e-mail and internet access; or

(ix) Placing such restrictions on the Subject Member's access to Council staff, buildings or parts of buildings as may be reasonable in the circumstances.

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Section 3 - Cabinet Functions

This section details the responsibilities of the Cabinet and the delegation arrangements.

3.3.1 The Leader

3.3.2 The Leader of the Council determines:

- (a) the size of the Cabinet
- (b) the appointment of a Deputy
- (c) the appointment of Cabinet Members
- (d) the appointment of Deputy Cabinet Members
- (e) the appointment of Champions
- (f) the allocation of portfolios and responsibility to Cabinet Members
- (g) the Cabinet functions that can be carried out by Cabinet Members individually (paragraph 3.3.11)
- (h) the Cabinet function that can be carried out by the Chief Executive (section 7 of this part) 3.3.3

Where Cabinet Member portfolios cut across the various functions of the Council and in cases of uncertainty as to which Cabinet Member is responsible for any function, the Leader shall decide which Cabinet Member(s) will deal with it.

3.3.3 Cabinet functions

3.3.4 The Cabinet shall make decisions in relation to all of the Council's areas of responsibility other than those specified as:

- (a) Council functions, or
- (b) Scrutiny functions, or
- (c) Functions cabinet has arranged to be exercised by or with another Council's Cabinet or Joint Committee or
- (d) local choice functions allocated to the Cabinet (as listed in [Part 3 - Responsibility for functions](#)) where the appropriate officer does not wish to exercise his/her delegated powers.

3.3.5 The Cabinet shall also formulate or prepare the documents consisting of the budget and policy framework and shall make recommendations to the Council on their implementation.

3.3.6 In relation to the budget documents once the overall budget has been agreed at the beginning of the year by the full Council, subsequent decisions of Cabinet that may impact on that budget need only be recommended back to full council:

- If the decision is likely to cause the Council's overall budget envelope to be exceeded, or
- If it is contrary to the Council's borrowing or capital expenditure budget.

3.3.7 Cabinet meeting

3.3.8 A Cabinet meeting will be convened for decisions that are:

- (a) key, or
- (b) non-key; or
- (c) of sufficient public interest that a decision at a public meeting is required, or
- (d) reserved to the Cabinet by virtue of the financial procedure rules and associated guidance (see part 4 section 7).

3.3.9 Delegation of Cabinet functions

3.3.10 The Leader can decide to delegate to individual Cabinet members key decisions that relate to their portfolio.

3.3.11 The Leader will notify the Chief Executive and the Monitoring Officer of these functions in writing. The Monitoring Officer will make sure that they are set out in part 7 of the Constitution and that the Council is informed at its next meeting. Changes to the functions of individual Cabinet members will only take effect when the Leader has notified the Monitoring Officer.

3.3.11 A Cabinet Member cannot take a decision contrary to the advice of the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer, s.151 Officer or relevant Director(s) such a decision must be referred to a Cabinet meeting.

3.3.12 The Leader has decided to delegate to the Chief Executive all functions that fall outside the definitions above. The Chief Executive can only take non-key decisions under this general delegation. Key decisions can only be taken by the Chief Executive following a specific decision containing an officer delegation. The Monitoring Officer is responsible for consulting with the Leader and if applicable, the relevant Cabinet Member to assist the leader in determining whether any matter is one that should be determined at a Cabinet meeting, an individual Cabinet Member or by the Chief Executive.

3.3.13 Key decisions

3.3.14 A key decision is a decision taken at a Cabinet meeting, by an individual Cabinet Member, or a Joint Committee of the Cabinet and is:

- Any decision in relation to an executive function which results in the council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the council's budget for the service or function concerned. A decision will be considered financially significant if it results in incurring expenditure or making savings of £500,000 or greater; unless the specific expenditure or savings have previously been agreed by full Council.



- Any other executive decision which in the opinion of the Monitoring Officer is likely to be significant having regard to :
 - (a) the number of residents/service users that will be affected in the Wards concerned;
 - (b) whether the impact is short term, long term or permanent;
 - (c) the impact on the community in terms of the economic, social and environmental well-being.

ENDS

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Section 4 - Scrutiny Functions

The council is required to appoint one or more scrutiny committee. This section details those arrangements.

3.4.1 Scrutiny functions

3.4.2 The committees have the power:

- (a) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (b) to make reports or recommendations to the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- (c) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (d) to make reports or recommendations to council with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- (e) to make reports or recommendations to council or the cabinet on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area
- (f) to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendations to the council with respect to the discharge of those functions. In this regard crime and disorder functions means:
 - (i) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
 - (ii) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
 - (iii) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area
- (g) to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in its area and make reports and recommendations to a responsible person on any matter it has reviewed or scrutinised or to be consulted by a relevant NHS body or health service provider in accordance with the Regulations (2013/218) as amended. In this regard health service includes services designed to secure improvement—
 - (i) in the physical and mental health of the people of England, and
 - (ii) in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of physical and mental illness
 - (iii) And any services provided in pursuance of arrangements under section 75 in relation to the exercise of health-related functions of a local authority.
- (h) to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions or coastal erosion risk management functions which may affect the local authority's area.



3.4.3 Scrutiny rules

3.4.4 When the scrutiny committees are exercising scrutiny functions the scrutiny rules in part 4 section 5 must be followed.

3.4.5 Scrutiny committee remits

Committee	Scrutiny of:
Over view and Scrutiny Committee	• Budget and policy framework matters • Statutory flood risk management scrutiny powers • Statutory community safety and policing scrutiny powers • Children's social care including safeguarding • Transitional arrangements between children and adult services • Children and families budget and policy framework • Statutory education scrutiny powers • Statutory health scrutiny powers including the review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning provision and operation of health services for children and young people, including transitional health care services, affecting the area and to make reports and recommendations on these matters • Services within the business and regeneration directorate • Services within the corporate core • Corporate performance • Budget
Health Scrutiny committee	• Adult social care (including adult safeguarding) • Health and wellbeing board • Housing • Public health • Adults and Communities budget and policy framework • Statutory health scrutiny powers including the review and scrutiny of any matter relating to the planning provision and operation of health services (not reserved to the children and young people scrutiny committee)



	affecting the area and to make reports and recommendations on these matters.

3.4.6 Safeguarding Sub-Committee

- 3.4.7 The Safeguarding Scrutiny Sub-Committee reviews arrangements for safeguarding adults and children and young people.

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Section 7 - Officer Functions

3.7.1 The intention of the Council is that decision taking should be delegated in the interests of speed where that is consistent with the democratic process in terms of accountability and openness.

3.7.2 The various levels of decision making are:-

- Council
- Committee
- Delegations to officers.
- Leader - Cabinet (either collectively or by individual Cabinet member)

3.7.3 A purpose of this Constitution is to encourage delegation of decision making to individual officers. This constitution delegates decisions to the Chief Executive. Where such decisions have been delegated it remains open to the officer making the delegation to call back for their own decision, issues of significance or sensitivity and for the decision maker to refer matters upwards for determination.

3.7.4 The Chief Executive and nominated Chief Officers have the ability to take six types of decision. The Monitoring Officer has issued Guidance [Take in Link] in relation to recording and publishing Officer Decisions.

3.7.5 Operational Decisions

An operational decision involves the day to day management of the Council. They are usually incidental to a function being exercised by the Council. Such decisions are taken by the Chief Executive, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation and any financial or contracting requirements specified in the Finance or Contracts Procedure Rules or associated Monitoring officer Guidance and will be classed as operational so long as:

- within an approved budget
- not in conflict with the Council's policies, strategies or relevant service plans
- Does not amend existing or raise new policy issues

Such operational decisions will not be recorded and published unless the Monitoring Officer advises otherwise or they relate to:

- Expenditure over £100,000
- The letting of contracts with a value (over the lifetime of the contract) of £100k or more
- The disposal or purchase of land or assets with a value of £100k or more
- The granting or revoking of a permission or license
- A change to an individual's legal rights
- A change to a service (e.g. opening hours, location or service level)



3.7.6 Cabinet Decisions

The cabinet has delegated non- key decisions to the Chief Executive and nominated Chief Officers. These will be decisions concerning a function being exercised by the Council which is below the key decision threshold.

3.7.7 Council Decisions

The Council has decided that some of its decisions can be taken by the Chief Executive. Where the effect of the decision is to grant a permission or licence; changes the legal rights of an individual; or awards a contract (above £100k) or incurs expenditure (£100k) which in either case materially affects the Council's financial position there is a requirement to publish the decision.

3.7.8 Local Choice Decisions

The Council has delegated certain further functions to the Chief Executive. As a result these become Cabinet or Council decisions and will follow the procedures for those type of decisions.

3.7.9 All necessary decisions in cases of Emergency.

For the purposes of this scheme, 'emergency' shall mean any situation in which the Chief Executive believes that there is a risk of damage to property, a threat to the health or wellbeing of an individual, or that the interests of the Council may be compromised. 'All necessary decisions' includes decisions to take such action as is necessary within the law to protect life, health, safety, the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the county, its communities and individuals living, working or visiting, and to preserve property belonging to the Council or others;

3.7.10 Implementing Decisions

There is implied authority for the Chief Executive to take all necessary actions to implement Council, Committee and Cabinet decisions that commit resources, within agreed budgets in the case of financial resources, as necessary. There will also be express authority within certain decisions, delegating further decisions to a named officer, usually a Director, to take certain actions within the parameters of the recommendation from Council, Committee or Cabinet decisions.

- 3.7.11 All of these six types of decisions can be taken by the Chief Executive without consultation with elected members, however where Cabinet decisions are being taken by officers, cabinet members are normally briefed by a Director before taking the decision.
- 3.7.12 The Chief Executive is unable to make all of these decisions on behalf of the Council and therefore they have a sub delegation scheme which provides for these decisions to be taken by a senior officer.
- 3.7.13 Any officer of the Council who has been authorised by the Chief Executive to carry out any of the Chief Executive's functions of the Council may delegate those functions to other officers. In the case of Cabinet decisions, it is not appropriate for those delegations to be given to any officer below the level of assistant director in the organisation structure.



- 3.7.14 The Chief Executive will maintain the Officer Scheme of Delegation detailing all relevant delegations, including the delegation of any proper officer functions as required in a number of statutes and statutory provisions relating to the functions of the Council which require that one of the Council's officers is the "proper officer" for the purposes of that statutory provision.
- 3.7.15 The Council designates the Chief Executive as its proper officer for all such purposes other than the s151 Officer, Monitoring Officer and Scrutiny Officer and unless otherwise stated where the Chief Executive has delegated the responsibility for fulfilling any proper officer function to another officer.
- 3.7.16 The Officer scheme of delegation will be regularly reviewed and updated to ensure that it contains all relevant delegations.
- 3.7.17 The Officer Scheme of delegation will be published on the Council's website.[Take in Link]

ENDS

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Part 4 – Procedure Rules

Section 1 - Council and Committee meeting rules

NB: Underlined paragraph numbers denote rules that apply to committees in accordance with rule 4.1.4.

*denotes rules which cannot be suspended

4.1.1 Council procedure rules

4.1.2 *These rules set out how meetings of full Council, Committees and other bodies will be conducted.

4.1.3 Application

4.1.4 *All of these rules apply to the meetings of the full Council. Only rules 4.1.7-10, 4.1.22 – 37 and 4.1.147 – 176 apply to meetings of Committees, Sub-committees and other decision making bodies; they do not apply to meetings of the Cabinet. For ease of reference the paragraph numbers of those rules applying to all meetings are underlined.

4.1.5 *Where there is any inconsistency between these Council and Committee rules and the meeting specific rules that follow in the remainder of part 4 of the Constitution, the latter shall prevail.

4.1.6 *In the application of these rules to meetings other than full Council meetings, greater informality may be exercised at the discretion of the mayor of the meeting.

4.1.7 Interpretation

4.1.8 *The ruling of the Mayor or Chair at the meeting as to the construction or application of the rules that apply to that meeting shall not be challenged at the meeting.

4.1.9 Appointment of mayor

4.1.10 *If at any meeting the Mayor appointed by the Council is absent, and if no Deputy Mayor has been appointed by the Council, the meeting shall appoint a mayor for that meeting only. The Monitoring Officer or his/her representative at the meeting shall at the start of the meeting invite nominations for Mayor and will take a vote on a show of hands for those members nominated for Mayor.

4.1.11 Council meetings

4.1.12 *There are three types of Council meeting: annual, ordinary, and extraordinary. The table at paragraph 4.1.13 below sets out when these may take place.

4.1.13*

	Type of meeting	When
1	The annual meeting	In each year following an election by thirds in May In a year when there have been all out ordinary elections, within 21 days of the retirement of outgoing Councillors
2	Ordinary meetings	A minimum of six meetings a year as set out in a programme decided by the Council and, except that one ordinary meeting will be reserved as the budget meeting, with business as outlined in the table at 4.1.15 below.
3	Extraordinary meetings	The Chief Executive may be requested to call a meeting by: • Council, by resolution; • the Mayor of the Council; • the Monitoring Officer; or s151 Finance Officer • any five Members of the Council if they have signed a requisition stating the grounds for the extraordinary meeting and the business to be conducted at that meeting; presented it to the Mayor; and the Mayor has refused to call a meeting or has failed to call a meeting within seven days of the presentation of the requisition. Any request or requisition for an extraordinary meeting of the Council shall state the purpose of the meeting and give notice of a motion to be debated, unless the purpose is to receive reports or adoption of recommendations of Committees, the Leader, Cabinet members or officers or any resolutions from them. No business other than that specified in the summons to the meeting may be considered at an extraordinary meeting. The Chief Executive will determine whether the stated business can wait until the next ordinary meeting of the Council and, if it cannot, will call an extraordinary meeting.

4.1.14 Business to be carried out

4.1.15 *The business to be carried out at meetings of the Council is as set out below; those items marked with * are compulsory items the order of which cannot be altered.

	Item of business	Type of meeting		
		Annual	Ordinary	Extra-ordinary
1	Elect a person to preside if the Mayor and Vice-mayor of the council are not present	✓*	✓*	✓*
2	Elect the Mayor of the Council	✓*		
3	Appoint the Deputy Mayor of council	✓*		
4	Receive any apologies for absence	✓*	✓*	✓*
5	Receive any declarations of interest	✓*	✓*	✓*
6	Approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s)	✓*	✓*	
7	Receive any announcements from the Mayor and/or Chief Executive	✓	✓	
8	Elect the Leader of the Council	✓*		
9	Appoint the Chair of Committees and other bodies	✓*		
10	Appoint at least one Scrutiny Committee and such other Committees as the Council considers appropriate to deal with matters which are neither reserved to the Council nor are Cabinet functions	✓*		
11	Decide the size and terms of reference of those Committees	✓*		
12	Decide the allocation of seats on Committees and other bodies to political or other groups in accordance with the political balance rules	✓*		
13	Make such appointments to Committees or outside bodies as are reserved to the Council	✓*		

14	Approve a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council for the year	✓	✓	
15	Consider any other business specified in the summons to the meeting	✓	✓	✓
16	Receive any questions from, and provide answers to, members of the public. In the case of extraordinary meetings and budget questions must relate to items on the agenda		✓	✓
17	Receive recommendations on statutory plans or other matters that are reserved to the Council		✓	
18	Consider and debate any petitions which have reached the threshold for Council consideration		✓	
19	Receive the following reports from the Leader of the Council (on which they may be questioned and if so, answer questions for a period of 15 minutes): - the work of the Cabinet since the last meeting including a summary of those matters decided by the Cabinet, Cabinet member or any executive joint committee, and any decisions taken under the urgency provisions; - at the annual meeting (except in a year when there are all out ordinary elections) an annual report on the priorities of the Cabinet and progress made in meeting those priorities; and - any report to the Council		✓	

	required by a scrutiny committee			
20	Consider motions and debate those motions in an order which alternates between the political groups represented on the Council. At the budget meeting motions must relate to the agenda or be time critical.		✓	
21	Receive any questions from and provide answers to members of the Council. At the budget meeting questions must relate to items on the agenda		✓	

4.1.16 Time of meetings

4.1.17 *Meetings of the full Council will usually be at 7pm or any other such time as the Mayor agrees, and will continue for a maximum of three hours, excluding the period taken up by public question time .

4.1.18 *At the expiry of three hours, excluding the period taken up by public questions, the Mayor may determine:

- (a) that the meeting continue beyond three hours duration; or
- (b) that the remaining business to be conducted at the meeting be:
 - (i) deferred to the next meeting; or
 - (ii) deferred to an extraordinary meeting called for the purpose of dealing with any remaining business; or
 - (iii) put to the vote immediately in the order that the business appears on the agenda or in any order determined by the Mayor; or
 - (iv) some business be put to the vote immediately and other business deferred in accordance with rules (i) and (iii) above; or
- (c) the meeting be adjourned to resume later that day after a specified break provided that the remaining business can reasonably be expected to last no more than two additional hours and cannot be deferred until the next meeting.

- 4.1.19** *The Mayor has discretion to:
- order the adjournment of any meeting;
 - following consultation with the Leader of the Council, alter the date or time of any meeting;
 - cancel or postpone a meeting in the event of an emergency or where there is no business requiring Council approval

4.1.20 **Notice of meetings**

- 4.1.21** *The Chief Executive will, through publication on the Council's website, give five clear working days' notice to the public of the time and place of any meeting (or otherwise in cases of urgency as in accordance with the access to information rules (part 4 section 2).

4.1.22 **Conduct of the meeting**

- 4.1.23** *The Mayor's powers and responsibilities in relation to the conduct of a meeting may be exercised by the person presiding at the meeting. A decision by the Mayor on the meaning of the constitution cannot be challenged at a meeting.

4.1.24 **Quorum (minimum number of members)**

- 4.1.25** *Subject to any specific statutory requirement, the quorum of a meeting will be one quarter of the whole number of voting members, or three voting members, whichever is the greater.

- 4.1.26** *If a quorum is not reached within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the start of the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned without debate.

- 4.1.27** *During any meeting if the person chairing the meeting counts the number of members present and declares there is not a quorum present, then the meeting will adjourn immediately.

- 4.1.28** *Subject to 4.1.29 remaining business will be considered at a time and date fixed by the person chairing the meeting. If they do not fix a date, the remaining business will be considered at the next ordinary meeting.

- 4.1.29** *The meeting will resume immediately if it becomes apparent to the person who was chairing it within 10 minutes of the adjournment under 4.1.27 that there are sufficient members present to constitute a quorum.

4.1.30 **Variations in order of business**

- 4.1.31** *The mayor has discretion to vary the order of business in setting the agenda other than where indicated in the table at paragraph 4.1.15



above. The compulsory order of business for ordinary meetings of the Council applies to all Cabinet and Committee meetings of the Council.

- 4.1.32** *A proposed variation at the meeting may be moved by the Mayor or any other member. Where moved by the mayor there is no need for it to be seconded. The variation will be put to the vote immediately without debate.

4.1.33 Petitions

- 4.1.34** The Mayor will be available 30 minutes before an ordinary Council meeting to receive petitions. During the meeting, as part of Mayor's announcements, any petitions received will be formally passed to the relevant Cabinet member or Committee chair who will respond in writing to the petition organiser. All petitions received, and responses provided will be published on the Council's website.

- 4.1.35** If a petition has been signed by more than 2500 of those registered to vote in Bury, and has not been rejected by the Monitoring Officer or relevant Cabinet member it may be submitted to a meeting of the Council if the petition organiser wishes. This will normally be at the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the Council, other than the meeting which is reserved for the budget. Guidance on how to submit a petition and reasons why a petition might be rejected are set out in the Public Participation Guide (Part 5 Section 8).

- 4.1.36** The Council will decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting. They may decide to:
- (a) take the action the petition requests (if it relates to a matter reserved to the Council);
 - (b) not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate;
 - (c) refer the matter for investigation and report back (if it relates to a matter reserved to the Council); or
 - (d) refer the matter to the Leader or Cabinet to respond (and in doing so may make recommendations they would wish that body to consider).

- 4.1.37** Not Used

4.1.38 Questions by the public

- 4.1.39** Questions may be asked by members of the public who live or work in Bury at the following public meetings of the Council:

- Full Council (not annual or extraordinary)

- Cabinet (see cabinet rules)
- Audit and governance committee
- Health and wellbeing board
- Employment panel
- Scrutiny committees (see scrutiny rules)
- Licensing and Safety Committee

4.1.40 A period of up to 30 minutes, will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions. This period may be varied at the discretion of the mayor.

4.1.41 At meetings of Full Council, members of the public may ask questions of members of the Cabinet and any chair of a Committee of the Council; at other public meetings of the council where public questions are permitted the question should be addressed to the mayor of that committee.

4.1.42 **Notice of public questions**

4.1.43 A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing to the Monitoring Officer, Bury Council, Town Hall, Bury or by email (democraticservices@bury.gov.uk) to the monitoring officer no later than midday two clear working days before the day of the meeting (e.g. midday on a Friday where the meeting is on a Wednesday). Each question must give the name and address of the questioner (although only the name and town will be published) and identify who the question is addressed to. Copies of all accepted questions and answers shall be published on the Council website after the meeting and shall be made available to the public attending the meeting.

4.1.44 **Order of public questions**

4.1.45 Questions will be answered in the order in which they are received. If time permits, further questions may be invited from members of the public present.

4.1.46 **Number of public questions**

4.1.47 A member of the public may submit only one question at any meeting of the Council.

4.1.48 **Scope of public questions**

4.1.49 The Monitoring Officer is authorised to reject a question in accordance with the following criteria:

- (a) it is in multiple parts;
- (b) it is not about a matter for which the council has a responsibility or which affects Bury

- (c) where a question is asked at a meeting other than Full Council not relating to the function of the committee or an item of the agenda;
- (d) it is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- (e) it is substantially the same as or similar to a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council, a Committee of the Council, or Cabinet in the past six months;
- (f) it requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information or relates to an identifiable individual;
- (g) it is from a Council employee and the question is connected to their employment; or
- (h) it relates to a planning application or licensing application.

4.1.50 If a question is rejected, the person who submitted it will be notified in writing before the meeting and given the reasons for the rejection.

4.1.51 Where a question is accepted but it is directed at the incorrect meeting because of criteria (d) above. The Monitoring Officer is authorised to direct the question to the correct meeting.

4.1.52 Supplementary questions

4.1.53 A questioner who is present at the meeting and who has submitted a written question may, at the discretion of the Mayor, ask one supplementary question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

4.1.54 Answers to public questions

4.1.55 Answers to accepted questions will be published after the meeting. An answer to a supplementary question will be provided by the member to whom the question was put or his/ her nominee. The answer may be either a direct oral answer, a referral to an existing publication, or if the question requests service information a referral to an officer to respond in writing. If the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, if the member to whom the question is put is absent, or the time allowed for public questions has expired, a written answer will normally be provided within ten working days of the meeting. A record of all questions, supplementary questions and answers provided whether orally or in writing will be published on the website as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

4.1.56 Restrictions on asking public questions

4.1.57 No questions may be asked at the annual meeting of the Council.



4.1.58 No questions may be asked at the budget meeting except in relation to reports published with the agenda.

4.1.59 No questions may be asked at an extraordinary meeting of the Council except in relation to reports published with the agenda.

4.1.60 Written Questions from Councillors

4.1.61 Written Questions may be asked by members of the council at Full Council

A period of up to 30 minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the council. This period may be varied at the discretion of the mayor.

4.1.62 A member may ask the leader, any member of the Cabinet or Chair of a Committee a question about any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the borough, in accordance with these council rules.

4.1.63 Notice of written questions

4.1.64 A member may ask a question only if either:

- (a) notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email (democraticservices@bury.gov.uk) to the Monitoring Officer no later than midnight six clear working days before the day of the meeting (e.g. midnight on the Monday where the meeting is on a Wednesday the following week); or
- (b) if the question relates to urgent matters, they have the consent of the member to whom the question is to be put, and the question is delivered to the monitoring officer (as above) by 9.30 am on the day of the meeting, or half an hour before the start of the meeting whichever is the earlier.

4.1.64A Oral Questions from Councillors

Oral Questions may be asked by members of the council at Full Council

A period of up to 15 minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the council. This period may be varied at the discretion of the mayor.

4.1.62 A member may ask the leader, any member of the Cabinet or Chair of a Committee a question about any matter on the Council Agenda and which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the borough, in accordance with these council rules.

4.1.65 Scope of questions

4.1.66 The Monitoring Officer is authorised to reject a question in accordance with the following criteria:

- (a) it is in multiple parts;
- (b) it is not about a matter for which the council has a responsibility or which affects Bury
- (c) where a question is asked at a meeting other than Full Council not relating to the function of the committee or an item of the agenda;
- (d) it is defamatory, frivolous or offensive;
- (e) it is substantially the same as or similar to a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council, a Committee of the Council, or Cabinet in the past six months;
- (f) it requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information or relates to an identifiable individual;
- (g) it is from a Council employee and the question is connected to their employment; or
- (h) it relates to a planning application or licensing application.

4.1.67 If a question is rejected, the member who submitted it will be notified in writing before the meeting and given the reasons for the rejection.

4.1.68 Where a question is accepted but it is directed at the incorrect meeting because the meeting does not exercise the function being questioned. The Monitoring Officer is authorised to direct the question to the correct meeting.

4.1.69 Asking the Question at the meeting

4.1.70 The Mayor will invite the questioner to put the question to the member named in the notice.

4.1.71 Asking a supplementary question

4.1.72 A member who has put a question in person may also ask one supplementary question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The Mayor may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds in 4.1.69 above, or if the question takes the form of a statement or more than a minute to ask.

4.1.73 Answers to Councillors' questions

4.1.74 An answer to an accepted question will be published after the meeting. The answer to a supplementary question will be provided by the member to whom the question was put or their nominee. The answer may be either a direct oral answer, a referral to an existing publication, or if the question requests service information a referral to an officer to respond in writing. If the reply cannot be conveniently given orally, if the questioner or the member to whom the question is put is absent, or the time allowed for Councillors' questions has expired, a written answer will normally be provided within ten working days of the meeting. A record of all questions, supplementary questions and answers provided whether orally or in writing will be published on the website as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

4.1.75 Restrictions on asking Member questions

4.1.76 No questions may be asked at the annual meeting of the Council.

4.1.77 No questions may be asked at the budget meeting except in relation to those items listed on the agenda.

4.1.78 No questions may be asked at an extraordinary meeting of the Council except in relation to those items listed on the agenda.

4.1.79 Members may submit no more than two written questions at any one meeting.

4.1.75A Combined Authority Update

A Member of the Council may ask:

- The member of the Council appointed to a Joint Authority and nominated by the Council as spokesperson for that Authority
- The member of the Council appointed as the Council's representative on an outside body or partnership

A question relating to the functions of Joint Authorities or the work of put side bodies or partnerships, provided notice in writing has been given to the Chief Executive at least six working days prior to the meeting. Questions to Joint Authority representatives is limited to a period of 15 minutes.

Joint Authority representatives will be required to attend Overview and scrutiny Committee meeting on a regular basis to provide an update.

4.1.80 Motions

4.1.81 There are two types of motion: those which can be moved during debate (known as motions without notice), and those for which notice is required. Except for motions which can be moved without notice under these Council rules, written notice of every motion, signed by the proposer and the seconder, must be delivered, or submitted

electronically to the monitoring officer not later than midday 10 clear working days before the date of the meeting (i.e. Tuesday two weeks before, when the meeting is on a Wednesday). A political group cannot propose more than one motion on notice per meeting.

- 4.1.82 Motions on notice may be amended in consultation with the monitoring officer at any time prior to the publication of the agenda by the member(s) who have signed the notice provided that such amendment shall not change the subject matter of the motion.

4.1.83 Motions set out in the agenda

- 4.1.84 Motions for which notice has been given will be listed on the agenda. The order on the agenda will alternate between the Political Groups, to a maximum of 4, unless the member giving notice states, in writing, that they propose to move it to a later meeting or withdraw it.

4.1.86 Scope

- 4.1.87 Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the borough. The Mayor may, on the advice of the monitoring officer, refuse a motion which is illegal, irregular or improper, (subject to paragraph 4.1.132) relates to a matter which has been the subject of debate or decision by the Council in the previous six months, or is otherwise out of order.

- 4.1.88 if the motion requires referral to either Cabinet or a Committee of the Council, a report must be at a Council meeting within six months of the date of debate on the motion.

4.1.89 Exceptions

- 4.1.90 Where, following publication of the agenda for a meeting of the Council, an urgent matter directly affecting part or all of the borough arises and it is not practical to defer consideration of the motion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council a motion signed by two members may be accepted by the mayor following consultation with the Monitoring Officer.

4.1.91 Motions without notice

- 4.1.92 The following motions may be moved without notice:

- (a) to appoint a person to preside at the meeting at which the motion is moved
- (b) to amend the minutes on a matter of accuracy
- (c) to change the order of business in the agenda where these procedure rules allow

- (d) to refer something to an appropriate body or individual to consider or reconsider
- (e) to withdraw a motion
- (f) to amend a motion (refer to para 4.1.102 below)
- (g) to proceed to the next business
- (h) that the question be now put
- (i) to adjourn a debate
- (j) to adjourn a meeting
- (k) that the meeting continue beyond three hours duration
- (l) to exclude the public in accordance with the access to information procedure rules
- (m) not to hear a member further or to require a member to leave the meeting
- (n) to give the consent of the Council where its consent is required by this constitution
- (o) to suspend a specified Council rule it is permitted to suspend
- (p) to request a recorded vote
- (q) to remove the Leader following a change in political control.

4.1.93 Rules of debate

4.1.94 A debate will commence only when a proposal has been made, explained and seconded.

4.1.95 No member may speak unless called upon by the Mayor.

4.1.96 Speeches must be directed to the matter being debated.

4.1.97 When a member may speak

4.1.98 Members may speak as detailed in the table below. The flow chart attached at appendix 1 to this section summarises the process of debate:

Purpose of speech	Who can make the speech	Length of speech
Present a report	Leader, Cabinet member, Committee chair r	5 minutes
Propose original motion	Proposer	5 minutes
Second the motion	Seconder (may reserve their right to speak until the end of the debate)	3 minutes

Propose an amended motion	Any member other than proposer/seconded of original motion	3 minutes
Second an amended motion	Any member other than proposer/seconded of original motion	3 minutes
Speak during debate	Any member other than proposer and seconded of amended motion and proposer of the original motion	3 minutes
Right of reply to debate on amended motion	Proposer of original motion	3 minutes
Respond to specific question	Cabinet member	2 minutes
Propose the budget	Leader	10 minutes
Second the budget	Deputy Leader	5 minutes
Respond to budget proposals	Group leaders	5 minutes
Right to reply to budget debate	Leader	5 minutes
Point of order	Any member	2 minutes
Personal explanation	Any member	2 minutes

4.1.99 Amendments to motions

4.1.100 An amendment must be relevant to the motion and may alter the wording as long as the effect is not to negate the motion. Unless notice of the amended motion has already been given, the Mayor may require it to be written down or in its altered form to be written down and handed to them before it is discussed

4.1.101 Amendments will be considered in the order in which they are received or tabled. No further amendment may be moved until the amendment under discussion has been debated and voted on.

4.1.102 If an amended motion is not carried, other amendments to the original motion may be moved.

4.1.103 If an amended motion is carried, the motion as amended takes the place of the original motion. This becomes the substantive motion to which any further amendments are moved.

4.1.104 After an amended motion has been carried, the Mayor will read out the substantive motion before accepting any further amendment, or if there is none, it is put to the vote.

4.1.105 Not used

4.1.106 Where an amendment to a recommendation from the cabinet in relation to a budget and policy framework item is being proposed, members making such an amendment must have consulted with the relevant director to determine the context and possible consequences of the proposal and have secured confirmation from the s151 finance officer that the action proposed is achievable before submitting the amendment, in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Rules.

4.1.107 Where an amendment to a recommendation from the Cabinet in relation to a budget and policy framework item is approved by the Council, the Leader, on behalf of the cabinet, may indicate acceptance of the amendment.

4.1.108 Alteration of motion

4.1.109 A member may alter a motion of which they have given notice with the consent of the seconder and the meeting. The meeting's consent will be signified without discussion.

4.1.110 A member may alter a motion which they have moved without notice with the consent of both the meeting and the seconder. The meeting's consent will be signified without discussion.

4.1.111 Only alterations which could be made as an amendment may be made.

4.1.112 Withdrawal of motion

4.1.113 A member may withdraw a motion which they have moved without the consent of either the meeting and/or the seconder.

4.1.114 Right of reply

4.1.115 The proposer of an original motion has a right to reply at the close of the debate on the motion,

4.1.116 If an amended motion is proposed, the proposer of the original motion has a right of reply at the close of debate on the amended motion, but may not otherwise speak on the amendment.

4.1.117 The proposer of an amended motion shall have no right of reply to the debate on the amendment.

4.1.118 Motions which may be moved during debate

4.1.119 When a motion is under debate, no other motion may be moved except the following:

- (a) to withdraw the motion
- (b) to amend the motion
- (c) to proceed to the next business;
- (d) that the question be now put
- (e) to adjourn a debate
- (f) to adjourn a meeting
- (g) that the meeting continue for a further half hour
- (h) to exclude the press and public in accordance with the access to information rules
- (i) that a member be not further heard or to exclude the member from the meeting.

4.1.120 Closure motions

4.1.121 A member may move without comment the following motions at the end of a speech of another member:

- (a) that the question be now put
- (b) to adjourn a debate
- (c) to adjourn a meeting.

4.1.122 If a motion that the question be now put is seconded and the Mayor thinks the item under discussion has been sufficiently discussed, the proposer of the original motion will have a right of reply before the matter is put to the vote. Any member who has reserved their right to speak later in the debate will not be heard.

4.1.123 Point of order

4.1.124 A member may raise a point of order at any time and the Mayor will hear it immediately. A point of order may only relate to the alleged breach of these council rules or the law. The member must indicate the section and the way in which they consider it has been broken. The ruling of the Mayor on the matter will be final and there will be no debate on the matter.

4.1.125 Personal explanation

4.1.126 A member may make a personal explanation at any time. A personal explanation shall only relate to some material part of an earlier speech by the member which may appear to have been misunderstood or misquoted in the present debate. The ruling of the Mayor on the admissibility of a personal explanation will be final.

4.1.127 Conduct of the debate

4.1.128 A member may indicate their wish to speak and shall wait to be called by the mayor. If more than one member so indicates the mayor shall call on them individually and in turn to speak.

4.1.129 Motion to rescind a previous decision

4.1.130a A motion or amendment to rescind a decision made at a meeting of the Council within the past six months cannot be moved

4.1.130b A Committee or Sub-committee of the Council acting under delegated powers may rescind a resolution adopted under delegated powers within a period of six months provided the Summons to attend the meeting of the Committee or Sub-committee contains a notice that the matter is to be reconsidered

4.1.131 Motion similar to one previously rejected

4.1.132 A motion or amendment in similar terms to one which has been rejected at a Council meeting within the past six months cannot be moved.

4.1.133 *Once a motion or amendment to which this rule applies has been dealt with, no member can propose a similar motion or amendment within the next six months.

4.1.134 Voting majority

4.1.135 *Unless this constitution (or the law) provides otherwise any matter will be decided by a simple majority of those present and voting in the room at the time the question was put.

4.1.136 Mayor's casting vote

4.1.137 *If there are equal numbers of votes for and against, the Mayor will have a second or casting vote. There will be no restriction on how the Mayor chooses to exercise a casting vote.

4.1.138 On the voices and show of hands

4.1.139 *Unless a recorded vote is requested the Mayor will ask the meeting to signify agreement on the voices unless the decision on the voices is unclear in which case the Mayor will take the vote by a show of hands.

4.1.140 Recorded vote

4.1.141 *If at least eight members (or pro-rata for other Committees to which these rules apply) present at the meeting requested it, the names for and against the motion or amendment or abstaining from voting will be taken down in writing and recorded in the minutes. All votes taken at a

budget decision meeting and relating to a budget decision are to be recorded votes.

4.1.142 *Reference to a “budget decision meeting” for the purposes of 4.1.143 means a meeting of the Council at which it makes a calculation (whether originally or by way of substitute) in accordance with any of sections 31A, 31B, 34 to 36A, or 52ZJ of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and includes a meeting where making the calculation was included as an item of business on the agenda for that meeting.

4.1.143 Right to require individual vote to be recorded

4.1.144 *Where any member requests it immediately after the vote is taken, their vote will be so recorded in the minutes to show whether they voted for or against the motion or abstained from voting.

4.1.145 Voting on appointments

4.1.146 *Where there is not a clear majority of votes in favour of one person, then the name of the person with the least number of votes will be taken off the list and a new vote taken. The process will continue until there is a majority of votes for one person.

4.1.147 Keeping of minutes

4.1.148 *Minutes of the proceedings of each meeting of the Council will be prepared and will be published on the Council’s website.

4.1.149 Signing the minutes

4.1.150 *The Mayor will sign the minutes at the next available meeting. The mayor will move that the minutes of the previous meeting be signed as a correct record. There will be no debate or questioning on matters arising from the minutes; only matters of accuracy may be determined.

4.1.151 Record of Attendance

The Chief Executive will record the names of all members present during the whole or part of a meeting.

4.1.152 No requirement to sign minutes of previous meeting at an extraordinary meeting

4.1.153 *Where in relation to any meeting, the next meeting for the purposes of signing the minutes is an extraordinary meeting, then the next following meeting (being a meeting called otherwise than under that paragraph) will be treated as a suitable meeting for the purpose of signing of minutes.

4.1.154 Exclusion of the public

- 4.1.155 *The public and press may only be excluded either in accordance with the access to information rules (part 4 section 2) or in the case of disturbance by the public in accordance with these council rules 4.1.164.

4.1.156 Members' conduct

- 4.1.157 *When the Mayor stands during a debate any member(s) then speaking must discontinue and the Council must be silent.

- 4.1.158 *If a member is guilty of misconduct by persistently disregarding the ruling of the Mayor of the council, or by behaving irregularly, improperly or offensively, or by deliberately obstructing business, any member may move that that member is not further heard. If seconded, the motion will be voted on without discussion.

- 4.1.159 *If the member continues to behave improperly after such a motion is carried, any member may move either that the member leave the meeting or that the meeting be adjourned for a specified period. If seconded, the motion will be voted on without discussion.

- 4.1.160 *If there is a general disturbance making orderly business impossible, the Mayor may adjourn the meeting for as long as they think necessary.

- 4.1.161 *The decision as to whether misconduct is taking place shall rest with the Mayor who will have due regard to the councillor code of conduct.

4.1.162 Disturbance by the public

- 4.1.163 *If a member of the public interrupts proceedings, the Mayor will warn the person concerned and, if the interruption continues, will order the person's removal from the meeting room.

- 4.1.164 *If there is a general disturbance in any part of the meeting room open to the public the mayor shall order that part to be cleared and the Mayor may for that purpose adjourn the meeting for as long as is needed, and may resume the meeting with or without members of the public being admitted and/or at another location deemed appropriate

4.1.165 Suspension and amendment of council rules

- 4.1.166 *Any of the Council rules may be suspended for all or part of the business of a meeting at which suspension is moved by a motion, [except rules 4.1.1 to 4.1.31, 4.1.135 to 4.1.167, and 4.1.170 to 4.1.176.](#) For ease of reference the rules which cannot be suspended are identified by the symbol *

- 4.1.167 *Such a motion cannot be moved without notice unless at least two thirds of the whole number of members of the Council is present. Suspension shall be limited to the duration of the meeting or the determination of a particular item of business if appropriate and as specified in the motion.

4.1.168 Recording, filming and reporting of meetings

- 4.1.169 Where meetings of the Council are open to the public, any person attending may record, film or report meetings, provided that in doing so there is no disturbance to the meeting.

4.1.170 *Interests under the Councillors' Code of Conduct

- 4.1.171 *Members must abide by the Councillors' Code of Conduct (part 5 section 1) adopted by the Council and declare all schedule 1, schedule 2 and other interests in accordance with the code. Where a member has identified and declared a schedule 1 interest, that member shall immediately vacate the room or chamber where the meeting is taking place (including any public area) unless a dispensation has been granted.

4.1.172 *Confidentiality

- 4.1.173 *All reports and other documents marked "confidential" or "exempt from publication" shall be so treated unless they become public in the ordinary course of the Council's business. Such determination shall ordinarily be made by the monitoring officer having regard to the access to information rules. Further, all members must comply with the obligations as to confidentiality set out in the Councillors' Code of Conduct (part 5 section 1). Any alleged breaches shall be referred by the Mayor of the Council to the Monitoring Officer for consideration and report if not previously referred by some other person. The Mayor may require the surrender of such material at the end of discussion of the relevant item.

4.1.174 Substitution

- 4.1.175 The Monitoring officer on behalf of the Chief Executive may receive notice from a group leader or authorised nominee on behalf of that group that a different member of their group shall be substituted at a meeting for the member previously allocated to a place on a committee, sub-committee or other body to which the proportionality rules apply for the duration of that meeting. The giving of notice by email no later than 12 noon on the day of the meeting is encouraged.

- 4.1.176 The Monitoring Officer (in consultation with the ungrouped member(s) concerned) may substitute another ungrouped member for an ungrouped member who has notified the Monitoring Officer in writing



that they are unable to attend a meeting for the duration of that meeting. Such notification must be given no later than 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

ENDS

Appendix 1

Take in Flow Chart of Rules of Debate here

1. Amendments to motions can be moved at any time during the debate
2. Please note that this flowchart does not apply to the annual budget debate. The budget debate rules are set out in Part 4, Section 3 of the constitution

Section 4 - Cabinet Rules

4.4.1 The Cabinet

4.4.2 The Leader and the Cabinet comprise the Executive of the Council. The Leader is also the chair of Cabinet meetings. In his or her absence, the Deputy Leader chairs meetings of the Cabinet.

4.4.3 Cabinet meetings – time and location

4.4.4 The Cabinet will meet in accordance with a programme of meetings and at a place and time to be agreed by the Leader.

4.4.5 Public and private meetings of the cabinet

4.4.6 There is a presumption that Cabinet meetings will be held in public in accordance with the Council's principles of openness in decision making set out in part 2 article 11 of this Constitution. The access to information rules in section 2 of this part of the Constitution set out the requirements covering public and private meetings.

4.4.7 Quorum

4.4.8 The quorum of the Cabinet is three.

4.4.9 Who may attend and speak at Cabinet?

4.4.10 When a Cabinet meeting is held in public any person is permitted to attend. The press, public, and other members in attendance, can be excluded in accordance with the access to information rules (part 4, section 2).

4.4.11 In addition the following rules apply:

- a) members of the public and elected members who have submitted a question for Cabinet in accordance with 4.4.39-46 have the right to attend to ask a supplementary question only.
- b) where relevant to the agenda, the chairs of the scrutiny committees (or in their absence their vice chairs) have the right to attend Cabinet meetings for the purpose of presenting any recommendations from their committee
- c) group leaders have the right to attend Cabinet meetings for the purpose of reporting the views of their group and they may ask questions of any Cabinet member and/or the Leader on any matter under consideration at the meeting
- d) ward member(s) have the right to attend and speak at a Cabinet meeting where an item relating to an individual ward or a specified group of wards is included in the agenda
- e) other members may be invited to speak at the discretion of the chair of the meeting.

- 4.4.12 Reports shall be presented by the relevant lead Cabinet member. In addition, such officers as are required to assist in presenting reports or provide support, advice or information required by the Cabinet will attend.
- 4.4.13 The chair shall invite any person in attendance under these rules to speak on an item in order to enable that person to fulfil the purpose of his/her attendance as outlined at paragraph 4.4.11 above. Questions from members shall be dealt with in accordance with paragraph 4.4.39-46. The chair has responsibility for the conduct of the meeting and the order in which those in attendance will be invited to speak.
- 4.4.14 Members of the Cabinet will sit at the Cabinet table and all other invitees and attendees will be accommodated separately so as to make it clear to the public and others in attendance which person is fulfilling which role.
- 4.4.15 The chair of the Cabinet meeting will at the commencement of the meeting explain who is attending, in what capacity and for what purpose. The minutes will also reflect this.
- 4.4.16 The Leader will agree with the monitoring officer who should be invited to which meeting of the Cabinet and democratic services will manage the process of invitation and attendance.
- 4.4.17 In general the meetings of the Cabinet are to be used as a means of taking final soundings from those attending on an issue for decision and are not the forum for detailed questioning or scrutiny of decisions being taken.

4.4.18 Decision taking

- 4.4.19 All decisions, notwithstanding the subject matter or who takes them, will be made having regard to the principles of decision making (part 2 article 11) and in accordance with the access to information rules as they apply (part 4 section 2).
- 4.4.20 Where the Leader, any member of the Cabinet, or an officer taking an executive decision has a conflict of interest (whether a disclosable pecuniary interest or another interest) such interest will be disclosed and recorded and the individual making the disclosure will take no further part in the decision-making relating to that item.
- 4.4.21 Where an individual is unable to take a decision because of a conflict of interest the decision will be taken by the leader, or if the Leader has a conflict of interest, the Cabinet. If the Cabinet is inquorate because of a conflict of interest then the Monitoring Officer will be instructed to seek an appropriate dispensation.
- 4.4.22 The Leader, the Cabinet and individual Cabinet members may meet informally with officers to receive information and briefings but no Cabinet decisions will be taken at any such informal meeting.

4.4.23 Form of business

4.4.24 The Cabinet will conduct the following business at its meetings:

- a) Elect a person to preside at the meeting if the Leader and Deputy Leader are not present
- b) Receive any apologies for absence
- c) Receive any declarations of interest, if any
- d) Consider and approve the minutes of the last meeting (the only part of the minutes which may be discussed is their accuracy; once approved the chair will sign them as a correct record)
- e) Receive and respond to any questions from members of the public submitted in accordance with 4.4.28-38
- f) Receive and respond to any questions from elected members submitted in accordance with 4.4.39-46
- g) Consideration of matters referred to the cabinet or reports from a scrutiny committee or the Council
- h) Consideration of reports from the statutory officers
- i) Any other matters set out in the agenda for the meeting

4.4.25 The agenda for the Cabinet meeting shall specify all the business to be conducted in accordance with the access to information rules (part 4 section 2) and shall identify any matter which is a key decision.

4.4.26 Reports to the Cabinet will normally appear in the name of the Cabinet member and incorporate relevant advice from appropriate officers. Exceptions shall include a report from a statutory officer. The author of a report will ensure that draft reports are the subject of consultation with the relevant director, any relevant ward members or other consultees, and in all cases the s151 finance officer and the Monitoring Officer or their authorised nominee.

4.4.27 All reports to the Cabinet and the associated record of decisions made (whether on a collective or an individual basis) shall accord with the Council's corporate reporting style and associated systems so as to maintain transparency and probity in decision making.

4.4.28 Questions from the public

4.4.29 A period of up to 30 minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the public who live or work in Bury. This period may be varied at the discretion of the chair.

4.4.30 A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing to the monitoring office at Bury Council, Town Hall, Bury by email (democratic.services@Bury.gov.uk) no later than 9.30 am on the third working day after publication (e.g. 9.30am on a Friday where the meeting is on a Wednesday). Each question must give the name and address of the questioner (although only the name and town will be published) and identify

who the question is addressed to. Copies of all accepted questions and answers shall be published on the Council website before the start of the meeting and shall be made available to the public attending the meeting.

4.4.31 Questions will be answered in the order in which they are received.

4.4.32 A member of the public may submit only one question at any meeting of the Council.

4.4.36 A questioner who has put a question in person may, at the discretion of the chair, also put one supplementary question without notice to the member who has replied to the original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The chair may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds in 4.4.33 above, or if the question takes the form of a statement, or more than a minute to ask.

4.4.37 Answers to accepted questions will be published after the meeting. An answer to a supplementary question will be provided by the member to whom the question was put or his/ her nominee. The answer may be either a direct oral answer, a referral to an existing publication, or if the question requests service information a referral to an officer to respond in writing. If the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, if the member to whom the question is put is absent, or the time allowed for public questions has expired, a written answer will normally be provided within ten working days of the meeting. A record of all questions, supplementary questions and answers provided whether orally or in writing will be published on the website as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

4.4.38 Unless the chair decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question or a supplementary question

4.4.39 Questions from members

4.4.40 A period of up to 15 minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the Council. This period may be varied at the discretion of the chair.

4.4.41 A member may ask the chair a question relating to a matter of the agenda or otherwise within the remit of cabinet only if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email (councillorservices@Bury.gov.uk) to the monitoring officer no later than 9.30 am on the third working day after publication (e.g. 9.30am on a Friday where the meeting is on a Wednesday).

4.4.45 A member who has put a question in person may, at the discretion of the chair, also put one supplementary question without notice to the member who has replied to the original question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The chair may reject a

supplementary question on any of the grounds in 4.4.42 above, or if the question takes the form of a statement, or more than a minute to ask.

4.4.46 An answer to an accepted question will be published after the meeting. The answer to a supplementary question will be provided by the member to whom the question was put or their nominee. The answer may be either a direct oral answer, a referral to an existing publication, or if the question requests service information a referral to an officer to respond in writing. If the reply cannot be conveniently given orally, if the questioner or the member to whom the question is put is absent, or the time allowed for councillors' questions has expired, a written answer will normally be provided within ten working days of the meeting. A record of all questions, supplementary questions and answers provided whether orally or in writing will be published on the website as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

4.4.47 Leader's report

4.4.48 The Leader will submit a report from the Cabinet to each ordinary meeting of council (other than the budget meeting) on which they may be questioned and if so, answer. This will report the work of the Cabinet since the last report and will include:

- a) A summary of those executive decisions taken by the cabinet, individual Cabinet members, and joint executive committees and other activities of the Cabinet since the previous Council meeting;
- b) Any recommendations of the Cabinet in respect of the budget and policy framework;
- c) Any report to the Council required by a scrutiny committee; and
- d) A summary and particulars of any urgent decision made under paragraphs 4.4.53-55 (urgent decisions).

4.4.49 Decisions subject to call in by scrutiny committees

4.4.50 Other than decisions taken under the urgency provisions of the access to information rules (part 4 section 2) and recommendations made to the Council on budget and policy framework items, Cabinet Key decisions made but not implemented may be called-in in accordance with the scrutiny rules (part 4 section 5).

4.4.51 Individual cabinet member or officer decisions

4.4.52 Where individual Cabinet members or officers make decisions on any matter which is an executive function they must comply with the provisions in the access to information rules (part 4 section 2).

4.4.53 Urgent decisions

4.4.54 There may be an urgent need to take a key decision where 28 days' notice of it is impracticable in the circumstances.

4.4.55 In that event the key decision may only be made in accordance with the general exception or special urgency provisions in the access to information rules (part 4 section 2).

ENDS

Section 5 - Overview and scrutiny rules

5.5.1 Arrangements for overview and scrutiny

5.5.2 The overview and scrutiny arrangements for the Council are as laid out in part 2 article 6 and section 4 of the functions scheme. The Council has decided that it will have two overview and scrutiny committees (an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a Health Scrutiny Committee) which will have responsibility for all the overview and scrutiny functions on behalf of the Council as set out in part 3 section 4. These Rules apply to both Committees.

5.5.3 Who may sit on an overview and scrutiny committee?

5.5.4 All Councillors except Cabinet members may be members of an overview and scrutiny committee. No member may be involved in scrutinising a decision in which they have been directly involved, or for a decision in the Cabinet portfolio they provide support to as a deputy cabinet member.

5.5.5 Co-option

5.5.6 An overview and scrutiny committee may co-opt a maximum of two non-voting people as and when required, for example for a particular meeting or to join a task and finish group. Any such co-optees will be agreed by the committee having reference to the agreed work plan and/or task and finish group membership.

5.5.7 The Committee with responsibility for education shall include the following co-opted education representatives, as appointed by the Council: - one representative as nominated by the diocese of Bury - one representative as nominated by the archdiocese of Bury - one parent governor as elected from the primary school sector- one parent governor as elected by the secondary school sector - one parent governor as elected by the special school sector These education co-optees may vote on items relating to education; on other items on the committee agenda they may speak but not vote.

5.5.8 Quorum

5.5.9 The quorum for an overview and scrutiny committee is one quarter of the voting membership of the committee, or three members, whichever is the greater. If the number is a part number it is rounded up.

5.5.10 Task and finish groups

5.5.11 An overview and scrutiny committee may appoint a task and finish group for any scrutiny activity within the committee's agreed work programme. A committee may determine to undertake a task and finish activity itself as a

spotlight review where such an activity may be undertaken in a single session; the procedure rules relating to task and finish groups will apply in these circumstances.

- 5.5.12 The relevant overview and scrutiny committee will approve the scope of the activity to be undertaken, the membership, chair, timeframe, desired outcomes and what will not be included in the work. It will be a matter for the task and finish group to determine lines of questioning, witnesses (from the council or wider community) and evidence requirements.
- 5.5.13 The task and finish groups will be composed of at least two members of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee, other Councillors, and may also include, as appropriate, co-opted people with specialist knowledge and or expertise to support the task. It is unlikely that voting will be necessary in task and finish groups. However, should there be a need to vote, for example on the formation of recommendations within a task and finish group report, for the avoidance of doubt any councillor appointed to a task and finish group will have the right to vote. No co-opted members of task and finish groups will have voting powers (unless they are the education co optees listed in 4.5.7 above). Matters put to the vote will be determined on a simple majority with the task and finish group chair having a casting vote.
- 5.5.14 To assist in the identification of members for task and finish groups, the chair of the overview and scrutiny committees will ensure that group leaders are provided with the committee work programme, including potential task and finish activity. Group leaders will advise overview and scrutiny chair of those members suitable for such task and finish activity.
- 5.5.15 Task and finish groups, as working groups of the committee, are not subject to the requirements of political proportionality.
- 5.5.16 Officer support will be provided to each task and finish group the level of which will be dependent on the matter being considered.
- 5.5.17 As working groups of the committee, the task and finish groups will not be making decisions, and have the discretion to meet either in public or in private. Where meeting in private there is no right of attendance by any member who is not a member of a task and finish group.
- 5.5.18 If a task and finish group chooses to meet formally in public it may need to exclude the press and public including other members in attendance from part of any such meeting in accordance with the Access to Information Rules (Part 4 section 2).
- 5.5.19 Task and finish groups will report their findings/outcomes/recommendations to the relevant overview and scrutiny committee who will decide if the findings/outcomes/recommendations should be reported to the cabinet or elsewhere.

- 5.5.20 At the first meeting of each task and finish project, the task and finish group will finalise:
- expert/specialist support required
 - officer input required
 - lines of questioning
 - evidence requirements
 - which aspects of the task are to be undertaken in private or public.
- 5.5.21 Any changes proposed by the task and finish group to the scope, timeframe or outcomes stipulated by the committee must be approved by the statutory scrutiny officer following consultation with the chair of the relevant overview and overview and scrutiny committee and will be reported to the relevant overview and overview and scrutiny committee.
- 5.5.22 In the event of a task and finish group being unable to agree recommendations or findings on a particular matter, a report will be made to the relevant overview and scrutiny committee for its consideration.
- 5.5.23 Appointment of chair and members of the overview and scrutiny committees
- 5.5.24 The chairs and vice chairs of the overview and scrutiny committees are appointed at the annual meeting of the Council. The Council shall determine the number of members of the overview and scrutiny committees annually or as required from time to time in compliance with the statutory rules on proportionality.
- 5.5.25 Meetings of overview and scrutiny committees**
- 5.5.26 The overview and scrutiny committees will meet in accordance with the council's schedule of meetings, subject to the chair's power to cancel or postpone meetings in case of emergency or where there is no business. Where an overview and scrutiny committee feels it is appropriate to hold additional meetings it may do so. The chair of an overview and scrutiny committee may also call additional meetings if they consider it necessary or appropriate. In so doing, the chair shall have regard to the advice of the Council's Monitoring Officer and Statutory Scrutiny Officer.
- 5.5.27 Programme of work of overview and scrutiny committees**
- 5.5.28 The overview and scrutiny committees will be responsible for setting their own work programmes. In setting their work programme an overview and scrutiny committee shall have regard to the resources (including officer time) available.
- 5.5.29 Overview and scrutiny committee agendas**

5.5.30 At each of its ordinary meetings an overview and scrutiny committee shall consider the following business, where appropriate:

- (a) minutes of the last meeting
- (b) questions from members of the public
- (c) questions from members of the Council
- (d) any matter called-in in accordance with paragraphs 4.5.61-69 below
- (e) a review of its work programme, including requests received for inclusion of items from members of the public, ward members, the Cabinet or the Council
- (f) consideration of any budget and policy framework items
- (g) any response to reports of the overview and scrutiny committee
- (h) any item requested to be placed on the agenda by a member of the committee
- (i) any Councillor call for action
- (j) any report from a task and finish group;
- (k) any business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting including items as identified in the work programme.

5.5.31 Any member may give notice to the Statutory Scrutiny Officer that they wish an item relevant to the functions of a committee and not excluded by law to be included in the agenda and discussed at a meeting of that committee. On receipt of such a request the Statutory Scrutiny officer shall ensure that it is included in the agenda for and discussed at a meeting of the relevant committee.

5.5.32 An overview and scrutiny committee shall also respond, as soon as its work programme permits, to requests from the Council and from the Cabinet to review particular areas of Council performance or policy. On receipt of any such request from the Cabinet an overview and scrutiny committee shall firstly consider whether it wishes to conduct the review as requested. Where it does so, and in response to any request from the Council, an overview and scrutiny committee shall conduct the review as requested and report its findings and any recommendations back to the Cabinet and/or the Council.

5.5.33 Councillor Call for action

5.5.34 Any member of the Council shall be entitled to give notice to the statutory Scrutiny Officer if they wish an item relating to a Councillor call for action to be included on the agenda for discussion at the next available meeting of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee.

5.5.35 On receipt of such a request and subject to it falling within the statutory definition of a matter that can be the subject of a Councillor call for action and it meeting the procedural and other requirements set out in the Councillor call for action code (Part 5 section 7) the Statutory Scrutiny Officer shall ensure that it is included on the next available agenda of the committee.

5.5.36 Further guidance in respect of the Councillor call for action is contained in Part 5 section 7.

5.5.37 Policy review and development

5.5.38 The role of a scrutiny committee in relation to the development of the Council's budget and policy framework is found in the rules (part 4 section 3). 5.5.39 In relation to the development of the Council's approach to other matters not forming part of its budget and policy framework, an overview and scrutiny committee may make proposals to the Cabinet for developments in so far as they relate to matters within its terms of reference.

5.5.40 An overview and scrutiny committee may hold or commission inquiries and investigate the available options for future direction in policy development and may appoint advisers to assist it in this process. A committee may go on site visits, conduct public surveys, hold public meetings, commission research and do all other things that it reasonably considers necessary to inform its deliberations. It may ask witnesses to attend in order to address it on any matter under consideration and may pay to advisers, assessors and witnesses a reasonable fee and expenses for doing so, having regard to the resources (including officer time) available. In determining how to conduct such activities the chair of a committee should consult with the Statutory Scrutiny Officer.

5.5.41 Reports from the overview and scrutiny committees

5.5.42 Following any investigation or review, the committee or task and finish group shall prepare a report. Any report from a task and finish group will first be considered by the relevant overview and scrutiny committee and if adopted will be dealt with in accordance with the following rules.

5.5.43 If any review is in response to a request from Council, in accordance with paragraph 4.5.32 above, the overview and scrutiny committee shall report its findings to the Council.

5.5.44 In all other cases the report will be submitted to the Chief Executive for consideration by the Executive or other body as appropriate. If the recommendations are such that a decision can be taken by an individual Cabinet member acting within his/her portfolio in accordance with the functions scheme (Part 3 Section 3), the Chief Executive shall arrange for that Cabinet member to consider the report.

- 5.5.45 If the recommendations in an overview and scrutiny committee report are contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the budget and policy framework, the Cabinet shall consider the overview and scrutiny recommendations and report the matter with its response to the overview and scrutiny recommendations to the Council.
- 5.5.46 If the recommendations in the overview and scrutiny report are in line with the budget and policy framework, the Cabinet or the Cabinet member shall consider the overview and scrutiny recommendations and report their decision to the relevant overview and scrutiny committee.
- 5.5.47 Making sure that overview and scrutiny reports are considered by the Executive**
- 5.5.48 On receipt of a report from an overview and scrutiny committee (other than on budget and policy framework items) the Chief Executive will arrange for the report to be considered either by Cabinet or an individual Cabinet member as appropriate.
- 5.5.49 If any individual Cabinet member is minded to reject all of the recommendations in a report from an overview and scrutiny committee, then the matter must be referred to the next meeting of the Cabinet to decide its response.
- 5.5.50 The Chief Executive will notify the relevant overview and scrutiny committee of the response of the Executive within two months of receipt of the overview and scrutiny report, with the exception of matters relating to statutory health overview and scrutiny and issues relating to crime and disorder overview and scrutiny which require a response from the relevant body within 28 days. If the Cabinet or Cabinet member wishes to extend the deadline a report will be made to the relevant overview and scrutiny committee explaining why this is considered necessary. Decisions of the Executive or the Council on any overview and scrutiny recommendations will be recorded in the usual way.
- 5.5.51 Recommendations from overview and scrutiny committee in relation to a budget and policy framework item will be reported to the Executive who will have regard to that report, and provide a response to any recommendations within it, in making their recommendation to the Council.
- 5.5.52 Rights and powers of overview and scrutiny committee members**
- 5.5.53 Where an overview and scrutiny committee or task and finish group conducts investigations or reviews and people attend to give evidence or otherwise assist the committee the following principles will apply:
- (a) that the investigation be conducted fairly and all members of the committee or group be given the opportunity to ask questions of attendees, and to contribute and speak

- (b) that those assisting the committee by giving evidence be treated with respect and courtesy
- (c) that the investigation be conducted so as to maximise the efficiency and value of the investigation or analysis.

5.5.54 Members and officers giving account

5.5.55 An overview and scrutiny committee may scrutinise and review decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any Council functions, or as provided by statute certain other bodies. As well as reviewing documentation, in fulfilling the overview and scrutiny role, it may require any member of the Cabinet, the Chief Executive, Committee Chair, and/or senior officers carrying out functions on the Chief Executive's behalf to attend before it to explain in relation to matters within its remit regarding:

- (a) any particular decision or series of decisions
- (b) the extent to which the actions taken implement council policy; and/or
- (c) their performance.

5.5.56 it is the duty of those persons to attend if so required.

5.5.57 Where any member or officer is required to attend an overview and scrutiny committee under this provision, the chair of the committee will inform the Statutory Scrutiny officer. The Statutory Scrutiny Officer shall inform the member or officer in writing normally giving at least ten working days' notice of the meeting at which they are required to attend. The notice will state the nature of the item on which they are required to attend to give account and whether any papers are required to be produced for the committee. Where the account to be given to the committee will require the production of a report, then the member or officer concerned will be given sufficient notice to allow for preparation of that report.

5.5.58 Where, in exceptional circumstances, the member or officer is unable to attend on the required date, then an overview and scrutiny committee shall in consultation with the member or officer arrange an alternative date for attendance and/or a substitute as appropriate.

5.5.59 Unless in exceptional circumstances, any witnesses required to attend any meetings called under paragraphs 4.5.55 to 4.5.57 and 4.5.61-69 will be restricted to:-

- (a) any Cabinet member involved in the decision the subject of the call in

- (b) any officer who in the view of the chair of the meeting would be able to supply evidence materially able to assist at the meeting.

5.5.60 The Council has designated the Head of Democratic Services as the statutory scrutiny officer who is required to discharge the following functions:

- (a) to promote the role of the Council's overview and scrutiny committees
- (b) to provide support to the Council's overview and scrutiny committee and the members of the committees
- (c) to provide support and guidance to
 - (i) members of the Council,
 - (ii) members of the executive of the Council, and (
 - (iii) officers of the Council – in relation to the functions of the Council's overview and scrutiny committees

5.5.61 Call in

5.5.62 "Call in" is a statutory right for members of the Council to call in a key decision of Cabinet, an individual Cabinet member, an officer with delegated authority or under joint arrangements after it is made but before it is implemented subject to the following provisions (4.5.59, 4.5.63, 4.5.65 and 4.5.69).

5.5.63 Call in does not apply to Cabinet decisions that make recommendations to the Council because those decisions will not be implemented in any event until the matter has been considered and agreed by the Council. These are decisions such as setting the council tax and agreeing the annual revenue and capital budgets.

5.5.64 When a call in has been triggered, the call in process will be managed by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the chair of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee and the members who have triggered the call in. The chair of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee will maintain responsibility for the conduct of any meeting at which the decision called in is considered.

5.5.65 Call in is not intended to be a mechanism for voicing objection to or dislike of any particular decision. It should only be used in exceptional circumstances and where there is evidence to show that one of the following may apply:

- (a) that there has been inadequate consultation with stakeholders prior to the decision being made;

- (b) that there was inadequate evidence or information on which to base a decision and that not all relevant matters were fully taken into account;
- (c) that the decision materially departs from the budget and policy framework;
- (d) that the decision is disproportionate to the desired outcome;
- (e) that the decision has failed to take into account the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 and or the public sector equality duty;
- (f) that the decision-maker has failed to consult with and take professional advice from all relevant officers including the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer, as appropriate, or has failed to have sufficient regard to that advice; G that the decision exceeds the powers or terms of reference of the decision maker responsible for the decision; or
- (h) that the access to information rules have not been adhered to. .

5.5.66 Advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer on these matters.

5.5.67 When a decision is made by the Cabinet or an individual Cabinet member that decision will be published widely by electronic means. This includes:

- (a) displaying it on the Council website
- (b) sending a copy of the decision electronically to all members of the Council identifying which overview and scrutiny committee's remit the decision falls within

5.5.68 The decision will be in the form of a notice and bear the date upon which it is published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may be subsequently implemented, at the expiry of four working days after the date of publication, unless it is called in under these call in rules.

5.5.69 To call the decision in a call in notice must be received by 5.00pm on the working day before the implementation date specified on the notice of decision by the Monitoring Officer (or their nominated officer) in writing or electronically which:

- (a) clearly states the decision(s) which is/are being called in by reference to the decisions as set out on the decision notice
- (b) clearly states the grounds for the call in as laid out in rule 4.5.65 above as applied to each decision being called-in and the evidence on which the grounds are based
- (c) is signed by the Chair of the Committee or any two or more members of the Committee or any eight member of the Council (not

including cooptees). If electronic notification is being used an email in accordance with the requirements of this paragraph must be submitted by each member supporting the call in.

5.5.70 Limitations of call in

- 5.5.71 The call in procedure is restricted to decisions made by Cabinet or individual Cabinet members, decisions made by joint committees of the Executive and decisions made by officers under delegation from the Executive.
- 5.5.72 Where a decision has been taken in circumstances where the special urgency provisions apply, as set out in the access to information rules (Part 4 section 2), that decision will not be subject to call in.
- 5.5.73 The call in procedure will also not apply where the decision taken needs to be implemented urgently. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public interest.
- 5.5.74 In this case the record of the decision, and notice by which is it made public shall state whether in the opinion of the decision making person or body, the decision is one that requires urgent implementation and the reasons why, and the Monitoring Officer should confirm that as such it is not subject to call in.
- 5.5.75 The chair of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee must agree both that the decision taken was reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.
- 5.5.76 The consent to the decision being taken as a matter of urgency will be recorded on the published notice of the decision.
- 5.5.77 Decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

5.5.78 Post call in

- 5.5.79 The Monitoring Officer will determine the validity of the call in as soon as possible. The Monitoring Officer may, if appropriate, reject a request for call in if, in their opinion, it fails to meet any of the grounds listed in 4.5.65 above, or if they consider it is in any way vexatious, frivolous or otherwise inappropriate. Examples include but are not limited to:
 - (a) the cited grounds bear no relevance to the decision that is identified for call-in;
 - (b) the requisition cites grounds for which no relevant evidence is produced in support;

- (c) those requisitioning the call-in signed the requisition before it was complete (e.g. signed a blank form in advance or emailed consent without detailing the grounds and evidence);
- (d) the call-in includes material which could be defamatory;
- (e) the requisition is being used for improper purposes (e.g. to admonish an officer); or
- (f) the decision is in accordance with the advice or recommendations provided to the decision maker by the overview and scrutiny committee.

- 5.5.80 If the call in is determined not to be valid, the Monitoring Officer will inform those members submitting the notice of the call in of the reasons for that determination.
- 5.5.81 If accepted as valid, the Monitoring Officer will then advise the original decision maker of the call in.
- 5.5.82 The Monitoring Officer shall then call a meeting of the relevant overview and scrutiny committee on such a day as they shall determine in consultation with the relevant chair and in any event within ten working days of the Monitoring Officer accepting the validity of the call In notice, subject to paragraph 4.5.89.
- 5.5.83 Having considered the decision in light of the grounds and evidence for the call in, if the relevant overview and scrutiny committee is still concerned about it, then it may refer the decision back to the decision-maker for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns.
- 5.5.84 The decision maker shall reconsider any decision referred to them following call-in, take into account any views expressed by the relevant overview and scrutiny committee and may either amend or confirm the original decision or require further specified work to be undertaken before making a final determination.
- 5.5.85 If it is alleged that the decision appears to be contrary to or not in accordance with the budget and policy framework, the Monitoring Officer shall advise the Cabinet on that or any other relevant legal issues raised by or in relation to the called in decision. The Cabinet shall consider that advice and shall reconsider its decision. If the matter is outside the budget and policy framework the monitoring officer shall refer the matter to the next Council meeting for consideration or convene an extraordinary meeting of the Council whichever may be sooner and in any event within ten working days of the meeting of the Cabinet.
- 5.5.86 Having been referred to the next Council meeting the Council has two options: (i) amend the policy / budget framework to accommodate the called-in decision, in which case the decision is implemented immediately;

or (ii) require the decision maker to reconsider the decision again and refer it to a meeting of the Cabinet to be held within five working days of the Council meeting. The Cabinet may choose to amend or confirm the decision and there will be no further right of call in.

- 5.5.87 If an overview and scrutiny committee or the Council does not meet within the time permitted by these rules or such extended time as may be agreed in accordance with paragraph 4.5.89, or if it does but does not refer the decision back to the decision making body or person, the decision will become effective on the date of the meeting or expiry of the period in which the meeting should have been held, whichever is the earlier.

5.5.88 Extension of time limit

- 5.5.89 In exceptional circumstances the time limit of ten working days for convening a meeting of an overview and scrutiny committee to consider the called in decision may be extended as agreed by the original decision maker and/or the Leader where practical considerations or any unforeseen factor make such an extension appropriate.

5.5.90 Pre decision call in and the forward plan

- 5.5.91 The overview and scrutiny committees should consider the forward plan as the chief source of information regarding forthcoming key decisions.
- 5.5.92 An overview and scrutiny committee may identify a forthcoming decision on the forward plan relevant to the remit of the committee and examine the issues around it.
- 5.5.93 In order not to obstruct the council in its business, the overview and scrutiny committee may call in an executive decision in advance of its actually being taken. In such a situation all the time-limits apply as above, except that a key decision cannot actually be implemented any sooner than it would have been had the overview and scrutiny committee not called it in.
- 5.5.94 Where the overview and scrutiny committee has called-in a key decision from the forward plan before its due date, the decision cannot be called-in again after the final decision has been taken.

5.5.95 Party whip

- 5.5.96 Government guidance views party or group “whipping” as incompatible with overview and scrutiny functions. Whipping arrangements should not be applied to overview and scrutiny committees and members should be free to comment and vote on matters under

5.5.97 Public questions

- 5.5.98 A period of up to 30 minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the public who live or work in Bury. This period may be varied at the discretion of the chair.
- 5.5.99 A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing to the Monitoring Officer, Bury Council, democraticservices@bury.gov.uk) to the Monitoring Officer no later than 5.00pm one working day before the day of the meeting (e.g. 5.00pm on a Monday where the meeting is on a Wednesday). Each question must give the name and address of the questioner (although only the name and town will be published) and identify who the question is addressed to. Copies of all accepted questions and answers shall be published on the council website before the start of the meeting and shall be made available to the public attending the meeting.
- 5.5.100 Questions will be answered in the order in which they are received.
- 5.5.101 A member of the public may submit only one question at any meeting of the council.
- 5.5.102
- 5.5.106 A questioner who is present at the meeting may, at the discretion of the chair, also put one supplementary question without notice. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. The chair may reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds in 4.4.102 above, or if the question takes the form of a statement or more than a minute to ask.
- 5.5.107 Where more than one person wishes to raise the same issue or question, they shall be asked to agree a spokesperson to speak on that issue. If they cannot reach such an agreement, the chair may restrict the number of questions on that issue.
- 5.5.108 Answers to public questions**
- 5.5.109 Answers to accepted questions will be provided by either the chair or the Cabinet member . An answer to a supplementary question will be provided by either the chair or the cabinet member.

If the question is asking for an item to be considered for future inclusion in the work programme the questioner will be advised by the chair that they will be informed of the outcome of the committee's consideration of the request once it has been considered as part of the overall work programme prioritisation.

If the question is asking for a substantive answer to a question the cabinet member for the area will make reasonable endeavours to attend the overview and scrutiny meeting, if the questioner confirms that they wish to ask a supplementary question at the meeting.

The answer from the Cabinet member may be either a direct oral answer, a referral to an existing publication, or if the question requests service information a referral to an officer to respond in writing. If the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, if the Cabinet member to whom the question is put is absent, or the time allowed for public questions has expired, a written answer will normally be provided within ten working days of the meeting. A record of all questions, supplementary questions and answers provided whether orally or in writing will be published on the website as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

5.5.110 Unless the chair decides otherwise, no discussion will take place on any question or a supplemental question

5.5.111 Questions from members

5.5.112 A period of **up to 15** minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the Council who are not members of the committee. This period may be varied at the discretion of the chair.

5.5.113 to 115 NOT USED

5.5.116 A member who has put a question in person may, at the discretion of the chair, also put one supplementary question without notice. The same procedure for public questions will be followed.

ENDS

Part 5 – Codes and Protocols

Public Guide to Participation (updated for Covid-19)

5.8.1 A healthy democracy depends upon active citizenship. Citizens are encouraged to make conscientious use of their roles as both voters and members of a wider community, and this guide gives an overview of the ways in which you can do that.

5.8.2 Attending meetings

5.8.3 We encourage the public to attend all meetings of the Council and its committees, that are currently taken place on a remote basis and anyone attending is able to record or film what takes place at them provided that doesn't disrupt the meeting. Details of what meetings are coming up are published on the Council's website,

5.8.4 The agenda and papers are normally published on our website at least five working days in advance of the meeting. Draft minutes of the meeting are also published on the website as soon as possible after the meeting.

5.8.5 [not used].

5.8.6 Why are some meetings private?

5.8.7 During COVID19 , all meetings of the Council and its committees are held with remote access for the public. However on rare occasions an agenda item includes information which may be personal to an individual, which would compromise the commercial position of the council or another individual or organisation or which there are other particular legal or employment reasons for considering asking the public to leave the meeting for discussion of that item. When this is the case we will explain the reasons why and, as far as is legally possible, will afterwards provide a public summary of the decision taken.

5.8.8 Asking questions at meetings of the Council

5.8.9 Which meetings can the public ask questions at?

5.8.10 Questions can be asked at public meetings of:

- The Full Council
- Audit and governance committee
- Cabinet
- Employment panel
- Health and wellbeing board
- Overview and Scrutiny committees

5.8.11 Who can ask questions?

5.8.12 Questions can be put by anyone living or working in Bury.

5.8.13 What notice is required for questions?

5.8.14 A question must be delivered by email (democraticservices@Bury.gov.uk) by no later than 5pm one working day before the date of the meeting. Each question must provide the name and address of the questioner.

5.8.15 How many questions can be asked?

5.8.16 A member of the public may ask one question at any public meeting of the Council as listed above.

5.8.17 What is the scope for questions?

5.8.18 Questions should relate to the function of the committee where they are being asked. A question at the full Council can be addressed to any chair or Cabinet member and must relate either to something that the Council is responsible for or that affects the borough.

5.8.19 We will not consider any question that is defamatory, offensive or frivolous.

5.8.20 What happens at the meeting?

5.8.21 Time is made available early on the agenda for any accepted questions to be dealt with. Copies of any questions and answers will be published on the Council's website before the start of the meeting, and will be made available to members of the public who attend the meeting.

5.8.22 The chair will invite the questioner to put a supplementary question to the councillor named in the notice.

5.8.23 A questioner who has put a question in person can also ask one supplementary question, without notice, in response to the reply to their question. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply given. The chair can reject a supplementary question on any of the grounds detailed in the section above. As part of the 'virtual meeting' format, members and members of the public are able to submit supplementary questions in writing, via email or asking a question as a virtual participant.

5.8.24 What form will the reply take?

5.8.25 The answer may be either a direct oral answer, a referral to an existing publication, or if the question requests service information a referral to an officer to respond in writing. If the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, if the questioner or the member to whom the question is put is absent, or the time allowed for public questions has expired, a written answer will normally be provided within ten working days.

5.8.26 There cannot be any discussion on questions but any matters raised by a question can be referred to the relevant Cabinet member or the appropriate committee to consider.

5.8.27 Petitions

5.8.28 We welcome petitions from those who live or work in Bury and recognise that petitions are one way in which people can let us know their concerns or the strength of public feeling.

5.8.29 What is the scope for petitions?

5.8.30 Petitions must relate to a matter over which the Council has powers or duties and may be rejected if they: contain language or statements which are defamatory, frivolous, vexatious, discriminatory, false, or otherwise offensive; disclose confidential or exempt information; name individuals, or provides information where they may be easily identified, e.g. individual officers of public bodies; make criminal accusations; contain advertising statements; refer to an issue which is currently the subject of a formal Council complaint, Local Government Ombudsman complaint or any legal proceedings; or relate to a matter where there are other statutory processes in place for dealing with these matters (such as planning or licensing application matters or statutory petitions for a referendum).

5.8.31 How can a petition be submitted?

5.8.32 Petitions need to be submitted online and an online facility for running a petition is provided on the Council's website. There is no standard format for a petition but it must include:

- a clear and concise statement covering the subject of the petition. It should state what action the petitioners wish us to take;
- the name and address and signature of any person supporting the petition, which must be not fewer than 15 people; and
- contact details, including an address, for the petition organiser who will be the person we will contact to explain how we will respond.

5.8.33 During the meeting, as part of chair's announcements, any petitions received will be formally passed to the relevant Cabinet member or committee chair who will respond in writing to the petition organiser. You may ask your ward councillor to present the petition on your behalf. Petitions may also be sent in to:

Head of Democratic Services, Bury Council, Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0SW or scanned and emailed to: councillorservices@Bury.gov.uk

5.8.34 What happens once a petition has been submitted?

5.8.35 All petitions sent or presented to the Council will receive an acknowledgement within 10 working days of receipt explaining how we will respond.

5.8.36 Details of all petitions received, and of our response, will be published on the website. The contact details of the petition organiser or signatories to a petition will not be placed on the website.

5.8.37 If your petition has been signed by a certain number of people who are registered to vote in the Borough (currently 2500) then you may request that the petition is scheduled for submission at the next ordinary meeting of the full Council. If that is the case the petition organiser will have up to 5 minutes to briefly present the petition at the meeting.

5.8.38 What do Councillors and officers do?

5.8.39 What Councillors do

5.8.40 Councillors are directly elected to represent the people and therefore have to consider not just the interests of their ward, but those throughout the whole Borough.

5.8.41 Your Councillors are responsible for making sure that the services that the council provides meet the needs of residents and those who work in Bury. They do this by setting the overall policies and strategies for the Council and by 28 April 2020

monitoring the way in which these are implemented. Councillors have a complex role and act in a number of capacities: as committee member, constituency representative and party activist.

- 5.8.42 The full Council of 51 members is responsible for agreeing the main policies and priorities for all services, including the Council's budget. The Cabinet have responsibility for all decisions which the law, or the Council, does not require to be taken by others and agrees policies and actions to implement the budget and policies set by full Council. Councillors who are Cabinet portfolio holders have more specialised roles in agreeing particular policies, representing the Council while at the same time working with other agencies to tackle issues such as improving overall health and wellbeing, social care and safeguarding, education, housing, transport, and promoting economic growth within the borough.

5.8.43 What Council officers do

- 5.8.44 Council officers are the professional people who work for the Council and who are paid to deliver the services agreed by councillors.
- 5.8.45 Officers help Councillors to develop policies and objectives through providing professional expertise and advice but they must remain impartial and serve the Council as a whole. Their main role is to provide the public with the highest possible standards of service within the budget that the Councillors set and in accordance with the priorities agreed by the Councillors.

5.8.46 What can my Councillor do for me?

5.8.47 Your Councillor can:

- be contacted to discuss your problem or ideas to improve the ward or borough
- help you if you need information or are dissatisfied with a Council service by advising or directing you to someone who can help sort out your problem, and can sometimes progress the case on your behalf
- as a community leader, put forward proposals to improve the ward they represent which may include bringing together different community groups to develop a case for change
- campaign on local issues
- represent your community within the Council and to other organisations
- speak at Planning Control and Licensing and Safety Committees on matters affecting the ward they represent
- ask questions or put forward views on your behalf at public meetings of the Council
- present petitions on your behalf
- get an issue (either within the remit of the Council or on a matter affecting the borough) debated at the full Council by submitting a motion.

5.8.48 Decisions

5.8.49 How do I know what decisions are being taken about matters that affect me or where I live?

5.8.50 We provide on our website (Forward Plan) summary information about future significant decisions to be taken by the Cabinet, together with contact details so that you can find out more information or provide your views. You can also contact your ward member and ask them to put forward your views on your behalf.

5.8.51 Planning or licensing applications which have been submitted are also published on the Council's website so that those who may be affected are able to make comments on the proposal.

5.8.52 The agendas and minutes of meetings are published on the website, and where a decision has been taken by a Cabinet member or officer, the decision report and notice of the decision are published on the website.

5.8.53 Are all decisions recorded and published?

5.8.54 Many are, but there are lots of day to day decisions which are not published. The Council has decided that officer decisions with a financial value of less than £100,000 will not be published unless there is a legal requirement to do so. This is because the number of such decisions would make it impractical to publish.

5.8.55 Why is some information kept confidential?

5.8.56 We aim to publish information unless there is good reason not to. Sometimes a decision takes into account information which may be personal to an individual, or which would compromise the commercial position of the council or another individual or organisation. There may be particular legal or employment reasons for not making the information public. When this is the case we will explain why the information cannot be made public, and will periodically review whether those reasons remain valid. If they do not we will then release the information.

5.8.57 How long is information about decisions kept?

5.8.58 Generally the law requires information to be available for public inspection for six years from the date of the decision.

5.8.59 How do I find out about decisions taken by partnerships?

5.8.60 Bury Council works with a wide range of partners to achieve shared objectives in an efficient and effective way. We keep a register of strategic partnerships on our website which includes information about where decisions taken by those partners is recorded and how you can find out more about them.

5.8.61 What if I can't find the information I am looking for?

5.8.62 The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives you a general right of access to all types of recorded information that we hold. More information about how to make a request, and about your other legal rights to information, can be found at: Access to information

5.8.63 Other ways of getting involved

5.8.64 Planning

- 5.8.65 Information about planning applications submitted is available on the Council's website and public notices are displayed in the area affected. You may submit comments on a planning application which will be considered by the decision-maker. If the application raises unusual or sensitive planning issues you can ask your ward member to request that the application is considered by the Planning and Regulatory Committee rather than a single officer.
- 5.8.66 If you have provided comments on a particular planning application which is considered by the Planning and Regulatory committee you will be asked whether you wish to register to speak at the committee to present your views. Three minutes is generally set aside for public speaking in objection to an application Registration is on a first come first served basis. The time can be shared with the agreement of the person who has registered first.

5.8.67 Consultations

- 5.8.68 The Council encourages as many people as possible to give their views on decisions which affect them. Details of live consultations and how to get involved are available on the Council website at Get Involved. You can also find information about past consultations there.

5.8.69 Scrutiny reviews

- 5.8.70 You may request that a matter or concern be considered for inclusion in the future work programme of a scrutiny committee. The committees cannot include every suggestion but prioritise items taking into account: the significance and impact of the issue; the ability of scrutiny input to add value; the need to avoid any duplication; the timeliness of scrutiny involvement and the resources available to undertake the work.
- 5.8.71 The committee may invite members of the public to submit their views or evidence to Inform its work; when they do this the call for evidence will be publicised.

5.8.72 Vote

- 5.8.73 Elections take place for Bury Council every year as well as national elections, and police and crime commissioner elections. Your vote in all these elections and any other referendums that take place is important, but in order to vote you must be on the electoral register. Information about how to register is available at Register to Vote.

5.8.74 Stand for election

5.8.75 If you are interested in standing for election as a Bury Councillor you can find out more at Standing as a Councillor.

5.8.76 Volunteer

5.8.77 We provide a wide variety of services to people in Bury, particularly to those who are vulnerable and have complex needs. As more pressure is placed on our budget, and on the budgets of partner organisations, different ways of delivering these services are being developed. Individuals and communities are doing more to help each other and themselves. If you are interested in volunteering or have an idea for your community you would like to develop more information is available at Volunteering.

5.8.78 Give feedback

5.8.79 We want to hear what you think about our services. What you say is important and will help us improve our services. More information can be found at:

5.8.80 Find out more...

5.8.81 The Council's website provides lots of advice and information as well as access to online services and you can sign up to receive updates on particular matters of interest. If you can't find what you are looking for some useful contacts are below:

Customer Services

https://www.Bury.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/50/contact_us

Freedom of information

https://www.Bury.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/15/access_to_information/2

Governance

https://www.Bury.gov.uk/info/200148/your_council/61/get_involved

Find your Councillor information

https://www.Bury.gov.uk/info/200152/elections/219/election_information_for_your_area_search

PART 8 COVID - 19 INTERIM STANDING ORDERS

1. Introduction

- 1.1 As required by the [Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels \(Coronavirus\) \(Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings\) \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2020](#), certain changes are required to the Bury Council Constitution (May 2020 as amended) (the Constitution). The provisions in this legislation are effective from 4th April 2020 until 7 May 2021 or earlier if revoked by further legislation
- 1.2 These standing orders, as approved by the Monitoring Officer, shall apply from 22 April 2020 until 7 May 2021 or earlier if revoked by further legislation and shall be known as the COVID19 Interim Standing Orders.
- 1.3 These standing orders shall only apply to virtual meetings of the council including committees.
- 1.4 These standing orders include the changes agreed for virtual meetings at the annual Council meeting on 20 May 2020. At the meeting of the Council on 20 November 2020, it is proposed that these further changes to the Constitution are ratified by the Council.

2. Interpretation

- 2.1 In the constitution and these standing orders the following words, phrases, meaning shall have the following interpretation

“attend” means attending by remote access

“attendance” means attending by remote access

“chamber” means the remote meeting

“delivered” means by electronic means only

“designated office” means the council’s website only

“meeting” means the remote meeting

“open to inspection” means available on the council’s website only

“place” means the remote meeting

“present” means attending by remote access

“public forum” means a remote meeting

“public gallery” means public access to a remote meeting

“published, posted, or made available at the offices of the council “ means available on the council’s website or available by email.

“Remote access” means attending or participating in a meeting by electronic means, including telephone conference, video conference, live webcasts and live interactive streaming



“room” means the remote meeting

3. Amendments

3.1 In the current constitution version (May 2020 as amended) the following standing orders are amended:

3.2 Further amendments to COVID19 Standing Orders

Part 3 Section 1 Functions

The Monitoring Officer is authorised to make further changes to the COVID19 Standing Orders as a result of any further legislation, guidance and including best practice and learning relating to the conduct of virtual meetings of the council or committees.

3.3 Right to speak

Where a member of the public or councillor (that is not a member of the meeting) has the right to speak under the Constitution they *will* be invited to participate by either providing their text in writing to be read out by a Democratic Services Officer at the meeting, providing an audio and video recording to be played at the meeting or speaking via a live stream.

3.4 Public Inspection of Background Papers

For all purposes of the constitution, the terms “notice”, “summons”, “agenda”, “report”, “written record” and “background papers” when referred to as being a document that is:

- (a) “open to inspection” shall include for these and all other purposes as being published on the website of the council; and
- (b) to be published, posted or made available at offices of the council shall include publication on the website of the council.

3.5 Council Meetings and Attendance

A Member in remote attendance is present and attends the meeting, including for the purposes of the meeting’s quorum, if at any time all three of the following conditions are satisfied, those conditions being that the Member in remote attendance is able at that time:

- (i) to hear, and where practicable see, and be so heard and, where practicable, be seen by, the other Members in attendance.
- (ii) to hear, and where practicable see, and be so heard and, where practicable, be seen by, any members of the public entitled to attend the meeting in order to exercise a right to speak at the meeting; and
- (iii) to be so heard and, where practicable, be seen by any other members of the public attending the meeting.



(c) A Member in remote attendance will be deemed to have left the meeting where, at any point in time during the meeting, any of the conditions for remote attendance contained in (a) above are not met. In such circumstance the Chair may, as they deem appropriate;

- (i) adjourn the meeting for a short period to permit the conditions for remote attendance of a Member contained in (a) above to be re-established;
- (ii) count the number of Members in attendance for the purposes of the quorum; or
- (iii) continue to transact the remaining business of the meeting in the absence of the Member in remote attendance.

3.6 Appointments

Any appointment which is specified as 'annual' continues until the next annual meeting.

3.7 Voting

A named vote will be taken for each item on the agenda. Each individual member will be asked by the officer from Democratic Services by means of a roll call to indicate if they are for, against or are abstaining.

Only, where there is a requirement to record the named vote, will the results of the roll call be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

3.8 Interests

At all meetings, Members declaring an interest in any item should do so by notifying to Democratic Services prior to the meeting in writing, or verbally when the Chair requests such declarations at the appropriate time on the agenda, where a written declaration has not been possible. Anyone declaring a pecuniary or prejudicial interest must leave the meeting entirely.

Where a Member is required to leave the meeting, the means of remote attendance and access is to be severed whilst any discussion or vote takes place in respect of the item or items of business which the member or co-opted member may not participate.

3.9 Public Speaking and Public Questions

At all meetings where the Constitution provides for public questions, the public will be invited to submit one question and one related supplementary question in writing. The questions must be received by Democratic Services by midday two days clear calendar days before the date of the meeting.

- 3.10** Members of the public wishing to speak at a Planning Control Committee or Licensing and Safety Panel meeting will be able to do so, unless available technology prevents this. This will continue to be in accordance with the Probity in Planning Code of Conduct, but the one speaker for and one against, will be entitled to make written submissions, prior to the meeting.

3.11 Planning and Control Committee – Site Visits

Protocol For Site Visits – where a site visit cannot safely take place in accordance with the Protocol, a virtual site visit will be undertaken and the same process for actual site visits will be followed as far as reasonably practicable. A decision following such a virtual site visit will be made in accordance with the provisions of the last paragraph of the Protocol namely, that the members themselves should consider whether probity in planning is being upheld and whether in the circumstances they feel they are able make an informed, objective and appropriate decision on the basis of the information before them.

3.12 Bury Council Virtual Meetings Protocol (Standards Committee Guidance 12/10/20)

Introduction

Participating in virtual rather than face to face meetings can be easy and straight forward, but they do require participants to comply with certain 'rules of etiquette' before, during and after meetings. This Protocol sets out the rules Bury Council expects participants in meetings conducted using Microsoft Team or other virtual technology, to comply with.

Before the Meeting

Before the day of the meeting ensure you have the following;

- Equipment – computer, laptop, tablet, phone, head set
- Equipment is fully charged
- Checked your microphone and camera are working
- The ability to access the virtual software and have downloaded it as required, e.g. Microsoft Teams
- Made a note of the dial-in telephone number and the conference ID in case you have Wi-Fi problems (if you are unclear on this please contact Democratic Services)
- Accepted meeting requests
- The agenda and other documentation required for the meeting – electronically or hard copy
- A quiet and where possible confidential place to participate in the meeting without being disturbed.

On the Day of the Meeting

On the day of the meeting, as well as double checking the above and the time of the meeting, you must;

- Set up in a quiet and where possible confidential place,
- Make sure there is no light/window behind you,
- If using a tablet or phone, ensure it is stood securely and not moving around,
- Advise others around you that you are entering a meeting,
- Make sure you have everything you need, a drink, notepad, pen,
- Dress appropriately for the meeting,
- Enter the meeting 5 minutes early to ensure your camera/microphone is working and that you can be seen and heard (if using Microsoft Teams click on Join Microsoft Teams Meeting),
- Make sure your camera is at eye level so your face can be fully seen



- When joining, if asked, enter your first and second Name and title if you wish, set an appropriate/neutral background for the meeting and click 'join now,'
- Ensure that the Chair and officers from Democratic Services/Legal have noted your attendance.

During the Meeting

Whilst the meeting progresses you must ensure you treat the meeting in the same manner as a face to face meetings and have regard to the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Other Elected Members;

- Remember you likely are visible at all times particularly where meetings are recorded or streamed,
- Mute your microphone at all times when you are not speaking,
- Ensure your microphone is unmuted and your camera is on when speaking,
- If you have connection issues consider turning off your camera when you are not speaking,
- Only use the 'chat' facility if one is available to notify the Chair you wish to speak (do not use this facility for any other reason unless asked to do so by the Chair, as it is both visible to all other participants and could be disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act),
- Wait for the Chair to invite you to speak,
- Do not talk over other people,
- If you have technical problems, leave the meeting and try to return. If you are unable to do so, try an alternative method and/or telephone/dial-in.

After the Meeting

When the meeting ends;

- Leave the meeting clicking on the red button on the top right of the screen,
- Close down the Microsoft Teams application,
- Ensure any documentation from the meeting is securely stored or destroyed.

ENDS

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Bury Council Member Development Strategy 2020-24

Agreed at Member Development Group 14 September 2020 and recommended for approval by Cabinet and Council.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Council is a complex, democratically accountable organisation, which secures and provides a wide variety of public services for and on behalf of, the residents of Bury.

1.2 Councillors have a critical part to play to help deliver the aims of the Council. They are also involved in a range of other initiatives to help achieve positive outcomes for residents.

1.3 Councillors are representatives, servants, champions and leaders of their local communities. They make decisions, champion change, and challenge and scrutinise proposed actions, communicate Council plans and take up issues raised with them by constituents. The role is a demanding one. Strong and effective leadership is a key to effective, accountable and responsive local government and the more successful the Council is, the higher the expectations of the local community.

1.4 There are 51 elected members, 3 representing each of Bury's 17 electoral wards, elected by thirds each year. In May 2020, there were 28 Labour councillors, 16 Conservative councillors, 4 Liberal Democrat councillors, two Radcliffe First councillors and one Independent councillor.

1.5 The Council has a Cabinet of nine and has two overview and scrutiny committees, plus a number of regulatory and quasi-judicial committees. This structure provides a range of opportunities for leadership and other roles. Many of these roles are demanding and require specific skills. Finding opportunities for less experienced Councillors to develop the skills that will equip them for a future leadership role is an integral part of the Strategy.

1.6 Learning and development is key to being an effective and high performing local authority. A planned approach to needs assessment and identification, within the context of a sound Member Development Strategy, will help ensure that Councillors are equipped to help the Council define and implement sound policies and drive service performance, whether as an executive or non-executive Member.

1.7 The Member Development Group ("the Group") has been appointed to promote learning and development for all councillors. It comprises all the Political Group Leaders and is chaired by Cllr Trevor Holt, one of the longest serving councillors with over 36 years' service. The Group meets a minimum of 4 times a year.

1.8 An all member survey was carried out during August 2020 to seek councillors' views on member development and has been used to inform the Strategy and Training Plan for 2020/21 set out at Annexe 1.

1.9 The Local Government Association encourage and support continued professional development for councillors. They have published a Member Development Charter that provides councils with a robust framework as a guide and benchmark to follow.

1.10 The Charter sets out three essential criteria designed to help councils build their elected member capacity which have been used to shape this Strategy. These are:

1. There is a clear commitment to councillor development and support
2. The council has a strategic approach to councillor development
3. Learning and development is effective in building councillor capacity.

2. The Strategy

2.1 Developing, implementing and sustaining a strategic approach to Member Development in order to ensure that all Councillors are always adequately equipped to carry out their role as effectively as possible is the overarching purpose of the Strategy.

2.2 To do this, the Group has identified a number of strategic priorities for the period 2020-23, including:

- (i) Developing the leadership capabilities of Councillors to ensure continuity and clarity of direction for the community and the organisation;
- (ii) Recognising the impact caused by ongoing annual elections over the next 4 years with elections by thirds on current ward boundaries in 2021; all out elections on new ward boundaries in 2022, elections by thirds in 2023 and ongoing.
- (iii) Ensuring that Members understand the nature of the integrated arrangements with NHS Clinical Commissioning group for adult and health services across Bury.
- (iv) Recognising the impact of Covid-19 to the running of the council and on the health and wellbeing of Bury residents.
- (v) Supports the successful delivery of the Bury 2030 strategy and the role councillors will play in extending community voice and resident engagement
- (v) Implementing a training programme which:

- is based on a set of core requirements applicable to all Members, requirements tailored to Councillors undertaking specific roles and also addressing requirements identified by Councillors themselves ;
- is based on an agreed set of role descriptions for specific roles e.g. committee chair, cabinet member etc.
- includes high quality induction arrangements for new councillors
- recognises the demands created by having to operate in a post covid-19 environment which relies on remote communication, remote working and limited opportunities to meet face to face
- ensures equality of access to learning and development opportunities;
- includes a regular process of monitoring and review in order to ensure the effectiveness of the investment made in learning and development;
- is based on agreed priorities and budget allocation and ensures that best use is made of available resources.

3. Implementation

3.1 To ensure the implementation of this Strategy, the Head of Democratic Services (HDS) will discuss progress regularly with the Political Group Leaders to ensure that training and development is appropriate, relevant and addresses both individual and Council needs and priorities.

3.2 A budget of £XXX is allocated for learning and development for Councillors. The budget is managed by the HDS. In future, the HDS will agree annually any overriding priorities for the coming year with Group Leaders and will determine the budget required to meet those priorities.

3.3 Delivering the strategy and annual Training Plan will be overseen by the HDS, in consultation with the Group Leaders, who will report annually to the Standards Committee. The results of the annual Members' Survey will feed into the strategy which will be reviewed and updated as necessary.

4. Commitment

4.1 The effectiveness of the Strategy is dependent on a commitment from all Councillors to allocate time each year to reviewing their learning and development needs and to take an active part in the events that have been organised on their behalf.

4.2 Wherever possible learning should be shared with colleagues.

4.3 The Council recognises that, whilst many Members will already have served one or more terms and be knowledgeable and experienced, all Members have ongoing development needs. For example:

- as new Members gaining core skills or familiarising themselves with specific service areas;
- as a Member promoted or soon to be promoted to a position of responsibility requiring additional skills or knowledge;
- as a more experienced Member looking to refresh knowledge, skills or ways of working;
- all Members, requiring a briefing on key issues, such as council finances, or significant changes to the standards regime, the Constitution or other key procedures;
- all Members, to help them keep abreast of local and national drivers for change, especially in local policies and service delivery.

5. Equality of opportunity

5.1 Councillors have many competing demands on their time; many have full-time day jobs or family commitments that may make it difficult to find time for their own development. The Council is committed to looking for creative ways of enabling councillors to take part in development activities at times that are convenient to them.

6. Annual Training Plan

6.1 Bury elections take place every year. The Training Plan is therefore planned on an annual basis and includes a Member Induction Programme and refresher session on important aspects of governance and finance. The first Plan will cover the remainder of 2020/21 and 2021/22. There will be all out elections in 2022/3 and this will require a more intense Plan to support newly elected councillors at that time.

7. New Member induction

7.1 The Council will provide an extensive Induction Programme each year, made up of training sessions, written guidance and ward walks with one of the Council's most senior officers. It will start immediately following the elections each year for newly elected or re-elected Members and will continue by way of additional briefings and training relevant to their particular role.

7.2 The Induction materials used each time will be revised and republished every four years with effect from 2022 and constitute the written guidance which will be made available to all Members of the Council.

7.3 The Induction material will provide Members with a sound foundation of knowledge on the Council's powers and duties; the delivery of its services; the Members' Code of Conduct; local government finance, the inspection regime and

other requirements/constraints; the Council's organisational structure and principal service areas; and who to go to for ongoing support and advice.

8. Ongoing training

8.1 The Council will provide ongoing core skills training for Members on the basis both of needs identified by Members themselves and new opportunities identified by officers. These skills cover, for example, chairing meetings, media awareness, public speaking and presentation skills, dealing with casework/paperwork, IT skills and other, more 'political', skills (some of which may be more appropriately addressed within party groups).

8.2 A significant part of a Councillor's time is spend serving constituents and dealing with matters raised by them. Whilst some matters can simply be referred to officers, others require the Councillor to act as advocate for the constituent and to monitor or chase-up any delay in resolution of an issue. This involves significant organisational, mediation and negotiation skills and an ability to distinguish the priority casework items. The Council recognises that dealing efficiently and effectively with casework does not come naturally to all and any skills deficit must be addressed, whether through training, mentoring, shadowing or some other means. The Council will ensure that all Members receive training on casework management.

8.3 All political groups have a buddying system in place to support newly elected councillors or those who are appointed to a new position within the Council. In addition the Council seeks to make use of a range of external programmes such as the LGA Leadership Programme and the fast track programme for young councillors to help members develop their skills and knowledge.

9. Statutory and procedural requirements

9.1 The Council recognises that all Councillors must be conversant with the Council's Constitutional and procedural requirements, with ethical governance (the Members' Code of Conduct and standards regime), Data Protection and Freedom of Information.

9.2 The Council will seek the support of Group Leaders to organise, as appropriate, events which periodically refresh Members' knowledge and understanding of these areas and at which, in some cases, attendance may be mandatory. There will also be mandatory training for Members of the Council's Planning Control Committee and its Sub-Committees and of the Licensing and Safety Panel and its sub-committees.

9.3 In addition, Members will be offered regular briefings and/or training on the local government finance regime, budgets and financial planning, value for money and use of resources and audit and risk management.

10. External training opportunities

10.1 The Council will pay all reasonable travel and accommodation costs, in line with the provisions of the Members' Allowances Scheme, for learning and development events such as conferences and seminars organised externally. Any member who wishes to attend a conference or external event has to complete an internal booking form which outlines why they want to attend, what they will gain and the costs. This must be approved, in advance, by the HDS and their Group Leader.

11. Alternative learning methods

11.1 The Council recognises that Members have many calls upon their time and it is not always easy for them to attend formal learning and development events. The Covid -19 crisis has also restricted the opportunity to meet face to face at live training events. Also, different people learn in different ways and may not always respond to conventional delivery styles. In order to address these issues, the Council will seek to provide development opportunities through a variety of methods. Where practical and within budgetary constraints, the intended range will include, presentations, workshops, individual coaching, mentoring, e-learning, on-line resources and self-directed learning.

12. Evaluation

12.1 In order to monitor the effectiveness and value for money of any training, Members will be invited to complete a training evaluation form in respect of each education, training and development event attended. Feedback will also be sought annually via the Members' survey.

13. Budget

13.1 The Council will seek to ensure, as far as possible, that adequate budgetary provision is available to enable all Members to address development needs.

14. Publicity and communication

14.1 Member development opportunities will be advertised widely and as far in advance as possible.

15. Contacts and assistance

15.1 The delivery of Member training and development is administered by the Council's Democratic Services Team.

Marie Rosenthal
Strategic Advisor
2/09/20



Equality Analysis Form

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

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Department	Corporate Core	
Service	Deputy Chief Executive	
Proposed policy	Bury Council Constitution Review	
Date	24 November 2020 / 25 November 2020	
Officer responsible for the 'policy' and for completing the equality analysis	Name	Marie Rosenthal
	Post Title	Strategic Advisor
	Contact Number	0161 253 6252
	Signature	
	Date	29 October 2020

2. AIMS

What is the purpose of the policy/service and what is it intended to achieve?	To review the Bury Constitution to make sure it is up to date, lawful and capable of delivering its stated objectives.
Who are the main stakeholders?	Bury Councillors. Future candidates at Bury Council local elections. Current and future electorate. Community and voluntary organisations operating in the Borough.

3. ESTABLISHING RELEVANCE TO EQUALITY

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

Protected equality characteristic	Positive effect (Yes/No)	Negative effect (Yes/No)	Explanation
Race	Yes	No	Will ensure equal understanding and access to the Council and ability to

			participate in Council governance to all protected characteristics. Will provide a positive difference to all protected characteristics not just race through transparency of the rules and how to get involved
Disability	Yes	No	See above
Gender	Yes	No	See above
Gender reassignment	Yes	No	See above
Age	Yes	No	See above
Sexual orientation	Yes	No	See above
Religion or belief	Yes	No	See above
Caring responsibilities	Yes	No	See above
Pregnancy or maternity	Yes	No	See above
Marriage or civil partnership	Yes	No	See above

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

General Public Sector Equality Duties	Relevance (Yes/No)	Reason for the relevance
Need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010	Yes	Will ensure equality of access and understanding of Council governance across all areas of the Borough. A member development strategy which equips and enables ward members to operate as community connectors and best represent the

		views of diverse communities
Need to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (e.g. by removing or minimising disadvantages or meeting needs)	Yes	More robust scrutiny functions and capacity which will drive one of the council's inclusion objectives (more robust performance and scrutiny of equality functions) -
Need to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (e.g. by tackling prejudice or promoting understanding)	Yes	Will ensure equality of access and understanding of Council governance across all areas of the Borough. A member development strategy which equips and enables ward members to operate as community connectors and best represent the views of diverse communities

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

Go straight to Question 4

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

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

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

4. EQUALITY INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

4a. For a service plan, please list what equality information you currently have available (including a list of all EAs carried out on existing policies/procedures/strategies),

OR for a new/changed policy or practice please list what equality information you considered and engagement you have carried out in relation to it.

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

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

Details of the equality information or engagement	Internet link if published	Date last updated
Member led review		On going
All member survey August 2020		September 2020

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

[None identified at this stage.](#)

5. CONCLUSIONS OF THE EQUALITY ANALYSIS

What will the likely overall effect of your policy/service plan be on equality?	Increased equality of understanding and access to participate across the Borough. Citizens will have more equitable chance to speak to / make their views known to their councillor. Voice of each elector will be more equally represented by their respective local councillor.
If you identified any negative effects (see questions 3a) or discrimination what measures have you put in place to remove or mitigate them?	Not applicable.
Have you identified any further ways that you can advance equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations? If so, please give details.	Will ensure communications about the new Constitution is widely available across all channels.
What steps do you intend to take now in respect of the implementation of your policy/service plan?	Public communication campaign involving social media and other channels to promote public participation

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

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

Democratic services will review numbers of public questions and nature of decisions and opportunity to assess trends/issues across different community groups

COPIES OF THIS EQUALITY ANALYSIS FORM SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO ANY REPORTS/SERVICE PLANS AND ALSO SENT TO YOUR DEPARTMENTAL EQUALITY REPRESENTATIVE FOR RECORDING.

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**Classification****Open****Item No.**

Meeting:	COUNCIL
Meeting date:	25 NOVEMBER 2020
Title of report:	SUBMISSION OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK
Report by:	Cllr. Eamonn O'Brien – Leader of the Council
Decision Type:	Key Decision
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following consultation on two previous drafts in 2016 and 2019, Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment (the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework [GMSF]) has now progressed to the Publication stage.

This Publication GMSF is the version that each of the Greater Manchester districts believe should be submitted to the Government for Examination.

This report sets out some background information that gives a summary of what the GMSF is and why it is being produced. It then sets out a strategic overview of what the GMSF is planning for across Greater Manchester and highlights the key proposals for Bury in terms of homes, jobs, the environment, infrastructure and other background information. It also describes the key benefits that the GMSF will bring to Bury and examines the implications of Covid and the recently released Planning White Paper before setting out when and how consultation on the Publication GMSF will take place.

The Council's Cabinet met on the 11th November and approved GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and to make it available for comment over an 8-week period between **1 December 2020 and 26 January 2021**. However, it has been indicated that the Cabinet Report will be formally called-in for consideration at Overview and Scrutiny, which at the time of writing had not happened.

This report is seeking approval from Council to formally Submit the GMSF to the Government should Cabinet approval to consult on the Publication version materialise and the consultation take place.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Council:

1. Subject to Cabinet approving the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and supporting background documents for publication, agrees that these documents are submitted to the Secretary of State for examination pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 following the period for representations between 1 December 2020 and 26 January 2021; and
2. Delegates authority to the Lead Chief Executive, Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, in consultation with City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Portfolio Leader for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure to approve any minor or non-material changes to the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and background documents following the period for representations and prior to their submission to the Secretary of State for examination.

1 GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK – STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

- 1.1 There is a statutory requirement for local authorities to have an up-to-date development plan in place that identifies enough land to accommodate new homes and jobs for a growing population.
- 1.2 The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) is a plan that will meet this requirement. It seeks to provide the opportunities for inclusive economic growth, provide opportunities for provision of much needed homes and protect and enhance the natural environment. The full GMSF document is available via the Combined Authority's web site at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/the-plan/>.
- 1.3 The GMSF is not being prepared in isolation. It is one of the suite of strategic documents setting out how Greater Manchester can achieve the ambition set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy. It sits alongside other plans and strategies, including the Transport 2040 Delivery Plan, Local Industrial Strategy, Housing Strategy, 5 Year Environment Plan, Digital Strategy and Cultural Strategy. Each of these plans is part of a coherent set of measures that will seek to meet our overall objectives.
- 1.4 The GMSF is a high level, strategic plan and does not cover everything that a district local plan would. Bury will still need to produce a Local Plan that will complement and help to take forward the GMSF's strategic policies and also provide more detailed policies to support the creation of locally distinctive high quality places/neighbourhoods. Work is already underway on Bury's Local Plan and progress on this will run alongside the GMSF process. However, the GMSF will need to advance ahead of the Local Plan to provide the strategic basis for local planning policies.
- 1.5 The GMSF is supported by a wide range of GM-wide and site-specific evidence that has been prepared to inform and support the content of the GMSF. Appendix 1 to this report sets out all relevant documents together with links to the Combined Authority's web site which holds these documents.
- 1.6 In addition, a series of Topic Papers have prepared for each of the proposed site allocations in Bury, These pull together the key findings from the evidence gathered in connection with each of the proposed site allocations. The Topic Papers for each of the proposed site allocations are attached at Appendix 2.

GMSF - Process

- 1.7 In November 2014, AGMA Executive Board recommended to the 10 Greater Manchester local authorities that they agree to prepare a joint Development

Plan Document (Joint DPD), called the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). Further, the recommendation was that AGMA be appointed by the 10 authorities to prepare the GMSF on their behalf.

- 1.8 Over the course of 2014/15, the 10 authorities secured the approvals required to enable the GMSF to be prepared and for that preparation to be carried out by AGMA on their behalf. The first draft of the GMSF Joint DPD was published for consultation on 31st October 2016, ending on 16th January 2017. The consultation generated significant interest and over 27,000 responses were received.
- 1.9 A further consultation on the Revised Draft GMSF took place between January and March 2019 and over 17,000 responses were received at that stage. Since the consultation closed, work has been underway to analyse the responses (a consultation summary report was published in October 2019), finalise the evidence base and prepare a further version of the plan.
- 1.10 Progress on the GMSF was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic but it was agreed that:
 - The GMSF should continue to be progressed as a Joint Development Plan Document of the 10 authorities;
 - The next version of the plan would be the Publication Plan; and
 - Consultation on the Publication Plan would start in late 2020.
- 1.11 The 'Publication stage' is a formal consultation on the draft joint DPD pursuant to Reg. 19 of the Local Planning Regulations. It is a statutory stage that provides an opportunity for organisations and individuals to submit their final views on the content of the plan. The decision to 'Publish' the draft joint DPD is an Executive decision for the GM local authorities.
- 1.12 Following consultation on the Publication Plan, the draft GMSF and the representations made at the Publication stage are sent to the Secretary of State – this is called the 'Submission stage', pursuant to Reg. 22 of the Local Planning Regulations. Upon completion of the consultation on the Publication early in 2021, a post-consultation report will be prepared and then the plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in mid- 2021. Submission requires approval of each of the 10 Full Councils of the GM local authorities. Whilst anyone can make a representation on any point, only those pertaining to the four tests of soundness¹ will be taken into account by the Inspector(s). If major new issues arise at the Publication consultation stage there would need to be further consultation prior to any submission of the plan.

¹ As set out in NPPF para 35

- 1.13 Following submission, an Examination in Public takes place at which a Planning Inspector(s) will consider the joint DPD and representations made in respect of it and determine whether the DPD is capable of being adopted, either with or without amendments.
- 1.14 Assuming that the document is capable of adoption, whether with or without amendments, the ultimate decision to adopt must be taken by each of the 10 Full Councils.
- 1.15 For Bury, the policies and proposals set out in the Publication GMSF will replace some of the current Unitary Development Plan (UDP) policies when formally adopted and will form part of Bury's statutory development plan. A list of the UDP policies that will be replaced by the GMSF can be found in Appendix 3. The Local Plan will then provide more detailed local policies, replacing the remaining UDP policies.

GMSF 2020: Publication Plan

- 1.16 The Greater Manchester Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment: the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework Publication Plan 2020 (GMSF 2020) is our plan to manage growth so that Greater Manchester is a better place to live, work and visit. It will:
- set out how Greater Manchester should develop up to the year 2037;
 - identify the amount of new development that will come forward across the 10 districts, in terms of housing, offices, and industry and warehousing, and the main areas in which this will be focused;
 - identify the important environmental assets across the conurbation which will be protected and enhanced;
 - allocate sites for employment and housing outside of the urban area;
 - support the delivery of key infrastructure, such as transport and utilities;
 - define a new Green Belt boundary for Greater Manchester.
- 1.17 The Publication GMSF includes a spatial strategy which seeks to deliver sustainable and inclusive growth through three key elements:
- **Significant growth in jobs and housing at the core** – continuing development in the 'core growth area' encompassing the city centre and beyond to the Etihad in the east, through to the Quays, Trafford Park and Port Salford in the west. The majority of commercial employment growth and a significant amount of the overall housing supply is proposed in this area;

- **Boosting the competitiveness of the northern districts** – provision of new employment opportunities and a commitment that collectively the northern districts meet their own local housing need;
- **Sustaining the competitiveness of the southern districts** – supporting key economic drivers, such as around Wythenshawe hospital and the Airport, realising the opportunities offered by national infrastructure investment, e.g. HS2, whilst recognising the important green infrastructure assets in the area.

Statement of Common Ground

- 1.18 One key supporting document will be a strategic Statement of Common Ground. This will set out the key matters between the ten authorities agreeing on the distribution and quantum of development contained in the Publication Plan. It will also deal with any matters with other organisations that require to be agreed to enable the Publication Plan to be submitted next year. There may be a need for additional Statements of Common Ground to deal with specific matters linked to the proposed site allocations and these will be the responsibility of the relevant local authority to draw up if required. The recommendation requests that responsibility for this is delegated to the Director of Economic Regeneration and Capital Growth.

2 PLAN FOR HOMES

- 2.1 It is important that we plan to provide a range of new homes to accommodate the housing needs of a growing population, including much needed affordable homes.
- 2.2 The Government has introduced a standard methodology for calculating Local Housing Needs (LHN) to provide local authorities with a clear and consistent understanding of the number of new homes needed in an area. If insufficient new homes are provided to meet increasing demand, then there is a risk that affordability levels will worsen and people will not have access to suitable accommodation that meets their needs. The construction of new housing is also an important part of the economy, providing large numbers of jobs and often securing the redevelopment of derelict and underused sites.
- 2.3 Applying the current methodology means that a minimum of 179,078 new homes will be required across Greater Manchester over the plan period (2020-2037).
- 2.4 The plan sets out Greater Manchester's commitment to deliver a significant proportion of these as affordable housing - 50,000 units over the plan period, including 30,000 for social rent.

Plan for Homes – Bury

- 2.5 For Bury, the Government's standard methodology gives a Local Housing Need (LHN) target of 10,217 homes over the plan period (601 homes per year). This is the baseline starting point for a plan to consider.
- 2.6 The GMSF process allows for a redistribution of Bury's LHN within the conurbation to reflect the availability of land or to reflect strategic policies. As a result, Bury has been able to reduce the baseline housing target over the plan period to 7,670 homes (average of 451 homes per year).
- 2.7 Bury's proposed housing target in the GMSF therefore represents 4.2% of the total Greater Manchester housing target, which is the lowest in Greater Manchester.
- 2.8 This is a reduction of 2,547 units on the Governments minimum LHN for the Borough. The GMSF target is therefore 75% of the LHN, which is a fall from 82% on the previous version of the GMSF.
- 2.9 However, as a Borough, we do not have enough land within the urban area or on brownfield sites to meet even this reduced target. Bury's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment identifies that there is only enough land to accommodate 3,963 homes. This supply largely consists of brownfield sites within the existing urban area, including the potential development sites within our town centres and other brownfield sites such as the former East Lancashire Paper Mill site and the former Tetrosyl site at Bevis Green in Walmersley.
- 2.10 This supply shortfall means that the following Green Belt sites are proposed to be released through the GMSF to meet the reduced target as well as providing a defensible buffer on top of the supply.

Site	No. of homes within the plan period
Castle Road, Unsworth (Northern Gateway)	200
Simister/Bowlee (Northern Gateway)	1,350
Walshaw	1,250
Elton Reservoir	1,900 (further 1,600 post plan)
Seedfield	140
Total	4,840

- 2.11 Together, the baseline supply and the proposed housing within the plan period on Green Belt sites are estimated to have the capacity to deliver around 8,803 units. This provides a 14.8% buffer on top of the supply to allow for sites not coming forward as envisaged over the plan period. Buffers are a standard requirement in development plans to provide flexibility in the supply and there is a 17% buffer against the total Greater Manchester target.
- 2.12 The GMSF proposals include the release of Green Belt land beyond the plan period for residential development at the Elton Reservoir site (which has been consulted on in the previous two iterations). This is because the site is key to delivering significant upfront investment into essential strategic infrastructure and the site needs the long term certainty on the scale of development to withstand the costs. The natural development of this site, using standard build out rates, will mean that the scale of delivery will extend beyond the plan period.
- 2.13 It should be noted that if the GMSF had a baseline housing target for Bury that reflected the minimum LHN (10,217), there would still be a need for a buffer to be identified on top of this. At 14.8% this would equate to an additional 1,514 units. It would still only be feasible for the Elton Reservoir site to deliver 1,900 within the plan period, with 1,600 post plan. The total housing figures (including post-plan) would therefore equate to 13,331 as opposed to the current GMSF figures of 10,406 (an increase of 2,925). This is illustrated in the diagram below.



- 2.14 Importantly, the reduction in Bury's housing target within the Publication GMSF means that the amount of Green Belt that is proposed to be released for residential development has been reduced by 192 hectares since the 2019 draft GMSF. This has been met through the removal of the Whitefield site (600 units) and a significant reduction of land in the Simister / Bowlee allocation (reduction of 700 units).

Strategic Sites

- 2.15 Not only does the GMSF help to reduce the amount of Green Belt needed to meet the local housing need in Bury, it also means that the sites that are proposed are those that deliver strategic benefits over the longer term. This is because the GMSF gives Bury a lower housing target in the early years of the plan which will give us time to bring forward and develop essential infrastructure in and around the strategic sites proposed (as well as our limited supply of brownfield sites). This includes a strategic link road through the Elton site that will provide much needed resilience and extra capacity on our highway network, as well as public transport and education investments.
- 2.16 A higher target earlier in the plan period would require additional small sites that could be brought forward in the short term. However, such sites would not be able to deliver any tangible new infrastructure provision of the scale needed.

Type of Housing

- 2.17 During the previous GMSF consultations there was a general acceptance that the Borough needs more housing of all types and sizes and across a range of tenures. Whilst we would like to meet the full housing needs of all of our residents over the plan period, the constraints of the Green Belt and ability to deliver infrastructure means that there are significant challenges in doing so. It is considered that the GMSF strikes the right balance in providing new homes and infrastructure, whilst reducing the amount of Green Belt released.
- 2.18 The housing sites proposed through the GMSF will include a mix of house types, sizes and tenures. This will include 1 and 2 bedroom properties as well as 3 and 4 bedroom properties.
- 2.19 It will also include a significant amount of affordable housing in line with local policy requirements designed to meet the needs identified in Bury's Housing Needs Survey and the emerging Housing Strategy. It is estimated that, in addition to provision of affordable housing provided on sites within the existing land supply, the sites identified in the GMSF will deliver over 1,200 affordable homes during the plan period (25% of the total homes proposed in the GMSF).

- 2.20 New housing will also include provision for special needs housing, such as accommodation for the elderly.

3 PLAN FOR JOBS

- 3.1 Economic growth is central to the overall strategy for Greater Manchester. It will be essential to raising incomes, improving health and quality of life and generating the finances to deliver better infrastructure, services and facilities.
- 3.2 Greater Manchester has the opportunity to lead with the 'levelling up' agenda by helping to deliver a more successful North of England and aiding the long-term economic success of the country as a whole.
- 3.3 As such, the GMSF supports high levels of economic growth across Greater Manchester and seeks to put in place the measures that will enable such growth to continue in the longer-term. However, delivering these high levels of growth means that Greater Manchester will need to continue to invest in the sites and critical infrastructure that will make it an even more attractive place for businesses to invest, bringing high-value, well paid jobs, to the city region, and supporting the continued progress towards a low-carbon economy.
- 3.4 In pursuit of this, the GMSF proposes at least 2,500,000 sq.m. of new office floorspace and at least 4,100,000 sq.m. of industrial and warehousing floorspace across Greater Manchester over the plan period.

Plan for Jobs – Bury

- 3.5 Over recent years, the northern areas of Greater Manchester, including Bury, have seen relatively low levels of growth overall compared to other parts of the city region, particularly in the south of the sub-region. In Bury, a major contributing factor to this has been an inadequate supply of employment land which has undoubtedly held back the Borough's economy due to the lack of opportunities for attracting new inward investment and for the Borough's existing businesses to grow.
- 3.6 If these disparities between the northern and southern areas increase, this will be harmful not only to the prospects for the north but also to those of Greater Manchester as a whole. As a result, a key aim of the GMSF is to significantly boost the competitiveness of and economic output from the northern parts of Greater Manchester to deliver more balanced and inclusive growth across the sub-region. As a northern Borough, Bury has a key role to play in achieving this aim.
- 3.7 In terms of office development, 40,206 sq.m. is proposed in Bury over the plan period. This equates to 1.2% of the total proposed for Greater

Manchester reflecting the fact that the majority of office development will take place in the inner core areas of Manchester and Salford.

- 3.8 However, it is through industrial and warehousing development that Bury is well placed to play a more significant role and this will not only help Bury to contribute towards an improved economic output from the north of the city region but will also help to address the longstanding local issue around the severe lack of land for industrial and warehousing development in Bury.
- 3.9 At present, the Borough has by far the lowest existing baseline supply of land for industrial and warehousing of any Greater Manchester district with a supply that is capable of accommodating only 10,231 sq,m, of floorspace - equating to only 0.5% of Greater Manchester's total existing supply. This has been a longstanding issue for Bury that has, without doubt, held back the Borough's economy and has led to a number of Bury companies having to relocate elsewhere due to a lack of opportunity to expand or relocate within the Borough.
- 3.10 The GMSF seeks to increase the supply of industry and warehousing in Bury through the proposals for employment-led development at the Northern Gateway (Heywood/Pilsworth). It is estimated that the full development of this site across Bury and Rochdale could generate 1.2 million sq.m. of industrial and warehousing floorspace (including an Advanced Manufacturing Park), creating a large amount of new job opportunities that would be highly accessible to Bury residents.
- 3.11 Of this 1.2million sq.m, around 856,000 sq.m. is proposed for Bury – 491,000 sq.m. of which is expected to come forward within the plan period. Together with the existing supply of 10,231sq.m. the addition of the Heywood/Pilsworth site would give Bury a total supply of industrial and warehousing land capable of accommodating 501,231 sq.m within the plan period with further potential beyond 2037.
- 3.12 The total proposed supply of 501,231 sq.m. would significantly increase Bury's contribution to 11.6% of Greater Manchester's total supply of industrial and warehousing floorspace within the plan period.
- 3.13 The remaining potential (365,000sqm) is expected to follow post-plan.
- 3.14 At 310 hectares of land, these employment proposals represent the largest proposed release of land in Bury under the GMSF (net Green Belt loss in Bury is proposed to be 520 hectares).

4 PLAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- 4.1 The GMSF is not just about accommodating development. It also includes a range of policies designed to protect and enhance Greater Manchester's many and varied green spaces and features which are used in many different ways and afforded many different values by the people who live, work or visit the city-region.
- 4.2 The GMSF supports the important role of Greater Manchester's natural assets by:
- Valuing the special qualities and key sensitivities of Greater Manchester's landscapes;
 - Seeking to protect and enhance Greater Manchester's network of green and blue infrastructure;
 - Seeking a significant overall enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity; and
 - Seeking to maintain a new and defensible Green Belt which will endure beyond this plan period.
- 4.3 Furthermore, the GMSF supports wider strategies around clean air, walking and cycling and underpins Greater Manchester's ambition to be a carbon neutral city-region by 2038. A key element of this is to require all new development to be net zero carbon by 2028 and to keep fossil fuels in the ground.

Plan for the Environment – Bury

- 4.4 The GMSF's strategic environmental policies are high-level and generic policies that will, where applicable, apply to development proposals in Bury. They cover a wide range of environmental issues, include policies relating to:
- Carbon reduction and energy;
 - Flood risk;
 - Clean air;
 - Landscapes;
 - Green infrastructure;
 - River valleys and waterways;
 - Lowland wetlands and mosslands;
 - Uplands;
 - Urban green space;

- Trees and woodlands;
- Biodiversity and geodiversity; and
- Heritage.

4.5 These policies will either replace some of the current local policies contained in Bury's UDP and/or provide additional policy support for the protection of the Borough's built and natural environments.

5 PLAN FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

- 5.1 The GMSF will need to be supported by significant investment in the sub-region's infrastructure including roads, public transport, energy and utilities as well as schools and health facilities.
- 5.2 Future climate change pressures will also require the city-region to adapt to bigger shocks and stresses, such as increased heat, drought and flood risk.
- 5.3 The quality, distribution and resilience of infrastructure will be important in ensuring that the GMSF is successfully implemented and delivered. Infrastructure is essential to support the delivery of the GMSF's vision and objectives.
- 5.4 The capacity of the utility network to accommodate increased demand is considered generally robust. However, an increasing population, economic growth and changes in technology will increase demand, both for new and existing infrastructure. Combined with a backlog of capital investment, historically low levels of investment compared to other countries and continually growing and changing expectations for infrastructure, requirements over the next thirty years will be substantial.
- 5.5 As mentioned, the GMSF is one of a suite of complementary documents designed to support the long-term aspirations for Greater Manchester. This includes the Greater Manchester Infrastructure Framework which is a precursor to the development of a Greater Manchester Infrastructure Strategy. It frames the key issues and priorities which the Infrastructure Strategy should seek to address.
- 5.6 A Greater Manchester Strategic Infrastructure Board has been established which includes representatives from United Utilities, Electricity North West, Cadent, Environment Agency, Transport for Greater Manchester as well as GMCA officers and Chief Resilience Officer. The Strategic Infrastructure Board will consider and respond to the issues and challenges raised by the Infrastructure Framework and will help shape the Infrastructure Strategy.
- 5.7 Importantly, the Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) 2040 Implementation Plan has been drafted and this will seek to deliver some of the

key highway and public transport infrastructure interventions associated with some of the GMSF proposals and other developments.

Plan for infrastructure - Bury

5.8 The GMSF identifies a range of physical and social infrastructure interventions that will be required to support the new development proposals in Bury, including:

- New link roads – to improve connectivity and traffic movement and help to address issues on the existing road network. For example, the Elton Reservoir site will require the provision of a strategic spine road connecting Bury and Bolton Road (A58) to Bury Road in Radcliffe in order to provide an alternative route to Bury Bridge/around Bury Town centre.
- Junction improvements – to improve accessibility and traffic movement, significant junction improvements and reconfiguration (in and around sites) are required. Whilst there will be a more obvious requirement for improvements to directly support and mitigate for the impact of new traffic associated with the development sites, there will also be a requirement to implement improvements further afield. Improvements will be required on both the strategic road network (e.g. motorway junctions) as well as those on the local road network.
- Public transport – including improving access to public transport, providing more sustainable transport options through the provision of a new Metrolink station at Warth to support the development of the Elton Reservoir area and a potential tram-train operation along the route of the East Lancashire Railway between Bury and Rochdale to improve access to the proposed employment development at Heywood/Pilsworth.
- Pedestrian/cycle routes – to allow effective integration between the sites and their surrounding communities there will be a need for improved linkages and connections for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Education – the provision of primary schools to specifically support development proposals for Walshaw, the Elton Reservoir area and the Simister/Bowlee site; and contributions towards improving capacity at existing schools.
- Flood Risk – the proposed development sites will need to ensure that the developments would not pose any additional risk of flooding, and where possible, seek to reduce flood risk. This includes fluvial and surface water flood risk and sites will need to incorporate sustainable urban drainage systems to address this issue.
- Healthcare - Additional healthcare provision where required.

- Other infrastructure - Provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points.

5.9 These infrastructure requirements will be embedded within the GMSF's statutory planning policies for each of the proposed site allocations and any planning applications for development on these sites will need to be in line with these policy requirements for them to be approved. Planning conditions and legal agreements will ensure that the necessary infrastructure is delivered at an appropriate stage in the development.

6 PLAN FOR GREEN BELT

6.1 The Publication GMSF proposes a limited release of a Green Belt for both housing and employment. The net loss of Green Belt across Greater Manchester is 1,939 ha. This represents a reduction of over 60% (60.3%) from what was proposed in the first draft of the GMSF in 2016 and a 19% reduction from 2019 draft. This has been achieved through:

- Reducing the number of proposed sites;
- Reducing the extent of Green Belt release within sites; and
- Proposing a limited number of Green Belt additions.

6.2 The current Greater Manchester Green Belt covers 46.9% of the land area of Greater Manchester. The proposals in the Publication GMSF would reduce this by around 1.5% meaning that 45.3% of Greater Manchester land area would remain designated Green Belt.

Plan for Green Belt – Bury

6.3 The sites in Bury that have been proposed for employment and housing development in the GMSF have evolved as the GMSF has progressed through its various stages of preparation. These changes to the sites have been made to reflect new and updated evidence and public views expressed in response to consultation on the previous drafts.

6.4 The changes have resulted in a significant reduction in the proposed net loss of Green Belt in the current Publication GMSF compared to what was originally proposed in the first draft in 2016 and what was subsequently proposed in the revised draft in 2019.

6.5 The original 2016 draft proposed the release of 1,210 hectares (20%) of the Borough's Green Belt. However, the subsequent removal of sites at Baldingstone and Holcombe Brook; reductions to the loss of Green Belt at Walshaw, Elton and Heywood/Pilsworth; and a number of new additions to the Green Belt meant that the revised 2019 draft involved a reduced net loss of 714 hectares (12%) of the Green Belt.

- 6.6 Further revisions have been made to the sites proposed in the Publication GMSF. In particular, the site at Whitefield has now been removed and there has been a significant reduction in the extent of the site at Simister/Bowlee which retains Simister Village within the Green Belt. These additional amendments mean that the Publication GMSF is now proposing a net loss of 520 hectares (9%) of the Borough's Green Belt.
- 6.7 The majority of the proposed Green Belt release in the Borough is for employment development at the Northern Gateway site, which accounts for 310 hectares of the total 520 hectares proposed for release.
- 6.8 Bury's Green Belt currently covers 5,904 hectares of the total land area of the Borough (i.e. 59.5%). The proposals in the Publication GMSF to reduce this by 520 hectares would mean that 5,384 hectares would remain as Green Belt land. This would mean that 54.5% of the Borough would remain Green Belt land, which is the third highest proportion of any district in Greater Manchester, behind only Rochdale and Wigan.

7 SITE SELECTION

- 7.1 In November 2015, a 'Call for Sites' exercise was launched whereby local residents, businesses, land owners and developers were invited to identify sites that they thought could be suitable for housing or employment development.
- 7.2 Following the 'Call for Sites', all sites were assessed against a series of key principles to determine their suitability as potential sites to be included within the GMSF.
- 7.3 The approach to site selection used for the 2016 draft has been reviewed and refined at each subsequent stage. This was partly in response to comments raised during consultation, but also because the preparation of a development plan is, by its very nature, an iterative process that needs to evolve and be justifiable as 'an appropriate strategy' in accordance with paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 7.4 Furthermore, it should also be noted that, as part of the process of preparing the drafts of the GMSF, it has also been necessary to consider all the evidence base to ensure that sites are deliverable. The site selection process is just one part of that evidence.
- 7.5 In Bury, the Publication GMSF proposes a small number of large sites. In doing so, the sites are of sufficient scale for them to include the provision of essential, strategic infrastructure.

- 7.6 Pursuing an alternative approach of identifying a large number of small sites would mean that the sites would be unable to deliver the scale of infrastructure required to support the overall level of development needed which, in turn, would lead to an unacceptable increase in pressure on existing infrastructure. As indicated above, the GMSF gives Bury a lower housing target in the early part of the plan period to give these sites the time to bring forward the necessary infrastructure.
- 7.7 In terms of their location, Bury's sites are largely contained within or well-related to the existing urban area which helps to promote 'inward growth' as opposed to urban sprawl. This will enable any development to build on opportunities to access or improve existing infrastructure.

8 IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19

- 8.1 Covid-19 has had a major impact on the way people live and work over the shorter term and there remains a degree of uncertainty over its impact in the long term.
- 8.2 However, the Government has been very clear that we need to positively plan for recovery. The Prime Minister made his 'Build, Build, Build' announcement at the end of June 2020 setting a context for England as we continue to live through the pandemic.
- 8.3 The need for a spatial plan to provide certainty and guide development, investment and infrastructure has never been stronger. There is a very strong message that Covid-19 should not be a reason to delay either the preparation of statutory plans or the determination of planning applications. The Government has published updated planning guidance, including temporary measures for the planning system (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-planning-update>).
- 8.4 In terms of Local Plans, the guidance is clear that the Government want to see Local Plans progressing through the system as a vital means for supporting economic recovery in line with the Government's aspirations to have up-to-date plans in place across the country by 2023.
- 8.5 The GMSF is an essential building block of the city-region's long term success and recovery. In short, it will demonstrate what 'building back better' means spatially for Greater Manchester.
- 8.6 To assist in progressing plans, Government has introduced temporary arrangements through the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 which change the requirements to make certain documents available for inspection and on request. These regulations make temporary changes to how documents are

required to be made available under regulation 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 ("the 2012 Regulations"). They temporarily remove the requirement on a local planning authority to make documents available for public inspection at the authority's principal office and at such other places as the authority considers appropriate. They also make temporary changes to regulation 36 of the 2012 Regulations to remove the requirement on a local planning authority to provide hard copies of documents made available under regulation 35. Documents are still required to be made available on the local planning authority's website.

- 8.7 These temporary arrangements are in place until 31 December 2020 but it is expected that the Government will extend these, particularly in light of current circumstances with Covid-19. Nevertheless, the situation will be kept under constant review and, if necessary, arrangements will be adapted to respond to any change in circumstances.

9 CONSULTATION ON THE PUBLICATION GMSF

- 9.1 Following consultation on two previous drafts of the GMSF in 2016 and 2019, the document has now progressed to the Publication stage which is effectively the final draft of the plan and that which each of the Greater Manchester districts consider should be the final plan to be submitted to Government.
- 9.2 It is now proposed that the Publication GMSF should be subject to a further eight-week period of public consultation between **1 December 2020 and 26 January 2021**.
- 9.3 The GMSF and key supporting evidence will have been in the public domain for over five weeks before the start of formal consultation, allowing people to view and familiarise themselves with the content.
- 9.4 This is an important consultation stage in the plan-making process because it will be the comments made at this stage that will be submitted to Government and considered by the appointed Planning Inspector(s) as part of the Examination of the plan. Comments made at previous stages have been used to inform the production of the plan to this point and these will also be summarised in a Consultation Report as part of the submitted documentation.
- 9.5 Whilst anyone can make a representation on any point in the plan, only those pertaining to the four tests of soundness set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) will be taken into account by the Planning Inspectorate i.e. whether the plan is:
- a) **Positively prepared** – providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs; and is informed by

agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development;

- b) **Justified** – an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence;
- c) **Effective** – deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground; and
- d) **Consistent with national policy** – enabling the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the NPPF.

9.6 The Government has been clear that the challenge posed by Covid-19 is not a sufficient reason to delay plan preparation. The Council has recently consulted on revisions to its Statement of Community Involvement to respond to current Covid-19 guidance that affects how we would normally consult including, for example, holding of face-to-face community events or the provision of physical documents for inspection in public buildings.

9.7 However, effective community engagement will still be promoted by means which are reasonably practicable. Government guidance strongly encourages the use of online engagement methods. Engagement strategies are being prepared which consider the use of the following:

- virtual exhibitions;
- digital consultations;
- video conferencing; and
- social media and online chat functions.

9.8 Reasonable steps will also be taken to ensure sections of the community that don't have internet access are involved and consider alternative and creative ways to achieve this. This could include:

- Posting information on request (e.g. particular information on a site);
- Deposit points for the plan (subject to restrictions);
- Engaging sections of the community, that do not have internet access, through representative groups rather than directly;
- Using existing networks;
- Allowing individuals to nominate an advocate to share views on their behalf;
- Providing telephone information lines; and
- Providing timed face-to-face information sessions for community representatives (depending on restrictions at that point in time).

- 9.9 Given the uncertainty around the type of local/national lockdown which may be in place at the time the consultation, different methods will be developed to respond to different levels of social distancing/public interaction which may be possible.

What happens following consultation?

- 9.10 Following this consultation, it is proposed that the Publication GMSF be formally submitted to the Government alongside all supporting evidence and the Government will then appoint a Planning Inspector (or a panel of Inspectors) to undertake an Examination of the GMSF.
- 9.11 Importantly, all representations made at the Publication stage will also be submitted to the Government and these will be considered by the Inspector(s) as part of the Examination of the plan (where the representation is considered relevant to the NPPF's four tests of soundness).
- 9.12 An Examination in Public will then take place at which a Planning Inspector will consider the GMSF, its supporting evidence and representations made in respect of it and determine whether it is capable of being adopted, either with or without amendments.
- 9.13 Assuming that the GMSF is found to be capable of adoption, the ultimate decision to adopt it must be taken by each of the 10 Full Councils.

10 SUMMARY

- 10.1 It is considered that working with our Greater Manchester colleagues through the GMSF brings a number of important advantages:
- **An up-to-date plan** – Bury's current development plan is the Unitary Development Plan which was adopted in 1997 and is now significantly out of date. The Council has twice tried and failed to get a replacement plan in place over that time but this met with significant challenge as it did not meet housing needs. The Government has indicated that it will intervene in and potentially take over the plan-making process where local authorities do not have an up-to-date plan by December 2023 – which could remove local controls over plan-making. The GMSF will enable Bury to avoid these sanctions by meeting its statutory requirement to have an up-to-date plan in place covering strategic planning issues.
 - **A stronger local economy** – One of the key aims of the GMSF is to significantly boost the competitiveness and economic output from the north of the conurbation in order to address the current imbalance in the Greater Manchester economy. The proposal at the Northern Gateway (Heywood/Pilsworth) is key to the delivery of this objective. The jobs and investment generated from this site will help to create a sustained reduction

in inequalities and improve the lives of our residents whilst also helping in post-Brexit and post-Covid recovery.

- **Significant infrastructure investment** - In contrast to identifying smaller, short-term sites, the GMSF also allows us to bring forward a small number of large, strategic sites that can pave the way for significant investment in the physical and social infrastructure required to support development.
- **Reduced impact on the Green Belt** - Collaborative working on the GMSF by the ten Greater Manchester districts has allowed for a redistribution of housing needs to enable more development to be focussed in more sustainable locations, such as in the inner core areas of Manchester and Salford. This has enabled Bury to off-set 2,547 homes from our Local Housing Need to other districts which would otherwise have to be accommodated within the Borough. This has allowed Bury to reduce the amount of Green Belt land required for development.

10.2 It is important to recognise that if the GMSF did not exist or if Bury were not a participant in the process, the strategic matters that are currently dealt with through the GMSF would still need to be covered by the Local Plan. However, the advantages of collaborative working outlined above would be lost.

Other alternative options considered

For Bury to withdraw from the GMSF process and to only produce a Local Plan – the implications of this option are set out in the report.

Community impact

The GMSF is about providing the right homes, in the right places, for people across our city region, including Bury, up to 2037. It's also about creating jobs and improving infrastructure to ensure the future prosperity of Greater Manchester and Bury.

Whilst one of the key purposes of the GMSF is to make provision for the homes and jobs needed across Greater Manchester, it is also about establishing a framework for reducing inequalities, improving the lives of our residents, and transforming Greater Manchester into the world-leading city-region for the benefit of Greater Manchester's communities.

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Equality Analysis	<i>Please provide a written explanation of the outcome(s) of either conducting an initial or full EA.</i>
An Equality Analysis has been undertaken in respect of the Manchester Spatial Framework and the outcomes of this analysis can be seen at Appendix 4.	

**Please note: Approval of a cabinet report is paused when the 'Equality/Diversity implications' section is left blank and approval will only be considered when this section is completed.*

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Potential risk to the public and council staff in holding public consultation during the Covid-19 pandemic.	In line with government guidance, the Council will temporarily cease forms of engagement that involve public gatherings and/or face-to-face contact whilst social distancing measures are in place. In the interim period alternative methods of engagement will be utilised - for example holding

	virtual exhibitions, digital consultations, video conferencing and utilising social media platforms.

Consultation:

See section on consultation within the main body of the report.

Legal Implications:

The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework will form part of the statutory development plan for each of the Greater Manchester districts and, alongside the emerging Bury Local Plan, will replace the Bury Unitary Development Plan. All development plans must be prepared in accordance with statutory processes. This report sets out an overview of the latest publication Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, highlighting some of the key proposals in Bury and seeks approval for the document to be subject to a formal period of consultation to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to make their views known before these are submitted to the Government to be considered as part of the Examination of the GMSF. The formal submission of the GMSF will have to be approved by the Council as part of the Policy Framework. There are no other legal concerns at this point, but if the proposal is approved, further detailed input will be required from the Council Solicitor in due course.

The legislative and constitutional requirements for the preparation of a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) are set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. These have been complied with and legal advice provided at all stages.

The joint DPD will now be the subject of two further stages as it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination under the 2004 Act, along with the documents prescribed by the 2012 Regulations and prior to submission to the Secretary of State, it must be published and representations invited, pursuant to the 2012 Regulations. This will involve, a formal consultation on the draft.

The decision to publish the draft joint DPD is an executive decision for all of the GM local authorities and in Bury must be made by Cabinet. At the end of the consultation period, the draft joint DPD and all representations received are then sent to the Secretary of State. This final submission is likely to happen in summer 2021 and requires approval to submit of each of the 10 Full Councils of the GM local authorities, as it is a Council decision to submit the joint DPD.

Financial Implications:

This report does not commit the Council to any financial decisions but seeks to establish a strategic planning policy framework for Greater Manchester, including Bury. Implementing any schemes aligned to the framework will be subject to decision making at that time which will include a full assessment of the financial implications including affordability that will take into account costs and additional revenue income that may be generated.

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Background papers:

- The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework: Publication Draft 2020.
- Key supporting evidence.

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF)	The GMSF is Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment. It is a statutory Development Plan Document that provides the strategic basis for planning future growth and development in Greater Manchester up to 2037.
Brownfield Land	Brownfield land is land that has previously been developed. It might be overgrown and look like a green space, still have buildings on it or be derelict.
Greenfield Land	Greenfield sites are undeveloped green spaces found in both urban and rural areas. Greenfield sites are not all found within the Green Belt. A park in an urban

	area, for example, would also be defined as a greenfield site.
Local Housing Need (LHN)	The minimum number of homes needed in a particular area calculated using the Government's standard methodology.

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Appendix 1 – Links to Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and Supporting Documents

GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK	
Publication GMSF 2020 - https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/the-plan/	
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
The following documents support the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and can be found under the respective headings at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/	
Plan Wide	
1A. GMSF Integrated Appraisal Report	
1B. GMSF Integrated Appraisal Addendum Report	
1C. GMSF Integrated Appraisal Non-Technical Summary	
1D. GMSF Integrated Assessment Scoping Report 2020	
1E. Integrated Assessment of GMSF 2020 Growth and Spatial Options Paper	
2. Habitats Regulations Appraisal	
4A. Land Supply Data (Housing)	
4B. Land Supply Data (Industry and Warehousing)	
4C. Land Supply Data (Office)	
5. Site Selection Process	
6. Growth and Spatial Options	
7A. GMSF Strategic Viability Assessment Stage 1	
7B. GMSF Strategic Viability Assessment Stage 1 Technical Appendices	
7C. GMSF Strategic Viability Assessment Stage 2 Allocated Sites	
Chapter 5- A Sustainable and Resilient GM	
8A. Carbon & Energy Implementation Part 1- Technical Analysis	
8B. Carbon & Energy Implementation Part 2-Carbon Offsetting	
8C. Carbon & Energy Implementation Part 2-Fund Size Appendix B	
9A. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1	
9L. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 Appendix B Site Assessment Part 1	
9M. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 Appendix B Site Assessment Part 2	
9N. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 Appendix C - Development Site Assessment Summary Reports	
9O. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 Appendix D - Functional Floodplain Methodology	
9P. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 Appendix E - GMCA Climate Change Models	
9Q. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 Appendix F - SUDS Techniques and Suitability	
10. GM Flood Risk Management Framework	
11. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 2 - Report and Appendices	
12. Flood Risk Sequential Test and Exception Test Evidence Paper	

13. Carbon & Fracking
Chapter 6- A Prosperous Greater Manchester
14. Economic Forecasts for Greater Manchester
15. Employment Land Needs in Greater Manchester
16. Covid-19 and the GMSF Growth Options
Chapter 7- Homes for Greater Manchester
17. GM Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)
18. Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller and Traveling Show person Accommodation Assessment Update 2018
Chapter 8- A Greener Greater Manchester
19A. Green Infrastructure Policy Context
19B. Guidance for GM- Embedding Green Infrastructure Principles
20A. BNG Proposed Guidance for GM
20B. GM BNG Summary Report
21A. Stage 1 GM Green Belt Assessment (2016)
21B. Stage 1 GM Green Belt Assessment - Appendices (2016)
21C. Landscape Character Assessment (2018)
21D. Stage 2 GM Green Belt Study- Cumulative Assessment of Proposed 2020 GMSF Allocations and Additions (2020)
21E. Stage 2 GM Green Belt Study- Assessment of Proposed 2019 GMSF Allocations (2020)
21F. Stage 2 GM Green Belt Study- Assessment of Proposed 2019 GMSF Allocations Appendix B (2020)
21G. Stage 2 GM Green Belt Study- Addendum Assessment of Proposed 2020 GMSF Allocations (2020)
21H. Stage 2 GM Green Belt Study- Contribution Assessment of Proposed 2020 GMSF Green Belt Additions (2020)
21I. Stage 2 GM Green Belt Study- Identification of Opportunities to Enhance the Beneficial use of the Green Belt (2020)
22. Our Case for Exceptional Circumstances
Chapter 9- A Greater Manchester for Everyone
23A. GMSF 1 Historic Environment Assess Summary Report
23B. GMSF 2 Northern Gateway Historic Environment Assess
23F. GMSF 6 Bury Historic Environment Assess
24. Historic Environment Background Paper
Chapter 10- A Connected Greater Manchester
25. Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 Refresh
26. Our 5 Year Transport Delivery Plan 2020-2025
27. GM Transport Strategy 2040- Right Mix Technical Note

28A. Transport Locality Assessment- Introductory Note and Assessments- Cross Boundary Allocations
28C. Transport Locality Assessment- Introductory Note and Assessments- Bury
29. Transport Strategic Modelling Technical Note
30. Existing Land Supply and Transport Technical Note
31. GM Outline Business Case to tackle Nitrogen Dioxide Exceedances at the Roadside-Strategic Case
Northern Gateway - Heywood and Pilsworth
GM1.1 Illustrative Dev Framework Plan, 2020
GM1.1 - Flood Risk and Drainage Report, 2020
GM1.1 - Flood Risk and Drainage Report, 2020
GM1.1 Ecological Report, 2020
GM1.1 Landscape and Visual Analysis Report, 2020
GM1.1 Archaeology and Heritage Report, 2020
GM1.1 Geo Environmental Report, 2020
GM1.1 Noise and Air Quality Report, 2020
GM1.1 Initial Heritage Appraisal, 2020
GM1.1 Utilities Statement, 2020
Northern Gateway - Economic Benefits Summary, 2020
Rochdale Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2020
Rochdale NG Historic Environment Assessment, 2020
Northern Gateway – Simister Bowlee
GM1.2 Illustrative Dev Framework Plan, 2020
GM1.2 Flood Risk and Drainage Report, 2020
GM1.2 Ecological Report, 2020
GM1.2 Landscape and Visual Appraisal Report, 2020
GM1.2 Archaeology and Heritage Report, 2020
GM1.2 - Geo Environmental Report, 2020
GM1.2 Initial Heritage Appraisal, 2020
GM1.2 Utilities Statement, 2020
Northern Gateway - Economic Benefits Summary, 2020
Rochdale Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2020
Rochdale NG Historic Environment Assessment, 2020
Elton
Elton Parkland Indicative Masterplan, 2020
Elton Parkland Agricultural Land Quality, 2019
Elton Parkland Air Quality Statement, 2019
Elton Parkland Strategy, 2020

Elton Parkland Phase 1 Habitat Survey, 2019
Elton Parkland Wintering & Breeding Bird Surveys, 2017
Elton Parkland Results of Desktop Scope & Ecological Surveys, 2019
Elton Parkland Great Crested Newts Survey, 2017
Elton Parkland Bat Activity Surveys & Assessment, 2019
Elton Parkland Water Vole & Otter Survey, 2017
Elton Parkland Outline Ecological Mitigation and Enhancement Strategy, 2019
Elton Parkland Flood Risk Assessment and Outline Drainage Strategy, 2020
Elton Parkland Reservoir Flood Study - Impact of Development, 2020
Elton Parkland Dam Breach & Flood Inundation Report, 2018
Elton Parkland Phase 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment, 2019
Elton Parkland Initial Heritage Assessment, 2020
Elton Parkland Archaeological & Historic Landscape Character Assessment, 2020
Elton Parkland Noise Screening Assessment, 2019
Elton Parkland Utility Statement, 2019
Walshaw
Walshaw Indicative Masterplan, 2020
Walshaw Masterplan Drainage Strategy Executive Technical Summary, 2020
Walshaw Masterplan Drainage Strategy, 2020
Walshaw Himor Flood Risk Assessment, 2020
Walshaw Redrow Flood Risk Assessment, 2020
Walshaw VHW Flood Risk Assessment, 2020
Walshaw Phase 1 Desk Studies Executive Summary, 2020
Walshaw Himor Phase 1 Desk Study Report, 2019
Walshaw Redrow Phase 1 Geo Environmental Site Assessment, 2019
Walshaw Vernon Phase 1 Desk Study Report, 2019
Walshaw Heritage Environment Assessment, 2020
Walshaw Christ Church, 2020
Walshaw Himor & VHW Landscape and Visual Technical Note, 2017
Walshaw Redrow Preliminary Landscape and Visual Overview, 2020
Walshaw Arboriculture Technical Note, 2017
Walshaw Redrow Tree Survey Report, 2019
Walshaw Noise Screening Assessment, 2020
Walshaw Himor Utility Feasibility Report, 2020
Walshaw Redrow Utilities Report, 2020
Walshaw VHW Utility Feasibility Report, 2020

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Walshaw Himor & VHW Ecology Technical Note, 2020
Walshaw Redrow Preliminary Ecology Appraisal, 2019
Walshaw Air Quality Assesment, 2019

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GM 1.1 - Heywood/Pilsworth

Topic Paper

October 2020

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Appendices

Section A – Background

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Northern Gateway is an extensive area located around Junction 18 of the M60 motorway extending east to Junction 19 of the M62 and north to Junction 3 of the M66. It comprises two key sites within the wider North-East Growth Corridor:
- Heywood / Pilsworth (Bury and Rochdale)
 - Simister and Bowlee (Bury and Rochdale)
- 1.2 The Northern Gateway straddles the districts of Bury and Rochdale and is positioned at a strategically important intersection around the M60, M62 and M66 motorways. As such, it represents a highly accessible opportunity for growth in Greater Manchester with wider benefits on a regional and national level. The central theme of the spatial strategy for Greater Manchester is to deliver inclusive growth across the city region complemented by a key aim to boost the competitiveness of the northern parts of Greater Manchester. The Northern Gateway is one of the key locations that will help to deliver these fundamental objectives.
- 1.3 This strategic allocation will enable the delivery of a large, nationally-significant employment opportunity to attract high quality business and investment, with a complementary housing offer on the M62 corridor, where there is strong evidence of market demand.
- 1.4 The allocation at Heywood/Pilsworth provides an opportunity for a substantial and high quality employment-led development. The scale and location of this allocation will help to rebalance the Greater Manchester economy, ensure the GMSF plays its part in driving growth within the north of England and enable Greater Manchester to be competitive both nationally and internationally.
- 1.5 This Topic Paper brings together a wide range of information and evidence in connection with the proposed strategic site allocation at Heywood and Pilsworth (GM1.1). However, it should be read in conjunction with the separate Topic Paper relating to the Simister/Bowlee allocation (GM1.2). The paper may be subject to further technical amendments in advance of the formal commencement of consultation.

2 Site Details

- 2.1 GM1.1 lies wholly north of the M62 and extends to approximately 330 hectares. The land is situated to the east of Bury and to the south of Heywood. Its southern boundary borders onto the M62, its western boundary follows the M66 and eastern boundary straddles Hareshill Road. To the north, it borders directly onto Pilsworth Road and Heywood Distribution Park. The allocation is approximately:
- 3.2km from Bury Town Centre;
 - 3.7km from Heywood Town Centre;
 - 4.5km from Whitefield Town Centre;
 - 6.4km from Middleton Town Centre; and
 - 7.7km from Rochdale Town Centre
- 2.2 The allocation currently comprises a number of large agricultural fields, a fishery and a golf course.

3 Proposed Development

- 3.1 Development within this allocation seeks to deliver a total of around 1,200,000 sq.m of industrial and warehousing space (with around 700,000 sq.m. being delivered within the plan period). This will comprise a mix of high quality employment premises in an attractive business park setting in order to appeal to a wide range of business sectors, including the development of an Advanced Manufacturing Park. Such development will have the potential to create up to 17,000 jobs with a further 1,700 jobs created through supply chains and employee spending.
- 3.2 Around 1,200 new homes will be delivered within the allocation. 1,000 homes, coupled with a new primary school, will be located in the eastern part of the allocation (within Rochdale) to support early delivery of the infrastructure and provide a planned buffer between existing housing and new employment development. A further 200 homes will be created in the west of the allocation off Castle Road. An appropriate buffer will be incorporated to separate this part of the allocation from the wider employment area and appropriate highways measures will be put in place to prevent the use of residential roads by traffic associated with the wider employment area. The housing is proposed to include a mix of house types, including affordable housing.
- 3.3 The design and layout within the allocation will allow for effective integration with surrounding communities, including active travel links and connections to local services, employment opportunities and over the M62 to proposed new development at Simister/Bowlee (GM1.2). High quality, publicly accessible multifunctional green and blue infrastructure within the allocation will provide health benefits to workers and residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 sets out the GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth policy wording.
- 3.5 The allocation boundary or the area proposed to be released from the Green Belt has not been amended from that proposed in the 2019 GMSF. However, land to the southwest and south that was proposed to be released (GM1.3 – Whitefield and part of GM1.2 – Simister Bowlee) in the 2019 Draft GMSF are now proposed to be retained within the Green Belt.

4 Site Selection

- 4.1 The GMSF Site Selection work had the purpose of identifying the most sustainable locations for residential and employment development that can achieve the GMSF Vision, Objectives and Spatial Strategy.
- 4.2 This allocation forms part of the wider Northern Gateway allocation and straddles the districts of Bury and Rochdale. The allocation provides the opportunity to deliver a large nationally significant employment opportunity to attract high quality business and investment with complementary residential development.
- 4.3 The allocation is positioned at a strategically important intersection around the M60, M62 and M66 motorways. As such, it represents a highly accessible opportunity for growth in Greater Manchester, with wider benefits on a regional and national level.
- 4.4 Due to the current undeveloped nature of the allocation, much of the immediate highway network is not of a nature that could accommodate strategic development without an appropriate upgrade. Key to delivery of the allocation will therefore be the provision of significant improvements to highway infrastructure, delivery of improved public transport infrastructure through the allocation (potentially including Bus Rapid Transport corridor) and

close to the allocation (including potential tram-train on the East Lancashire rail line between Bury and Rochdale) and the provision of high quality walking and cycling routes.

- 4.5 The scale of the development will help to deliver a significant jobs boost to the northern and eastern parts of Greater Manchester, increasing the economic output from this area. It will also enable new residential and community facilities to come forward in what is currently an area with significant pockets of deprivation, low skills and worklessness.
- 4.6 The GMSF site selection process considered the entire Northern Gateway allocation when considering sites for inclusion in the GMSF. On this basis the Northern Gateway allocation was selected for inclusion based on:
- Criteria 1 (land which has been previously developed and/or land which is served by public transport);
 - Criteria 3 (land that can maximise existing opportunities which have significant capacity to deliver transformational change and/or boost the competitiveness and connectivity of Greater Manchester and genuinely deliver inclusive growth);
 - Criteria 5 (land which would have a direct significant impact on delivering urban regeneration);
 - Criteria 6 (land where transport investment (by the developer) and the creation of significant new demand (through appropriate development densities), would support the delivery of long term viable sustainable travel options and delivers significant wider community benefits);
 - Criteria 7 – Land that would deliver significant local benefits by addressing a major local problem/issue.
- 4.7 Further detail is provided within in the GMSF Site Selection Paper available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 4.8 The Heywood/Pilsworth allocation forms part of the GMSF North East Corridor Policy (GM-Strat 7) and offers an opportunity to deliver a significant mixed use, housing and employment development which is of a transformative scale and significantly change the economic growth potential of the wider area. Development could capitalise on the existing successful employment locations at Heywood/Pilsworth and further exploit the important connection to the M62 corridor. The location of this allocation will make it particularly attractive to the logistics and advanced manufacturing sectors.
- 4.9 Development could also contribute towards regeneration of adjacent areas of deprivation and this would help deliver one the GMSF's key aims of boosting the competitiveness of the northern Greater Manchester Boroughs and supporting long-term economic growth in Greater Manchester.
- 4.10 Given this, the allocation is relevant to the GMSF objectives of:
- Objective 1 – Meet our housing need;
 - Objective 3 – Ensure a thriving and productive economy in all parts of Greater Manchester;
 - Objective 4 – Maximise the potential arising from our national and international assets;
 - Objective 5 – Reduce inequalities and improve prosperity;
 - Objective 6 – Promote the sustainable movement of people, good and information.

5 Planning History

- 5.1 In Bury, planning permission has not been granted for any significant uses within the allocation.
- 5.2 In Rochdale, planning permission was granted in March 2020 for land within the north eastern part of the allocation. The scheme comprised a new link road between Junction 19 of the M62 and Pilsworth Road, approximately 135,000 sqm of employment floorspace, 1000 new homes, a new local centre and primary school and associated landscaping and sports pitches. This scheme is currently being delivered.

6 GMSF 2019 Consultation Responses

- 6.1 The consultation responses and consultation summary report is available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 6.2 345 comments were received in relation to the GM1.1 Heywood and Pilsworth during the consultation on the Revised Draft GMSF in 2019. A summary of the key issues are as follows:

Principle / Scale of development
▪ Disproportionate distribution of employment land. ▪ Large scale of site is a concern as it has potential to give rise to traffic impacts due to it being close to motorways. ▪ No need when existing estates in area are below capacity. ▪ Economic growth should not be at the expense of the community and the environment. ▪ Considerable impact on local agriculture. ▪ Pilsworth landfill – include within developable area/unsuitable for development but could be a country park/should remain rural. ▪ Highly accessible and sustainable location for growth.
Housing (inc affordable housing)
▪ Should be set back from motorways and at high densities. ▪ Will be expensive executive homes. Affordable home prices will not be affordable. Must provide for elderly. Need terraced homes. ▪ Land is available for development. More housing needed closer to the planned jobs.
Employment and Economy
▪ Over-reliance on logistics and warehouses which have low-skilled and low wage jobs, needs to attract high technology industries. Will not solve the issue of a lack of suitable premises. ▪ More detail required on jobs created, investors. ▪ Should expand existing under-capacity industrial estates. ▪ New jobs should be for local residents. ▪ Consider impact of automation and Brexit. ▪ Need to promote business growth in town centres.

▪ Provides significant employment opportunities and new impetus for regeneration.
Green Belt
▪ Release of Green Belt disproportionate in this area of the Borough and compared to other districts. ▪ Will result in the merging of towns and urban sprawl. ▪ Retained Green Belt includes land that is not appropriate such as Pilsworth Quarry.
Brownfield
▪ Must use brownfield land within the urban areas before considering greenfield land.

7 GMSF 2019 Integrated Assessment

- 7.1 The 2019 GMSF Integrated Assessment (IA) is available at <https://www.greetermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 7.2 The IA reviewed how the draft GMSF policies could impact upon the environment, the economy, local communities, equality and public health. The IA also recommended ways in which the GMSF can be improved to ensure that the policies are as sustainable as possible.
- 7.3 The Northern Gateway draft allocations were considered together against the 2019 Integrated Assessment objectives. The allocations performed well although a number of recommendations were made:
- Ensure that all three allocations refer to a mix of housing types;
 - Make specific reference to energy efficiency of the housing stock;
 - The policy should also highlight the importance of local employment during construction;
 - Consider feasibility study into requirements and ability of local network to support development;
 - Benefits such as creation of construction and operational employment, or improved transport links or increases in the range of community facilities, should consider benefits to deprived areas. Where possible such benefits should be maximised to help bring about long term benefits for deprived areas.
 - The allocation needs to encourage integration with existing communities and provision of a range of housing tenures.
 - Ensure any new health provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages;
 - Ensure any new community facilities provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages.
 - Ensure any new recreation provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages.
 - Seek to minimise the number of trips made by private car to/from the site. Consider the use of mitigation solutions including green infrastructure, incentivising electric vehicles and/or masterplan layout which reduces emissions near sensitive receptors. This is especially relevant to buffer around the AQMA adjacent to the site.
 - A suitable flood risk assessment may be required and associated mitigation in order to prevent the flood zone expanding.

- Appropriate flood risk mitigation should be implemented (in line with best practice) for all developments that are within or near to areas of flood risk. This is especially relevant around the areas of flood zone 2 and 3.
- Make reference to energy efficiency directly and ways that it can be increased, such as highlighting the benefits of sustainable modes of transport.
- Consider the listed structures throughout detailed design to reduce the risk throughout construction and operational phases.
- Consider how development of PDL sites could be encouraged as a result of greenfield development (e.g. by incentives or inclusion of adjacent PDL).
- Promote sustainable construction methods.
- Consider waste and recycling facilities in design e.g. consider location of waste/recycling facilities in design/layout of masterplans, and how waste facilities can be located to encourage recycling.

7.4 It is important to note that the IA was focusing on each policy in isolation from other policies and that many of the recommended changes for the Northern Gateway allocation policies are already covered in other GMSF policies. However, some wording changes have been made as a result of the IA in relation to housing types, electric vehicles, heritage and archaeology.

Section B – Physical

8 Transport

- 8.1 The allocation is positioned at a strategically important intersection around the M60, M62 and M66 motorways. Due to the current undeveloped nature of the allocation, much of the immediate local highway network is currently not of a nature that could accommodate strategic development without an appropriate upgrade. Key to the delivery of the allocation will be the provision of significant improvements to highway infrastructure, delivery of improved public transport infrastructure through the allocation and close to the allocation and the provision of high quality and connected walking and cycling routes.
- 8.2 The Locality Assessment (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) concludes that whilst the allocation is expected to give rise to significant levels of traffic demand over both the strategic and the local road networks, mitigation schemes have been developed and tested which could be expected to address the impacts on both the strategic and local road networks.
- 8.3 The following mitigation measures have been identified:

Mitigation	Description
Supporting Strategic Interventions	
Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor to Manchester city centre	Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor to Manchester city centre and Rochdale via Heywood Old Road/ Manchester Road
Necessary Local Mitigations	
Permeable network for pedestrian and cyclist priority to/from/ within the development	Assumed new or upgraded cycle and pedestrian access, linked to PROWs and the Bee Network, providing connectivity to adjacent local areas and employment/educational opportunities, supported by high quality design for active travel within the allocation area.
Introduction of local bus services to/from/ within the allocation	Assumed local bus services to link the allocation with Metrolink and Rail interchanges and key local centres such as Bury, Heywood, Rochdale and Middleton, supported by permeable design of future development to support bus services within the allocation area.
Moss Hall Road / Pilsworth Road (South)	Replace existing three arm priority junction with a three arm roundabout. New roundabout, including a 56m (inscribed circle diameter) with two circulating lanes.
A6045 Heywood Old Rd / Whittle Lane	Additional traffic management measures on Whittle Lane.
Moss Hall Road / Pilsworth Road (North)	Replace existing three arm signalised junction with a three arm unsignalised roundabout. New roundabout will include a 56m (inscribed circle diameter) with two circulating lanes and a left turn bypass from Pilsworth Road South

Hollins Brow / Hollins Lane	Remove mini roundabout arrangement and replace with a 3 arm signalised junction.
Pilsworth Road (Between M66 Link Road and "3-Arrows" Junction)	Upgrading to dual carriageway standard – two lanes in each direction with a central reserve.
SRN Interventions	
M66 Junction 3 / Pilsworth Road	Upgrading to a 4-arm grade separated signalised configuration including widened slip road approaches from the M66 and a 3 lane circulating carriageway.
M62 J19 / A6046 Heywood Interchange	Removal of at-grade pedestrian / cycle facilities at the SHLR arm and adjacent section of the circulating carriageway and replacing them with a pedestrian / cycle subway.
M66 Junction 2 / A58	Addition of a fourth lane to the circulating carriageway of the roundabout.
M66 Link Road	Upgrading existing Pilsworth Road between M66 Junction 3 and Moss Hall Lane to dual carriageway - two traffic lanes in each direction, with a central reservation & cycle/pedestrian provision.

- 8.4 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.1 Allocation has been informed by the Locality Assessment and ensures the allocation will be supported by the appropriate mitigation measures.
- 8.5 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable, although, in line with good practice further work will be needed to substantiate these findings as the allocation moves through the planning process.

9 Flood Risk and Drainage

Flood Risk Summary

- 9.1 The majority of the allocation is located within Flood Zone 1 (i.e. land assessed as having a lower than 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding) and development should be directed into these areas, if possible.
- 9.2 The EA Main River Map identifies 3 watercourses within the allocation boundary that are classified as Main Rivers:
- Whittle Brook flows from south east to north west within the allocation;
 - Castle Brook flows south to north and has a confluence with Whittle Brook; and
 - Brightley Brook flows from east to west through the north of the allocation.
- 9.3 There are areas along the banks of both Whittle Brook and Brightley Brook that are shown as Flood Zone 3 (i.e. land with a 1 in 100 annual probability of river flooding occurring). An 8m easement will be employed either side of watercourses within the allocation, so these areas of Flood Zone 3 do not present any restriction to the development.
- 9.4 There is an intricate network of overland flows and ponding throughout the allocation. These flows are generally of low risk and can be considered as runoff from agricultural land into the

watercourses described above. There is an area at high risk of localised ponding to the west of Stock Nook Farm.

- 9.5 There is a localised risk of groundwater flooding at and below ground level around Brightley Brook, Whittle Brook and Castle Brook and in the south west largely around the area of peat. The allocation is at low risk of sewer flooding.
- 9.6 Future plans for the development will take into account the overland flow routes, groundwater flood risk and potential areas of ponding. This is a large allocation with the potential to create significant volumes of runoff if infiltration is not possible. Downstream areas at risk and additional volumes of water, even if the runoff rate is controlled, could increase scale or duration of flooding downstream. Development within the allocation could reduce risk by safeguarding areas for flood storage and enhancement of storage areas to reduce flows downstream.
- 9.7 Parts of the allocation lie within areas recommended for tree planting and targeted tree planting on floodplains, as shown by the Working within Natural Processes (WwNP) dataset. There are also numerous areas recommended for riparian tree planting alongside both banks of Whittle Brook and other drains within the allocation boundary. These WwNP techniques can significantly delay the timing of peak runoff in catchments and can also provide obstructions to significant flow paths.
- 9.8 The allocation also includes parts of urban and rural loss improvement areas within the Irwell Natural Flood Management dataset. Both of these include scenarios where soil structure is improved, thereby making the land more permeable and thus increasing the soil moisture storage capacity of these areas. In the urban loss parts, this also includes an increase in overall greenspace.

GMSF Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- 9.9 The Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (GM Level 1 SFRA) was completed in March 2019 as part of the evidence base to inform the preparation of the GMSF available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>. This SFRA initiated the sequential risk-based approach to the allocation of land for development and identified whether application of the Exception Test was likely to be necessary using the most up-to-date information and guidance.
- 9.10 97% of Heywood/Pilsworth Allocation falls within Flood Zone 1 with the remaining in Flood Zones 2 and 3. The GM Level 1 SFRA recommended that the identified flood risk within the GM1.1 allocation could be avoided through allocation layout and design as part of a detailed flood risk assessment.
- 9.11 However GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth was included within the GMSF Level 2 SFRA in order for broad scale river modelling to cover existing gaps within the baseline information to be carried out. This has meant that additional flood risk assessment has been carried out in relation to the allocation.

GMSF Level 2 SFRA

Level 2 SFRA Conclusions

- Over 95% of the allocation lies within Flood Zone 1 and development should be directed into these areas, if possible.
- There is additional surface water flood risk across the allocation though locations are sporadic and in small pickets when compared to the entirety of the proposed allocation allocation.

- This is a large allocation with potential to create significant volumes of runoff if infiltration is not possible. Downstream areas at risk and additional volumes of water, even if the runoff rate is controlled, could increase scale or duration of flooding downstream. This allocation could reduce risk by safeguarding areas for flood storage and enhancement of storage areas to reduce flows downstream. The WwNP dataset, discussed above, should provide a start for assessing possible areas for storage or tree planting.
 - A drainage strategy would be required to ensure current onsite risk can be managed effectively with no increase in surface water flood risk elsewhere as a result of new development. This will require surface water modelling based on the proposed layout and investigation into appropriate SuDS techniques. Infiltration SuDS may be feasible on parts of the allocation, subject to ground investigation and contamination testing.
 - Development should avoid the 8m no development buffer that the EA requires alongside watercourses for access and maintenance requirements.
- 9.12 Building on the conclusions of the Level 2 SFRA, the site promoters for GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth have prepared a GM1.1 Flood Risk and Drainage High Level Constraints Review to assess the risk of flooding in more detail available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 9.13 To ensure that flood risk is not increased at the allocation or elsewhere as a result of the development, surface water runoff from the development will be restricted to the existing greenfield run-off rate of 7.58 l/s/ha.
- 9.14 No public surface water sewers have been identified within the allocation, therefore surface water run-off will be discharged into the ground through multiple infiltration structures or to the watercourses within the allocation at the limiting discharge rates. This will require discussion and agreement with the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority.
- 9.15 Parts of the allocation have been identified as potentially contaminated e.g., the former bleach works. It is considered likely that infiltration of surface water will only be an environmentally safe option if remediation has been carried out in advance, to a standard specifically to suit infiltration.
- 9.16 The Review states that the masterplan for the allocation is being developed with due consideration to the existing topography, watercourses and rivers and development plots are likely to be located with substantial offsets from these features. This provides the opportunity to create green/blue corridors adjacent to the existing watercourses and will not require the diversion of any watercourses and culverted works will be kept to a minimum and required only where there are highway crossings.
- 9.17 The Review states that the proposed drainage system will include a variety of SuDS features providing green/blue spaces (such as detention basins and swales). These shall address both flooding and water quality issues and be designed to mimic natural drainage features within the allocation and provide recreational areas for the public. Alternate SuDS options, such as wetlands, provide an opportunity to maximise biodiversity and maximise public open space and will be considered. Infiltration may be possible across some of the allocation subject to detailed ground investigations on a localised basis.
- 9.18 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.1 Allocation has been informed by the SFRA work undertaken and ensures that any development within the allocation is safe from and mitigates for potential flood risk from all sources. Policy GM1.1 requires development to incorporate sustainable drainage systems to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Proposals to discharge to public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide

more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should communicate with the public sewer.

- 9.19 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

10 Ground Conditions

Site Geology and Hydrogeology

- 10.1 The supporting Desk Top Assessment has identified:
- Made ground – expected where quarries and sand pits have been backfilled and around buildings where ground has been disturbed by construction activities.
 - Superficial deposits - Glacial Till overlain by peat deposits in the south west, sand and gravel in the centre and north east and morainic deposits (poorly sorted sand, gravel and clay) in the north west.
 - Bedrock - predominantly Coal Measures which is near surface in the north east of the allocation where there is potential for shallow mineworkings and where five mineshafts are indicated on Coal Authority plans.
- 10.2 Borehole records are available for eight boreholes in the north west of the allocation, eighteen boreholes to the south of Birch Industrial Estate and one at the golf club. At the golf club, sandstone bedrock (part of the Coal Measures formation) was encountered at 17.5m depth. The maximum depth of the other boreholes was 12m and they were all terminated in the superficial deposits.
- 10.3 The superficial deposits and the Coal Measures are Secondary Aquifers. There are no Principal Aquifers beneath the allocation. Groundwater was generally encountered in the boreholes in the granular superficial deposits.

Ground Contamination

- 10.4 The allocation predominantly comprises agricultural land which is not expected to be significantly contaminated.
- 10.5 The potential risks from and mitigation for contamination on the allocation are given in the table below.
- 10.6 Intrusive ground investigation will be undertaken to establish if any contamination is present and, if it is, to establish its nature and extent. An initial characterisation investigation will enable an outline remediation strategy for the allocation to be developed. More detailed investigation, assessment and detailed remediation design can then be undertaken on a phase by phase basis as each area of the allocation comes forward for development.

Table 1 Geo-environmental Aspects and Mitigation

Area of Potential Contamination	Contamination Risk	Potential Mitigation
Pilsworth Landfill adjacent to the north of the site.	Gas and leachate migration from the landfill on to the site	Installation of a leachate and/or gas collection system along the northern boundary of the site. Ground gas protection measures may be required in new build properties.

Historic area of bleach works in the north east of the site	Hydrocarbons, solvents, asbestos, galligu	Remediation of contamination and where possible re-use of the end material.
Backfilled quarries / pits	Backfill material unknown. May contain contamination especially asbestos. See also Table 2 below.	Assessment of material and remediation and, where possible, re-use of material
Ground gas	Migration from mineworkings and generation from the peat	Grouting of mineworkings. Ground gas protection measures may be required in new build properties.
Lignite in peat in the south west	Risk of spontaneous combustibility	Placement of lignite at depth if it is present near surface or removal off site.
Shallow groundwater	Contaminated groundwater. See also Table 2 below.	Consideration of contamination if shallow groundwater present in contaminated parts of the site.

Geotechnical Summary

- 10.7 Geotechnical aspects to consider at the allocation include mining, compressible peat deposits, backfilled quarries and pits and groundwater presence. The ground will also need to be characterised for cut and fill works and for foundation design. The geotechnical aspects are given in the table below along with potential mitigation measures. Intrusive investigations will be undertaken to assess these aspects further. Potential geotechnical constraints and associated standard mitigation measures have been identified and can be incorporated into the design of the scheme at the detailed planning application stage.

Table 2 Geotechnical Aspects and Mitigation

Geotechnical Aspect	Geotechnical risk	Potential mitigation
Mining and mineshafts	Presence or absence of mineworkings is unknown. Mineshaft locations need to be confirmed. There are no treatment records which indicates that they have not been grouted / capped.	Identify presence or absence of workings and mineshafts. Assess significance for development and treat / grout / cap as required
Backfilled quarries / pits	Backfill material unknown. Risk of unacceptable settlements / collapse especially if loaded	Identification and intrusive investigation of backfill. Geotechnical assessment and re-engineering of material as required.
Slopes	Existing slopes and new slopes – risk of instability / slope failures	Investigation and assessment of existing slopes. Reprofilling or remediation if required. Geotechnical design of new slopes / appropriate retaining structures

Shallow groundwater	Groundwater in excavations. Risks of instability from groundwater ingress.	Temporary support / pumping during works if required.

10.8 The Assessment has been reviewed by Bury Council Environmental Health department. They have recommended the following prior to any planning applications being submitted within the allocation:

- The Desk Top Assessment is reproduced to consider a residential end use for the proposed housing development of 200 plots;
- A Site Investigation proposal. It is recommended that this is exploratory in nature and undertaken to support any future planning approvals for this allocation. This will also address the contamination issues highlighted in their report;
- A Site Investigation and Risk Assessment Report; and
- An Outline Remedial Strategy summarising any potential remedial solutions that will provide evidence to demonstrate how any contamination risks can be mitigated.

10.9 The documents are available at:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>

10.9 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

11 Utilities

11.1 It is not considered that there are any utilities constraints, either current infrastructure or identified need, which will prevent the Northern Gateway sites from being allocated for development.

United Utilities

11.2 United Utilities have provided guidance to pre-development enquires and advised that the anticipated point of connection for the allocation will be the nearest practical point on the network to the development boundary. This is identified as a 250mm PE point of connection located on Pilsworth Road and a 160mm PE point of connection located on Moss Hall Road, with a further connection through the approved 'South Heywood' development to the north. Distribution of water and fire main facility will be routed along the allocation road network suitably sized for metered connection to the individual units and residential dwellings.

11.3 No public foul sewers were identified within the development boundary, therefore foul water is likely to need to be pumped to a new or existing point of discharge specified by United Utilities, outside of the development boundary. Consultations must be made with United Utilities to develop a cost-effective strategy for managing the discharge of foul flows from the development.

11.4 A water main runs through the north western part of the allocation. This will be diverted or accommodated in the masterplan.

Electricity North West

11.5 Electricity North West in their response to the latest GMSF consultation advised that they were confident in being able to meet the network capacity requirements for the investment

and growth in proposed in Greater Manchester. Where necessary they have secured the appropriate regulatory allowances within their 'Well Justified Business Plan.'

- 11.6 Electricity North West have carried out assessments on the proposed areas, which fed into the 'Spatial Energy Plan' document. This is a high level assessment of the expected impact of the proposed developments on the electricity network, the information was presented as a Red/Amber /Green (RAG) indicator.
- 11.7 The Heywood and Pilsworth allocation presented as red which indicted that capacity at the primary substation level is likely to be exceeded due to forecast additional load resulting from proposed developments.
- 11.8 Discussions with ENW have identified a requirement for two new primary 33KV substations to serve the development, and a Point of Connection at Castleton BSP. From the new 33KV Primary Substations a further network of 11KV substations will be provided that distribute demand across the allocation. There are optional connection points via the approved 'South Heywood' scheme which could serve an early phase of the development of the GM 1.1 allocation.

Gas - National Grid Infrastructure

- 11.9 Cadent Gas have confirmed that the current mains have sufficient capacity to support the load required for the development without any reinforcement works. The development can be connected to the existing Intermediate Pressure main located at the western allocation boundary. There is another Medium Pressure connection available local to the northern part of the allocation.
- 11.10 A localised high-pressure gas main runs through the northern part of the allocation and then runs north-west to south-east across the allocation south of Whittle Brook. The main and associated easements can be accommodated into the design of the development, providing an opportunity for a green landscaping corridor.

12 Telecommunications

Existing BT Infrastructure

- 12.1 The scheme already tabled and being implemented through the permitted South Heywood Development scheme to provide BT Openreach communication network coverage is being developed to facilitate the Northern Gateway Proposals to both the Northern and Southern areas of the allocation. BT Openreach are presently developing their network layout and will be installing high speed data & fibre networks throughout the development.

Existing Virgin Media Infrastructure

- 12.2 The scheme already tabled and being implemented through the permitted South Heywood Development scheme to provide Virgin Media communication network coverage will be developed to facilitate the Northern Gateway Proposals to both the Northern and Southern areas of the allocation. Virgin Media are presently developing their network layout for this area and will be a suitable alternative network provider.
- 12.3 It should be noted that spare underground ductwork network facilities are being provided to enable alternative network providers to invest into the allocation.
- 12.4 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.1 Allocation has been informed by the ground conditions and utilities assessments undertaken to date and summarised above. The policy requires a phasing strategy relating to the area to come forward in the plan period which should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey

infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.

Section C – Environmental

13 Green Belt Assessment

- 13.1 The proposed removal of Green Belt in conjunction with the Heywood/Pilsworth Allocation has been informed by several studies undertaken by LUC available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016
 - Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020;
 - Greater Manchester Green Belt Study – Identification of Opportunities, 2020
- 13.2 The proposed allocation would remove 330 hectares of land from the Green Belt.
- 13.3 In 2016 GMCA commissioned LUC to undertake an assessment of the Green Belt within GM. The Study assessed the extent to which the land within the GM Green Belt performs against the purposes of Green Belts, as set out in paragraph 80 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The aim of this Green Belt Assessment is to provide the GM Authorities with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of how GM's Green Belt contributes to the five purposes of Green Belt, as set out in national policy. It also examines the case for including within the Green Belt potential additional areas of land that currently lie outside it.
- 13.4 In The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016 Heywood/Pilsworth was included within Strategic Green Belt Area 15. There were 4 different purposes of Green Belt that each Area was assessed against and the Area performs as follows:
- Purpose 1: To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas: **Strong**
 - Purpose 2: To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another: **Strong**
 - Purpose 3: To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: **Weak-Moderate**
 - Purpose 4: Preserving the setting and special character of historic towns: **Weak-Moderate**
- 13.5 The summary of findings for Bury in this report stated that most parcels close to Heywood/Pilsworth, east of M66 make a moderate- strong contribution to checking the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas. Parcels between Bury and Middleton play a moderate role in relation to assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- 13.6 In 2019 LUC carried out an assessment identifying the potential opportunities to enhance the beneficial use of remaining Green Belt within 2 km of the allocation site. The study considered the opportunities to offset the loss of Green Belt through compensatory improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of the remaining Green Belt land.
- 13.7 Land lying within 2 km of GM 1.1, Heywood / Pilsworth formed the focus of Green Infrastructure (GI) recommendations / mitigation to enhance the 'beneficial use' of the Green Belt for the Northern Gateway as a whole. There are two proposed additions to the Green Belt west of this GM sub-Allocation at Hollins Brook and Hollins Brow.
- 13.8 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt relevant to the Northern Gateway Allocations identified in the assessment include:

- Upgrade the public footpath along Brightly Brook to a multi user route.
 - Create a new pedestrian footpath in the Green Belt north east of Heywood/Pilsworth to create a local level walk at the settlement edge.
 - Upgrade surfacing treatments and access points along the Rochdale Way.
 - Upgrade surface treatments to create all weather routes.
 - Enhance pedestrian and vehicle links to football pitches in Heaton Park to increase usability.
 - Introduce enhancements to local sporting facilities within the retained Green Belt.
 - Enhance sport and recreational provision at Heaton Park.
 - Introduce interventions which complement the proposals included within the planning application for development off J19 of the M62 (Planning application 16/01399/HYBR).
 - Restore ditches and field boundaries within the landscape.
 - Review the conservation and management of areas which form part of SBIs and LNRs to ensure improvement of the key aspects of their designation. Connect the SBIs of Hollins Vale, Hollins Plantation and Pilsworth across the M66.
 - Enhance waterways to ensure the management of invasive species and surrounding vegetation.
 - Support woodland management practices to maintain longevity of broadleaved woodland stock.
 - Improve the biodiversity value of agricultural land around Birch Service Area, providing additional habitat creation. Landscape and visual.
 - Create new green wedges and green buffers to prevent settlement coalescence.
 - Establish planting buffers for increased landscape integration at Heywood Distribution Park.
 - Provide additional woodland planting and the reinstatement of field boundaries parallel the corridor of the M62.
- 13.9 Some of these opportunities have been included within the policy requirements for the allocation, for others it is more appropriate for them to form part of the overall masterplan or subsequent planning applications.
- 13.10 In conjunction with the assessment of GI opportunities within the Green Belt, LUC carried out an assessment to identify potential harm to the Green Belt through The Green Belt Harm Assessment. The Assessment shows that release of the land in the west of the allocation from the Green Belt would be the most harmful as it has less urbanising containment and a greater distinction from the urban edge. The assessment shows that release of Green Belt in the east of the allocation would have lower harm, as it is more contained by and has less distinction from the urban edge.
- 13.11 Evidence on Green Belt is only one part of the evidence base that influence any decision on green belt release. Consequently where studies have found that high harm is to be caused by release of the Green Belt, this finding should be balanced against other important factors that could make up exceptional circumstances such as sustainability, viability and deliverability.
- 13.12 The Heywood/Pilsworth allocation is deemed necessary to deliver a key strategic employment and housing opportunity with supporting transport infrastructure. The allocation

is critical in responding to the spatial strategy in the GMSF and its key themes of 'Inclusive Growth', 'Making the Most of Key Locations and Assets' and 'Addressing Disparities' It also directly addresses the aspirations set by Policy GM – P 1 'Supporting Long-Term Economic Growth', Policy GM – E 1 'Sustainable Places', Policy GM – H1 'Scale, Distribution and Phasing of New Housing Development' and Policy GM – N1 'Our Integrated Network'.

- 13.13 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt study discussed earlier are not exhaustive and will require consultation with key stakeholders and may require further surveys and viability testing to establish costings. However the enhancement opportunities nonetheless demonstrate that opportunities exist to help offset the loss of Green Belt which will have a potential positive effect on the beneficial use of the Greater Manchester Green Belt moving forward.
- 13.14 The final masterplan for the allocation will be required to use the findings from all the assessments on Green Belt in the area to inform the layout and form development across the allocation.

14 Green Infrastructure

- 14.1 The emerging Masterplan for GM1.1 includes a substantial green/blue infrastructure network providing a range of opportunities for movement, recreation, biodiversity as well as sustainable drainage.
- 14.2 It is intended that the development will ultimately achieve net gains in biodiversity and central to the development will be a substantial green corridor along Whittle Brook connecting to Pilsworth Reservoir to the north and other existing ecological networks off-site. The allocation also presents the opportunity to explore the potential to utilise and enhance the biodiversity value of the former landfill sites at Pilsworth North and South themselves.
- 14.3 Key features such as trees, hedgerows and water features will be retained and enhanced where possible and site constraints, such as the underground high pressure gas main, will be used positively to create new green corridors.

15 Recreation

- 15.1 New play areas and sports facilities will be required to support the delivery of housing at Heywood/Pilsworth in line with Bury and Rochdale's Local Plan requirements.
- 15.2 The consented South Heywood scheme will deliver a range of informal and formal recreation facilities including the provision of sports pitches next to the new local centre. Recreation facilities will also be provided to serve the residential development off Castle Road.
- 15.3 Opportunities for recreation will also be considered in relation to the delivery of employment and other uses on the balance of the allocation, as key to ensuring an attractive business location. These will include a range of recreation activities along green corridors that connect across the allocation such as walking/cycling routes, fitness trails, 'outdoor gyms' and open spaces for more informal leisure and recreation.
- 15.4 Good public transport and cycling/walking links will integrate GM1.1 with surrounding communities allowing access to existing nearby sports and recreation facilities.

16 Landscape

- 16.1 GM1.1 lies within the National Character Area 54, Manchester Pennine Fringe, occupying the transition zone between open moorlands of the Peaks and the Southern Pennines. The M62 motorway runs east to west and is the dominant feature in the landscape. The land

scape is mostly farming, characterised by large open fields bounded by broken hedgerows and field trees. There are woodland blocks, mainly located along the Whittle Brook river corridor.

- 16.2 There are several areas which are designated as having Tree Preservation Orders, with such flora contributing to local character and interest to the area.
- 16.3 GM1.1 is surrounded by more densely populated areas located within lower ground, with ground starting to rise towards the north of the allocation. The allocation rises to the east towards Heywood and falls along the river corridors of Whittle Brook and Castle Brook.

Landscape Opportunities

- 16.4 The following opportunities have been identified to inform the evolving masterplan process, and ensure the development can be incorporated successfully into the local landscape:
- The u-shaped valleys of the brooks and associated vegetation form pleasant characteristic features in the landscape. Enhancing these natural features so they become part of the blue and green infrastructure strategy for the allocation.
 - The zone of visibility of any proposed development.
 - Retention of longer distance views out of the allocation to maintain the connection of the allocation to the wider landscape.
 - The setting of residential buildings within the allocation and the views available to the residents of these properties will be considered within any design evolution.
 - Mature trees, hedgerows and woodland blocks. Where possible these will be retained and enhanced to create a mature green landscape framework.
 - Tree planting along the motorway corridors. This would serve a double purpose of enhancing landscape and visual amenity and enhancing wildlife corridors.
 - A management plan to show how green and blue infrastructure and nature conservation assets will be managed to provide health benefits to workers and residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment.
 - Although current PRowS appear to be underused in places, retaining established links where possible and creating appropriate new high quality walking and cycling links will be considered to create a connective landscape linking to the wider area.

17 Ecological/Biodiversity Assessment

- 17.1 There are no designated Natura 2000 (European designated) sites within the allocation or within 2km of the allocation boundary.
- 17.2 There are no nationally designated sites within the allocation or within 2km of the allocation boundary.
- 17.3 There are two Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) within a 2km radius of the allocation boundary. Hopwood woodlands LNR, 1.7km east and Hollins Vale LNR, 0.1km west.
- 17.4 There are ten Sites of Biological Interest (SBI) within a 2km radius of the allocation boundary. There is one SBI, Pilsworth, which is adjacent to the northern boundary of the allocation.
- 17.5 There are no ecological constraints which would prevent the allocation of the allocation.

Habitats

17.6 Key habitats include:

- Watercourses and ponds.
- Grassland
- Woodland and trees.
- Hedgerows

17.7 More detailed site-specific surveys, including a full extended Phase 1 Habitat survey for each area, will be undertaken as plans progress and this will enable detailed characterisation of habitats represented throughout the allocation.

Protected and Notable Species

17.8 Protected and notable species which are or may be present at the allocation include:

- Great crested newt
- Reptiles
- Brown Hare
- Bats
- Badger
- Otter
- Water vole
- Birds
- Invertebrates
- And other notable species including common toad and hedgehog.

17.9 The potential presence of these species has been considered through information derived from the desk study, data search and walkover survey. Species-specific surveys will be carried out as plans progress.

Biodiversity Net Gain

17.10 The GM1.1 Allocation policy sets out that net gain will be expected. The prospective developer's ecology report states that ecological mitigation for the development cannot be wholly achieved on site so opportunities for off-site mitigation will have to be sought.

17.11 At Northern Gateway, opportunities for Biodiversity Net Gain should focus on enhancing the areas with existing and potential value.

17.12 The habitats of most value within the allocation are the ponds, watercourse corridors, broadleaved woodland and species-rich grassland. Habitats could be enhanced to improve value where suitable and appropriate so that a lower value habitat could become a higher value habitat.

17.13 Site-specific opportunities have been identified by the prospective developer's ecologist which could promote and enhance biodiversity, maintain wildlife corridors within the site and enhance connectivity with the wider landscape. These will be incorporated into the final masterplan for the site and involve:

- Enhancing and extending the woodland along the north of the site by:
 - planting native trees and shrubs of local provenance;
 - creating a buffer along the northern edge with rough or marshy grassland. This northern edge of the site backs onto the restored habitats of Pilsworth South Landfill site, which are further connected to the wider landscape to the north by a series of linked woodland, grassland and scrub habitats.
- Enhancing the Whittle Brook and associated riparian habitats of high ecological value by:
 - Native woodland and shrub planting along the corridor, as well as within woodland areas which lead off the corridor;
 - Retaining and enhancing the area of good quality semi-improved grassland with the aim of increasing its coverage to connect existing waterbodies to the riparian habitat.
 - The creation of a large area of rough grassland to lead from the riparian habitat northwards. This would link known areas of barn owl presence, using high value hunting habitat, to the riparian habitat, a source of further hunting as well as nesting/roosting.
 - Creating of a buffer zone along either side of the riparian corridor and species-rich grassland, marshy grassland or rough grassland established.
- Developing a management plan for the allocation to provide and enhance wildlife habitats where opportunities arise. This could include:
 - Enhancing areas of grassland to create native wildflower meadows.
 - Enhancing woodland areas.
 - Ponds on site to be retained and enhanced where possible
 - Strips of rough grassland with appropriate management incorporated to provide hunting habitat for bird species such as barn owl.
 - Bird and bat boxes of varying specification for different species to be incorporated into buildings and landscaping.

17.14 Documents available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>

17.15 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Habitat Regulation Assessment

17.16 A Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) is required for the GMSF because it is considered to have the potential to cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European Protected Sites. The HRA made an appropriate assessment of the implications of the GMSF in view of conservation objectives.

17.17 The Northern Gateway allocations were considered together within the HRA. The assessment concluded that although more than 10km from the South Pennine Moors and separated from it by the significant built development the allocation had the potential to cause increases in diffuse air pollution because of traffic generation along the M62 and recreational impacts from population uplift.

- 17.18 The Assessment recommended that each phase of development must be individually assessed once detailed plans are available particularly in relation to air pollution impacts, with cumulative (in combination) effects taken into account.

18 Heritage Impact Assessment

Designated Sites

- 18.1 The GMSF Historic Environment Assessment Screening Exercise (June 2019) concluded that further assessment of the historic environment was required given the number of designated sites within and outside the allocation (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>)
- 18.2 There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Protected Wrecks within the allocation or within the 1km study area. There two Grade II Listed Buildings within the allocation boundary.
- Brick Farmhouse is a presumed 17th century brick 2-storey building, with front rendering and 20th century renovation. It is thought to be the oldest brick-built farmhouse in the area.
 - Lower Whittle Farmhouse dates from the 17th century and is a timber-framed structure with substantial 18th century rebuilding of parts and 19th century renovations, resulting in rendered masonry walls.
- 18.3 The Listed Buildings within the allocation will be incorporated into the future development to preserve the heritage of the area.

Areas of Potential Interest

Meadow Croft Fold

- 18.4 The archaeological assessment to date of the site of Meadow Croft Fold indicates that it may be the site of a deserted medieval settlement and iron smelting works. Records also indicate cropmarks of field systems, ridge and furrow, possible house platforms etc., discovered by aerial photography and field walking within the surrounding immediate fields of the Farmhouse. The Farmhouse itself was extensively fire damaged during the summer of 2019 especially the central part of the building.
- 18.5 The site has the potential to be Scheduled as a nationally important archaeological site, and as such given protection against unauthorised change. This would mean that development would not be possible within the designated area of Meadow Croft Fold.
- 18.6 However, a programme of archaeological works to better understand the nature, extent and significance of the area of Meadow Croft Fold is being developed with GMAAS to inform decisions about whether it might be designated. This includes geophysical survey, fieldwalking and the potential for targeted archaeological evaluation excavation.
- 18.7 Informed by this further work, the Masterplan for the allocation will be designed to take into account the potential asset at Meadow Croft Fold.

Whittle Brook (Iron Smelting Site)

- 18.8 A site adjacent to Whittle Brook is suggested as an iron smelting site as a result of archaeological investigations in 1984. Whilst not conclusive in proving that a bloomery (a type of furnace for smelting iron) existed here, it is suggested that there is good potential for such a site.

- 18.9 The site has local to regional significance, but is not currently considered to be of sufficient significance to Schedule. Archaeological mitigation for this asset could be a geophysical survey to potentially obtain the extent of the iron smelting site, later leading onto targeted archaeological evaluation prior to any development within or close to the area of the Whittle Brook Iron Smelting Site

Unsworth Moss

- 18.10 Preserved organic palaeoenvironmental remains may be present at Unsworth Moss due to the areas of peat. A watching brief undertaken during the 1990's at Back o' th' Moss Farm, to the north of Unsworth Moss, revealed no sites of archaeological interest.
- 18.11 In advance of development in this area, archaeological mitigation for this asset would be expected to be in the form of palaeoenvironmental sampling, to potentially establish the extent of the organic palaeoenvironmental remains and potentially any archaeological remains of prehistoric settlement sites that may have been preserved within the peat deposits. This could later lead onto targeted archaeological evaluation.

Castle Brook

- 18.12 The earthworks at Castle Brook Farm in the western part of the allocation may be indicative of a prehistoric camp with the feature situated on a well-drained spur above Castle Brook. A vaguely oval cropmark with turns defined by differential growth appears to surround the earthworks. In addition, a sub-circular feature defined by a dark cropmark, thought to be a possible backfilled pond, may relate to these earthworks.
- 18.13 In advance of development within this area, archaeological mitigation for this asset could be a geophysical survey to determine the extent, character and significance of the remains. Any further mitigation works would be dependent on the result of archaeological mitigation.

Historic Hedgerows

- 18.14 Consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service, alongside the review of historic mapping and the site walkover, indicates a potential requirement for a Historic Hedgerow survey. A Historic Hedgerow survey would be undertaken into inform the masterplan as part of the wider assessment strategy. .

Summary

- 18.15 The Promoters have been engaging closely with GMAAS regarding the proposed development of the allocation. A programme of further works to inform next steps and future masterplans has been agreed with GMAAS in the form of a Written Scheme of Investigation to govern an Archaeological Strategy for the allocation. The purpose of the Archaeological Strategy will be to identify and characterise areas of heritage potential across GM1.1 and GM1.2 and to support the developing masterplan for the Northern Gateway allocation, through the assessment of archaeological potential and development of tools to ensure the development responds appropriately to the potential effects of development on the historic environment.
- 18.16 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.1 Allocation has been informed by the archaeological work undertaken and ensures appropriate evaluation of the heritage assets within the allocation will be undertaken to ensure the protection of these assets in the development proposals.
- 18.17 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

19 Air Quality

- 19.1 Future development traffic has the potential to increase pollutant levels in this area and affect levels within the Air Quality Management Area which is along the M62 and M66 motorways. It is expected that a Detailed Air Quality Assessment (DAQA) will be required at a future planning application stage. It is anticipated that the provision of the best practice air mitigation measures will be sufficient to mitigate any predicted reductions in air quality.
- 19.2 The DAQA will be required to include Construction Phase and Mitigation Measures Report and a proposal for the DAQA will need to be approved prior to the planning application stage.
- 19.3 Any stand-off from the motorways required due to noise constraints for residential elements of the scheme is likely to be sufficient as a form of mitigation for Air Quality for any future occupiers of dwellings. Any air quality risks associated with the commercial aspect of the development are not anticipated. However, where possible, design phase mitigation will be considered at future planning stage.
- 19.4 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

20 Noise

- 20.1 There are a limited number of noise sensitive receptors within and around the allocation. Existing high levels of noise are anticipated at some identified receptor locations, most exposed to the motorway network, with lower levels of noise anticipated at locations further into the allocation.
- 20.2 The incorporation of key design measures will protect both existing and future occupiers and neighbours of the allocation from adverse noise impacts. Measures may include:
- Separation distance between 'noisy' employment uses and residential properties.
 - Orientating service yards / access routes away from the properties;
 - Use of localised screening in the form of bunds or fences;
 - Incorporation of a stand-off distance from the motorway, for the proposed residential dwellings
 - Orientation of residential dwellings to provide screening from noise sources.
- 20.3 Opportunities to improve the environment with respect to noise and air quality include:
- Positioning sources of emissions, e.g. spine roads, away from sensitive receptors where feasible.
 - Provision of green and blue infrastructure network to provide health benefits to workers and residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment which provides opportunity for amenity space in a more tranquil environment.
 - Electric Vehicle charging points across the scheme.
 - A travel plan which sets out measures to encourage sustainable means of transport (public, cycling and walking) via subsidised or free-ticketing, improved links to bus stops, improved infrastructure and layouts to improve accessibility and safety.
- 20.4 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section D – Social

21 Education

- 21.1 This Heywood and Pilsworth allocation is predominantly for employment use. However, 1,200 homes (1,000 in Rochdale and 200 in Bury) are planned within the allocation. This would result in a total yield of 252 primary age pupils, and 168 secondary age pupils.
- 21.2 Since this is area largely undeveloped, there is no existing primary school provision and therefore a new 1/1.5fe primary school would be required, located within the allocation. The approved South Heywood development will provide for a new primary school.
- 21.3 Secondary school provision in the area is at full capacity with existing intakes forecast to increase. Therefore additional demand pressures would need to be met through increased capacity which will need to be considered more strategically, potentially linked to other proposed developments across Bury and Rochdale.

22 Health Impact Assessment

- 22.1 Further work will be required to determine whether there is additional capacity within any local healthcare facilities to meet the increased demands arising from the prospective occupants of the new development. If additional provision is necessary, the most appropriate means and location for such provision can be identified through future iterations of the masterplan. Alternatively, there may be a requirement to make a financial contribution toward off site health provision through a planning obligation or condition at the planning application stage.
- 22.2 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section E – Deliverability

23 Viability

- 23.1 The Three Dragons viability appraisal has tested this allocation as two parts: the strategic employment site of up to 1.2m sq.m. employment floorspace and the residential site of 200 units at Castle Road. The parts of the allocation with planning permission (1,000 homes and a proportion of the 1.2m sq.m. employment floorspace within Rochdale) have not been tested within this assessment.
- 23.2 The base model appraisal is based on the floorspace without planning permission anticipated to come forward within the plan period (circa 700,000 sq.m. employment floorspace, plus 200 residential units at Castle Road).
- 23.3 The sensitivity test includes all of the proposed development yet to receive planning permission, including the employment development that will come forward beyond the end of the plan period.

Test Type	Scheme type	Total BMLV, SDLT & Land acq fees	Scheme RV (incl BLV & return)	Viability measure as a % of BLV	Headroom (blended return)	Test result category
Whether the test is the 'Base' test or a sensitivity test	Housing, employment or mixed	The total figure used in the testing for land value, includes tax and fees. BLV = benchmark land value SDLT = Stamp duty land tax	Scheme value (could also be described as headroom) once all costs have been accounted for including land and developer return RV = Residual value BLV = benchmark land value	Description of whether the scheme provides sufficient residual value in terms of how it compares with the benchmark land value i.e. if it is 10% or more above the benchmark land value it is shown as green, if it is within 10% of the benchmark land value it is shown as amber and where it is less than 90% of the benchmark land value it is shown as red.	The headroom expressed as blended rate of return. The percentages shown are the headroom available after all costs, except developer return divided by the total gross development value for the scheme. If schemes were to go ahead as described, then this is the total return available to the developer.	Category 2 - The residual value is positive and the residual value is above the benchmark by 0% to 10%. Schemes in this group are viable and should be able to proceed but are more marginal and should be monitored for any early signs of significant change. Category 4 - These schemes are generally not viable with the measures used in this study and will likely require public sector support to be developed.
Base model	Emp.	£63,370,000	-£16,440,000	Less than 90% BLV	7%	Cat 4
	Housing	£2,080,000				
Sensitivity test – inc. dev. beyond the plan period	Emp.	£106,840,000	£7,760,000	Within 10% BLV	14%	Cat 2
	Housing	£2,080,000				

- 23.4 The appraisal shows that the amount of development expected to come forward on the allocation within the plan period would result in a residual value of less than 90% of the benchmark land value, after all costs including the full strategic transport costs have been included. The impact of the strategic transport costs is set out in the table below:

Scheme Type	Base / sensitivity test	Scheme RV incl land costs	Scheme RV (less return)	Strategic transport costs	Out-turn scheme RV
Whether site is predominantly housing, employment or mixed	Whether the test is the 'Base' test or a sensitivity	This is the residual value, including the land purchase and associated costs	This is as column 3 but is less the developer return (profit) in line with NPPG.	This is the strategic transport cost provided by TfGM	This is column 4 less the strategic transport cost. Could also be described as headroom, and is the scheme value once all costs have been accounted for including land and developer return.
Employment	Base	£81,284,000	£59,990,000	£76,430,000	-£16,440,000
Housing	Base	£17,283,000			
Employment	Sensitivity – include development post 2037	£126m	£84,190,000	£76,430,000	£7,760,000
Housing	Sensitivity (no change)	£17,283,431			

23.5 GM1.1 is a very large-scale employment allocation that is well located for the motorway network and should be able to attract good values for serviced land parcels. The underlying viability of providing serviced land is strong, with the ability to provide a contribution to the wider GM 1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth scheme transport costs. The testing for the combined allocation of GM1.1 (employment plus housing at Castle Road) shows a positive residual land value of £98.6m which falls to £59.99m once developer and contractor returns have been accounted. However, this residual value is not sufficient to accommodate the strategic transport costs of £76.4m and, when these costs are included, there is a shortfall of just under £16.5m.

23.6 The sensitivity test shows that if the whole allocation is considered the allocation would be viable, but this is reliant on transports costs remaining at the same level which may not be realistic. This allocation is a strategically important employment opportunity, both regionally and nationally. Whilst there will be a shortfall in relation to the development funding the full infrastructure requirements, due to the opportunity it presents to deliver a large, nationally significant employment led development, contributing to driving growth within the north of England, this allocation is likely to secure funding from other sources to support its delivery.

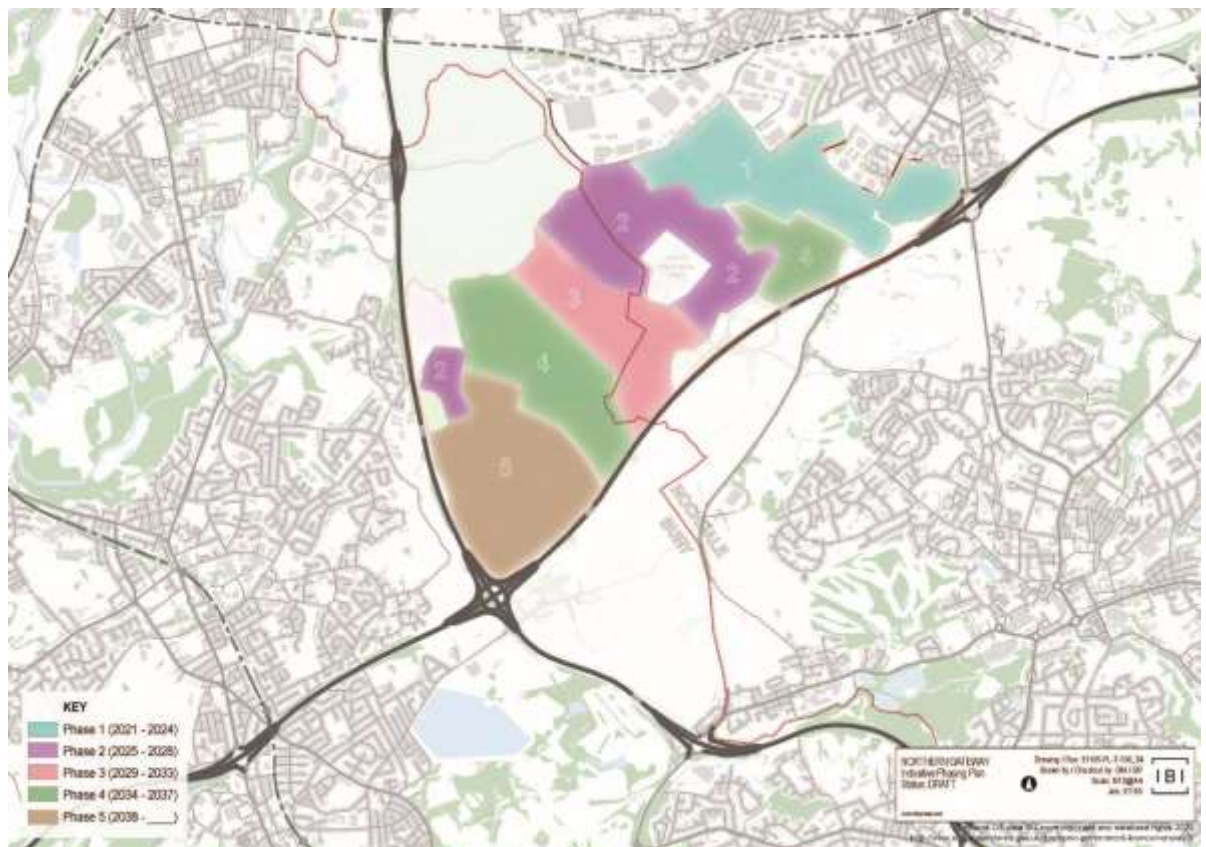
24 Phasing

- 24.1 The Northern Gateway presents the opportunity to deliver transformative change in this part of Bury and Rochdale. Delivering growth of this scale will require a careful approach to phasing to ensure that as development comes forward, it follows the established place making principles for the allocation and is supported by the required infrastructure.
- 24.2 The policy wording for GM 1.1 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be approved by the LPA for the allocation, which any proposals must then be in accordance with. The policy states that this shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development. This should include the delivery of highways, infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure, green

and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.

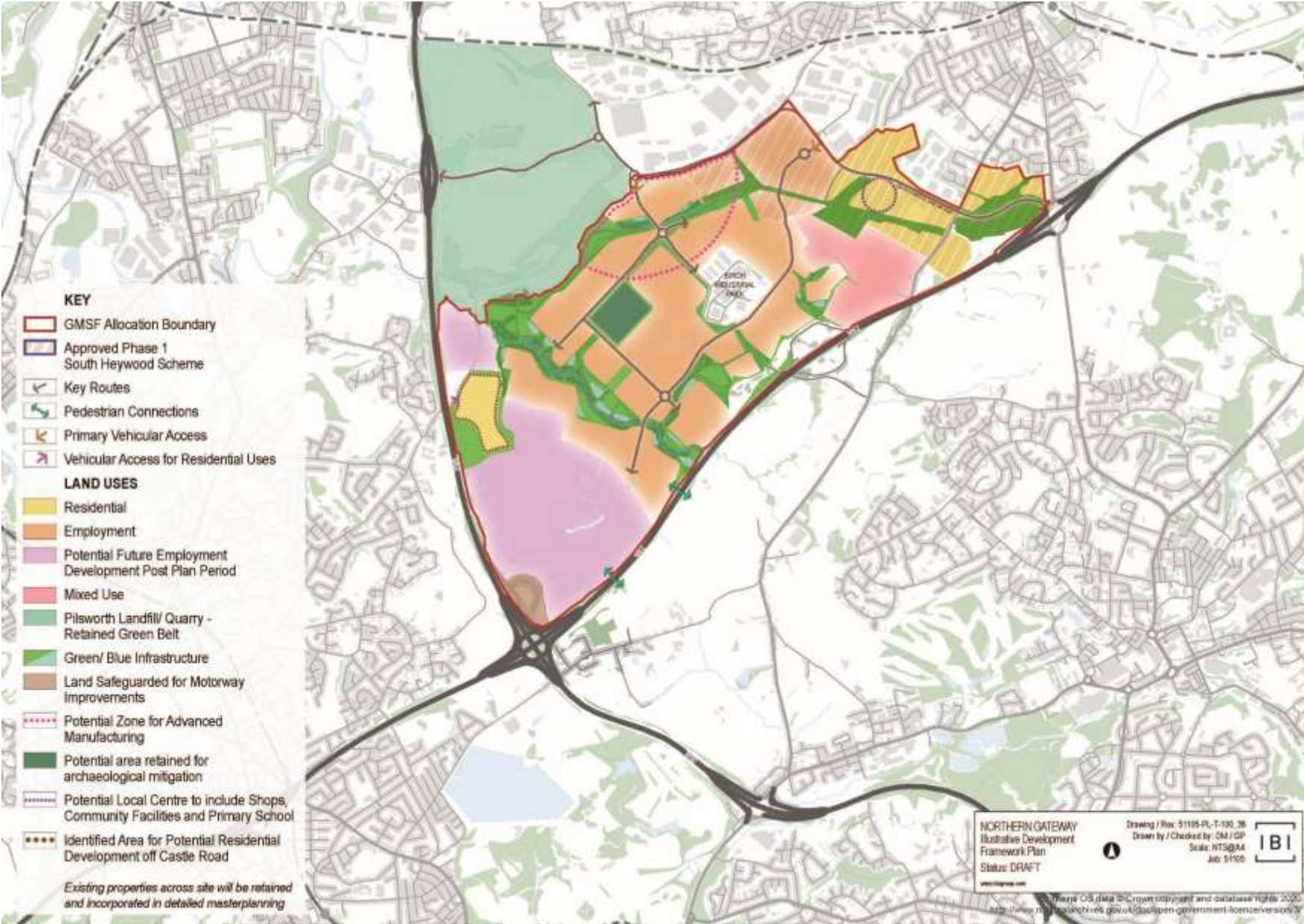
- 24.3 A phasing strategy is being developed through on-going discussions with key stakeholders in relation to highways, utilities infrastructure, land availability, as well as technical work into how the earthworks and drainage strategy for the allocation can be delivered. The estimated phasing and delivery trajectory for the allocation will evolve as the plans for the allocation are developed further.
- 24.4 The first phase of the GM 1.1 allocation is already being brought forward under the approved South Heywood development scheme. This includes improvements to Junction 19 of the M62 and the delivery of a new link road creating an improved connection between Junction 19 of the M62 and Pilsworth Road and on to Junction 3 of the M66. The South Heywood development will realise improvements in local infrastructure – specifically in regards to highways and utilities - unlocking sufficient capacity to deliver an early, second phase of the wider GM 1.1 allocation. This second phase can therefore be brought forward in advance of any significant additional infrastructure improvements. These phases will be located in proximity to the 2 key existing access points, being Junction 19 of the M62 and Junction 3 of the M66 before development occurs on the remainder of the allocation. The exact extent of the phasing will be determined by the nature of any end users, both in terms of size of units and also requirements, i.e. likely peak hour highways trips for example. It is also anticipated that the 200 dwellings proposed off Castle Road will be able to come forward as a separate stand-alone phase without requiring major infrastructure works.
- 24.5 Further into the plan period, the phasing of the development will be influenced largely by market demand for specific unit types and sizes, and will be brought forward alongside strategic infrastructure upgrades including the blue/green infrastructure networks across the allocation. Given the scale of the development, it is anticipated that approximately 365,000 sqm of the total employment floorspace will be delivered beyond the plan period phase. This will be in the southern-most part of the allocation, adjacent to the M62.

Heywood/Pilsworth – Proposed Phasing



25 Indicative Masterplanning

- 25.1 The Site Promoters for the Heywood/Pilsworth Allocation have produced an Illustrative Development Framework Plan to show how proposed development could come forward within the allocation. This provides an indicative layout of the development, including the location of the employment and residential parcels, green infrastructure, local centre and key pedestrian and vehicular access. The illustrative plan also shows an area of land proposed as safeguarded land for motorway improvements.
- 25.2 Policy GM1.1 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be submitted prior to any planning applications within the allocation. The masterplan must include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Delivery. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.



Section F – Conclusion

26 GMSF 2020 Integrated Assessment

- 26.1 An Integrated Appraisal (IA) was undertaken on the 2020 draft GMSF in order to understand how the policy had changed since the 2019 IA and to identify if any further enhancement/mitigation was required.
- 26.2 The majority of the 2019 recommendations for the GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth were positively addressed by the policy itself or another thematic policy. A small number of residual recommendations remained from the 2020 IA, in order to further strengthen the policies.
- 26.3 In particular this included:
- Climate Change – since the 2019 IA was undertaken there has been greater emphasis on the climate change agenda and this is reflective of the declaration of a climate emergency by the ten GM authorities;
 - Accessible design standards – whilst this is broadly covered in Policy GM-E1 and within GM-H3 relating to housing, it was suggested that policies are strengthened with more specific reference to accessible design of buildings and spaces to meet the needs of users. This could be achieved through strengthening Policy GM-E1.
 - Deprivation – whilst this is also broadly covered within the supporting text and broadly within Policy GM-E1, particularly referencing social inclusivity, it is considered that the policy could be more explicitly in terms of inclusive growth and making jobs available to existing local communities or to those suffering deprivation.
- 26.4 The residual IA recommendations for GM1.1 could therefore be met through the strengthening of thematic Policy GM-E1 rather than any specific amendments to Policy GM1.1. This demonstrates the overall improvement of the 2020 draft GMSF in relation to the IA Framework.

27 The main changes to the Proposed Allocation

- 27.1 The allocation boundary or the area proposed to be released has not been amended from that proposed in the 2019 GMSF. However land to the southwest and south that was proposed to be released (GM1.3 - Whitefield and part of GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee) in the 2019 Draft GMSF will now be retained.
- 27.2 The structure of the Northern Gateway GMSF policies has altered in the 2020 GMSF. There is no longer an overarching policy on the Northern Gateway (GM1) but instead the requirements are included within the GM1.1 and GM1.2 policies.
- 27.3 The 2020 GMSF has additional criteria within the policy requiring:
- A comprehensive masterplan and phasing strategy for the allocation.
 - The provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
 - The provision for the long-term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features;
 - A project specific Habitats Regulation Assessment for planning applications of 1,000 sq.m./50 dwellings or more to be carried out;
 - Provide an appropriate buffer between the development and the motorway where required to serve multiple functions including air quality, noise and visual mitigation and high quality landscaping.

- Protect and, where appropriate, enhance the heritage assets and their setting within the allocation including the Grade II Listed buildings – Brick Farmhouse and Lower Whittle Farmhouse and the wider historic character of the surrounding setting in accordance with the findings and recommendations of a Heritage Impact Assessment; and
- Carry out a detailed assessment and evaluation of known and potential archaeological sites including Meadow Croft Farm, historic landscape features and built heritage assets, to establish specific requirements for the protection and enhancement of significant heritage assets.

27.4 A significant amount of evidence base work has been produced to support the allocation since 2019 and this has allowed the criteria within the policy to be expanded upon and be more specific to the allocation.

28 Conclusion

28.1 GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth is considered to meet the site selection criteria and make a positive contribution to the overall vision, objectives and strategy of the GMSF. The allocation is considered to be deliverable and available for development. Further work has been identified to take forward the allocation through the planning process.

28.2 The allocation provides the opportunity to deliver an extensive range of high quality employment development opportunities in a strategically important location building on the strong and established brands of Heywood and Pilsworth to attract a wider range of business sectors including logistics, industry and high value/knowledge based employment.

28.3 With investment much of the area is capable of being served by rail for freight as well as benefiting from the excellent road connections via the M62, M66 and M60 and there is potential to significantly improve connections via public transport.

28.4 The allocation will provide significant new job opportunities for local residents and enable the north and east of Greater Manchester to uplift its contribution to the wider Greater Manchester economy.

28.5 The employment opportunities will be supported by new communities as part of the Heywood/Pilsworth allocation as well as at Simister/Bowlee which have transformational potential in enabling new housing, community facilities and new transport infrastructure to come forward in what is currently an area with significant pockets of high deprivation, low skills and worklessness.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth

Northern Gateway

The Northern Gateway is an extensive area located around Junction 18 of the M60 motorway extending east to Junction 19 of the M62 and north to Junction 3 of the M66. It comprises two key sites within the wider North-East Growth Corridor:

- Heywood / Pilsworth (Bury and Rochdale) (see Policy GM Allocation 1.1 'Heywood/ Pilsworth (Northern Gateway)'); and
- Simister and Bowlee (Bury and Rochdale) (see Policy GM Allocation 1.2 'Simister/Bowlee (Northern Gateway)')

The Northern Gateway straddles the districts of Bury and Rochdale and is positioned at a strategically important intersection around the M60, M62 and M66 motorways. As such, it represents a highly accessible opportunity for growth in Greater Manchester with wider benefits on a regional and national level. The central theme of the spatial strategy for Greater Manchester is to deliver inclusive growth across the city region complemented by a key aim to boost the competitiveness of the northern parts of Greater Manchester. The Northern Gateway is one of the key locations that will help to deliver these fundamental objectives.

This strategic allocation will enable the delivery of a large, nationally-significant employment opportunity to attract high quality business and investment, with a complementary housing offer on the M62 corridor, where there is strong evidence of market demand.

The allocation at Heywood/Pilsworth provides an opportunity for a substantial and high quality employment-led development. The scale and location of this allocation will help to rebalance the Greater Manchester economy, ensure the GMSF plays its part in driving growth within the north of England and enable Greater Manchester to be competitive both nationally and internationally.

This will be supported by new communities as part of the Heywood/Pilsworth allocation as well as at Simister/Bowlee which have transformational potential in enabling new housing, community facilities and new transport infrastructure to come forward in what is currently an area with significant pockets of high deprivation, low skills and worklessness.

To be successful and sustainable, the employment and housing opportunities need to be accessible by a range of transport modes and be linked directly to existing and new communities in the surrounding area via new recreational routes and corridors of green infrastructure which in turn provide an attractive setting for development. Outside of the motorway network, much of the area proposed for development is currently served by an inadequate transport network and this will require substantial investment to improve connectivity, potentially including investment in rapid transit. The prospective residents will require new community facilities and these will be provided in accessible locations within walking distance of homes.

The opportunities at Heywood/Pilsworth and Simister/Bowlee will need to incorporate extensive supporting infrastructure. The full delivery of the allocation at Heywood/Pilsworth is likely to extend beyond the plan period.

Policy GM Allocation 1.1 - Heywood / Pilsworth (Northern Gateway)

Any proposals for this allocation must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan relating to the area to come forward in the plan period that has been previously approved by the LPA(s). It shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Implementation. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.

Development at this allocation will be required to:

1. Be of sufficient scale and quality to enable a significant rebalance in economic growth within the sub-region by boosting the competitiveness of the north of the conurbation and should:
 - i. Deliver a total of around 1,200,000 sq.m. of industrial and warehousing space (with around 700,000 sq.m. being delivered within the plan period). This should comprise a mix of high quality employment premises in an attractive business park setting in order to appeal to a wide range of business sectors, including the development of an Advanced Manufacturing Park;
 - ii. Deliver around 1,000 additional homes along with a new primary school in the eastern part of the allocation to support the early delivery of the infrastructure and provide a buffer between existing housing and the new employment development;
 - iii. Deliver around 200 new homes, including provision of plots for custom and self-build housing, in the west of the allocation off Castle Road ensuring that an appropriate buffer is incorporated to separate this part of the allocation from the wider employment area and that appropriate highways measures are in place to prevent the use of residential roads by traffic associated with the wider employment area; and
 - iv. An appropriate range of supporting and ancillary services and facilities.
2. Make provision for significant new and improved highways infrastructure to enable the proposed level of development to be accommodated, including:
 - i. Improvements to Junction 3 of the M66;
 - ii. Improved links between Junction 3 of the M66 and Junction 19 of the M62;
 - iii. Other off-site highway works where these are necessary to ensure acceptable traffic movement, including a contribution towards the mitigation proposed at Croft Lane, Hollins Lane/Hollins Brow.
3. Support the delivery of improved public transport infrastructure through the allocation (including Bus Rapid Transit corridors) and close to the allocation (including potential tram-train on the East Lancashire rail line between Bury and Rochdale) to enhance sustainable connectivity to the wider sub-region and adjoining districts and neighbourhoods;
4. Deliver a network of safe and convenient cycling and walking routes through the allocation designed to national and GM standards of design and construction and local planning policy requirements;
5. Make provision for affordable housing in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
6. Provide financial contributions for offsite additional primary and secondary school provision to meet needs generated by the development;
7. Make provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies.

8. Ensure the design and layout allows for effective integration with surrounding communities, including active travel links and connections to local services, employment opportunities and over the M62 to proposed new development at Simister/Bowlee (GM1.2).
9. Retain, enhance and replace existing recreation facilities, where required, and make provision for new recreation facilities to meet the needs of the prospective residents in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
10. Make provision for new, high quality, publically accessible multifunctional green and blue infrastructure to provide health benefits to workers and residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment and providing linkages to the sites wider drainage strategy in accordance with Policy GM-G2 Green Infrastructure Network and Policy GM-G9 Standards to a Greener Greater Manchester. This should include the integration and enhancement of existing features such as Hollins Brook/Brightly Brook SBI and Whittle Brook.
11. Minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation in accordance with Policy GM-G10 – A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity;
12. Ensure that any development is safe from and mitigates for potential flood risk from all sources including Whittle Brook, Castle Brook and Brightley Brook and does not increase the flood risk elsewhere. The delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development;
13. Ensure that sustainable drainage systems are fully incorporated into the development to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Where possible, natural SuDS techniques should be utilised, prioritising the use of ponds, swales and other infrastructure which mimic natural drainage and be designed as multi-functional green infrastructure connecting to the wider green and blue infrastructure network in accordance with Policy GM-S5 - Flood Risk and the Water Environment and nationally recognised SuDS design standards. Proposals to discharge to the public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available.
14. Make appropriate provision for the long term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features;
15. Carry out a project specific Habitats Regulation Assessment for planning applications of 1,000 sq.m./50 dwellings or more;
16. Provide an appropriate buffer between the development and the motorway where required to serve multiple functions including air quality, noise and visual mitigation and high quality landscaping.
17. Incorporate appropriate noise and air quality mitigation measures along the M62 and M66 motorway corridors and local road network if required within the allocation;
18. Protect and, where appropriate, enhance the heritage assets and their setting within the allocation including the Grade II Listed buildings – Brick Farmhouse and Lower Whittle Farmhouse and the wider historic character of the surrounding setting in accordance with the findings and recommendations of a Heritage Impact Assessment; and
19. Carry out a detailed assessment and evaluation of known and potential archaeological sites including Meadow Croft Farm, historic landscape features and built heritage assets, to establish specific requirements for the protection and enhancement of significant heritage assets.

Justification

This allocation has been identified as a large, nationally significant location for new employment-led development within the Northern Gateway opportunity area between Bury and Rochdale. The scale of the opportunity will help to deliver a significant jobs boost to wider northern and eastern parts of

the conurbation, increasing the economic output from this area and helping to rebalance the Greater Manchester economy. It also includes the potential to deliver a significant amount of new housing as well as an appropriate range of supporting and ancillary services and facilities.

Planning permission has been granted for a scheme to deliver around 135,000 sq.m. of employment floorspace, 1,000 homes and a new primary school on the eastern part of the allocation at South Heywood and this land is included in the allocation for removal from the Green Belt. As well as delivering an early phase of the employment development this proposal will help to create a more mixed-use urban extension. The new school will not only provide space to accommodate children from the new development but will also help tackle a shortage of local school places. The residential development along with secured public funding is a key element to delivering improved linkages from Junction 19 of the M62. The employment floorspace and homes covered by this planning application are included in the current baseline supply.

Although the allocation has the capacity to deliver a total of around 1,200,000 sq.m. of new employment floorspace, it is anticipated that around 700,000 sq.m. of this will be delivered within the plan period (in addition to the 135,000 sq.m. that has an extant planning permission at South Heywood). Nevertheless, it is considered necessary to release the site in full at this stage given that the scale of the proposed development means that it will need to be supported by significant strategic infrastructure and this level of investment needs the certainty that the remaining development and associated economic benefits will still be able to come forward beyond the plan period.

This allocation benefits from being in close proximity to existing regionally renowned employment sites at Heywood Distribution Park and Pilsworth and the development of this allocation will complement other opportunities in the Northern Gateway as well as other key sites in the north of the sub-region such as Logistics North.

Whilst the location of this allocation along the key M62 corridor will be particularly attractive to the logistics sector, it is important that it provides high quality business premises for a range of other sectors including advanced manufacturing and higher value knowledge-based businesses. This variety will not only provide a better range of good quality jobs but has the potential to provide premises for new and growing sectors, thus diversifying both the local and sub-regional economy.

The size of the proposal would also support the provision of an appropriate range of supporting services and facilities, such as a new local centre, hotel, leisure and conference facilities. However, it is important that these are of a scale that is appropriate to the main employment use of the allocation.

The delivery of such an allocation will require significant investment in infrastructure if it is to be successful and sustainable. The allocation clearly has excellent access to the motorway network but will benefit from improved linkages between Junction 19 of the M62 and Junction 3 of the M66. The local authorities will continue to explore opportunities for a new junction at Birch which could provide additional accessibility and be of benefit to the allocation in the longer term. Furthermore, in conjunction with the development of the allocation, there will be an expectation that opportunities are fully explored to deliver a rail freight spur exploiting the existing heavy rail connections from the East Lancashire Railway line which adjoins the allocation to the north and Calder Valley line to the east.

The allocation will also need to be served by a wide range of public transport and significant interventions will be required in order to promote sustainable travel and make the allocation more accessible to the local labour pool. This could potentially include rapid transit linking the expanded Heywood employment area with surrounding neighbourhoods and key locations helping to maximise the public transport accessibility of the employment opportunities and to better integrate existing and new communities with the rest of Greater Manchester. The potential tram-train on the East Lancashire rail line between Bury and Rochdale should be explored and the allocation will

also need to be supported by safe and attractive walking and cycling routes to promote healthier and more sustainable journeys to work.

It should be noted that the existing Birch Industrial Estate is located within the allocation. This is a successful estate that has benefited from recent investment and would be retained as part of any development. This allocation will also share the benefits of the improved accessibility of the area.

The area also includes an existing golf club and school playing field. Whilst the intention is for these to be retained, they could potentially be incorporated into the wider development if they were to subsequently become available.

In addition to the 1,000 homes with planning permission at South Heywood, the allocation is also considered to have the potential to accommodate around 200 further dwellings on land accessed via Castle Road in Unsworth. However, it is important that an appropriate buffer is incorporated into the development to create separation from the wider employment development and that appropriate highways measures are in place to prevent the inappropriate use of residential roads by vehicular traffic associated with the wider employment area.

Any housing development within the allocation will be required to make provision for affordable housing and recreation to meet the needs of the prospective residents in line with Local Plan policy requirements.

The land is relatively undulating and the contours offer opportunities to create an attractive and interesting setting for the development as well as providing some natural screening. This should be complimented by the creation of a good quality green and blue infrastructure network which will provide publicly accessible open spaces to provide recreational opportunities to workers and residents in the wider area. Such a network should seek to maximise the value of existing features and areas of nature conservation value. There are some existing recreation facilities, ponds, reservoirs and brooks within and adjacent to the allocation and any development should seek to retain and enhance such features, where appropriate. Other opportunities for new blue infrastructure may exist to further enhance visual amenity, provide SUDS and widen local biodiversity. A management plan will be required to demonstrate how the retention and improvement of green and blue infrastructure and nature conservation assets will continue to be managed.

Delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development. Measures such as rainwater recycling, green roofs, water butts and permeable driveway surfaces should be considered to mitigate the impact of potential flood risk both within and beyond the site boundaries. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should communicate with the public sewer.

Traffic to and from the site is likely to include travel on the M62 which passes close to designated European sites and, as such, a project specific Habitats Regulation Assessment will be required for planning applications involving 1,000 or more sq.m. or 50 or more residential units.

Given that the allocation is located adjacent to the M62 and M66 motorways, there will be a need to incorporate a buffer between the allocation and the motorway to serve multiple functions including air and noise mitigation and high quality landscaping. Mitigation through tree planting could be undertaken in conjunction with proposals for the Northern Forest.

There are two Grade II Listed buildings within the allocation boundary and known significant archaeological sites, notably at Meadow Croft Fold. In addition, there are a number of potentially significant archaeological sites, locally listed buildings and structures throughout and adjacent to the allocation. Any development would need to consider the impact on their setting through the completion of a Heritage Impact Statement. There will be a need to undertake detailed archaeological work including field walking and evaluation trenching leading to further investigations and recording and, if necessary, preserving features in-situ.

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GM1.2 – Simister/Bowlee

Topic Paper

October 2020

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Section A – Background

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Northern Gateway is an extensive area located around Junction 18 of the M60 motorway extending east to Junction 19 of the M62 and north to Junction 3 of the M66. It comprises two interrelated allocations at:
 - Heywood / Pilsworth (Bury and Rochdale)
 - Simister and Bowlee (Bury and Rochdale)
- 1.2 Development of the area will deliver a large, nationally significant employment led opportunity to attract high quality business and investment which is supported by new housing that is well integrated with, and brings positive benefits to, the surrounding communities.
- 1.3 This Topic Paper brings together a wide range of information and evidence in connection with the proposed strategic site allocation at Simister/Bowlee (GM1.2). However, it should be read in conjunction with the separate Topic Paper relating to the Heywood/Pilsworth (GM1.1). The paper may be subject to further technical amendments in advance of the formal commencement of consultation.
- 1.4 The extent of the Simister/Bowlee allocation has been reduced significantly in the Publication GMSF 2020 compared to what was proposed in the 2019 draft. Some of the evidence gathered for the allocation relates to the extent of the allocation proposed in 2019. Nevertheless, given that the allocation has subsequently been reduced, it is considered reasonable to conclude that the changes made between then and the current Publication version of the plan will not have caused any additional issues.

2 Site Details

- 2.1 The proposed site allocation at Simister/Bowlee (GM1.2) is located between the settlements of Prestwich and Middleton and covers a total area of 74 hectares. The majority of its western boundary borders on the M60, the southern boundary abuts the edge of the village of Rhodes and the allocation's eastern boundary wraps around the western and northern edges of Middleton.
- 2.2 The allocation currently comprises agricultural land and a number of residential, employment and agricultural properties.

3 Proposed Development

- 3.1 Approximately 1,550 homes are proposed within the Simister/Bowlee allocation. Around 1,350 homes will be in Bury and a further 200 will be located in Rochdale.
- 3.2 This will include the provision of affordable housing to address local housing need, accommodation for older persons, plots for custom and self-build. It will also include a mix of housing densities with higher density development in areas with good accessibility and with potential for improved public transport connectivity and lower densities adjacent to existing villages where development will require sensitive design to respond to its context.
- 3.3 The proposed development will be required to provide infrastructure to support the new community. This includes an upgrade of the local highway network, traffic restrictions on Simister Lane to prevent this route from being a form of access/egress to and from the allocation, improved public transport provision through the allocation and close to the

allocation, more routes for walking and cycling, a new local centre with an appropriate range of convenience shopping facilities and a primary school. There will be high quality, publicly accessible, multifunctional green and blue infrastructure throughout the allocation which can be used for sport, leisure and recreation.

3.4 The proposed site allocation at Simister/Bowlee has now been reduced in size since the 2019 Draft GMSF with the total site allocation reducing from 206 ha to 74 ha. Land to the north of Blueball Lane, together with a small area on the south western edge, are to be excluded from the Allocation and retained in the Green Belt. The area around Simister Village, will also now be excluded from the Allocation and retained as Green Belt. These reductions were in response to calls from local residents to preserve the character of Simister Village. In addition, there is significantly less certainty over the development of a new motorway junction at Birch which would have been a major access point into the allocation.

3.5 Appendix 1 sets out the GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee policy wording.

4 Site Selection

4.1 The GMSF Site Selection work had the purpose of identifying the most sustainable locations for residential and employment development that can achieve the GMSF Vision, Objectives and Spatial Strategy.

4.2 This allocation forms part of the wider Northern Gateway allocation and straddles the districts of Bury and Rochdale. The Northern Gateway, in its entirety, provides the opportunity to deliver a large nationally significant employment opportunity which can attract high quality business and investment and provide complementary residential development.

4.3 The allocation is positioned at a strategically important intersection around the M60, M62 and M66 motorways. As such, it represents a highly accessible opportunity for growth in Greater Manchester, with wider benefits on a regional and national level.

4.4 Currently, much of the area proposed for development is served by an inadequate transport network. Key to the delivery of the allocation will be the provision of significant improvements to highway infrastructure, delivery of improved public transport infrastructure through the allocation (including Bus Rapid Transport corridor) and close to the allocation and the provision of high quality walking and cycling routes.

4.5 The scale of the development will help to deliver a significant jobs boost to the northern and eastern parts of Greater Manchester, increasing the economic output from this area. It will also enable new residential and community facilities to come forward in what is currently an area with significant pockets of deprivation, low skills and worklessness.

4.6 The GMSF site selection process considered the entire Northern Gateway allocation when considering sites for inclusion in the GMSF. On this basis the allocation was selected for inclusion based on:

- Criteria 1 (land which has been previously developed and/or land which is served by public transport);
- Criteria 3 (land that can maximise existing opportunities which have significant capacity to deliver transformational change and/or boost the competitiveness and connectivity of Greater Manchester and genuinely deliver inclusive growth);
- Criteria 5 (land which would have a direct significant impact on delivering urban regeneration);

- Criteria 6 (land where transport investment (by the developer) and the creation of significant new demand (through appropriate development densities), would support the delivery of long term viable sustainable travel options and delivers significant wider community benefits);
 - Criteria 7 – Land that would deliver significant local benefits by addressing a major local problem/issue.
- 4.7 Further detail is provided within in the GMSF Site Selection Paper available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 4.8 Specifically, the Simister/Bowlee allocation forms part of the GMSF North East Corridor Policy (GM-Strat 7) and offers an opportunity to deliver a significant mixed use, housing and employment development which is of a transformative scale and significantly change the economic growth potential of the wider area. Development could capitalise on the existing successful employment locations at Heywood and Pilsworth and further exploit the important connection to the M62 corridor. The location of this allocation will make it particularly attractive to the logistics and advanced manufacturing sectors.
- 4.9 Development could also contribute towards regeneration of adjacent areas of deprivation and this would help deliver one the GMSF's key aims of boosting the competitiveness of the northern Greater Manchester Boroughs and supporting long-term economic growth in Greater Manchester.
- 4.10 Given the above, the allocation is relevant to the GMSF objectives of:
- Objective 1 – Meet our housing need;
 - Objective 3 – Ensure a thriving and productive economy in all parts of Greater Manchester;
 - Objective 4 – Maximise the potential arising from our national and international assets;
 - Objective 5 – Reduce inequalities and improve prosperity;
 - Objective 6 – Promote the sustainable movement of people, good and information.

5 Planning History

- 5.1 Planning permission has not been granted for any significant uses within the allocation.

6 GMSF 2019 Consultation Responses

- 6.1 The consultation responses and consultation summary report is available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 6.2 399 comments were received in relation to the GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee during the consultation on the Revised Draft GMSF in 2019. A summary of the key issues are as follows:

Principle / scale of development
▪ Unreasonable and disproportionate scale of development in one location. ▪ Will cause considerable harm to character of small village, result in a loss of amenity and depress property values. Compulsory purchase will be required. ▪ Some landowners wish to see the site extended.

Support, provided that villages sympathetically merged and appropriate separation distances implemented.
Housing (inc affordable housing)
- Layout not sympathetic to village which will be overwhelmed. - Scale of growth proposed not achievable and will take a number of years to come forward. Phasing will be critical to avoid flooding the market. - Does not cater for affordable/specialist housing needs. Needs to be environmentally friendly and delivered at appropriate densities. - Housing growth should be distributed more evenly across Bury. - There is support that the development will provide much needed housing in this location, there is a willingness from landowners in Simister to bring the site forward and more housing to south of village should be considered.
Employment and Economy
- No need for employment proposal at Heywood/Pilsworth as low unemployment and deprivation in Simister and Bowlee. Likely to be low paid, need quality manufacturing, no indication of interest. - Residents will have poor access and will need to commute out. - Support – Must invest in the Northern Powerhouse.
Green Belt
- Simister will lose all of its Green Belt, this was misrepresented in the consultation letter. Wide disparities between Bury townships. - Area is semi-rural and remote, designation attracts people to area. - No justification, will result in sprawl and merge distinct towns. - Details on proposed protections for removals not made clear. - It was highlighted that Clarkes Cross (west of M60) has been omitted but could still make a contribution in the form of safeguarded land for long-term needs

7 GMSF 2019 Integrated Assessment

- 7.1 The 2019 GMSF Integrated Assessment (IA) is available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 7.2 The IA reviewed how the draft GMSF policies could impact upon the environment, the economy, local communities, equality and public health. The IA also recommended ways in which the GMSF can be improved to ensure that the policies are as sustainable as possible.
- 7.3 The three Northern Gateway draft allocations were considered together against the 2019 Integrated Assessment objectives. The allocations performed well however a number of recommendations were made:
- Ensure that all three allocations refer to a mix of housing types;
 - Make specific reference to energy efficiency of the housing stock;
 - The policy should also highlight the importance of local employment during construction;
 - Consider feasibility study into requirements and ability of local network to support development;
 - Benefits such as creation of construction and operational employment, or improved transport links or increases in the range of community facilities, should consider deprived areas. Where possible such benefits should be maximised to help bring about long term benefits for deprived areas.

- The allocation needs to encourage integration with existing communities and provision of a range of housing tenures.
- Ensure any new health provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages;
- Ensure any new community facilities provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages.
- Ensure any new recreation provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages.
- Seek to minimise the number of trips made by private car to/from the site. Consider the use of mitigation solutions including green infrastructure, incentivising electric vehicles and/or masterplan layout which reduces emissions near sensitive receptors. This is especially relevant to buffer around the AQMA adjacent to the site.
- A suitable flood risk assessment may be required and associated mitigation in order to prevent the flood zone expanding.
- Appropriate flood risk mitigation should be implemented (in line with best practice) for all developments that are within or near to areas of flood risk. This is especially relevant around the areas of flood zone 2 and 3.
- Make reference to energy efficiency directly and ways that it can be increased, such as highlighting the benefits of sustainable modes of transport.
- Consider the listed structures throughout detailed design to reduce the risk throughout construction and operational phases.
- Consider how development of PDL sites could be encouraged as a result of greenfield development (e.g. by incentives or inclusion of adjacent PDL).
- Promote sustainable construction methods.
- Consider waste and recycling facilities in design e.g. consider location of waste/recycling facilities in design/layout of masterplans, and how waste facilities can be located to encourage recycling.

7.4 It is important to note that the IA was focusing on each policy in isolation from other policies and that many of the recommended changes for the Northern Gateway allocation policies are already covered in other GMSF policies. However, some wording changes have been made as a result of the IA in relation to housing types, electric vehicles, heritage and archaeology.

Section B – Physical

8 Transport

- 8.1 The allocation is divided into two parts; a larger part to the west of the A6045 and a smaller part to the east. The allocation is located to the south-east of the Simister Island interchange, north-west of Middleton, and is bound by the M60 to the west, the M62 to the north and the A576/A6045 to the east and south. The delivery of this allocation will require significant investment in infrastructure. In particular the allocation will need to deliver a wide range of public transport improvements in order to promote sustainable travel and improve linkages to new employment opportunities at the Heywood/Pilsworth allocation (GM1.1).
- 8.2 The Locality Assessment 2020 available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/> concludes that that this development, both in isolation and in consideration of the cumulative impacts with other nearby GMSF allocations, is expected to materially impact both the strategic and local road networks. The Strategic Road Network (SRN) impacts are expected to be concentrated at M60 Junction 19 and M62 Junction 19, whilst the Local Road Network (LRN) impacts mostly impact the junctions on the A6045 Heywood Old Road.
- 8.3 As part of the Locality Assessment process, a number of mitigation schemes were developed and tested to address identified network congestion points over both the strategic and local road networks. These schemes have been developed in outline detail to inform viability and allocations policy. Further detailed work will be necessary to identify the specific interventions required to ensure the network works effectively based on transport network conditions at the time of the planning application/s and to take into account the effects of material future changes to the network such as M60 J18 Simister Island improvements and the proposed Middleton Metrolink extension which could significantly impact on travel trends in the immediate locality.
- 8.4 During the Locality Assessment process, the M60 Junction 19 / A576 Middleton Road junction proved particularly problematic in terms of providing a realistic representation in the local junction modelling. Further more detailed modelling of the roundabout and adjoining parts of the network – potentially using traffic simulation tools – is recommended at this location. Further more detailed work is also recommended at the M62 Junction 19 roundabout to better define the required mitigation.
- 8.5 The following mitigation measures have been identified:

Mitigation	Description
Allocation Access	
Two new 3-arm signalised junctions with A6045.	Allocation access for the land parcel west of A6045.
Two new 3-arm priority junctions with A6045.	Allocation access for the land parcel east of A6045.
Supporting Strategic Interventions	
New Metrolink Stop on the proposed line between Crumpsall and Middleton.	New stop on the proposed Crumpsall to Middleton line near Rhodes.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor to Manchester city centre.	Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor to Manchester city centre and Heywood via Heywood Old Road/ Manchester Road.
Necessary Local Mitigations	
Permeable network for pedestrian and cyclist priority to/from/ within the development.	Assumed new or upgraded cycle and pedestrian access, linked to PROWs and the Bee Network, providing connectivity to adjacent local areas and employment/educational opportunities, supported by high quality design for active travel within the allocation area.
Introduction of local bus services to/from/within the allocation.	Assumed local bus services to link the allocation with Metrolink and Rail interchanges and key local centres such as Prestwich and Middleton, supported by permeable design of future development to support bus services within the allocation area.
Improvement of A6045 Heywood Old Road / A576 traffic signal junction.	Required improvements not yet known; subject to further study.
A6045 Heywood Old Road/Langley Lane.	Signalisation of the junction. This scheme is already identified by Rochdale Council in support of other local committed development.
SRN Interventions	
M60 Junction 19/A576 Middleton Road.	Signalisation of the Northern and Eastern Arms (A576 N and the M60 West Bound off Slip).
M62 J19/A6046 Heywood Interchange.	Consideration of alternative pedestrian/cycle configurations and re-optimization of the signal timings.
Possible corridor improvements on A576 Middleton Road / Manchester Old Road in vicinity of M60 J19.	Required improvements not yet known; subject to further study.

- 8.6 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.2 Allocation has been informed by the Locality Assessment and requires the above mitigation measures to be implemented to enable the proposed level of development to be accommodated.
- 8.7 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable. However, significant further work is recommended to verify and refine the findings of the Locality Assessment, particularly in relation to connections to the SRN, as the allocation moves through the planning process. The allocation would also need to be supported by continuing wider transport investment across GM.

9 Flood Risk and Drainage

Flood Risk Summary

- 9.1 The majority of the allocation is located within Flood Zone 1 (i.e. land assessed as having a lower than 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding) and development should be directed into these areas, if possible. There are no main rivers within the boundary of the allocation.

9.2 There is localised risk of groundwater flooding at and below ground level across the northern part of the allocation and adjacent to an unmarked watercourse which flows southerly through the allocation to the south of Simister Lane. Detailed future designs for the development will be able to take into account the overland flow routes and any groundwater flood risk and potential areas of ponding to ensure there is no increase to flood risk within the allocation or elsewhere as a result of the development.

9.3 The allocation is at low risk of sewer flooding.

GMSF Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

9.4 The Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (GM Level 1 SFRA) was completed in March 2019 available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/> as part of the evidence base to inform the preparation of the GMSF. This SFRA initiated the sequential risk-based approach to the allocation of land for development and identified whether application of the Exception Test was likely to be necessary using the most up-to-date information and guidance.

9.5 The Level 1 SFRA assessed the 2019 draft allocation boundary for GM1.2 and concluded that as 98% of the allocation is located within Flood Zone 1, the flood risk within the GM1.2 allocation could be avoided through site layout and design as part of a detailed flood risk assessment. All of the smaller GMSF 2020 boundary is located within Flood Zone 1.

9.6 Building on the conclusions of the Level 1 SFRA, the site promoters for GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee have prepared a GM1.2 Flood Risk and Drainage High Level Constraints Review to assess the risk of flooding in more detail and consider what mitigation measures may be required.

9.7 To ensure that flood risk is not increased at the allocation or elsewhere as a result of the development, surface water runoff from the development will be restricted to the existing greenfield runoff rate (7.5 l/s/ha).

9.8 The GM1.2 Flood Risk and Drainage High Level Constraints Review states that the proposed drainage system will include a variety of SuDS features providing green/blue spaces (such as detention basins and swales). These shall address both flooding and water quality issues and be designed to mimic natural drainage features within the allocation and provide recreational areas for the public. Alternate SuDS options such as wetlands, provide an opportunity to maximise biodiversity and maximise public open space and will be considered. Infiltration may be possible across some of the allocation subject to detailed ground investigations on a localised basis. Parts of the allocation have been identified as historic landfill sites. It is considered unlikely that infiltration of surface water is likely only to be an environmentally safe option if remediation has been carried out in advance to a standard specifically to suit infiltration.

9.9 No public surface water sewers have been identified within the allocation. Surface water runoff will be discharge into the ground through multiple infiltration structures or to the watercourses within the allocation at the limiting discharge rates. This will require discussion and agreement with the Environment Agency and the Lead Local Flood Authority.

9.10 The GM1.2 Flood Risk and Drainage High Level Constraints Review states that the masterplan for the allocation is being developed with due consideration for the existing topography, watercourses and rivers and development plots are likely to be located with substantial offsets from these features. This provides the opportunity to create green/blue corridors adjacent to the existing watercourses and will not require the diversion of any watercourses and culverted works will be kept to a minimum.

- 9.11 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.2 seeks to ensure that any development within the allocation is safe from and mitigates for potential flood risk from all sources. Policy GM1.2 requires development to incorporate sustainable drainage systems to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Proposals to discharge to public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should communicate with the public sewer.
- 9.12 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

10 Ground Conditions

Site Geology and Hydrogeology

- 10.1 The Desk Top Assessment has identified:
- Made ground – expected to be present where landfilling has occurred, where quarries, sand & gravel pits have been backfilled, around man-made features and around buildings where ground has been disturbed by construction activities;
 - Superficial deposits – Predominantly glacial morainic deposits are present overlain by head deposits along water courses and by glacial fluvial deposits locally in the south;
 - Bedrock - Coal Measures in the north western three quarters of the allocation. The Chester Formation (sandstone) is present in south western quarter of the allocation. These geological formations are separated by the Bradley Fold Fault trending north west to south east. The allocation is not located in a high risk development area in relation to Coal Mining activities.

Ground Contamination

- 10.2 The allocation predominantly comprises agricultural land which is not expected to be significantly contaminated.
- 10.3 The potential risks from and mitigation for contamination in these areas are given in the table below.
- 10.4 Intrusive ground investigation will be undertaken to establish if any contamination is present and, if it is, to establish its nature and extent. An initial characterisation investigation will enable an outline remediation strategy for the allocation to be developed. More detailed investigation, assessment and detailed remediation design can then be undertaken on a phase by phase basis as each area of the allocation comes forward for development.

Table 1 Geo-environmental Aspects and Mitigation

Area of Potential Contamination	Contamination Risk	Potential Mitigation
Backfilled quarries/pits and landfills	Backfill material unknown. May contain contamination especially asbestos.	Assessment of material and remediation and, where possible, re-use of material
Ground gas	Migration from landfilling activities and generation from the peat.	Ground gas protection measures may be required in new build properties.

Shallow groundwater	Potential for contamination of shallow groundwater.	Consideration of contamination if shallow groundwater present in any contaminated parts of the site.

Geotechnical Summary

- 10.5 Geotechnical aspects to consider within the allocation include compressible peat deposits, backfilled quarries and pits and groundwater presence. The ground will also need to be characterised for cut and fill works and for foundation design. The geotechnical aspects are given in the table below along with potential mitigation measures. Intrusive investigation will be undertaken to assess these aspects further.

Table 2 Geotechnical Aspects and Mitigation

Geotechnical Aspect	Geotechnical risk	Potential mitigation
Backfilled quarries / pits	Backfill material unknown. Risk of unacceptable settlements / collapse especially if loaded	Identification and intrusive investigation of backfill. Geotechnical assessment and re-engineering of material as required.
Slopes	Existing slopes and new slopes – risk of instability / slope failures	Investigation and assessment of existing slopes. Reprofilling or remediation if required. Geotechnical design of new slopes / appropriate retaining structures
Shallow groundwater	Groundwater in excavations. Risks of instability from groundwater ingress.	Temporary support / pumping during works if required.

- 10.6 The Assessment has been reviewed by Bury Council Environmental Health department. They have recommended the following prior to any planning applications being submitted within the allocation:
- Ground investigation to determine the potential for ground gas, contaminated soil and leachate associated with the infilling of former quarries / pits and historical and registered landfills (both on and off site); and,
 - Ground investigation to assess the likelihood of ground contamination associated with the pollution incidents (specifically chemically driven incidents).
- 10.7 The documents are available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 10.8 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

11 Utilities

- 11.1 It is not considered that there are any utilities constraints, either current infrastructure or identified need, which will prevent the Northern Gateway allocations from being allocated for development.

United Utilities

- 11.2 United Utilities have provided guidance to pre-development enquires and advised that the anticipated point of connection for the development will be the nearest practical point on the network to the development boundary. This is identified as 315mm PE main is located on the southern side of the M62 and it is the nearest suitable main.
- 11.3 No public foul sewers were identified within the development boundary, therefore foul water is likely to need to be pumped to a new or existing point of discharge specified by United Utilities, outside of the development boundary. Consultations must be made with United Utilities to develop a cost-effective strategy for managing the discharge of foul flows from the development.

Electricity North West

- 11.4 Electricity North West in their response to the latest GMSF consultation advised that they were confident in being able to meet the network capacity requirements for the investment and growth in proposed in Greater Manchester. Where necessary they have secured the appropriate regulatory allowances within their 'Well Justified Business Plan.'
- 11.5 Electricity North West have carried out assessments on the proposed areas, which fed into the 'Spatial Energy Plan' document. This is a high level assessment of the expected impact of the proposed developments on the electricity network, the information was presented as a Red/Amber /Green (RAG) indicator.
- 11.6 The Simister/Bowlee allocation presented as green which indicates no primary substation capacity issue envisaged due to forecast additional load resulting from proposed development.
- 11.7 Discussions with ENW have identified a requirement for 2 new primary 33KV substations and a Point of Connection at Agecroft BSP. From the new 33KV Primary Substations a further network of 11KV substations will be provided that distribute demand across the allocation.
- 11.8 Overhead electricity cable pylons are also present on the southern section of the allocation. These and their appropriate easements will need to be accommodated in the masterplan, albeit given the location in the southern-most edge of the allocation ENW has advised this does not present a major constraint.

Gas - National Grid Infrastructure

- 11.9 Cadent Gas have confirmed that the current mains have sufficient capacity to support the load required for the development without any reinforcement works. The development can be connected to the existing Medium Pressure main located approximately 800 metres from the development boundary. Appropriate gas governors located along the route through the allocation along within the proposed road network will also be required.

12 Telecommunications

Existing BT Infrastructure

- 12.1 The scheme already tabled and being implemented through the South Heywood Development scheme to provide BT Openreach communication network coverage is being developed to facilitate the Northern Gateway Proposals to both the Northern and Southern areas of the allocation. BT Openreach are presently developing their network layout and will be installing high speed data & fibre networks throughout the development.

Existing Virgin Media Infrastructure

- 12.2 The scheme already tabled and being implemented through the South Heywood Development scheme to provide Virgin Media communication network coverage will be developed to facilitate the Northern Gateway Proposals to both the Northern and Southern areas of the allocation. Virgin Media are presently developing their network layout for this area and will be a suitable alternative network provider.

Section C – Environmental

13 Green Belt Assessment

- 13.1 The proposed removal of the Simister/Bowlee allocation from the Green Belt has been informed by several studies undertaken by LUC available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016
 - Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020;
 - Greater Manchester Green Belt Study – Identification of Opportunities, 2020
- 13.2 The proposed allocation would involve the release of 74 hectares of land from the Green Belt.
- 13.3 In 2016 GMCA commissioned LUC to undertake an assessment of the Green Belt within GM. The Study assessed the extent to which the land within the GM Green Belt performs against the purposes of Green Belts, as set out in paragraph 80 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The aim of this Green Belt Assessment is to provide the GM Authorities with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of how GM's Green Belt contributes to the five purposes of Green Belt, as set out in national policy. It also examines the case for including within the Green Belt potential additional areas of land that currently lie outside it.
- 13.4 In The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016 Simister/Bowlee was included within Strategic Green Belt Area 15 in the Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016. There were 4 different purposes of Green Belt that each Area was assessed against and the Area performs as follows:
- Purpose 1: To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas: **Strong**
 - Purpose 2: To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another: **Strong**
 - Purpose 3: To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: **Weak-Moderate**
 - Purpose 4: Preserving the setting and special character of historic towns: **Weak-Moderate**
- 13.5 The summary of findings for Bury in this report stated that most parcels close to Heywood/Pilsworth, east of M66 make a moderate - strong contribution to checking the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas. Parcels between Bury and Middleton play a moderate role in relation to assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- 13.6 In 2019 LUC carried out an assessment identifying the potential opportunities to enhance the beneficial use of remaining Green Belt within 2 km of the allocation site. The study considered the opportunities to offset the loss of Green Belt through compensatory improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of the remaining Green Belt land.
- 13.7 Land lying within 2 km of GM 1.1, Heywood / Pilsworth formed the focus of Green Infrastructure (GI) recommendations / mitigation to enhance the 'beneficial use' of the Green Belt for the Northern Gateway as a whole. There are two proposed additions to the Green Belt west of this GM sub-Allocation at Hollins Brook and Hollins Brow.

- 13.8 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt relevant to the Northern Gateway Allocations identified in the assessment include:
- Upgrade the public footpath along Brightly Brook to a multi user route.
 - Create a new pedestrian footpath in the Green Belt north east of Heywood/Pilsworth to create a local level walk at the settlement edge.
 - Upgrade surfacing treatments and access points along the Rochdale Way.
 - Upgrade surface treatments to create all weather routes.
 - Enhance pedestrian and vehicle links to football pitches in Heaton Park to increase usability.
 - Introduce enhancements to local sporting facilities within the retained Green Belt.
 - Enhance sport and recreational provision at Heaton Park.
 - Introduce interventions which complement the proposals included within the planning application for development off J19 of the M62 (Planning application 16/01399/HYBR).
 - Restore ditches and field boundaries within the landscape.
 - Review the conservation and management of areas which form part of SBIs and LNRs to ensure improvement of the key aspects of their designation. Connect the SBIs of Hollins Vale, Hollins Plantation and Pilsworth across the M66.
 - Enhance waterways to ensure the management of invasive species and surrounding vegetation.
 - Support woodland management practices to maintain longevity of broadleaved woodland stock.
 - Improve the biodiversity value of agricultural land around Birch Service Area, providing additional habitat creation. Landscape and visual.
 - Create new green wedges and green buffers to prevent settlement coalescence.
 - Establish planting buffers for increased landscape integration at Heywood Distribution Park.
 - Provide additional woodland planting and the reinstatement of field boundaries parallel the corridor of the M62.
- 13.9 Some of these opportunities have been either included within the policy requirements for the allocation. Others will be more appropriately dealt with as part of a more detailed masterplan or planning application(s).
- 13.10 In conjunction with the assessment of GI opportunities within the Green Belt, LUC carried out an assessment to identify potential harm to the Green Belt through a Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020.
- 13.11 The smaller release of land proposed within the GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee allocation will maintain Green Belt linkage to the south west, but as that land is mostly constrained (Heaton Park Registered Park and Garden) its containment or otherwise will not affect harm to the Green Belt purposes. The retention of Green Belt will leave some separation between Whitefield and Rhodes/Middleton, but that is largely occupied by Simister, which has an urbanising influence on the Green Belt. Remaining open land around Simister, contained between the new inset edge of Rhodes/Middleton, the M60 and the M62, will make a relatively weak contribution to the Green Belt purposes. The reduced release means that there will be less impact on retained Green Belt to the north east, but the impact on east-

west settlement separation between Whitefield and Rhodes/ Middleton will still mean the impact on adjacent Green Belt is moderate, and the harm of releasing the reduced allocation remains high.

- 13.12 Evidence on Green Belt is only one part of the evidence base that influence any decision on green belt release. Consequently where studies have found that high harm is to be caused by release of the Green Belt, this finding should be balanced against other important factors that could make up exceptional circumstances such as sustainability, viability and deliverability.
- 13.13 The Simister/Bowlee allocation is deemed necessary to deliver a key strategic housing opportunity with supporting transport infrastructure. The allocation is critical in responding to the spatial strategy in the GMSF and its key themes of 'Inclusive Growth', 'Making the Most of Key Locations and Assets' and 'Addressing Disparities' It also directly addresses the aspirations set by Policy GM – P 1 'Supporting Long-Term Economic Growth', Policy GM – E 1 'Sustainable Places', Policy GM – H1 'Scale, Distribution and Phasing of New Housing Development' and Policy GM – N1 'Our Integrated Network'.
- 13.14 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt study discussed earlier are not exhaustive and will require consultation with key stakeholders and may require further surveys and viability testing to establish costings. However the enhancement opportunities nonetheless demonstrate that opportunities exist to help offset the loss of Green Belt which will have a potential positive effect on the beneficial use of the Greater Manchester Green Belt moving forward.
- 13.15 The final masterplan for the allocation will be required to use the findings from all the assessments on Green Belt in the area to inform the layout and form development across the allocation.

14 Green Infrastructure

- 14.1 The Masterplan for GM1.2 will include a substantial green/blue infrastructure network providing a range of opportunities for movement, recreation and biodiversity as well as sustainable drainage. It is intended that the development will ultimately achieve net gains in biodiversity.
- 14.2 Central to the development will be substantial north-south and east-west green corridors that incorporate existing allocation features such as trees, hedgerows and water features. These corridors will provide recreational and biodiversity value and will also be key to defining a unique identity and strong sense of place for the development.
- 14.3 The green infrastructure network will incorporate high quality active travel routes including cycling and walking and has been designed to ensure good connectivity between the new development and existing surrounding areas.

15 Recreation

- 15.1 New play areas and sports facilities will be required to support the delivery of housing at Simister/Bowlee in line with Bury and Rochdale's Local Plan requirements.
- 15.2 GM1.2 will include a range of recreational facilities to support residential led mixed-use development. These will include formal and informal play spaces dispersed within the new residential areas and also opportunities for a range of recreational activities along green corridors that connect across the allocation.

- 15.3 The potential inclusion of a primary school within the development also provides the opportunity for school recreation facilities to become available for community use outside of school hours.

16 Landscape

- 16.1 The landscape character types within the allocation are as follows:

National Character Area (NCA):

- 54 Manchester Pennine Fringe.

Greater Manchester Landscape Character and Sensitivity Report (2018):

- 27:Simister, Slattocks and Healds Green.

Bury Council Landscape Character Assessment (2009):

- Fringe Settled Valley Pasture 54/2, Castle, Whittle & Brightley

Rochdale Landscape Character Assessment (2009):

- Settled Farmlands

- 16.2 The key characteristics of the landscape include:

- The undulating pastoral and rough grassland landform of the site;
- The existing mature vegetation comprising stand-alone trees, hedgerows and small woodland blocks;
- The tranquillity of the central parts of the allocation;
- The scattered farmsteads, and small settlements, often in elevated locations in the landscape;
- A network of public footpaths surrounding the sites and occasionally crossing into the sites provides good connectivity with the wider landscape and the GMA1.1 allocation, however often underused and ill defined;
- The long views providing connectivity to the wider landscape; and
- The dominating presence of the M62 corridor.

Visual Summary

- 16.3 The surrounding views are an important aspect of the visual amenity of the allocation, with long distance views from elevated locations. These panoramic views are available to the north (across the M62) towards the distant hills and Scout Moor Wind Farm, evident on a clear day. Views to the urban conurbation of Greater Manchester are available to the south.
- 16.4 Local receptors within the allocation and outside the boundaries consist of small settlements and scattered farms and associated residences, generally in elevated locations, which afford typical countryside views, despite the close proximity of the M62 and M60 and the urban conurbations. The same applies to users of the public footpath network, where open views are generally of a rural nature, over undulating countryside.
- 16.5 The M62 corridor forms a dominant feature in the view to the north along with its associated infrastructure and lighting. The vertical elements of pylons, telegraph poles and lighting columns are a continuing theme throughout the allocation

Landscape Opportunities

- 16.6 It is recommended that the following landscape opportunities and constraints are considered in the evolving masterplan:
- Long distance views are available to the north and south and retention of longer distance views should be considered to maintain the connection of the allocation to the wider landscape. There is an opportunity to orientate residential properties in the direction of these views in order to benefit visual amenity for the occupants. Orientation of properties in relation to the M62 should be carefully considered;
 - The characteristic undulating landform of the allocation and the character and setting of the existing villages should be carefully considered and used to inform the layout, density and built form of the new development;
 - There is scope to enhance tree planting along the motorway corridors. This would serve a double purpose of enhancing landscape and visual amenity, as well enhancing wildlife corridors. Mitigation through tree planting could be undertaken in conjunction with proposals for the Northern Forest;
 - The arrangement of the houses should take landform into account, where feasible, so that views are maintained throughout and to the wider landscape wherever possible. The possibility to retain open space in certain locations within the allocation should be explored to prevent coalescence. This is a valuable and important feature of the new development and green infrastructure should be given careful consideration as the designs evolve to ensure sensitive treatment of the existing villages and the retention of their identity. The theoretical zone of visibility of any proposed development will be considered and assessed, considering its impact on the landscape character and features, and visual receptors;
 - A number of existing properties are situated within the allocation and the surrounding area. It is understood that the majority of these residential properties will be retained as part of the scheme. For those properties that are retained, their setting within the landscape and views available to the residents of these properties should be considered within any design evolution;
 - A number of mature trees, hedgerows and woodland blocks are present. Where possible, these should be retained and enhanced where the vegetation is healthy and in good condition, to create a mature green landscape framework for the development;
 - Public Right of Way (PRoW) links should be considered. Although current PRoWs appear to be infrequent and underused in places, retaining established links and creating appropriate new high quality walking and cycling links should be considered to create a connective landscape linking to the wider area;
 - It is recommended that the opportunity to create a new local centre and retain existing or design in recreational facilities within a pleasant landscape setting is investigated as part of the design evolution; and
 - Develop a satisfactory management plan for areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features and other areas of open space.

17 Ecological/Biodiversity Assessment

- 17.1 There are no designated Natura 2000 (European designated) sites on site or within 2km of the allocation boundary.
- 17.2 There are no nationally designated sites on site or within 2km of the allocation boundary.

- 17.3 There are two Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) within a 2km radius of the allocation boundary. Blackley Forest LNR, 0.5km south and Alkington LNR, approximately 1km east of the allocation boundary.
- 17.4 The Site of Biological Importance (SBI) Streams and Flushes near Bradley Hall Farm is located in the eastern part of the allocation.

Habitats

- 17.5 Key habitats include:
- Watercourses and ponds.
 - Woodland and trees.
 - Wildlife links and corridors e.g. hedgerows and watercourses.
- 17.6 The desk study identified Habitats of Principle Importance (HPI) within the allocation and within 2km:
- Deciduous woodland HPI: recorded in a small area on the eastern site boundary and as a linear feature along the M60 in the south of the allocation;
 - Watercourses and ponds which are present within the allocation.
- 17.7 More detailed site-specific surveys, including a full extended Phase 1 Habitat survey for each area, will be undertaken as plans progress and this will enable detailed characterisation of habitats represented throughout the allocation.

Protected and Notable Species

- 17.8 Protected and notable species which are or may be present at the allocation include:
- Great crested newt
 - Reptiles
 - Bats
 - Badger
 - Otter
 - Water vole
 - Birds
 - Invertebrates
 - And other notable species including common toad, brown hare and hedgehog.
 - Invasive plant species
- 17.9 The potential presence of these species has been considered through information derived from the desk study, data search and walkover survey. Species-specific surveys will be carried out as plans progress.

Biodiversity Net Gain

- 17.10 Biodiversity Net Gain is considered as an opportunity at this site and net gain will be sought as set out in the policy wording

- 17.11 At Northern Gateway, opportunities for Biodiversity Net Gain will focus upon using the lowest ecological /poorest quality land for the development and avoiding the higher ecological value/good quality habitat.
- 17.12 The good quality habitat within the allocation comprises the watercourse corridors, broadleaved woodland and species-rich grassland. Habitats could be enhanced to improve value where suitable and appropriate so that a lower value habitat could become a higher value habitat. It is anticipated that it will be possible to achieve a Biodiversity Net Gain across the allocation through retention of high value habitat and developing a network of connected green corridors and ponds throughout the allocation.
- 17.13 Key site-specific opportunities have been identified which could promote and enhance biodiversity, maintain wildlife corridors within the allocation and enhance connectivity with the wider landscape. They involve:
- A wetland habitat could be created in the north west corner of the main section of the allocation. To include areas of marshy grassland and additional waterbodies.
 - Enhancing the existing watercourse and riparian habitat across the allocation. Linear area of rough grassland to be created along both sides of riparian corridor. The woodland area on the eastern border to be enhanced to create connectivity to the riparian corridor.

Habitat Regulation Assessment

- 17.14 A Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required for the GMSF because it is considered to have the potential to cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European Protected Sites. The HRA made an appropriate assessment of the implications of the GMSF in view of conservation objectives available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 17.15 The Northern Gateway allocations were considered together within the HRA. The assessment concluded that although more than 10km from the South Pennine Moors and separated from it by the significant built development the allocation had the potential to cause increases in diffuse air pollution because of traffic generation along the M62 and recreational impacts from population uplift.
- 17.16 The Assessment recommended that each phase of development must be individually assessed once detailed plans are available particularly in relation to air pollution impacts, with cumulative (in combination) effects taken into account.

18 Heritage Impact Assessment

Designated Sites

- 18.1 There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Protected Wrecks within the allocation or within the 1km study area.
- 18.2 There are no listed buildings within the allocation boundary. There are two designated heritage assets outside the allocation boundary with the potential to be affected by development within their setting, both are Grade II Listed – Church of St. George and Heaton Park (Registered Park and Garden).
- 18.3 Three listed buildings (Church of All Saints War Memorial, 31-37 Broad Street and Rhodes Schools, east) are located within Rhodes, to the south of the allocation. Whilst proximate to the allocation, these assets are located within an urban context and due to their location, and the intervening development and topography they have no visual connection to the allocation.

- 18.4 The potential impact of any development upon the designated sites outside the allocation and surrounding landscape will be considered as a masterplan is developed.

Rhodes Green Cropmark Site

- 18.5 In the south-western part of the allocation, desk study information has indicated there is a possible Romano-British settlement site which may include a number of roundhouses, enclosures and associated field systems and trackways. However, physical evidence is limited and a number of circles in the fields at this location evident from aerial photography (Google Maps) may have been made by a circular sheep feeder.
- 18.6 The GM 1.2 Archaeology and Heritage Report indicated that if the asset at Rhodes Green was found to represent a possible Romano-British settlement, it could represent a significant archaeological site. However, the evidence and sources currently available do not provide any definitive evidence relating to the nature of the cropmarks.
- 18.7 Since the GM 1.2 Archaeology and Heritage Report was written, a geophysical survey of the Rhodes Green Cropmark Site has been undertaken. Detailed results are awaited but initial results do not indicate any evidence of significant archaeological potential. Further assessment of the area will be included in the archaeology strategy for the allocation.

Melodieu's (now Mellowdew Farm)

- 18.8 Whilst this farmstead has been present since the 19th century, it is thought that the historic farm buildings are no longer extant, although this will need to be confirmed prior to any development within the eastern half of the allocation. If any is present, it may be possible to incorporate the farmstead into future development plans to preserve the heritage of the area.

Historic Hedgerows

- 18.9 Consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service, alongside the review of historic mapping and the site walkover, indicates a potential requirement for a Historic Hedgerow survey, as the information indicates the historic use of the hedgerows as land and boundary management within the allocation.

Summary

- 18.10 The Promoters have been engaging closely with GMAAS regarding the proposed development of the allocation. A programme of further works to inform next steps and future masterplans has been agreed with GMAAS in the form of a Written Scheme of Investigation to govern an Archaeological Strategy for the allocation. The purpose of the Archaeological Strategy will be to summarise the works to be undertaken to identify and characterise areas of heritage potential across GM1.1 and GM1.2 and to ensure the appropriate study, recording and protection of these assets. It will support the developing masterplan for the Northern Gateway allocation such that it responds appropriately to the potential effects of the development on the historic environment.
- 18.11 The proposed policy wording for the GM 1.2 Allocation has been informed by the archaeological work undertaken and ensures appropriate evaluation of the heritage assets at the allocation will be undertaken to ensure the protection of these assets in the development proposals.
- 18.12 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

19 Air Quality

- 19.1 The M60 and M62 near to the allocation are identified as Air Quality Management Areas. A Detailed Air Quality Assessment will be required to inform the detailed masterplanning and planning application stage.
- 19.2 The Air Quality Assessment undertaken (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) identifies that any stand-off from the motorways required due to the noise constraints for residential elements of the scheme is likely to be sufficient as a form of mitigation to prevent any future receptors experiencing levels of pollution greater than the Air Quality Objective limits.

20 Noise

- 20.1 A noise survey was undertaken at the allocation in November 2019 (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) which has informed noise modelling to establish the level of noise across the allocation. The noise survey has identified that road traffic noise is the dominant noise source across the allocation.
- 20.2 Following the guidance provided within the ProPg, a good acoustic design process will need to be followed to mitigate noise from the M62 and M60.
- 20.3 Recommendations are as follows:
- Screening of the motorways will be required by building orientation and / or barriers such as close boarded fences or earth bunds.
 - For the 1st tier of properties facing the motorways, gardens will need to be positioned to the rear of dwellings with the buildings providing a screen. Closer to the motorway, it is likely further screening in the form of acoustic fences or earth bunds will be required.
 - At this stage a minimum stand-off of 50m from any motorway carriageway should be included within the design. This would allow for the attenuation of noise with distance and an allow space for any barriers such as close boarded acoustic fences or earth bunds to be constructed. If greater stand-off's can be incorporated this would be beneficial in terms of noise mitigation.
 - Generally standard double glazing should be acceptable within the allocation but for habitable rooms located close to the adjacent motorways, enhanced glazing may be required. Alternative ventilation will need to be considered within the parts of the allocation most exposed to road traffic noise. Such design measures are typical of development in similar areas close to motorways or main roads and are not considered to be prohibitive.
 - In addition to road traffic noise, isolated farmsteads are located within or adjacent to the allocation boundary in the eastern parcel of the allocation. No noise from these premises was observed during the survey but a good design measure would be to avoid positioning dwellings or gardens immediately adjacent to the curtilage of such premises.
- 20.4 Through the adoption of a good acoustic design as the masterplanning of the allocation evolves, significant adverse effects can be avoided.

Opportunities

- 20.5 Opportunities to improve the environment with respect to noise and air quality include:

- The large area of the Allocation enables scope to incorporate a range of mitigation measures within the scheme to ensure significant adverse noise and air quality impacts are avoided.
- Provision of green and blue infrastructure networks to provide health benefits to future residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment which provides opportunity for amenity space in a more tranquil environment.
- Provision of Electric Vehicle (EV) “fast charge” points across the development.
- Measures to encourage sustainable means of transport, including cycling and walking, through the delivery of improved public transport infrastructure, layouts to improve accessibility and encourage walking and cycling and a comprehensive Travel Plan to educate residents and encourage use of these measures.

20.6 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section D – Social

21 Education

- 21.1 The proposed development of up to 1,550 homes (1,350 in Bury and 200 in Rochdale) would generate a total yield of around 326 primary age pupils and 217 secondary age pupils. Current forecasts show both primary and secondary schools in the area full to capacity and, as such, all additional demand created would require additional school places.
- 21.2 For primary age pupils this would equate to the equivalent of 2fe, best served through the establishment of either two new schools (each 1fe), or one 2fe school within the allocation.
- 21.3 The demand for secondary school places needs to be considered alongside the demand created by other developments in South Bury.

22 Health Impact Assessment

- 22.1 Further work will be required to determine whether there is additional capacity within any local healthcare facilities to meet the increased demands arising from the prospective occupants of the new development. If additional provision is necessary, the most appropriate means and location for such provision can be identified through future iterations of the masterplan. Alternatively, there may be a requirement to make a financial contribution toward off site health provision through a planning obligation or condition at the planning application stage.
- 22.2 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section E – Deliverability

23 Viability

- 23.1 A Viability Appraisal of the allocation has been run using the Three Dragons Viability Appraisal base model. The site allocation is of 1,550 of which 1,350 are within Bury and the remaining 200 within Rochdale. Those within Bury have been tested using policy requirements relevant to Bury, including a requirement for 25% affordable housing. Those in Rochdale have been tested using Rochdale's policies, which includes a contribution to affordable housing equal to 7.5% of GDV.

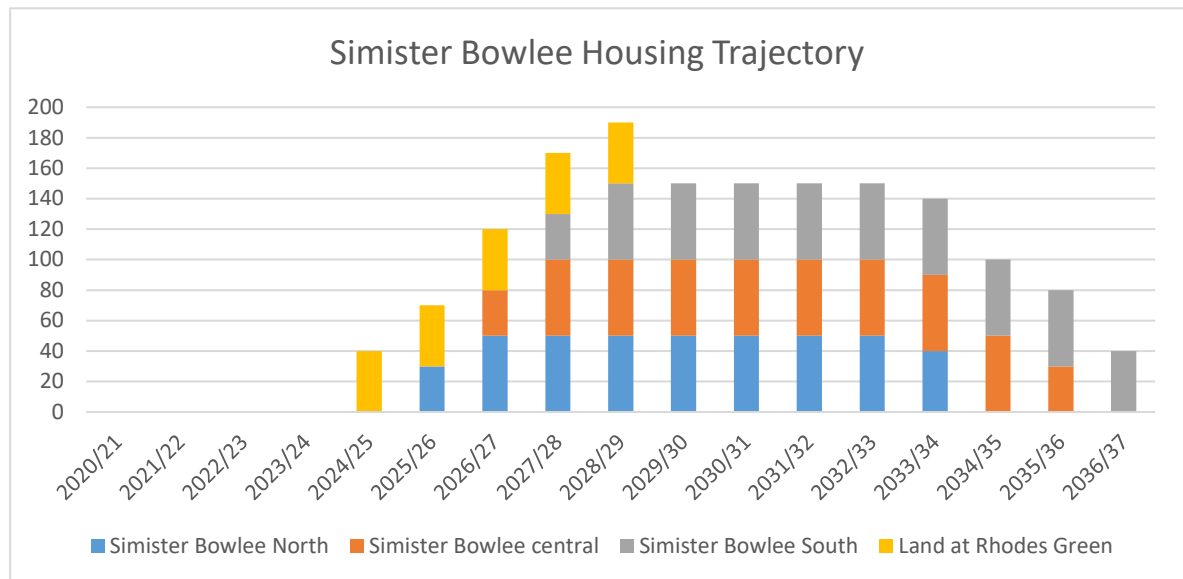
Test Type	Total BMLV, SDLT & Land acq fees	Scheme RV (incl BLV & return)	Viability measure as a % of BLV	Headroom (blended return)	Test result category
Whether the test is the 'Base' test or a sensitivity test	The total figure used in the testing for land value, includes tax and fees. BLV = benchmark land value SDLT = Stamp duty land tax	Scheme value (could also be described as headroom) once all costs have been accounted for including land and developer return RV = Residual value BLV = benchmark land value	Description of whether the scheme provides sufficient residual value in terms of how it compares with the benchmark land value i.e. if it is 10% or more above the benchmark land value it is shown as green, if it is within 10% of the benchmark land value it is shown as amber and where it is less than 90% of the benchmark land value it is shown as red.	The headroom expressed as blended rate of return. The percentages shown are the headroom available after all costs, except developer return divided by the total gross development value for the scheme. If schemes were to go ahead as described, then this is the total return available to the developer.	Category 1 - The residual value is positive and the residual value is 10% or more above the benchmark land value. Schemes in this group are viable and should be able to proceed.
Base model	£25,870,000	£31,710,000	More than 10% BLV	23%	Cat 1

- 23.2 The testing indicates a positive return after all policy costs (including affordable housing) and transport and other infrastructure. The scheme is considered viable based on the high level Three Dragons appraisal. The allocation is classed as Category 1 – the residual value is 10% or more above the benchmark land value, it is viable and should be able to proceed.

24 Phasing

- 24.1 The policy wording for GM1.2 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be approved by the LPA for the allocation, which any proposals must then be in accordance with. The policy states that this shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development. This should include the delivery of highways, infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.
- 24.2 A phasing strategy is being developed through on-going discussions with key stakeholders in relation to highways and utilities infrastructure. The estimated phasing and delivery trajectory for the allocation will evolve as the plans for the allocation are developed further.
- 24.3 The allocation is split into four separate outlets – one within Rochdale and three within Bury. First completions are anticipated to take place in 2024/25, with a delivery rate of up to 50

dwelling per output per year, with all 1,550 dwellings expected to be delivered within the plan period.



25 Indicative Masterplanning

- 25.1 The Site Promoters for the Simister/Bowlee Allocation have produced an Illustrative Development Framework Plan to show how proposed development could come forward within the allocation (see following plan). This provides an indicative layout of the development, including the location of the residential parcels, green infrastructure, local centre and key pedestrian and vehicular access. The illustrative plan also shows an area of land proposed as safeguarded land for a potential park and ride site to serve future public transport links.
- 25.2 Policy GM1.2 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be submitted prior to any planning applications within the allocation. The masterplan must include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Delivery. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.



Section F – Conclusion

26 GMSF 2020 Integrated Assessment

- 26.1 An Integrated Appraisal (IA) was undertaken on the 2020 draft GMSF in order to understand how the policy had changed since the 2019 IA and to identify if any further enhancement/mitigation was required.
- 26.2 The majority of the 2019 recommendations for the GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee were positively addressed by the policy itself or other thematic policies. A small number of residual recommendations remained from the 2020 IA, in order to further strengthen the policies.
- 26.3 In particular this included:
- Climate Change – since the 2019 IA was undertaken there has been greater emphasis on the climate change agenda and this is reflective of the declaration of a climate emergency by the ten GM authorities;
 - Accessible design standards – whilst this is broadly covered in Policy GM-E1 and within GM-H3 relating to housing, it was suggested that policies are strengthened with more specific reference to accessible design of buildings and spaces to meet the needs of users. This could be achieved through strengthening Policy GM-E1.
 - Deprivation – whilst this is also broadly covered within the supporting text and broadly within Policy GM-E1, particularly referencing social inclusivity, it is considered that the policy could be more explicitly in terms of inclusive growth and making jobs available to existing local communities or to those suffering deprivation.
- 26.4 The residual IA recommendations for GM1.2 could therefore be met through the strengthening of thematic Policy GM-E1 rather than any specific amendments to Policy GM1.2. This demonstrates the overall improvement of the 2020 draft GMSF in relation to the IA Framework.

27 The main changes to the Proposed Allocation

- 27.1 The proposed site allocation at Simister/Bowlee has been significantly reduced in size since publication of the 2019 Draft GMSF. Land to the north of Bluebell Lane, together with a small area on the south western edge, are to be excluded from the Allocation and retained in the Green Belt. The area around Simister Village, will also now be excluded from the Allocation and retained as Green Belt. These reductions were in response to calls from local residents to preserve the character of Simister Village. In addition, there is significantly less certainty over the development of a new motorway junction at Birch which would have been a major access point into the allocation.
- 27.2 The total site allocation has reduced from 206 ha (2019 draft GMSF) to 74 ha in the Publication GMSF 2020 with the proposed number of dwellings reducing from 2,000 to 1,550.
- 27.3 The structure of the Northern Gateway GMSF policies has altered in the 2020 GMSF. There is no longer an overarching policy for the Northern Gateway (GM1) but instead the requirements are included within the GM1.1 and GM1.2 policies.
- 27.4 The 2020 GMSF has additional criteria within the policy requiring:
- A comprehensive masterplan and phasing strategy for the allocation.
 - A financial contribution towards off-site secondary school provision to meet the needs generated by the development; The 2019 allocation policy required provision for a new 1,000 place secondary school to serve prospective residents. Given the reduction in the

number of home proposed within the allocation, the requirement is now for a financial contribution.

- The provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
- The provision for the long-term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features;
- A project specific Habitats Regulation Assessment for planning applications of 1,000 sq.m./50 dwellings or more to be carried out;
- Protect and enhance the heritage and archaeological assets within the vicinity of the allocation and their setting in accordance with the findings of a Heritage Impact Assessment.

27.5 A significant amount of evidence base work has been produced to support the allocation since 2019 and this has allowed the criteria within the policy to be expanded upon and be more specific to the allocation.

28 Conclusion

28.1 GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee is considered to meet the site selection criteria and make a positive contribution to the overall vision, objectives and strategy of the GMSF. The allocation is considered to be deliverable and available for development. Further work has been identified to take forward the allocation through the planning process.

28.2 The allocation provides the opportunity to deliver an urban extension which has transformational potential in enabling new housing development of 1,550 units, community facilities and new transport infrastructure to come forward in what is currently an area that contains significant pockets of high deprivation.

28.3 The delivery of such a major opportunity will require significant investment in infrastructure if it is to be successful and sustainable. In particular, the allocation will need to benefit from a wide range of public transport improvements in order to promote sustainable travel and improve linkages to new employment opportunities at GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth. This could potentially include Bus Rapid Transit linking Manchester City Centre to the Northern Gateway allocation. The allocation may also benefit from a potential Bus Rapid Transit or Metrolink extension to Middleton. Higher density development close to these corridors will help support the viability of new services. These public transport improvements, will also need to be supported by safe and attractive walking and cycling routes to promote healthier and more sustainable shorter journeys to work.

28.4 The development of a large-scale community such as this will require new facilities for residents such as shops, health facilities, community facilities and recreational areas. These will be provided in accessible locations within walking distance of homes. In addition, demand on school places will also increase and therefore investment in new facilities for primary and secondary education will be required.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – GM1.2 Simister/Bowlee

Northern Gateway

The Northern Gateway is an extensive area located around Junction 18 of the M60 motorway extending east to Junction 19 of the M62 and north to Junction 3 of the M66. It comprises two key allocations within the wider North-East Growth Corridor:

- Heywood / Pilsworth (Bury and Rochdale) (see Policy GM Allocation 1.1 'Heywood/ Pilsworth (Northern Gateway)'); and
- Simister and Bowlee (Bury and Rochdale) (see Policy GM Allocation 1.2 'Simister/Bowlee (Northern Gateway)')

The Northern Gateway straddles the districts of Bury and Rochdale and is positioned at a strategically important intersection around the M60, M62 and M66 motorways. As such, it represents a highly accessible opportunity for growth in Greater Manchester with wider benefits on a regional and national level. The central theme of the spatial strategy for Greater Manchester is to deliver inclusive growth across the city region complemented by a key aim to boost the competitiveness of the northern parts of Greater Manchester. The Northern Gateway is one of the key locations that will help to deliver these fundamental objectives.

This strategic allocation will enable the delivery of a large, nationally-significant employment opportunity to attract high quality business and investment, with a complementary housing offer on the M62 corridor, where there is strong evidence of market demand.

The allocation at Heywood/Pilsworth provides an opportunity for a substantial and high quality employment-led development. The scale and location of this allocation will help to rebalance the Greater Manchester economy, ensure the GMSF plays its part in driving growth within the north of England and enable Greater Manchester to be competitive both nationally and internationally.

This will be supported by new communities as part of the Heywood/Pilsworth allocation as well as at Simister/Bowlee which have transformational potential in enabling new housing, community facilities and new transport infrastructure to come forward in what is currently an area with significant pockets of high deprivation, low skills and worklessness.

To be successful and sustainable, the employment and housing opportunities need to be accessible by a range of transport modes and be linked directly to existing and new communities in the surrounding area via new recreational routes and corridors of green infrastructure which in turn provide an attractive setting for development. Outside of the motorway network, much of the area proposed for development is currently served by an inadequate transport network and this will require substantial investment to improve connectivity, potentially including investment in rapid transit. The prospective residents will require new community facilities and these will be provided in accessible locations within walking distance of homes.

The opportunities at Heywood/Pilsworth and Simister/Bowlee will need to incorporate extensive supporting infrastructure. The full delivery of the allocation at Heywood/Pilsworth is likely to extend beyond the plan period.

Policy GM Allocation 1.2 - Simister and Bowlee (Northern Gateway)

Any proposals for this allocation must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan that has been previously approved by the LPA(s). It shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Implementation. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.

Development at this allocation will be required to:

1. Deliver a broad mix of around 1,550 houses to diversify the type of accommodation across the Simister, Bowlee and Birch and Langley areas. This includes an appropriate mix of house types and sizes, accommodation for older persons, plots for custom and self-build and a mix of housing densities with higher densities in areas of good accessibility and potential for improved public transport connectivity and lower densities adjacent to existing villages where development will require sensitive design to respond to its context;
2. Facilitate the required supporting transport services and infrastructure including:
 - i. An upgrade of the local highways network;
 - ii. Traffic restrictions on Simister Lane to prevent this route from being a form of access/egress to and from the allocation;
 - iii. Improved public transport provision through the allocation (including Bus Rapid Transit corridors) and close to the allocation (including potential Bus Rapid Transit or Metrolink extension to Middleton) in order to serve the development; and
 - iv. Other off-site highway works where these are necessary to ensure acceptable traffic movement.
3. Deliver a network of safe and convenient cycling and walking routes through the allocation designed in accordance with national and GM standards of design and construction and local planning policy requirements.
4. Make provision for affordable housing in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
5. Make provision for a new two-form entry primary school;
6. Make a financial contribution towards off-site secondary school provision to meet the needs generated by the development;
7. Make provision for a new local centre in an accessible location which includes a range of appropriate retail, health and community facilities and ensure that it is integrated with existing communities;
8. Make provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
9. Ensure the design and layout allows for effective integration with surrounding communities, including active travel links and connections to local services and the new area of employment at Heywood/Pilsworth (GM1.1);
10. Retain, enhance and replace existing recreation facilities where required and make provision for new recreation facilities to meet the needs of the prospective residents in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
11. Make provision for new, high quality, publicly accessible, multifunctional green and blue infrastructure within the allocation to provide health benefits to residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment and providing linkages to the sites wider drainage strategy in accordance with Policy GM-G2 Green Infrastructure Network and Policy GM-G9 Standards to a

Greener Greater Manchester. This should include enhancement of existing watercourses throughout the allocation.

12. Minimise impacts on, and provide net gains for, biodiversity assets within the allocation, including the Bradley Hall Farm SBI, in accordance with Policy GM-G10 – A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity;
13. Ensure the allocation is safe from and mitigates for, potential flood risk from all sources including surface water, sewer flooding and groundwater. The delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development;
14. Ensure that sustainable drainage systems are fully incorporated into the development to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Where possible, natural SuDS techniques should be utilised, prioritising the use of ponds, swales and other infrastructure which mimic natural drainage and be designed as multi-functional green infrastructure connecting to the wider green and blue infrastructure network in accordance with Policy GM-S5 - Flood Risk and the Water Environment and nationally recognised SuDS design standards. Proposals to discharge to the public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available.
15. Make appropriate provision for the long term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features;
16. Carry out a project specific Habitats Regulation Assessment for planning applications of 1,000 sq.m./50 dwellings or more;
17. Incorporate appropriate noise and air quality mitigation measures and high quality landscaping along the M60 motorway corridors and local road network if required within the allocation.
18. Incorporate necessary remediation measures in areas affected by contamination and previously worked for landfill purposes
19. Protect and enhance the heritage and archaeological assets within the vicinity of the allocation and their setting in accordance with the findings of a Heritage Impact Assessment;

Justification

The delivery of this urban extension has transformational potential in enabling new housing development of 1,550 units, community facilities and new transport infrastructure to come forward in what is currently an area that contains significant pockets of high deprivation. Any housing development within the allocation will be required to make provision for recreation and affordable housing to meet the needs of the prospective residents in line with Local Plan policy requirements, across a range of housing types, sizes and tenures.

The delivery of such a major opportunity will require significant investment in infrastructure if it is to be successful and sustainable. In particular, the allocation will need to benefit from a wide range of public transport improvements in order to promote sustainable travel and improve linkages to new employment opportunities at GM1.1 Heywood/Pilsworth. This could potentially include Bus Rapid Transit linking Manchester City Centre to the Northern Gateway allocation. The allocation may also benefit from a potential Bus Rapid Transit or Metrolink extension to Middleton. Higher density development close to these corridors will help support the viability of new services. These public transport improvements, will also need to be supported by safe and attractive walking and cycling routes to promote healthier and more sustainable shorter journeys to work.

The development of a large-scale community such as this will require new facilities for residents such as shops, health facilities, community facilities and recreational areas. These will be provided in accessible locations within walking distance of homes. In addition, demand on school places will

also increase and therefore investment in new facilities for primary and secondary education will be required.

The semi-rural nature of this part of Greater Manchester and the character and setting of small villages such as Simister and Bowlee will be respected and will inform the layout, density and built form of development in these locations. Areas of open land and green infrastructure will be incorporated to maintain the identities of these places, including the retention of historic field boundaries, route ways and woodlands where practical. The allocation also includes existing areas of biodiversity value, notably the streams and flushes at Bradley Hall Farm which form a Site of Biological Importance in the eastern part of the allocation. This SBI and other areas of identified biodiversity value should be taken fully into account in the masterplanning of the site.

Delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development. Measures such as rainwater recycling, green roofs, water butts and permeable driveway surfaces should be considered to mitigate the impact of potential flood risk both within and beyond the site boundaries. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should connect with the public sewer.

Traffic to and from the site is likely to include travel on the M62 which passes close to designated European sites and, as such, a project specific Habitats Regulation Assessment will be required for planning applications involving 1,000 or more sq.m. or 50 or more residential units.

Given that the allocation is located adjacent to the M62 motorway, there may be a need to incorporate a buffer between the allocation and the motorway to serve multiple functions including air and noise mitigation and high quality landscaping. Mitigation through tree planting could be undertaken in conjunction with proposals for the Northern Forest.

There are a number of assets of historical significance in proximity to the allocation, and whilst outside the allocation boundary, any development would need to consider the impact on their setting through the completion of a Heritage Impact Assessment.

GM7 - Elton Reservoir

Topic Paper

October 2020

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Section A – Background

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Elton Reservoir allocation seeks to deliver a new, high quality urban extension. The allocation can deliver new homes within a parkland setting, alongside recreational facilities, provision of new facilities for primary and secondary education, small local centres, community amenities and strategic transport infrastructure which includes a new link road, a new Metrolink stop with associated park and ride facilities.
- 1.2 This Topic Paper brings together a wide range of information and evidence in connection with the proposed strategic site allocation. The paper may be subject to further technical amendments in advance of the formal commencement of consultation.

2 Site Details

- 2.1 The Elton Reservoir allocation covers a total area of 251.6 ha and is located entirely within the Borough of Bury.
- 2.2 The allocation is bound by Radcliffe to the south and Bury to the north east. The A58 borders the northern boundary of the allocation, existing dwellings and Ainsworth Road lie to the west of the allocation whilst Bury Road, the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal and the Metrolink link run along the eastern side of the allocation. The topography is gently undulating, rising from South to North.
- 2.3 A large proportion of the allocation is currently designated as Green Belt and 124.9 ha of the allocation will remain within the Green Belt.
- 2.4 The allocation currently comprises agricultural land and a number of residential, employment and agricultural properties. In terms of agricultural land quality, the soil within the allocation is Grade 4 (Poor).

3 Proposed Development

- 3.1 Approximately 3,500 homes are proposed within the Elton Reservoir allocation (GM7).
- 3.2 The allocation will include an appropriate mix of house types and sizes designed to diversify the type of accommodation available in Bury and Radcliffe. This will include the provision of affordable housing to address local housing need, accommodation for older persons, plots for custom and self-build. It will also include a mix of housing densities with higher density development in areas with good accessibility and with potential for improved public transport connectivity, particularly in the southern areas of the allocation. It is expected that around 1,900 of these homes will be delivered during the plan period and it has been estimated that it will house a population of around 8,000.
- 3.3 The proposed development will be required to provide infrastructure to support the new community. This includes:
 - the provision of a north-south strategic spine road connecting Bury and Bolton Road (A58) to Bury Road, a strategic connection from the spine road to Spring Lane, Radcliffe via the former Coney Green High School site, other off-site highway works where these are necessary to ensure acceptable traffic movement, including in and around Radcliffe town centre;

- Improved public transport provision through the allocation and close to the allocation including a new Metrolink stop and associated park and ride;
 - More routes for walking and cycling;
 - New local centres with convenience shopping facilities and health facilities; and
 - New education provision, including two primary schools and a secondary school.
 - A country park and high quality, publicly accessible, multifunctional green and blue infrastructure throughout the allocation which can be used for sport, leisure and recreation.
- 3.4 Residential development within the allocation will be limited until the above infrastructure (or key elements of it) are implemented as necessary mitigation.
- 3.5 The 2020 GMSF Allocation proposes a minor amendment to the Allocation boundary from that which was presented in the 2019 GMSF with the proposed area of release now including a small piece of land adjacent to Burnside Close (off the B6292 Ainsworth Road).
- 3.6 Appendix 1 sets out the GM7 Elton policy wording.

4 Site Selection

- 4.1 The Elton Reservoir allocation is almost entirely surrounded by the existing urban area and is well-connected to existing infrastructure. However, the delivery of residential development on this allocation will require the provision of significant levels of new and improved transport and other supporting infrastructure.
- 4.2 This will include the need to incorporate a strategic north-south spine road connecting Bury and Bolton Road (A58) to Bury Road, Radcliffe. The road will provide an essential alternative to Bury Bridge for traffic travelling south towards Manchester from the west Bury area. Furthermore, in order to improve linkages to and assist in the physical and social regeneration of inner Radcliffe, including the town centre, there is a need to provide a significant spur road connecting the allocation to Spring Lane via the former Coney Green High School site.
- 4.3 The Bury to Manchester Metrolink line runs along the eastern edge of the allocation and, in order to reduce reliance on the car, the development will be required to incorporate the provision of a new Metrolink stop and any associated park and ride facilities in the Warth area. Direct walking and cycling connections to the Metrolink stop will also be necessary.
- 4.4 Given the above, the allocation was selected for inclusion within the GMSF on the basis of Criteria 6 (land where transport investment (by the developer) and the creation of significant new demand (through appropriate development densities), would support the delivery of long term viable sustainable travel options and delivers significant wider community benefits) and Criteria 7 (land that would deliver significant local benefits by addressing a major local problem/issue). Further detail is provided within in the GMSF Site Selection Paper available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 4.5 The Elton Reservoir allocation fits within the overall GMSF spatial strategy in that it will contribute to inclusive growth and will contribute to boosting northern competitiveness. The allocation is of strategic significance, not only for Bury, but also in a Greater Manchester context given that it will bring forward one of the GMSF's largest contributions to future housing supply and provide a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision.

- 4.6 The GMSF vision will be delivered through the pursuit of a number of broad objectives. The Elton Reservoir allocation will contribute to meeting the following GMSF objectives:
- 1 - Meet our housing need
 - 5 - Reduce inequalities and improve prosperity
 - 6 - Promote the sustainable movement of people, goods and information.

5 Planning History

- 5.1 Planning permission has not been granted for any significant uses within the allocation. However residential schemes were approved to the north and south:
- 58810 – 191 dwellings, creation of ecological enhancement ponds and access of Bury and Bolton Road; and
 - 45672 – Outline application for residential development including associated infrastructure and open space.

6 GMSF 2019 Consultation Responses

- 6.1 690 comments were received in relation to the allocation during the consultation on the Revised Draft GMSF in 2019. A summary of the key issues raised are as follows:

Principle / Scale of development
▪ Object to the scale of development in this area. Growth should be evenly distributed across the Borough and throughout the six towns. ▪ Object to losing one of the last remaining accessible greenspaces in a lower socio-economic area. ▪ There is poor land stability and mineshafts on-site. ▪ Question the relationship between the Council and developers. ▪ Development should be focused on the southern area close to Derby High School and the new Coney Green High School. ▪ Villages surrounding Radcliffe are dying and would benefit from infill development and connection to new infrastructure. ▪ This is a site of strategic significance that will make a considerable contribution to housing supply, is accessible to surrounding towns and well connected to existing infrastructure.
Housing
▪ There is too much proposed housing density. ▪ Proposed housing will not meet the needs of over 65s. ▪ Proposed housing will not be affordable. ▪ Concerned about the distances between existing and proposed properties. ▪ There is not enough proposed housing density, which will result in a need to develop on greenfield land. ▪ It is a deliverable site with no constraints that cannot be addressed through careful master planning.
Green Belt
▪ Disproportionate loss of Green Belt, which would merge Bury and Radcliffe.

▪ Has key functions in halting urban sprawl, sheltering wildlife, growing food and providing tranquillity. ▪ Retained Green Belt insufficient. Unsure why it includes reservoirs and a crematorium. Additions can never compensate. ▪ Exceptional circumstances exist in which Green Belt loss can be acceptable and efforts to minimise this are welcomed.
Brownfield
▪ There are many brownfield sites in Radcliffe which, if used, would aid regeneration and improve footfall.
Transport
▪ There would be an impact on local roads and the wider network, particularly in Radcliffe, where the proposed link road exits onto these roads. ▪ There would be an impact on Bury Bridge/Bury New Road (some of worst congested nationally) and on motorway network. ▪ Public transport is unreliable. Buses will not be used and need to be integrated. The Metrolink is overcapacity. ▪ Walking/cycling plans will not work due to topography. ▪ Need more parking, circular bus service to connect residents to Metrolink stops and a separate entrance to the cemetery. ▪ Support – Detailed proposals on infrastructure welcomed
Physical Infrastructure and utilities
▪ Utilities network would not cope with the increased demand. ▪ Sewerage system is at capacity and will need new and expanded facilities. ▪ The existing transport network cannot cope. ▪ More freight should be moved by rail. ▪ More detail required on quality bus transit. ▪ Metrolink links to Bolton and Rochdale should be considered. ▪ Support – Detailed proposals on infrastructure welcomed
Social Infrastructure
▪ Large number of community facilities have been lost in recent years and still need replacing i.e. swimming pools, secondary schools, and civic suite. ▪ Health provision is currently inadequate. ▪ All of the schools in area are over-subscribed. ▪ The Leisure Centre is popular and should not be lost. ▪ Infrastructure should be built prior to houses being occupied. ▪ There is a lack of detail on new health facilities. ▪ Support – Detailed proposals on infrastructure welcomed
Environmental
▪ Loss of a prized asset within easy reach of population, which is heavily used by a wide range of people. Opening this natural area up as a country park will sterilise it and harm views in the area. ▪ This is not just a question of upgrading. New recreational land is needed. ▪ Would lead to the loss of the most biodiverse area in the Borough. Opportunities exist for net gain. Biodiversity gains are unrealistic and will not mitigate for loss. New

woodland is needed. The policy should mention maintain and enhance priority habitats. ▪ Remediation required for historic landfill sites. ▪ Management of park should be transferred to an organisation. ▪ Objection to the loss of pitches at Warth Fold. They were well used. ▪ Noise and light pollution would harm the cemetery. ▪ Improve the canal for leisure e.g. water taxi, improved walking/cycling routes and off road routes for horse riders. ▪ Homes should support species e.g. bat and swift boxes. ▪ Evidence required e.g. biodiversity surveys, bat survey and open space management. ▪ Parkland will provide substantial opportunities to protect habitats and make it accessible by a range of users. ▪ Carbon reduction goals will not be achieved. New homes should be carbon-neutral. ▪ We should invest in Green Technology.
Air Quality
▪ Bury Bridge and A56/A58 are some of worst areas in the country for air quality.
Flood risk
▪ Existing residents were adversely affected in the 2015 floods including Bury and Bolton Road due to the area being in a natural flood plain. ▪ Concerned at the potential for the reservoir to fail and the subsequent danger for new and existing residents. Properties will be uninsurable. ▪ Mimicking of natural drainage is unrealistic and ignores the size of the development. ▪ Evidence required on Level 1&2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Residual risk must be considered appropriately.
Heritage
▪ Presence of Bronze Age burial site and embankment of a horse-pulled railway. ▪ Canal is a major heritage asset in the area and must be fully considered.
Other
▪ There was a lack of consultation from Bury Council ▪ We should be using the latest housing projections to calculate housing need. ▪ Loss of working farms and jobs is contrary to economic objectives and will lead to the displacement of animals. Farms are crucial to responding to climate change and Brexit issues. ▪ The construction process will lead to an increase in crime and anti-social behaviour. ▪ The site selection process has been developer-led.

7 GMSF 2019 Integrated Assessment (IA)

- 7.1 The 2019 GMSF Integrated Assessment (IA) is available at <https://www.greetermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 7.2 The IA reviewed how the draft 2019 GMSF policies could impact upon the environment, the economy, local communities, equality and public health. The IA also recommended ways in which the GMSF can be improved to ensure that the policies are as sustainable as possible.

- 7.3 The Elton Reservoir allocation performed well against the 2019 Integrated Assessment objectives. However a number of recommendations were made:
- Make specific reference to energy efficiency of the housing stock;
 - Consider how housing land can enhance workforce skills and training, such as through construction jobs;
 - Consider feasibility study into requirements and ability of utilities and digital infrastructure local network to support development;
 - Benefits such as creation of construction and operational employment or improved transport links or increases in the range of community facilities, should consider deprived areas. Where possible such benefits should be maximised to help bring about long term benefits for deprived areas;
 - The policy could reference integration with existing communities and also encourage the provision of varied tenures within the development;
 - The policy could be more specific about the exact amount of green infrastructure as currently it states a “large amount”. There could be reference to linking to the wider green infrastructure network;
 - Ensure any new healthcare provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages;
 - Seek to minimise the number of trips made by private car to/from the site. Consider the use of mitigation solutions including green infrastructure, incentivising electric vehicles and/or masterplan layout which reduces emissions near sensitive receptors. This is especially relevant to the southern side of the site where there is a close proximity to an air quality management area (AQIA).
 - Make reference in the policy to the enhancement of biodiversity, green infrastructure and geodiversity assets. The policy is currently not worded positively and instead deals with handling negative impact. This is especially relevant to the SBIs within the site.
 - Appropriate flood risk mitigation should be implemented (in line with best practice) for all developments that are within or near to areas of flood risk. This is particularly relevant to the east and south of the site.
 - Make reference to energy efficiency directly and ways that it can be increased, such as highlighting the benefits of sustainable modes of transport.
 - Ensure landscape appraisal as part of any planning application.
 - Consider listed building throughout detailed design to reduce risk throughout construction and operational phases.
 - Consider how development of previously developed land (PDL) sites could be encouraged as a result of greenfield development (e.g. by incentives or inclusion of adjacent PDL);
 - Promote sustainable construction methods;
 - Consider waste and recycling facilities in design e.g. consider location of waste/recycling facilities in design/layout of masterplans and how waste facilities can be located to encourage recycling.
- 7.4 It is important to note that the IA was focusing on each policy in isolation from other policies and that many of the recommended changes for the Elton Reservoir allocation policy are already covered in other GMSF policies. However, some wording changes have been made as a result of the IA in relation to housing types, electric vehicles, heritage and archaeology.

Section B – Physical

8 Transport

- 8.1 The allocation is situated between the A58 Bury and Bolton Road and Bury Road. The allocation is bound by the Metrolink along the eastern boundary. The allocation is currently a mix of Other Protected Open Land and Green Belt and therefore significant infrastructure will need to be delivered in conjunction with the development of this allocation.
- 8.2 The Locality Assessment concludes that there are capacity constraints on the highway network during the AM and PM peaks and therefore the proposals not only need to seek to reduce car travel but also provide some traffic relief. As a result, a number of mitigation schemes have been developed and tested to address the impacts on both the strategic and local road networks.
- 8.3 Along with a series of public transport and active travel proposals (including the provision of a new Metrolink stop and park and ride) the proposals also include provision for a link road through the allocation connecting the A58 Bury and Bolton Road to Bury Road to the east and the A6053 Spring Lane in Radcliffe to the south. This link road will not only serve the allocation, but provide a strategic function by taking traffic away from key areas of constraint such as Bury Bridge in Bury and A665 Water Street/Ainsworth Road in Radcliffe, and providing greater network resilience. Highway improvement works are also proposed in Radcliffe town centre to compliment the link road proposals, and help feed traffic through from Spring Lane to the A665.
- 8.4 The following mitigation measures have currently been identified:

Mitigation	Description
Necessary Strategic Interventions	
Metrolink stop and Park and Ride facility	New Metrolink stop and Park and ride facilities in the Warth area
Link road and three access junctions	Link road with three access junctions
Supporting Strategic Interventions	
Radcliffe Town centre improvements	Signalisation of Bury Road and Rectory Lane junctions with Spring Lane. Traffic management and parking bays on Church Street West. Providing Darbyshire Road connection onto A665 (one way) including improvements to the NCR6 cycle route. Junction realignment to create Church Street as major arm and Deansgate as minor arm. Thomas Street converted to one-way to reduce conflicting movements at junction. Formalisation of on-street parking on Church Street and Thomas Street. Junction improvement A665/Stand Lane.
Necessary Local Mitigations	
Bus stops along the link road	Delivery of up to 14 new bus stops (7 locations with stop in each direction).

Delivery of missing section of Bolton-Bury Cycleway	Delivery of missing section through allocation to Hardman Street.
Supporting Local Mitigations	
A56/Radcliffe Road and A58/Ainsworth Road/ Starling Road signal improvements	Small-scale layout improvements.
New bus routes through the allocation	Delivery of new bus routes through the allocation.
SRN Interventions	
Not required	

- 8.5 The proposed policy wording for the Elton Reservoir allocation has been informed by the Locality Assessment to ensure that the allocation will be supported by the appropriate mitigation measures.
- 8.6 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process. The potential improvement works will be subject to further detailed assessment and viability work. All final design solutions will be consistent with Greater Manchester's best practice Streets for All highway design principles. The allocation would need to be supported by continuing wider transport investment across GM.

9 Flood Risk and Drainage

Flood Risk Summary

- 9.1 The majority of the allocation (80%) is located within Flood Zone 1 (i.e. land assessed as having a lower than 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding) and development should be directed into these areas, if possible.
- 9.2 There is a limited area of Flood Zone 2 adjacent to the Manchester, Bolton and Bury canal to the south and west of Elton Reservoir, the risk in this part of the allocation is likely to be from the water spilling into and over the canal side in a flood event. This is classified as Low Risk – between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1000 annual probability of river flooding.
- 9.3 There is an area adjacent to Crow Trees Brook to the west of the canal is that is currently shown in Flood Zone 3. The Environment Agency have recently re-modelled the Brook and this has resulted in the extent of the modelled flood outline being reduced. The flood risk is due to the potential for overspill from Withins Reservoir. There is the potential that over the lifetime of the development there may be an increased risk of fluvial flooding in this location due to climate change.
- 9.4 The areas at surface water risk are encompassed within the river flood risk areas and, as such, if these areas are avoided then both sources of risk could be accommodated.
- 9.5 A Dam Break and Flood Inundation Assessment has been completed for the allocation which models, for a range of return periods, the extent, depths and flows of flooding if a dam failure occurred at Elton Reservoir. The outputs of the report indicate that the land around the eastern boundary of the allocation - adjacent to the Manchester, Bolton, Bury Canal and Metrolink line, and the urbanised area of North Radcliffe would be at risk of flooding if a breach occurred.

- 9.6 A Risk Assessment and Reservoir Safety Report has been produced to assess the likelihood of a dam failure of Elton Reservoir. The outputs of the report indicate:
- that the annual probability of failure for the reservoir is 1 in 5,500 years;
 - the annual probability of failure is heavily influenced by failure of the internal structures and embankment, rather than external factors, such as the proposed development; and
 - Measures should be taken to reduce the risk to a level that is 'as low as reasonably practical'.
- 9.7 An updated Risk Assessment and Reservoir Safety Report¹ has been completed which, building on the reports mentioned above, assesses the impact of the reservoir on the proposed development on the allocation. The outputs of the report indicate that:
- There would be a marginal increase in the Population at Risk (PAR) and Average Social Life Loss (ASLL) should there be a breach in the reservoir, associated principally with increased 'activity' around the reservoir; and
 - The dam categorisation is likely to be impacted by a range of factors including, but not limited to, the construction of development downstream. The report identifies mitigation schemes which can be implemented, including work to the reservoir structure/and or associated downstream channels to implement a more onerous safety check and design flood event conditions.
- 9.8 Areas of the allocation are within the EA Reservoir Flood Map (RFM) outlines, indicating the maximum extent of flooding. These areas are downstream of Elton Reservoir and are based on a breach of the dam.
- 9.9 The extent shows the worst credible area that is susceptible to dam breach flooding. The map should be used to prioritise areas for evacuation/early warning.
- 9.10 The chance of reservoir failure is very rare and there is an extremely good safety record in the UK with no loss of life due to reservoir flooding since 1925.
- 9.11 Due to the allocations's proximity to Crows Tree Brook and the Elton watercourse, groundwater is likely to be similar to the corresponding levels. Groundwater will follow topography and is unlikely to be an issue within the Elton allocation.
- 9.12 Crows Tree Brook in the south of the a and Bealey's Goit to the north-east are bound by areas of high ground which act as informal defences.
- 9.13 The Working within Natural Processes (WwNP) dataset identifies that the west of Elton Reservoir allocation is recommended for tree planting whilst there are also areas recommended for riparian tree planting along the canal and Crows Tree Brook. Tree planting can significantly delay the timing of peak runoff from catchments whilst riparian planting can also enhance floodplain roughness to cause obstructions to significant flow paths.
- 9.14 Much of the allocation is also within the Irwell Natural Flood Management scheme which considers scenarios where soil structure is improved, thereby making the land more permeable and thus increasing the soil moisture storage capacity of these areas.

GMSF Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

¹ HR Wallingford, Elton Reservoir Flood Studies – Phase 2: Impact of Proposed Development, September 2020

- 9.15 The Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (GM Level 1 SFRA) (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) was completed in March 2019 as part of the evidence base to inform the preparation of the GMSF. This SFRA initiated the sequential risk-based approach to the allocation of land for development and identified whether application of the Exception Test was likely to be necessary using the most up-to-date information and guidance.
- 9.16 79% of the Elton Reservoir Allocation falls within Flood Zone 1 with the remaining in Flood Zones 2 and 3. The GM Level 1 SFRA concluded that the allocation had been selected using the site selection methodology contained in the GMSF Site Selection Topic Paper in order to identify those sites which best could deliver the spatial strategy. Therefore there were no reasonably alternative other sites in areas of lower flood risk.
- 9.17 The Level 1 SFRA recommended that the identified flood risk within the GM7 Elton Reservoir allocation could be avoided through site layout and design as part of a detailed flood risk assessment.
- 9.18 However GM7 Elton Reservoir was included within the GMSF Level 2 SFRA (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) in order for broad scale river modelling to cover existing gaps within the baseline information to be carried out. This has meant that additional flood risk assessment has been carried out in relation to the allocation.

GMSF Level 2 SFRA

Level 2 SFRA Conclusions

- To consider development within flood zone 3, solutions to mitigate the risk of flooding such as raising floor levels, which must also entail compensatory storage, and building on stilts would need to be considered.
 - This is a large allocation with potential to create significant volumes of runoff if infiltration is not possible. The surrounding watercourses are relatively small and may not deal with significant volumes being added to them. There are also areas at risk downstream so additional volumes could also increase flooding downstream. Crow Trees Farm Brook has areas at risk downstream. This development could reduce risk by safeguarding areas for flood storage and enhancement to reduce flows downstream. The WwNP dataset, discussed above, should provide a start for assessing possible areas for storage or tree planting.
 - A drainage strategy would be required to ensure current onsite risk can be managed effectively with no increase in surface water flood risk elsewhere as a result of new development. This will require surface water modelling based on the proposed layout and investigation into appropriate SuDS techniques. Infiltration SuDS may be feasible on parts of the allocation, subject to ground investigation and contamination testing.
- 9.19 The site promoters for GM7 Elton Reservoir prepared a Flood Risk Assessment and Outline Drainage Strategy² to assess the risk of flooding in more detail. To develop the allocation safely it recommends:

² Peel Investments (North) Limited, Land at Elton Parklands, Radcliffe, Greater Manchester – Flood Risk Assessment & Outline Drainage Strategies July 2020 (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>)

- Setting finished floor levels 600 mm above the 1% plus climate change flood level;
 - Safe emergency access and egress to the allocation to be provided to the north of the allocation;
 - An evacuation plan should be developed in consultation with the LPA;
 - Potential for soakaway use for rainwater disposal is low; but could be investigated further at the detailed design phase;
 - Foul sewage could be discharged into the existing public foul sewer system but may need reinforcement subject to the agreement of United Utilities;
 - Surface water flows will be discharged in to existing ditches and surface water culverts within the allocation boundary or links to the adjacent watercourses. However it is likely that additional attenuation will be required and this will be discharged in line with the existing greenfield runoff rate or a rate agreed with the LLFA/EA/UU;
 - The eastern end of the proposed link road may need to be connected to a sewer.
- 9.20 The proposed policy wording for the GM7 seeks to ensure that any development within the allocation is safe from and mitigates for potential flood risk from all sources. Policy GM7 requires development to incorporate sustainable drainage systems to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Proposals to discharge to public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should communicate with the public sewer.
- 9.21 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process. The majority of the allocation is located within flood zone 1 and the allocation will not result in any reduction in flood plain storage compared to the existing situation. A holistic outline drainage strategy has been produced and this will be taken forward and incorporated into the final masterplan. It ensures that drainage will be considered on an allocation wide basis rather than smaller plots within the allocation coming forward with individual drainage plans. The Strategy also proposes that green SuDs will be used where possible across the allocation. All proposed mitigation measures will be agreed with the Environment Agency, United Utilities and the LLFA prior to commencement of any development.
- 9.22 Detailed agreement will be required between the site promoters and the owners of Elton Reservoir to ensure that appropriate mitigation measures (both in advance of any development and on-going mitigation measures) are agreed and secured prior to the commencement of any development. This may need to be secured via legal agreements.

10 Ground Conditions

- 10.1 Given the size of the Elton Reservoir allocation, there are a number of previous uses including farm yards, former railways, areas of infilling, collieries, allotments, marshlands and reservoirs.
- 10.2 The allocation is in close proximity to a number of historical landfill sites and is partially within a Radon Class 2 Area. The geological mapping indicates the allocation is underlain by glacial till in the north and west and glaciofluvial deposits (silts, clays, sands and gravels) in the south and east of the allocation. The superficial deposits are underlain by the Penning Middle Coal Measures and Pennine Lower Coal Measures Secondary A Aquifers. At least 6 faults run across the allocation.

- 10.3 A Phase 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment (March 2019) (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) has been produced.
- 10.4 The assessment includes an appraisal of the allocation environmental setting, including its geology, hydrogeology and hydrological regime, mining activities, waste management issues, and identification of additional environmental sources, pathways and receptors. This information has been used to compile a clear site conceptual model, which identifies potential sources, pathways and receptors and likely pollution linkages.
- 10.5 Site reconnaissance and hand dug trial holes were carried out. Evidence of historic infilled ponds was noted. Made ground was observed in some of the areas, containing pottery, brick, ash, clinker, over natural sandy clay.
- 10.6 Coal Authority records have found 20 recorded mine entries within the allocation boundary and another 4 recorded within 20m of the allocation boundary.
- 10.7 The Assessment has been reviewed by Bury Council Environmental Health department. They have recommended that a Phase 2 investigation is carried out for all areas proposed for development and this is to include gas and groundwater monitoring. It is recommended that this investigation is to be carried out at the pre-planning application stage. Furthermore Japanese Knotweed has been identified which will be required to be dealt with appropriately.
- 10.8 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

11 Utilities

United Utilities

- 11.1 In their response to the 2019 GMSF consultation, United Utilities highlighted that new development should be focused in sustainable locations which are accessible to local services and infrastructure. United Utilities will continue to work to identify any infrastructure issues and appropriate resolutions throughout the development of the Spatial Framework.
- 11.2 However, as the full detail of the development proposals are not yet known at this allocation stage (e.g. the detail of the drainage proposals or the water supply requirements), United Utilities cannot fully conclude the impact on their infrastructure over a number of 5-year investment periods. Therefore, as more detail becomes available, it may be necessary to co-ordinate the timing for the delivery of development with the timing for delivery of infrastructure. The Council will need to agree drainage proposals prior to the submission of any future planning applications.
- 11.3 In relation to the Elton Reservoir allocation, United Utilities have advised that there is a large pressurised water main and sewers which cut through the allocation. In addition, there is also an existing UU easement which will need to be considered. Consideration must also be given to disposal of surface water in the most sustainable way. United Utilities are keen for the allocation to connect to Bury Wastewater to the east of the allocation rather than connect to Bolton Wastewater to the west as there are capacity issues on the network in this location.

Electricity

Electricity North West (ENW)

- 11.4 Electricity North West have carried out assessments on the proposed GMSF allocations which have fed into their 'Spatial Energy Plan' (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>). This is a high level assessment of the expected impact of the proposed developments on the electricity network. In relation to Elton Reservoir, the assessment indicated that there are no primary substation capacity issues envisaged due to forecast additional load resulting from the proposed development.
- 11.5 ENW asset plans and online mapping services identify five pylons stationed within the allocation with overhead lines crossing and one pylon which adjoins the allocation on western boundary. There are also a number of High Voltage and Low Voltage cables running in the carriageways and footpaths surrounding the allocation.
- 11.6 Electricity North West in their response to the 2019 GMSF consultation, advised that they were confident in being able to meet the network capacity requirements for the level of investment and growth proposed in Greater Manchester. Where necessary they have secured the appropriate regulatory allowances within their 'Well Justified Business Plan.'

Gas

National Grid Infrastructure

- 11.7 The nearest point of connection from the National Grid network to the allocation is an Intermediate Pressure Main which is approximately 350 metres from the allocation boundary at Ainsworth Road. This connection would allow the allocation to be served sufficiently although upgrades will be required.

12 Telecommunications

Existing BT Infrastructure

- 12.1 There is existing BT infrastructure within the vicinity of the allocation. Further detailed discussions will need to take place with BT as the allocation moves through the planning process to establish whether or not any of the existing infrastructure needs to be diverted as a result of the proposals. Discussions will also need to take place to establish if there is sufficient capacity within the network to support the proposals or if any upgrades to the existing infrastructure are required.

Existing Virgin Media Infrastructure

- 12.2 There is an existing Virgin Media underground network which runs to properties (Coney Green) at the end of Greenbank Road and are within the proposed allocation boundary.
- 12.3 There is a Virgin Media underground cable which runs into the proposed development area and terminates at Chapel Lodge on Cemetery Road.
- 12.4 There is a Virgin Media underground cable which runs into the proposed development area and terminates at Brook Bottom Farm on St Andrews Road.

Section C – Environmental

13 Green Belt Assessment

- 13.1 The proposed removal of Green Belt from the Elton Reservoir allocation has been informed by several studies undertaken by LUC (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>):
- The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016
 - Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020;
 - Greater Manchester Green Belt Study – Identification of Opportunities, 2020
- 13.2 The proposed allocation would involve the release of 126.7 ha. of land from the Green Belt.
- 13.3 In 2016 GMCA commissioned LUC to undertake an assessment of the Green Belt within GM. The Study assessed the extent to which the land within the GM Green Belt performs against the purposes of Green Belts, as set out in paragraph 80 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The aim of this Green Belt Assessment is to provide the GM Authorities with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of how GM's Green Belt contributes to the five purposes of Green Belt, as set out in national policy. It also examines the case for including within the Green Belt potential additional areas of land that currently lie outside it.
- 13.4 In The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016 GM7 Elton Reservoir was included within Strategic Green Belt Area 10. There were 4 different purposes of Green Belt that each Area was assessed against and the Area performs as follows:
- Purpose 1: To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas: **Moderate-Strong**
 - Purpose 2: To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another: **Strong**
 - Purpose 3: To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: **Moderate-Strong**
 - Purpose 4: Preserving the setting and special character of historic towns: **Moderate-Strong**
- 13.5 In 2019 LUC carried out an assessment identifying the potential opportunities to enhance the beneficial use of remaining Green Belt within 2 km of the allocation site. The study considered the opportunities to offset the loss of Green Belt through compensatory improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of the remaining Green Belt land.
- 13.6 Land lying within the retained Green Belt and within 2 km of GM 7, Elton Reservoir will form the focus of Green Infrastructure (GI) recommendations / mitigation to enhance the 'beneficial use' of the Green Belt. This includes 3 sites proposed to be added to the Green Belt at Lower Hinds, Radcliffe (Off New Road) and Hollybank Street.
- 13.7 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt relevant to the Elton Reservoir Allocation identified in the assessment include:
- Retain and accommodate the Irwell Sculpture Trail within development proposals;
 - Introduce access track and car park improvements north of Elton Sailing Club;

- Settlement linkages could also be improved between Redvales and the retained Green Belt;
 - Upgrade sections of the PRow network to cycleway standard and create a new crossing point on the A58;
 - Create an access point at Warth Road through the existing underpass and new crossing point over the River Irwell;
 - Conserve and enhance the existing disused railway line;
 - Enhance the existing PRow network through improvements such as re-surfacing, access control, way-marking and interpretation;
 - Create Elton 'Country Park' including a masterplan to create a regional destination site. Detailed interventions could include informal play, wildlife access provision (hides) and interpretation. Inclusion of planting and management provision to ensure flora and fauna reliant on areas of refuge away from recreational disturbance are generously accommodated
 - Create new 'wetland' habitat adjacent to, and extending from Manchester, Bury and Bolton Canal; together with appropriate planting along this linear corridor;
 - Link the SBI sites at Elton Reservoir and Daisyfield to the Lower Hinds Green Belt Addition to the north along the River Irwell using site specific habitat enhancement. The opportunity also exists to link the green infrastructure at the reservoir with the [enhanced] semi natural grassland SBI at Elton Goyt to the east, creating a more functional habitat mosaic;
 - Hedgerows and settlement edge vegetation should be retained and strengthened to ensure green infrastructure continuity, and to provide appropriate screening in and around key wildlife features;
 - Build on historic and remnant land-use practices adjacent the canal and the reservoirs to maintain lowland hay meadows and neutral/acid pastures. Seek to enhance the ecological and hydrological beneficial features within the area of retained Green Belt by combining flood risk reduction with green infrastructure improvements;
 - Extend existing woodland blocks in Green Belt west and north west of GM Allocation 07;
 - Reinforce woodland at Ainsworth Lodge SBI through extensions south and across the A58 Bury and Bolton Road;
 - Introduce green buffers and green wedges of native woodland and shrub planting at the junction between existing and proposed development, and along transport corridors such as the A58 to provide softer edges to urbanised areas;
 - Create a gateway feature on the A58 linking the narrow section of Green Belt to the North and South.
- 13.8 Some of these opportunities have been included within the policy requirements for the allocation. Others will be more appropriately dealt with through more detailed masterplans or subsequent planning applications.
- 13.9 In conjunction with the assessment of GI opportunities within the Green Belt, LUC carried out an assessment to identify potential harm from the proposed GMSF allocations to the Green Belt through the Green Belt Harm Assessment. The Assessment shows that land within the allocation makes a moderate to significant contribution to preventing the sprawl of Greater Manchester and a relatively significant contribution to maintaining the separation of Bury and Radcliffe.

- 13.10 It is proposed to retain some Green Belt land within the allocation which would maintain some localized separation between Bury and Radcliffe but the contribution of this retained Green Belt would be diminished as a result of some weakening of the Green Belt boundary, increasing urbanising containment and a reduction in connectivity with the wider Green Belt. However, due to the extent of containment of the allocation by inset settlement, its release would not impact the wider Green Belt outside the allocation.
- 13.11 Evidence on Green Belt is only one part of the evidence base that influence any decision on Green Belt release. Consequently, where studies have found that high harm is to be caused by release of the Green Belt, this finding should be balanced against other important factors that could make up exceptional circumstances such as sustainability, viability and deliverability.
- 13.12 The Elton Reservoir allocation is deemed necessary to deliver a key strategic housing opportunity with supporting transport infrastructure. The allocation is critical in responding to the spatial strategy in the GMSF and its key themes of 'Inclusive Growth', 'Making the Most of Key Locations and Assets' and 'Addressing Disparities' It also directly addresses the aspirations set by Policy GM Strat-6 Northern Areas which seeks to boost economic opportunities and diversify housing provision in the north of conurbation by the selective release of Green Belt. The scale of development planned within the Elton Reservoir allocation is transformational in nature as it has the potential to deliver significant benefits over a wider area whilst at the same time meeting its own infrastructure needs including contributing towards transport improvements that have wider benefits and provision of schools, local centres and health facilities.
- 13.13 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt study discussed earlier are not exhaustive and will require consultation with key stakeholders. This may require further surveys and viability testing to establish costings. Nonetheless, the enhancement potential demonstrates that opportunities do exist to help offset the loss of Green Belt which will have a potential positive effect on the beneficial use of the Greater Manchester Green Belt moving forward.
- 13.14 The final masterplan for the allocation will be required to use the findings from all the assessments on Green Belt in the area to inform the layout and form development across the allocation.

14 Green Infrastructure

- 14.1 The emerging Masterplan for Elton Reservoir includes a new Parkland between Radcliffe and Bury which will establish an extensive multi-functional green and blue infrastructure network of substantial quality. The Parkland is a 'core' part of the concept for the development, to establish a new Parkland community which creates a sustainable place with unique character.
- 14.2 The new Parkland will be a diverse environment which balances the needs of ecology, nature and landscape conservation, habitat biodiversity and recreation, as well as the enhancement of working agricultural holdings. Its integration with neighbouring communities and associated residential development will support a high quality natural and built environment.
- 14.3 Elton Parkland will draw on the heritage, landscape and natural assets of the local area to create open and accessible greenspaces for all to enjoy. The Parkland will:
- Be publicly accessible for walking, cycling, jogging, watersports, picnics and recreation, providing benefits to mental and physical health;
 - Retain, enhance and manage existing landscape and ecological assets;

- Promote and interpret the distinctive heritage of each place;
 - Increase local biodiversity and create new landscape features and wildlife habitats;
 - Be managed to promote long-term stewardship, encourage sustainable public use, promote education and enhance visitor and tourist experiences.
- 14.4 The Parkland will be of lasting benefit to Bury and Radcliffe, significantly enhancing Bury, Radcliffe and Greater Manchester's green infrastructure provision. It will provide a major boost to creating a greener city region.
- 14.5 The Elton Parkland will be delivered as part of the implementation of proposed urban extension. The residential development will generate capital which will enable the Parkland to be delivered in a phased manner.
- 14.6 The site promoters can facilitate the delivery of the Parkland because of its extensive landholdings within the allocation and its experience and strategic approach to delivery. The Parkland will be delivered by creating enhanced public access, better and additional circulation systems, visitor facilities and associated landscape improvements and biodiversity initiatives. It could incorporate the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal, Irwell Sculpture Trail and National Cycle Network that pass through the allocation.

15 Recreation

- 15.1 New play areas and sports facilities will be required to support the delivery of housing at Elton Reservoir in line with Bury's Local Plan requirements. The new Parkland will create a multi-functional green and blue infrastructure network which will enhance the recreational assets of the local area. It will establish a new visitor destination, with opportunities for leisure and exercise that will help to improve health and wellbeing.
- 15.2 Good public transport and cycling/walking links will integrate the allocation with surrounding communities allowing access to existing nearby sports and recreation facilities, nearby local centres in Radcliffe and Bury and connections to Route 6 of the National Cycle Network.

16 Landscape

- 16.1 Historically, there have been a number of studies which have attempted to ascribe value or character to the Borough's landscape:
- Bury Council's Open Land Study of 1978 included a landscape quality assessment of the Borough, placing each area of open land into one of 5 value bands. Most of the Elton allocation was included in the 2nd or 3rd quality levels.
 - Greater Manchester's river valleys are a defining landscape feature of the sub-region and strongly associated with its historical development. Much of the Elton allocation was included in the Croal Irwell River Valley Plan (GMC, 1986), which was a plan for environmental protection and improved recreation facilities in the two river valleys.
 - Bury's Unitary Development Plan (1998) carried forward the river valley protection policy of the Croal Irwell Plan.
 - In 2009 Bury Council carried out a landscape character assessment of the Borough. Elton's character was identified as being defined by its canal and river valley features.
 - The 2014 National Landscape Character survey placed the Borough's land into one of three landscape character types. Much of the Borough, including the Elton area was placed in the Manchester Pennine Fringe character area (NCA no.54).

- In 2018 consultants LUC produced a 'Landscape Character and Sensitivity Assessment' of Greater Manchester.
- 16.2 The forthcoming Bury Local Plan will incorporate this landscape value and protection into its green infrastructure policy, with the main landscape features, the Irwell Valley, Elton Reservoir and the MBB Canal being protected within the allocation.

17 Ecological/Biodiversity Assessment

- 17.1 An 'Elton Reservoir Outlined Ecological Mitigation and Enhancement Strategy (March 2019) (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) has been produced which identifies the main ecological considerations and opportunities associated with the development and delivery of the Elton Reservoir allocation. It identifies the necessary mitigation measures associated with the proposed development and considers where there are opportunities for green infrastructure and ecological enhancement to achieve a measurable net gain for biodiversity.
- 17.2 The Elton Reservoir area contains 7 sites of local interest for nature conservation and much of it is included in the Irwell Valley wildlife corridor. All of these are regarded as 'core green infrastructure'.

Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) within the allocation	Grade ¹
Elton Reservoir SBI	A
Withins Reservoir SBI	B
Spen Moor Ponds SBI	B
Elton Goit SBI	B
Marl Pits at Black Lane SBI	A
Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal SBI	A
Wetland Near Radcliffe SBI	C

1 – Grade A: County Importance, Grade B: District Importance and Grade C: More Than Local Importance

- 17.3 Ashclough SSSI and Nob End SSSI lie approximately three kilometres and four kilometres south-west of the allocation respectively. At its closest point, the Rochdale Canal SSSI lies approximately nine kilometres east of the proposed allocation.
- 17.4 The allocation also supports a number of broad habitat types and species (further information can be found in the full report).
- 17.5 The report concludes that it is feasible to achieve protection of the SBIs, priority habitats, protected species as part of the mitigation proposals presented in the development framework, namely through:
- The 'Elton Parkland' which will include habitats to be retained, created, enhanced and managed; and
 - The built environment (areas of the allocation which will be landscaped to ensure habitat creation and contribute to green infrastructure and sustainable urban drainage).
- 17.6 NPPF (para 174) requires LPAs 'to pursue opportunities for achieving measurable biodiversity net gain' (BNG). The Environment Act currently passing through parliament will

make this a statutory requirement. This requirement will be applied to all new development seeking planning permission, which to be granted consent will have to demonstrate that it will deliver a net gain for biodiversity. The metric to be used to assess biodiversity gain uses habitat quantity and quality as a proxy for biodiversity value. It is worth noting that habitat can also be used to a degree as a proxy for green infrastructure value so the calculation can also be used to demonstrate wider benefits.

- 17.7 Currently BNG is considered as an opportunity within this allocation and the GM7 Allocation policy sets out that net gain will be sought.
- 17.8 The report has been reviewed by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) who concluded that the level of detail provide is sufficient for this stage in the plan making process. Additional ecological information will be required should planning applications come forward but noted that it would be premature at this stage to carry out detailed survey's.
- 17.9 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Habitat Regulation Assessment

- 17.10 A Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required for the GMSF because it is considered to have the potential to cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European Protected Sites. The HRA made an appropriate assessment of the implications of the GMSF in view of conservation objectives (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>).
- 17.11 The Habitats Regulation Assessment (December 2018) concluded that the allocation is too distant and too separated from any European protected sites for discernible effects to occur. However, development at Elton could contribute a very small cumulative impact alongside other GMSF developments, via traffic pollution on the Manchester Mosses SAC, via water pollution on the Mersey Estuary SPA and via recreational disturbance on the Peak District SAC and SPA.

18 Heritage Impact Assessment

- 18.1 The GMSF Historic Environment Assessment Screening Exercise (June 2019) (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) concluded that further assessment of the historic environment was required given the number of designated sites within and outside the allocation.
- 18.2 A designated heritage asset lies within the allocation and therefore has the potential to be directly affected by the allocation, and also indirectly affected by allocation in its setting:
 - Old Hall Farmhouse (grade II listed building):
- 18.3 Three designated heritage assets are outside the allocation, but close to it, and have the potential for their significance to be affected through development within their setting:
 - Gate Piers to the North West of Old Hall Farmhouse (grade II Listed Building);
 - Church of St Andrew (grade II Listed Building);
 - Church of St Thomas and St John Listed Building (grade II Listed Building)
- 18.4 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the allocation and no designated assets which are primarily archaeological in character. A total of 17 sites of archaeological interest have been identified within the allocation.

- 18.5 The line of the Manchester-Ribchester Roman road is known to cross the allocation. There is also the potential for non-designated heritage assets from all periods.

Old Hall Farmhouse

- 18.6 The Illustrative Masterplan shows a potential illustrative layout for development within the allocation. Areas of proposed development are set back some distance to the south from Old Hall Farmhouse beyond a belt of agricultural fields, ensuring separation between the listed building and the new development. No development is proposed to the north side of the listed building, which will successfully ensure that the views towards and away from the principal northern elevation are unaffected.
- 18.7 A green landscaping strategy, including retention of trees and field boundaries in the area of development to the north of the farmhouse to retain the green and rural character of its setting will be delivered. Additionally, consideration will be given to the density of development and appropriate heights in the area to the south of the farmhouse.
- 18.8 Whilst the development will result in change to the wider setting of this listed building, it is noted that this is already characterised by a mix of uses and views exist towards built development to the north and north east.
- 18.9 The archaeological site with the most significance is the late Neolithic hengiform monument and associated features on land between Withins Reservoir and Radcliffe Cemetery. This site has been partially investigated by means of small scale archaeological excavations and geophysical survey.
- 18.10 The geophysical survey also identified a ring ditch close to the hengiform monument. The monument may represent the focus of ritual and communal activities of early farming communities of the Upper Irwell valley. The prehistoric archaeological potential within the allocation beyond the known site of the hengiform monument is hinted at by the find of a Neolithic adze in 2017 close to the hengiform monument and the underlying sands and gravels which provided favourable ground conditions for prehistoric settlement and activity.
- 18.11 The course of a Roman road, running from Manchester to Ribchester is confidently predicted to run across the allocation on the basis of historic mapping and LiDAR data. No other Roman sites or artefacts have been recovered from the immediate area but the Roman road and any Roman period activity presented alongside the road, will be a material consideration in the masterplan. There is little to suggest the presence of any particular medieval archaeological remains within the allocation but any of the sites of the now abandoned post-medieval farmsteads such as Hams Farm may have been established in the medieval period. The archaeologies of the post medieval agricultural landscape and Industrial Revolution are also represented within the allocation with several abandoned farmsteads, three relict collieries, colliery workers' housing, disused railways, a canal and a brick croft. With respect to historic landscape character there are 661 individual historic landscape parcels within the Allocation and a buffer of 1km around the allocation boundary.

Summary

- 18.12 The site promoters have been engaging closely with GMAAS regarding the proposed development. A programme of further works to inform next steps and future masterplans has been agreed with GMAAS in the form of a Written Scheme of Investigation to govern an Archaeological Strategy for the allocation. The purpose of the Archaeological Strategy will be to identify and characterise areas of heritage potential across GM7 and to support the developing masterplan for the Elton Reservoir allocation, through the assessment of archaeological potential and development of tools to ensure the development responds appropriately to the potential effects of development on the historic environment.

- 18.13 The proposed policy wording for the GM7 Allocation has been informed by the archaeological work undertaken and ensures appropriate evaluation of the heritage assets within the allocation will be undertaken to ensure the protection of these assets in the development proposals.
- 18.14 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

19 Air Quality

- 19.1 The allocation is not located within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). However, development associated with traffic will pass through an AQMA. An Air Quality Statement (March 2019) available at <https://www.greetermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/> has been produced in support of the allocation and considers the impact of the proposed development on air quality. Whilst the information at this stage is limited, the statement does conclude that given the size of this allocation, air quality impacts are likely to occur and mitigation will be required.
- 19.2 As such the statement recommends that:
- No residential properties should be located further forward than current residential properties along the A58 Bury and Bolton Road. This may be reviewed if detailed air quality monitoring is undertaken at a more advanced stage of the proposals;
 - A full assessment of the likely impact of new traffic associated with development of the land on local air quality and in particular the existing AQMAs can be undertaken at a more advanced stage; and
 - Careful consideration be given to transport infrastructure associated with the scheme.
- 19.3 Bury Council's internal Environmental Health Team have reviewed the Air Quality Statement and have made the following observations:
- A detailed Air Quality Assessment will be required to quantify the impact;
 - It has been concluded that it is likely the development will have a significant impact on local air quality therefore mitigation measures will be required to include encouraging the use of public transport and the provision of electric charging points.
- 19.4 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

20 Noise

- 20.1 The Elton Reservoir Noise Assessment (March 2019) available at <https://www.greetermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/> has been undertaken to identify potential noise sources which are likely to have an impact on the allocation.
- 20.2 The assessment states that the existing road traffic noise from the A58 has the potential to impact on the allocation. Further assessment is needed to ensure that national noise standards are not exceeded from this source.
- 20.3 To the east of the allocation lies the Metrolink tram line. However, the line does not have any heavy freight. Given there are existing densely population areas located close to the Metrolink line, the report concludes that the potential noise impact from the Metrolink would not prohibit housing in this area.

- 20.4 The noise assessment has identified the main industrial, commercial noise and entertainment sources in the vicinity of the allocation. A detailed noise assessment which considers these sources in more detail has not been undertaken. Therefore, additional detailed information will be required if planning applications for the allocation are submitted.
- 20.5 The assessment concludes that the impact of noise would not be a barrier to residential development on most of the land within the allocation boundary. It recommends:
- Noise from transportation sources around the allocation would need to be considered as part of any future planning application/s which is likely to require an Environmental Impact Assessment;
 - Noise from industrial and commercial sources located around the periphery of the allocation would need to be assessed in more detail as part of any detailed planning application/s submitted;
 - There are areas within the allocation and located close to the allocation which are considered tranquil areas and careful design of the masterplan should aim to protect the noise environment at these locations;
 - Good acoustic design should be considered as part of the development of the masterplan to protect existing noise sensitive receptors.
- 20.6 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section D – Social

21 Education

- 21.1 The Elton Reservoir allocation is expected to yield approximately 735 primary age pupils and 490 secondary age pupils. For primary age pupils, this would equate to the equivalent of a 4 form entry (fe) best served through the establishment of 2 new 2fe schools within the allocation. The demand for secondary school places needs to be considered alongside the demand created by other developments in North Bury. Taken together this suggests the establishment of a new 6fe secondary school, possibly within the Elton Reservoir allocation.
- 21.2 The current masterplan includes the land required to accommodate two 2fe primary schools, which would be sufficient to accommodate the primary school pupils identified above.
- 21.3 The most recent view on a potential location for a new secondary school, as reflected in the recently adopted Strategic Regeneration Framework for Radcliffe, suggests the Council owned former 'Coney Green' school site off Spring Lane would be most suitable. The site currently houses Radcliffe Leisure Centre and Pupil Referral Unit. The new school would be accommodated in a new building.
- 21.4 Initially, to meet current demand the building will comprise a provision of a 4fe (600 place) secondary school, with potential for this to increase to 7fe (1,050) in the longer term linked to the development of sites contained within the GMSF.

22 Health Impact Assessment

- 22.1 In terms of healthcare provision, the nearest doctors surgeries are at:
- Watling Street/Mile Lane, Bury
 - Spring Lane, Radcliffe
 - Church Street West, Radcliffe; and
 - Cross Lane, Radcliffe.
- 22.2 However, other facilities are present in Bury town centre and Whitefield district centre.
- 22.3 In terms of dental surgeries, the most accessible would be:
- Radcliffe Town Centre;
 - Ainsworth Road; and
 - Bolton Road, Radcliffe
- 22.4 Other dental surgeries are further afield including those at Bury Town Centre, Redvales, Chapel Field and Whitefield.
- 22.5 It is estimated that the provision of 3,500 dwellings at the allocation site could accommodate around 8,000 additional residents, based on the average household size in Bury at the 2011 Census. Based on the national benchmark of 1,800 patients per GP and 1,400 per dentist, the allocation might generate demand equivalent to four GPs and dental practitioners.
- 22.6 Further work will be required to determine whether there is additional capacity within any of the facilities listed above to meet the increased demands arising from the prospective occupants of any new development. If additional provision is necessary, the most

appropriate means and location for such provision can be identified through future iterations of the masterplan. Such facilities might potentially be included in conjunction with proposals for new local centres within the development. Alternatively, there may be a requirement to make a financial contribution toward off site health provision through a planning obligation or condition at the planning application stage.

- 22.7 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section E – Deliverability

23 Viability

- 23.1 A Viability Appraisal of the allocation has been run using the Three Dragons Viability Appraisal base model. The model incorporates the full 25% affordable housing requirement and other policy requirements, together with the supporting infrastructure. The results are set out in the table below:

Test Type	Total BMLV, SDLT & Land acq fees	Scheme RV (incl BLV & return)	Viability measure as a % of BLV	Headroom (blended return)	Test result category
Whether the test is the 'Base' test or a sensitivity test	The total figure used in the testing for land value, includes tax and fees. BLV = benchmark land value SDLT = Stamp duty land tax	Scheme value (could also be described as headroom) once all costs have been accounted for including land and developer return RV = Residual value BLV = benchmark land value	Description of whether the scheme provides sufficient residual value in terms of how it compares with the benchmark land value i.e. if it is 10% or more above the benchmark land value it is shown as green, if it is within 10% of the benchmark land value it is shown as amber and where it is less than 90% of the benchmark land value it is shown as red.	The headroom expressed as blended rate of return. The percentages shown are the headroom available after all costs, except developer return divided by the total gross development value for the scheme. If schemes were to go ahead as described, then this is the total return available to the developer.	Category 1 - The residual value is positive and the residual value is 10% or more above the benchmark land value. Schemes in this group are viable and should be able to proceed.
Base model	£27,350,000	£47,890,000	More than 10% BLV	22%	Cat 1

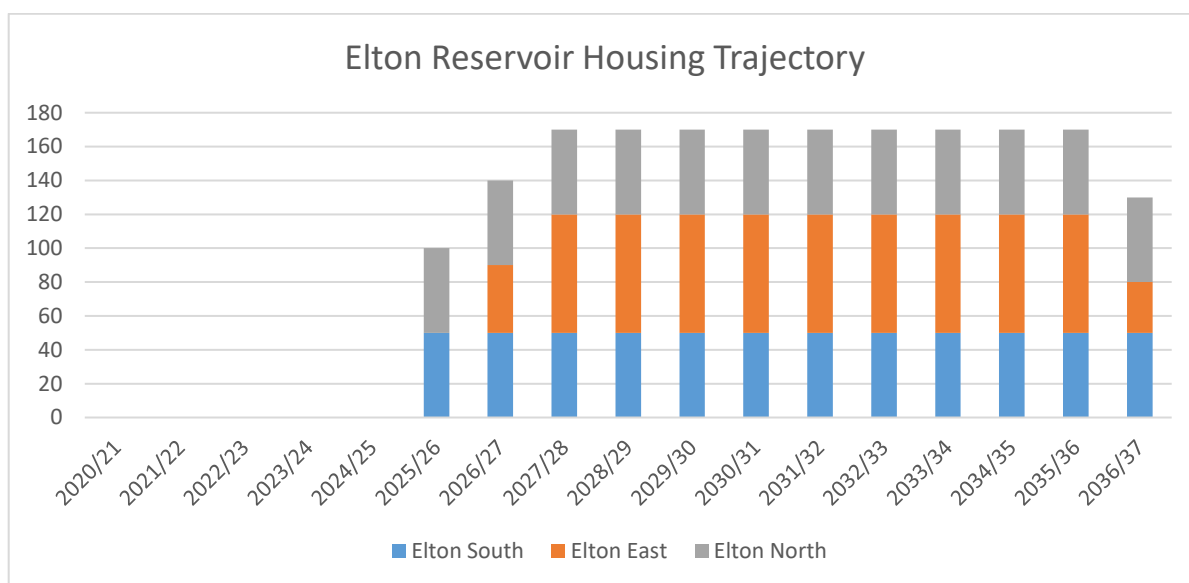
(Note that although allocation proposes around 3,500 dwellings, the appraisal is based on 3519 dwellings, based on indicative information provided by the site promoter.)

- 23.2 The testing indicates a positive return, however due to the need to provide significant infrastructure, particularly the link road, at an early stage of the development there may be a need for an element of forward funding. The Council, TfGM, Peel Land and Property and other partners will work together to ensure infrastructure can be delivered at the appropriate phase of the development.

24 Phasing

- 24.1 The policy wording for GM7 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be approved by the LPA for the allocation, which any proposals must then be in accordance with. The policy states that this shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development. This should include the delivery of highways, infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.
- 24.2 The policy also states that residential development within the allocation will be limited until key elements of new improved highways infrastructure is implemented as necessary mitigation.

- 24.3 A phasing strategy will be developed through on-going discussions with key stakeholders in relation to infrastructure delivery. The estimated phasing and delivery trajectory will evolve as the plans for the allocation are developed further.
- 24.4 The allocation is in an established market area which experiences strong demand for new homes. It has multiple access points and will deliver a wide range of dwelling types and sizes, meaning that there are opportunities for multiple sources of delivery within the allocation. The site promoter has suggested the allocation could be split into approximately five 'outlets' each providing between 30 to 50 dwellings per annum. Delivery of higher density dwellings, such as apartment or retirement accommodation would support higher delivery rates.
- 24.5 A slightly more conservative approach has been taken to the delivery figures used within the GMSF, based on only three outlets, but with delivery rates of 50 – 80 dwellings per annum.
- 24.6 The three outlets identified are land to the north at Spen Moor, to the east at Hagside and to the south around Coney Green. First completions are anticipated to take place in 2025/26, with a delivery rate of up to 50 dwellings per annum at Spen Moor and Coney Green, and 80 dwellings per annum at Hagside where it is anticipated there will be more high density apartment development close to the new Metrolink stop.
- 24.7 This results in the following trajectory for the Elton Reservoir Allocation within the plan period:



- 24.8 A lead in time of five years from the start of the plan period and around three years from adoption has been allowed. This allocation has undergone considerable masterplanning and preparatory work as part of the GMSF process, and so outline permission could be granted soon after adoption of the GMSF, with first completions in 2025/26.
- 24.9 Much of the allocation is in the freehold ownership of Peel L&P Investments (North) Limited. Peel L&P intend to act as “master-developer” over the multi-phase development, coordinating delivery alongside Bury Council and other key partners. Peel L&P has also recently established its own house-building company, Northstone, that it intends will deliver a significant part of the proposals, with other house-builders, registered housing providers and working alongside Homes England and the Council. Peel L&P is also able to undertake significant elements of infrastructure delivery, for example greenspace, highways and energy, whilst it also intends to establish site management and maintenance structures to ensure the operation and upkeep of the development in perpetuity.

25 Indicative Masterplanning

- 25.1 The site promoters for the Elton Reservoir Allocation have produced an Illustrative Development Framework Plan to show how proposed development could come forward within the allocation (see below). This provides an indicative layout of the development, including the location of the residential parcels, green and blue infrastructure, schools, local centre, new Metrolink stop, Park and Ride and key pedestrian and vehicular access.
- 25.2 GMSF Policy GM7 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be submitted prior to any planning applications within the allocation. The masterplan must include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Delivery. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.



Section F – Conclusion

26 GMSF 2020 Integrated Appraisal

- 26.1 An Integrated Appraisal (IA) was undertaken on the 2020 draft GMSF in order to understand how the policy had changed since the 2019 IA and to identify if any further enhancement/mitigation was required.
- 26.2 The majority of the 2019 recommendations for the Elton Reservoir allocation were positively addressed by the allocation policy itself or other GMSF thematic policies. A small number of residual recommendations remained from the 2020 IA, in order to further strengthen the policies.
- 26.3 In particular this included:
- Climate Change – since the 2019 IA was undertaken there has been greater emphasis on the climate change agenda and this is reflective of the declaration of a climate emergency by the ten GM authorities;
 - Accessible design standards – whilst this is broadly covered in Policy GM-E1 and within GM-H3 relating to housing, it was suggested that policies are strengthened with more specific reference to accessible design of buildings and spaces to meet the needs of users. This could be achieved through strengthening Policy GM-E1.
 - Deprivation – whilst this is also broadly covered within the supporting text and broadly within Policy GM-E1, particularly referencing social inclusivity, it is considered that the policy could be more explicitly in terms of inclusive growth and making jobs available to existing local communities or to those suffering deprivation.
- 26.4 The residual IA recommendations for GM7 could therefore be met through the strengthening of thematic Policy GM-E1 rather than any specific amendments to Policy GM7. This demonstrates the overall improvement of the 2020 draft GMSF in relation to the IA Framework.

27 The main changes to the Proposed Allocation

- 27.1 The level of development proposed within GM7 Elton Reservoir has not changed since the 2019 GMSF. The 2020 GMSF Allocation proposes a minor amendment to the Allocation boundary compared to what was presented in the 2019 GMSF and the area of release will now include a small piece of land adjacent to Burnside Close (off the B6292 Ainsworth Road).
- 27.2 The 2020 GMSF has additional criteria within the policy requiring:
- A comprehensive masterplan and phasing strategy for the allocation.
 - The provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
 - The provision for the long-term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features.
- 27.3 A significant amount of evidence base work has been produced to support the allocation since 2019 and this has allowed the criteria within the policy to be expanded upon and be more specific to the allocation.

28 Conclusion

- 28.1 GM7 Elton Reservoir is considered to meet the site selection criteria and make a positive contribution towards the overall vision, objectives and strategy of the GMSF. The allocation is considered to be deliverable and available for development. Further work has been identified to take forward the allocation through the planning process.
- 28.2 The allocation provides the opportunity to deliver 3,500 high quality homes, including a significant amount of affordable homes and contribute to meeting Bury's housing needs. The development will underpin sustainable economic growth and support efforts to regenerate Radcliffe Town Centre. It will be a highly accessible development, with numerous opportunities for sustainable travel.
- 28.3 The allocation will deliver an extensive and diverse network of green and blue infrastructure in the form of a new parkland. This will be an environment of substantial quality which balances the needs of ecology, nature and landscape conservation, habitat biodiversity and recreation.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – GM7 Elton Reservoir

Any proposals for this allocation must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan that has been previously approved by the LPA. It shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Implementation. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband, electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.

Development within this allocation will be required to:

1. Deliver a broad mix of around 3,500 houses to diversify the type of accommodation in the Bury and Radcliffe areas. This includes an appropriate mix of house types and sizes, accommodation for older persons, plots for custom and self-build and higher densities of development in areas with good accessibility and with potential for improved public transport connectivity, particularly in the southern areas of the allocation. It is expected that around 1,900 of these homes will be delivered during the plan period;
2. Make provision for new and improved highways infrastructure including:
 - A north-south strategic spine road connecting Bury and Bolton Road (A58) to Bury Road, Radcliffe that is designed to be suitable for buses, would not adversely impact on the operation of Metrolink services, incorporates provision for active travel and is in line with local design standards;
 - A strategic connection from the spine road to Spring Lane, Radcliffe via the former Coney Green High School site that is designed to be suitable for buses, incorporates provision for active travel and is in line with local design standards; and
 - Other off-site highway works where these are necessary to ensure acceptable traffic movement, including in and around Radcliffe town centre.

Residential development within the allocation will be limited until the above infrastructure (or key elements of it) is implemented as necessary mitigation.

3. Make provision for major investment in public transport infrastructure to enable more sustainable transport choices, including a requirement for a new Metrolink stop and associated park and ride facilities in the Warth area
4. Deliver a network of safe cycling and walking routes through the allocation linking neighbourhoods with key destinations, designed and constructed in accordance with national and GM standards and local planning policies.
5. Make provision for affordable housing in accordance with local planning policy requirements, equivalent to at least 25% of the dwellings on the allocation and across a range of housing types and sizes (with an affordable housing tenure split of 60% social or affordable rented and 40% affordable home ownership).
6. Make provision for two new two-form entry primary schools to meet the needs of the prospective school-aged residents;
7. Make provision for a new secondary school to meet the needs of the prospective school-aged residents;

8. Make provision for new local centres in accessible locations which include a range of appropriate retail, health and community facilities and ensure they are integrated with existing communities;
9. Make provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
10. Ensure the design and layout allows for effective integration with surrounding communities, including active travel links and connections to Inner Radcliffe, Radcliffe Town Centre, Radcliffe Metrolink Station, local schools and Bury Town Centre;
11. Make provision for recreation facilities to meet the needs of the prospective residents in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
12. Provide a significant green corridor which remains within the Green Belt and provides a strategic amount of new, high quality and publicly accessible open space/parkland coupled with a network of multi-functional green and blue infrastructure within the allocation to provide health benefits to residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment and providing linkages to the allocations wider drainage strategy in accordance with Policy GM-G2 Green Infrastructure Network and Policy GM-G9 Standards to a Greener Greater Manchester. This should include the enhancement and the integration of the existing assets at Elton and Withins Reservoirs and the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal to create an extensive recreation, tourism and leisure asset.
13. Minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation in accordance with Policy GM-G10 – Biodiversity and Geodiversity.
14. Ensure the allocation is safe from, and mitigates for, potential flood risk from all sources including the River Irwell, Elton and Withins Reservoirs and surface water and does not increase the flood risk elsewhere. The delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development;
15. Ensure that sustainable drainage systems are fully incorporated into the development to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Where possible, natural SuDS techniques should be utilised, prioritising the use of ponds, swales and other infrastructure which mimic natural drainage and be designed as multi-functional green infrastructure connecting to the wider green and blue infrastructure network in accordance with Policy GM-S5 - Flood Risk and the Water Environment and nationally recognised SuDS design standards. Proposals to discharge to the public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available.
16. Make appropriate provision for the long-term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space/parkland and sustainable drainage features; and
17. Protect and enhance heritage and archaeological assets and their setting within the allocation in accordance with the findings and recommendations of a Heritage Impact Assessment, including the Grade II Listed Old Hall Farmhouse and the wider historic character of the surrounding area.

Justification

The area around Elton Reservoir is of strategic significance, not only for Bury, but also in the Greater Manchester context given that it will bring forward one of the GMSF's largest contributions to future housing supply and provide a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision for the Bury and Radcliffe areas.

The allocation is almost entirely surrounded by the existing urban area and is well-connected to existing infrastructure. Although the allocation has the capacity to deliver a total of around 3,500 new homes, it is anticipated that around 1,900 of these will be delivered within the plan period. Nevertheless, it is considered necessary to release the allocation in full at this stage given that the scale of the proposed development means that it will need to be supported by significant strategic infrastructure and this level of investment needs the certainty that the remaining development will still be able to come forward beyond the plan period.

Fundamental to the delivery of residential development in this area will be the provision of major highways infrastructure. This will include the need to incorporate a strategic north-south spine road through the allocation connecting Bury and Bolton Road (A58) to Bury Road, Radcliffe. This will provide an essential alternative to Bury Bridge for traffic travelling south towards Manchester from the west Bury area. The new road must not adversely impact on the operation of Metrolink services. Furthermore, in order to improve linkages to and assist in the physical and social regeneration of inner Radcliffe and Radcliffe town centre, there is a need to provide a significant spur road connecting the allocation to Spring Lane via the former Coney Green High School site. The new highways infrastructure must be in place before significant amounts of housing is developed and this should be reflected in the Phasing Strategy.

Proposals for development of the allocation will be required to fully assess the impacts on traffic generation on existing highways and, where necessary, to incorporate or facilitate the delivery of the required improvements to other roads and junctions.

The Bury to Manchester Metrolink line runs along the eastern edge of this area and, in order to reduce reliance on the car, any development within the allocation will be required to incorporate the provision of a new Metrolink stop and any associated park and ride facilities in the Warth area. Direct walking and cycling connections to the Metrolink stop will also be necessary.

New development and investment in this area will need to be fully integrated into the existing urban fabric and with surrounding neighbourhoods and communities. In doing so, any development will need to facilitate new pedestrian and cycle links through the development and into surrounding areas. This will include strong linkages to Inner Radcliffe and Radcliffe town centre, Radcliffe Metrolink and local schools which, in addition to the spur road, will further help in supporting on-going physical and social regeneration efforts in this area.

Development of this scale will significantly increase demands for education provision and, as a result, the development will need to include the provision of new facilities for primary and secondary education. It will also generate a need to make provision for appropriate local centres that are more accessible to and meet the day-to-day needs of surrounding communities.

A significant amount of the allocation is to remain as Green Belt. This provides the opportunity to significantly enhance the green infrastructure and biodiversity value of the allocation, enhance and incorporate existing assets (such as the priority habitats and the water features of Elton and Withins Reservoirs and the Manchester and Bolton and Bury Canal) and improve access to open space for the local community. The development will need to have regard to existing features of ecological and wildlife interest by minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity.

Delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development. Measures such as rainwater recycling, green roofs, water butts and permeable driveway surfaces should be considered to mitigate the impact of potential flood risk both within and beyond the allocation boundaries. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should communicate with the public sewer.

There is one Grade II Listed building within the allocation – Old Hall Farmhouse and there are a number of locally listed buildings and structures throughout the allocation. Any development will, therefore, be required to respect the setting of the Farmhouse and capitalise on opportunities to draw on the contribution that the Farmhouse makes to the character of the area. The completion of a Heritage Impact Assessment will be required.

GM8 - Seedfield

Topic Paper

GMSF October 2020

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Section A – Background

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The allocation is located in the Seedfield area of Bury and was formerly occupied by Seedfield High School before more recently being used as a training centre. The allocation provides the opportunity to deliver a diverse mix of house types including affordable housing provision for the Seedfield area.
- 1.2 This Topic Paper brings together a wide range of information and evidence in connection with the proposed strategic site allocation. The paper may be subject to further technical amendments in advance of the formal commencement of consultation.

2 Site Details

- 2.1 The allocation is well-connected to the existing urban area and is located less than 2 kilometres from Bury town centre. In total the allocation measures 5.15 ha with an approximate developable area of 3.46 ha. Approximately 50% of the allocation is previously-developed with the remainder of the allocation being used as playing fields. All of the allocation is currently designated as Green Belt.

3 Proposed Development

- 3.1 The allocation will deliver a broad mix of around 140 houses to diversify the type of accommodation in the Seedfield area. The allocation will make provision for affordable housing in line with local planning policy requirements.
- 3.2 Appendix 1 sets out the GM8 Seedfield policy wording.
- 3.3 The allocation boundary or the area proposed to be released has not been amended from that proposed in the 2019 GMSF.

4 Site Selection

- 4.1 The Seedfield allocation is largely surrounded by development within the existing urban area with residential development bounding the site on three sides and the East Lancashire Railway embankment bounding the site to the west.
- 4.2 The Seedfield allocation is already connected to the existing urban area and is in a sustainable location.
- 4.3 Given the above, the allocation was selected for inclusion within the GMSF on the basis of Criteria 1 'Land which has been previously developed and/or land which is well served by public transport'. Further detail is provided within in the GMSF Site Selection Paper available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 4.4 The Seedfield allocation fits within the overall GMSF spatial strategy in that it will contribute to inclusive growth. The allocation will contribute to the Borough's future housing supply and provide a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision.
- 4.5 The GMSF vision will be delivered through the pursuit of a number of broad objectives. The Seedfield allocation will contribute to meeting the following GMSF objectives:

- 1 - Meet our Housing Need
- 2 - Create Neighbourhoods of Choice
- 6 - Promote the sustainable movement of people, goods and information.

5 Planning History

5.1 There is no relevant planning history for this allocation.

6 GMSF 2019 Consultation Responses

6.1 268 comments were received in relation to the allocation during the consultation on the Revised Draft GMSF in 2019. A summary of the key issues raised are as follows:

Principle / scale of development
▪ The local area is already largely built-up. ▪ Streets would be preferred to cul-de-sacs. ▪ The site needs redevelopment and represents an obvious infill opportunity on the edge of the urban area.
Housing (incl. affordable housing)
▪ Concern that proposed homes will not be affordable.
Green Belt
▪ This allocation is already part of a built-up area and should not be Green Belt.
Brownfield
▪ Practical use of a brownfield site and an obvious infill opportunity that needs redevelopment. ▪ The plan should include more sites like this on brownfield land.
Transport – Highways / Public Transport / Cycling / Walking
▪ The only access point into the site is inadequate. It is narrow and used for parking, has poor access for emergency services and additional access points are required. ▪ Additional development would lead to likely congestion on the A56. ▪ Public transport improvements are required e.g. rail/Metrolink. ▪ There is a lack of detailed information on transport interventions. ▪ Site represents an accessible brownfield site close to bus route and town centre.
Physical Infrastructure and utilities
▪ Lack of detailed information on infrastructure requirements and provision.
Social Infrastructure
▪ Existing schools in northeast Bury over-subscribed. The former secondary school at Seedfield should be brought back into use. ▪ GPs and dentists are in short supply. ▪ A new sports hall is required as part of the proposals.

▪ Lack of detailed information on social infrastructure requirements and what the community benefits will be.
Environmental
▪ These proposals would lead to a loss of wildlife. We need to make the most of natural resources. ▪ There would be a loss of recreation space, in particular playing pitches. These are in demand and there is a lack of suitable replacement sites in the area. ▪ Open space should be maintained by developers. ▪ A buffer is required to the west of the site. ▪ There is a lack of detailed information on proposals such as evidence on existing GM ecological networks or an Ecological Impact Assessment. ▪ Welcome the proposed off-road access from the site to Burrs Country Park, walking/cycle routes should include Green Infrastructure and needs to be made accessible for horse riders.
Air Quality
▪ Concern that congestion will negatively impact air quality.
Other
▪ Little done to publicise proposals, online portal was difficult to use and questions were leading in nature. ▪ Lack of detail on approach taken/reasoning e.g. not clear why previous sites rejected, why some districts have not released Green Belt and others have. ▪ Imbalance between Green Belt loss in north and south.

7 GMSF 2019 Integrated Assessment

- 7.1 The 2019 GMSF Integrated Assessment (IA) is available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>.
- 7.2 The IA reviewed how the draft GMSF policies could impact upon the environment, the economy, local communities, equality and public health. The IA also recommended ways in which the GMSF can be improved to ensure that the policies are as sustainable as possible.
- 7.3 The Seedfield allocation performed very well against the 2019 Integrated Assessment objectives. However a number of recommendations were made:
- Make specific reference to energy efficient of the housing stock.
 - Consider how housing land can enhance work force skills and training, such as through construction jobs.
 - Consider feasibility study into requirements and ability of local network to support development.
 - Benefits such as creation of construction and operational employment, or improved transport links or increases in the range of community facilities, should consider deprived areas. Where possible such benefits should be maximised to help bring about long term benefits for deprived areas.
 - The allocation policy could reference integration with existing communities and also encourage the provision of varied tenures within the development.

- Ensure any new provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages.
- Seek to minimise the number of trips made by private car to/from the site. Consider use of mitigation solutions including green infrastructure, incentivising electric vehicles and/or masterplan layout which reduces emissions near sensitive receptors. This is especially appropriate towards the south eastern side nearest to the AQMA.
- Consider ecological receptors throughout detailed design to reduce risk throughout construction and operational phases.
- Integrate green infrastructure throughout the scheme at masterplan stage.
- A suitable flood risk assessment may be required and associated mitigation in order to prevent the Flood zone expanding.
- Appropriate flood risk mitigation should be implemented (in line with best practice) for all developments that are within or near to areas of flood risk.
- Make reference to energy efficiency directly and ways that it can be increased, such as highlighting the benefits of sustainable modes of transport.
- Consider receptors throughout detailed design to reduce risk throughout construction and operational phases.

7.4 It is important to note that the IA was focusing on each policy in isolation from other policies and that many of the recommended changes for the Seedfield allocation policies are already covered in other GMSF policies. However some wording changes have been made as a result of the IA in relation to housing types, electric vehicles, heritage and archaeology.

Section B – Physical

8 Transport

- 8.1 No strategic transport interventions have been identified for the allocation. However, a signalised junction at Walmersley Road could potentially be required if traffic modelling shows it is necessary and a secondary emergency access point into the allocation may also be required. Further work will be required to establish the exact nature of any transport interventions as the allocation moves through the planning process.

9 Flood Risk and Drainage

Flood Risk Summary

- 9.1 The allocation is located within Flood Zone 1.
- 9.2 The allocation is at low risk of surface water flooding.

GMSF Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- 9.3 The Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (GM Level 1 SFRA) (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) was completed in March 2019 as part of the evidence base to inform the preparation of the GMSF. This SFRA initiated the sequential risk-based approach to the allocation of land for development and identified whether application of the Exception Test was likely to be necessary using the most up-to-date information and guidance.
- 9.4 The Level 1 SFRA recommended that a site specific flood risk assessment was required for the Seedfield allocation and no further strategic assessment was required.

10 Ground Conditions

- 10.1 There are no known ground conditions on allocation. However, detailed assessments of the ground conditions will be undertaken prior to the submission of any future planning application/s.

11 Utilities

United Utilities

- 11.1 United Utilities in their response to the latest GMSF consultation highlighted that new development should be focused in sustainable locations which are accessible to local services and infrastructure. United Utilities will continue to work to identify any infrastructure issues and appropriate resolutions throughout the development of the Spatial Framework.
- 11.2 In relation to the Seedfield allocation, United Utilities have advised that a combined sewer falls within the allocation and consideration will need to be given to either diverting this sewer if possible or any potential easements should the sewer remain in situ. Consideration must also be given to disposal of surface water in the most sustainable way. The Site Promoters will be required to agree drainage proposals prior to the submission of any future planning applications.

Electricity

Electricity North West

- 11.3 Electricity North West have carried out assessments on the proposed GMSF allocations which have fed into their 'Spatial Energy Plan'. This is a high level assessment of the expected impact of the proposed developments on the electricity network. In relation to Seedfield, the assessment indicated that primary substation capacity in the area may be above 95% of capacity due to forecast additional load resulting from proposed developments.
- 11.4 Electricity North West in their response to the 2019 GMSF consultation, advised that they were confident in being able to meet the network capacity requirements for the level of investment and growth proposed in Greater Manchester. Where necessary they have secured the appropriate regulatory allowances within their 'Well Justified Business Plan.'

Gas

National Grid Infrastructure

- 11.5 Discussions with National Grid will need to take place as the allocation moves through the planning process to establish whether or not any existing infrastructure needs to be diverted as a result of the proposals. Discussions will also need to take place to establish if there is sufficient capacity within the network to support the proposals or if any upgrades to the existing infrastructure are required.

12 Telecommunications

Existing BT Infrastructure

- 12.1 Further detailed discussions will need to take place with BT as the allocation moves through the planning process to establish whether or not any existing infrastructure needs to be diverted as a result of the proposals. Discussions will also need to take place to establish if there is sufficient capacity within the network to support the proposals or if any upgrades to the existing infrastructure are required.

Existing Virgin Media Infrastructure

- 12.2 Further detailed discussions will need to take place with Virgin Media as the allocation moves through the planning process to establish whether or not any existing infrastructure needs to be diverted as a result of the proposals. Discussions will also need to take place to establish if there is sufficient capacity within the network to support the proposals or if any upgrades to the existing infrastructure are required.

Section C – Environmental

13 Green Belt Assessment

- 13.1 The proposed removal of the Seedfield Allocation has been informed by several studies undertaken by LUC available at: <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016
 - Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020;
 - Greater Manchester Green Belt Study – Identification of Opportunities, 2020
- 13.2 The proposed allocation would involve the release of around 5 hectares of land from the Green Belt.
- 13.3 In 2016 GMCA commissioned LUC to undertake an assessment of the Green Belt within GM. The Study assessed the extent to which the land within the GM Green Belt performs against the purposes of Green Belts, as set out in paragraph 80 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The aim of this Green Belt Assessment is to provide the GM Authorities with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of how GM's Green Belt contributes to the five purposes of Green Belt, as set out in national policy. It also examines the case for including within the Green Belt potential additional areas of land that currently lie outside it.
- 13.4 In the Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016, GM Allocation 8 Seedfield was included within Strategic Green Belt Area 11. There were 4 different purposes of Green Belt that each Area was assessed against and the Area performs as follows:
- Purpose 1: To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas: Moderate - Strong
 - Purpose 2: To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another: Strong
 - Purpose 3: To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Moderate - Strong
 - Purpose 4: Preserving the setting and special character of historic towns: Moderate
- 13.5 In 2019 LUC carried out an assessment identifying the potential opportunities to enhance the beneficial use of remaining Green Belt within 2 km of the allocation site. The study considered the opportunities to offset the loss of Green Belt through compensatory improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of the remaining Green Belt land.
- 13.6 Land lying within 2 km of GM Allocation 8 Seedfield formed the focus of GI recommendations/mitigation to enhance the 'beneficial use' of the Green Belt. There are 3 proposed additions to the Green Belt within 2 km of GM8 – Woolfold, Pigs Lea Brook 1 and Chesham.
- 13.7 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt relevant to the Seedfield allocation identified in the assessment include:
- Improve strategic pedestrian and cycle linkages along the River Irwell or the preserved East Lancashire Railway towards Bury Town Centre and Burrs Country Park;
 - Improve access and enhance the green corridor or the River Irwell in this location to create local level leisure and tourism opportunities;

- Introduce new crossing points within the adjacent Green Belt south west of GM8 Seefield linking Woodhill Road Park and the suburbs of Seedfield/Limefield.
 - Relocate Seedfield Sports Club to a suitable location to land within or out with the adjacent Green Belt;
 - Walking routes including signage should be reviewed to link neighbouring open space facilities within the adjacent Green Belt;
 - Refurbish sports facilities at Clarence Park;
 - Incorporate green infrastructure enhancements at existing SBIs, including habitat management in conjunction with GMEU's recommendations at these locations;
 - Enhance the Castlesteads scheduled monument within adjacent Green Belt in Burrs Country Park to the north;
 - Enhance semi natural habitats and network, including riparian and broadleaved woodland and regenerating habitats typical at Burrs Country Park. Incorporate woodland creation schemes based on the Northern Forest Initiative at Burrs Country Park;
 - Hedgerow restoration at Brandlesholme Road.
- 13.8 Some of these opportunities have been either included within the policy requirements for the allocation. Others would be more appropriately dealt with a detailed masterplan or planning application(s).
- 13.9 In conjunction with the assessment of GI opportunities within the Green Belt, LUC carried out an assessment to identify potential harm to the Green Belt through a Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020. The report concluded that the allocation makes a limited contribution to Green Belt purposes. Release of the allocation would not increase the containment of any retained Green Belt land and would result in a strong and consistent Green Belt boundary to the west, which would be defined by a woodland edge and bolstered by the railway line and the River Irwell.
- 13.10 Evidence on Green Belt is only one part of the evidence base that influence any decision on Green Belt release. Consequently where studies have found that harm is to be caused by release of the Green Belt, this finding should be balanced against other important factors that could make up exceptional circumstances such as sustainability, viability and deliverability.
- 13.11 The Seedfield allocation is deemed necessary to deliver a housing opportunity with supporting infrastructure. The allocation responds to the spatial strategy in the GMSF and its key themes of 'Inclusive Growth' and 'Addressing Disparities' It also directly addresses the aspirations set by Policy GM Strat-6 Northern Areas which seeks to boost economic opportunities and diversify housing provision in the north of the conurbation by the selective release of Green Belt.
- 13.12 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt study discussed earlier are not exhaustive and will require consultation with key stakeholders and may require further surveys and viability testing to establish costings. However the enhancement opportunities nonetheless demonstrate that opportunities exist to help offset the loss of Green Belt which will have a potential positive effect on the beneficial use of the Greater Manchester Green Belt moving forward.
- 13.13 The final masterplan for the allocation will be required to use the findings from all the assessments on Green Belt in the area to inform the layout and form development across the allocation.

14 Green Infrastructure

- 14.1 Existing green infrastructure elements can be found to the west and south of the allocation. These will be retained and enhanced as part of any future proposals. Appropriate mitigation measures to provide health benefits to residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment will also be provided.

15 Recreation

- 15.1 Part of the allocation is currently used as playing fields. In addition to making provision for the recreational needs of the prospective residents of the new development, there will also be a requirement to provide replacement sports pitch provision to off-set the loss of the existing playing fields within the allocation. It is important that the replacement provision should be accessible, be of an equivalent or greater quantity and quality and laid out and usable prior to the commencement of any development on the Seedfield allocation.

16 Landscape

- 16.1 The proposals will retain any existing well-established landscape features such as mature trees and hedgerows. These will be integrated within the development alongside new planting to enhance the ecological value of the allocation.

17 Ecological/Biodiversity Assessment

- 17.1 There are no known ecological issues on the allocation and it should be suitable for residential development in principle. There is, however, a wildlife corridor to the west and south of the allocation that will need to be retained and enhanced as part of any proposals.
- 17.2 A detailed Ecological Assessment will be undertaken as part of any development proposals as necessary.

Habitat Regulation Assessment

- 17.3 A Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required for the GMSF because it is considered to have the potential to cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European Protected Sites. The HRA made an appropriate assessment of the implications of the GMSF in view of conservation objectives (available here: <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>).
- 17.4 The Habitats Regulation Assessment (December 2018) concluded that the allocation is too distant and too separated from any European protected sites for discernible effects to occur.

18 Heritage Impact Assessment

- 18.1 The GMSF Historic Environment Assessment Screening Exercise (June 2019) (available here: <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) concluded that no further assessment of the allocation is required. There are no designated assets nearby or within the allocation and the allocation has no archaeological interest.

19 Air Quality

- 19.1 The scale of development should not result in any air quality issues to the surrounding area

in respect of traffic emissions. The allocation is well placed to encourage travel by non-car modes of transport which will help minimise the extent to which additional traffic from the allocation might result in air quality emissions.

- 19.2 An Air Quality Assessment will be undertaken as part of any development proposals as necessary.

20 Noise

- 20.1 Given the allocation's location adjacent to the urban area, the prevailing use is residential. It is therefore considered that there are no significant noise constraints in the local area which might affect the development of the allocation.
- 20.2 A detailed Noise Assessment will be undertaken as part of any planning application process and any required mitigation will be embedded within the proposed development.

Section D – Social

21 Education

- 21.1 The Seedfield Allocation is expected to yield around 29 primary age pupils and 20 secondary age pupils. Current forecasts indicate that there will be sufficient capacity in the area to accommodate this modest yield of primary age pupils.
- 21.2 Cumulative secondary age demand pressures will need to be considered more strategically, and in conjunction with other proposed developments across North Bury.

22 Health Impact Assessment

- 22.1 Further work will be required to determine whether there is additional capacity within any local healthcare facilities to meet the increased demands arising from the prospective occupants of the new development.
- 22.2 If additional provision is necessary, the most appropriate means and location for such provision can be identified through future iterations of the masterplan. Alternatively, there may be a requirement to make a financial contribution toward off site health provision through a planning obligation or condition at the planning application stage.

Section E – Deliverability

23 Viability

- 23.1 The Three Dragons Viability Appraisal of the allocation using the base model shows a positive result for the allocation, including provision of 25% affordable housing and other policy requirements. The transport costs for the scheme are incorporated within the base model because they are not strategic interventions. The results are set out in the table below:

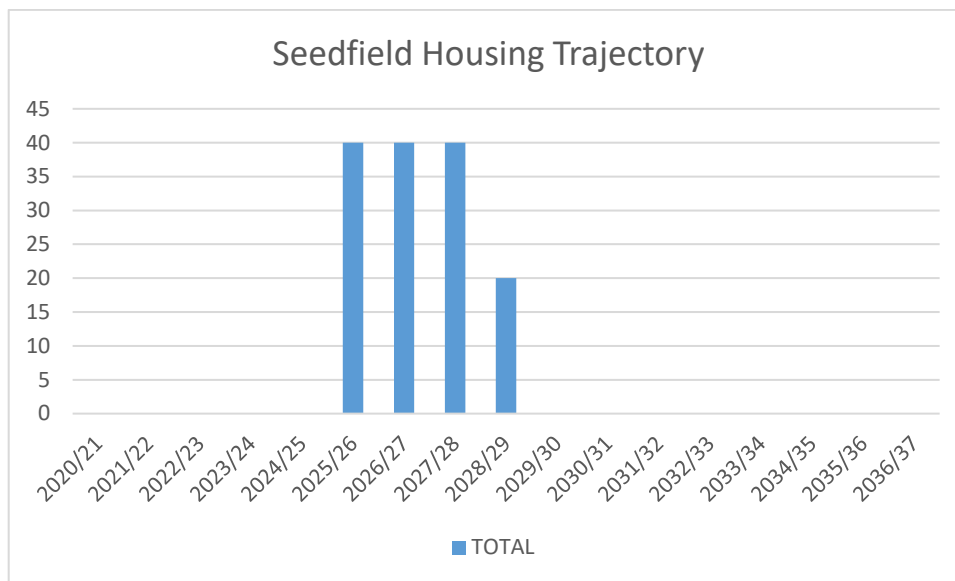
Test Type	Total BLV, SDLT & Land acq fees	Scheme RV (incl BLV & return)	Viability measure as a % of BLV	Headroom (blended return)	Test result category
Whether the test is the 'Base' test or a sensitivity test	The total figure used in the testing for land value, includes tax and fees. BLV = benchmark land value SDLT = Stamp duty land tax	Scheme value (could also be described as headroom) once all costs have been accounted for including land and developer return RV = Residual value BLV = benchmark land value	Description of whether the scheme provides sufficient residual value in terms of how it compares with the benchmark land value i.e. if it is 10% or more above the benchmark land value it is shown as green, if it is within 10% of the benchmark land value it is shown as amber and where it is less than 90% of the benchmark land value it is shown as red.	The headroom expressed as blended rate of return. The percentages shown are the headroom available after all costs, except developer return divided by the total gross development value for the scheme. If schemes were to go ahead as described, then this is the total return available to the developer.	Category 1 - The residual value is positive and the residual value is 10% or more above the benchmark land value. Schemes in this group are viable and should be able to proceed.
Base model	£1,360,000	£540,000	More than 10% BLV	17%	Cat 1

- 23.2 The testing indicates a headroom of £540,000, and shows that the scheme is viable based on the high level Three Dragons appraisal. The allocation is classed as Category 1 – the residual value is 10% or more above the benchmark land value, it is viable and should be able to proceed.

24 Phasing

- 24.1 This is a comparatively small partly previously developed allocation in single ownership (owned by Bury Council), with existing highways access and other infrastructure provision. There are no major infrastructure constraints to be overcome before the allocation can be delivered. Therefore it will be relatively straightforward to develop as one outlet in a single phase.
- 24.2 The allocation is anticipated to deliver 40 dwellings per year from 2025/26, with the final completions estimated for 2028/29. The delivery rate of 40 per annum is in line with other similar sites delivered in the Borough. The first completions are estimated for 2025/26 to give ample time for planning approval to be obtained following adoption of the GMSF. This allocation could in fact begin to deliver housing ahead of the GMSF as it is partially previously developed, but a more cautious start date has been applied. The previously

developed part of the allocation may be developed ahead of relocation of the existing football pitches to an alternative location.



25 Indicative Masterplanning

- 25.1 Paragraph 145 of the National Planning Policy Framework specifies that a local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in the Green Belt but that exceptions to this are limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed land, whether redundant or in continuing use (excluding temporary buildings), which would:
- not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt than the existing development; or
 - not cause substantial harm to the openness of the Green Belt, where the development would re-use previously developed land and contribute to meeting an identified affordable housing need within the area of the local planning authority.
- 25.2 As such, given that a significant part of the Seedfield allocation is previously-developed, it is considered that, in principle, it has the potential to be acceptable within the context of current Green Belt policy and is not dependent on the removal of the Green Belt designation through the GMSF process. As such, the Seedfield allocation has not been subject to the detailed masterplanning work that has been done on other allocations as part of the justification for removing Green Belt.
- 25.3 Nevertheless, a high-level indicative plan has been prepared to identify potential extent of housing development and to reflect principles around the provision of areas of open space.



Section F – Conclusion

26 GMSF 2020 Integrated Assessment

- 26.1 An Integrated Appraisal (IA) was undertaken on the 2020 draft GMSF in order to understand how the policy had changed since the 2019 IA and to identify if any further enhancement/mitigation was required.
- 26.2 The majority of the 2019 recommendations for GM8 Seedfield were positively addressed by the policy itself or another thematic policy. A small number of residual recommendations remained from the 2019 IA, in order to further strengthen the policies.
- 26.3 In particular this included:
- Climate Change – since the 2019 IA was undertaken there has been greater emphasis on the climate change agenda and this is reflective of the declaration of a climate emergency by the ten GM authorities;
 - Accessible design standards – whilst this is broadly covered in Policy GM-E1 and within GM-H3 relating to housing, it was suggested that policies are strengthened with more specific reference to accessible design of buildings and spaces to meet the needs of users. This could be achieved through strengthening Policy GM-E1.
 - Deprivation – whilst this is also broadly covered within the supporting text and broadly within Policy GM-E1, particularly referencing social inclusivity, it is considered that the policy could be more explicitly in terms of inclusive growth and making jobs available to existing local communities or to those suffering deprivation.
- 26.4 The residual IA recommendations for GM8 could therefore be met through the strengthening of thematic Policy GM-E1 rather than any specific amendments to Policy GM8. This demonstrates the overall improvement of the 2020 draft GMSF in relation to the IA Framework.

27 The main changes to the Proposed Allocation

- 27.1 The allocation boundary or the area proposed to be released has not been amended from that proposed in the 2019 GMSF.
- 27.2 The 2020 GMSF has additional criteria within the policy requiring:
- Make provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies
 - Minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation in accordance with Policy GM-G10 A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity;
 - Make appropriate provision for the long term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features and sustainable drainage features.
- 27.3 A significant amount of evidence base work has been produced to support the allocation since 2019 and this has allowed the criteria within the policy to be expanded upon and be more specific to the allocation.

28 Conclusion

- 28.1 GM8 Seedfield is considered to meet the site selection criteria and make a positive contribution towards the overall vision, objectives and strategy of the GMSF. The allocation is considered to be deliverable and available for development.
- 28.2 The allocation provides the opportunity to deliver a residential development in a location which is well-connected to the existing urban area and is less than 2 kilometres from Bury town centre. It provides an opportunity to deliver a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision for the Seedfield area.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – GM8 Seedfield

Development within this allocation will be required to:

1. Deliver a broad mix of around 140 houses to diversify the type of accommodation in the Seedfield area;
2. Make necessary improvements to local highway infrastructure to facilitate appropriate access to the allocation and incorporate enhancements to public transport, pedestrian and cycle routes in the area;
3. Make provision for affordable housing in accordance with local planning policy requirements, equivalent to at least 25% of the dwellings on the site and across a range of housing types and sizes (with an affordable housing tenure split of 60% social or affordable rented and 40% affordable home ownership);
4. Make provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
5. Ensure the design and layout allows for effective integration with surrounding communities, including active travel links to Burrs Country Park and employment opportunities in Bury Town Centre;
6. Retain and enhance and/or replace existing recreation facilities and make provision for new recreation facilities to meet the needs of the prospective residents in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
7. Retain, enhance the wildlife corridor and green infrastructure elements to the west and south of the allocation and introduce appropriate mitigation measures to provide health benefits to residents as well as creating a visually attractive environment in accordance with Policy GM-G2 Green Infrastructure Network and Policy GM-G9 Standards to a Greener Greater Manchester;
8. Minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation in accordance with Policy GM-G10 A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity;
9. Ensure the allocation is safe from and mitigates for, potential flood risk from all sources including surface water, sewer flooding and groundwater. The delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development;
10. Ensure that sustainable drainage systems are fully incorporated into the development to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Where possible, natural SuDS techniques should be utilised, prioritising the use of ponds, swales and other infrastructure which mimic natural drainage and be designed as multi-functional green infrastructure connecting to the wider green and blue infrastructure network in accordance with Policy GM-S5 - Flood Risk and the Water Environment and nationally recognised SuDS design standards. Proposals to discharge to the public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available;
11. Make appropriate provision for the long term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features and sustainable drainage features.

Justification

The allocation is well-connected to the existing urban area and is less than 2 kilometres from Bury town centre. It provides an opportunity to deliver a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision for the Seedfield area.

Around 50% of the allocation is previously-developed and a large part of the remaining land is used as playing fields. In addition to making provision for the recreational needs of the prospective residents of the new development, there will also be a requirement to provide replacement sports pitch provision to off-set the loss of the existing playing fields within the allocation. It is important that the replacement provision should be accessible, be of an equivalent or better quantity and quality and laid out and usable prior to the commencement of any development on the Seedfield allocation.

The attractive setting of the development will be further strengthened by the provision of improved east/west pedestrian and cycle linkages, particularly to and from the expanding leisure attractions at Burrs Country Park.

Delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy. Measures such as rainwater recycling, green roofs, water butts and permeable driveway surfaces should be considered to mitigate the impact of potential flood risk both within and beyond the site boundaries. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should connect with the public sewer.

GM9 - Walshaw

Topic Paper

October 2020

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Appendices

Section A – Background

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed Walshaw allocation seeks to deliver 1,250 houses in a sustainable and well-connected location set entirely within the existing urban area. The allocation can deliver new homes alongside recreation facilities, a new primary school, a local centre and strategic transport infrastructure which includes a new link road.
- 1.2 This Topic Paper brings together a wide range of information and evidence in connection with the proposed strategic site allocation. The paper may be subject to further technical amendments in advance of the formal commencement of consultation.

2 Site Details

- 2.1 The Walshaw allocation comprises 64 ha with a developable area of 28 ha and is located entirely within the Borough of Bury. It lies to the west of the Borough, 1.6 km west of Bury town centre. The land is loosely bounded by the urban areas of Tottington to the north, Woolfold and Elton to the east, Lowercroft to the south and Walshaw to the west.
- 2.2 Bordering the allocation to the west is High Street / Lowercroft Road, and a strip of residential development, beyond which lies farmland and open countryside. The allocation extends to the north and south of Walshaw Road and existing road infrastructure also bounds the site, including the B6213 (Bury Road/ Tottington Road), Scobell Street, Dow Lane, and High Street/ Church Street.
- 2.3 The allocation is mainly agricultural in use and contains three reservoirs fed by Walshaw Brook. The Bolholt Hotel and Stables Country Club and Lake Hill private residence are located to the north of the reservoirs although these are excluded from the proposed area for development. The River Irwell lies approximately 1.5 km to the east of the allocation.

3 Proposed Development

- 3.1 Approximately 1,250 homes are proposed within the GM9 Walshaw allocation.
- 3.2 The allocation will include an appropriate mix of house types and sizes, affordable housing, accommodation for older persons, plots for custom and self-build and a mix of housing densities with higher density development in areas with good accessibility and with potential for improved public transport connectivity.
- 3.3 The proposed development will be required to provide infrastructure to support the new community. This includes a new link road through the allocation, other off-site highway works where these are necessary to ensure acceptable traffic movement more routes for walking and cycling, a local centre with convenience shopping facilities and a new primary school. There will be high quality, publicly accessible, multifunctional green and blue infrastructure throughout the allocation which can be used for sport, leisure and recreation.
- 3.4 Appendix 1 sets out the GM9 Walshaw policy wording.
- 3.5 The allocation boundary or the area proposed to be released has not been amended from that proposed in the 2019 GMSF.

4 Site Selection

- 4.1 The Walshaw allocation is almost entirely surrounded by the existing urban area and is well connected to existing infrastructure.
- 4.2 The provision of a new route through the allocation which provides an alternative to the use of the existing highway network through Walshaw coupled with a contribution to the proposed strategic route through the Elton Reservoir site which will also allow traffic from the Walshaw area to travel south without needing to travel through Bury town centre, will deliver significant highway improvements. These will help to resolve existing congestion issues in the wider Bury North area and Bury Town Centre. The development will also facilitate improvements to public transport into and around the allocation in order to allow for more sustainable transport choices.
- 4.3 Given the above, the allocation was selected for inclusion within the GMSF on the basis of Criteria 7 (land that would deliver significant local benefits by addressing a major local problem/issue). Further detail is provided within in the GMSF Site Selection Paper (<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>).
- 4.4 The Walshaw allocation fits within the overall GMSF spatial strategy in that it will contribute to inclusive growth and will contribute to boosting northern competitiveness. The allocation will contribute to the Borough's future housing supply and provide a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision.
- 4.5 The GMSF vision will be delivered through the pursuit of a number of broad objectives. The Walshaw allocation will contribute to meeting the following GMSF objectives:
- 1 - Meet our housing need
 - 5 - Reduce inequalities and improve prosperity
 - 6 - Promote the sustainable movement of people, goods and information.

5 Planning History

- 5.1 Planning permission has not been granted for any significant uses within the allocation.

6 GMSF 2019 Consultation Responses

- 6.1 640 comments were received in relation to the allocation during the consultation on the Revised Draft GMSF in 2019. A summary of the key issues raised are as follows:

Principle / scale of development
▪ It would be an unfair concentration of large-scale development in one area with no clear rationale for its inclusion. ▪ The setting of Walshaw village would be harmed. Separation required between existing and proposed properties. ▪ Walshaw is home to a number of businesses, which would be affected. Should be selecting sites that are vacant/have fewer constraints. ▪ Loss of farmland that should be kept open as it offers local benefits e.g. residential amenity and improved health/wellbeing.

▪ The area is unsuitable for housing. Poor land stability due to past mining activity, culverted watercourses and natural springs are on-site. Evidence required addressing land stability/hydrology. ▪ Parts of the site within the indicative housing areas are not available for development. The site should be extended to include The Nurseries/Scholes Nursery. ▪ Landowners report that it is available, suitable and achievable. A joint framework is being prepared for the whole site.
Housing (inc affordable housing)
▪ The affordable housing situation will not be addressed. ▪ More information needed on affordability and house type. They need to cater for over 65s and first time buyers not aspirational homes. ▪ Should be built out by smaller, locally based developers. ▪ Higher density terraced housing would minimise greenfield loss and would be in keeping with local area. ▪ Housing figure should be expressed as a minimum.
Employment and Economy
▪ Construction jobs would only be temporary. ▪ The proposals will damage the local economy. Local businesses will not benefit. ▪ Employment sites continue to be underused and central Manchester sites will still outperform them.
Green Belt
▪ Large amount of loss, which will merge Bury/Tottington and cause urban sprawl. ▪ Has role in enabling recreation, leisure, good health and wellbeing. ▪ Efforts to minimise loss are welcomed.
Brownfield
▪ The Nurseries/Scholes Nursery site is brownfield and should be included. ▪ Several unused/derelict brownfield sites and those in town centres should be prioritised and regenerated.
Transport – Highways / Public Transport / Cycling / Walking
▪ Existing roads are at capacity and are in poor condition partly due to large amount of schools in area. There would be an impact on road safety, emergency services and businesses. Consider the impact on the network including routes going out of the Borough. ▪ There is pressure on Bury Bridge. We need another road crossing over the Irwell. ▪ Proposed highway solution does not alleviate the situation. Not clear how Elton Reservoir link road helps, only displaces traffic. ▪ Concerns at collective impact on existing road network and on motorways from both Walshaw and Elton Reservoir allocations. ▪ Public transport is poor and new bus routes will not work. ▪ Current walking routes not safe, cycling plans will not work. ▪ The detailed proposals on infrastructure are welcomed.
Physical Infrastructure and utilities

▪ There is an inadequate sewerage system in Scobell Street area, which overflows in heavy rain. No policy reference to improving its capacity. United Utilities has not addressed this issue. ▪ The proposals will impact recycling and waste. ▪ Water shortages in the area and development will make it worse. ▪ Support for infrastructure provision commitments. Current infrastructure is inadequate and new provision must be in place first. ▪ Uncertainties over infrastructure require other sites to be considered that do not have constraints. ▪ The detailed proposals on infrastructure welcomed.
Social Infrastructure
▪ Increased stress on schools, which are already inadequate, and at capacity. ▪ Concern that hotel and leisure facilities at Bolholt will be lost. ▪ More clarity needed on new social infrastructure. Concern that Fairfield Hospital is reducing services. ▪ Local centre will not work and will become vacant. Shops/community facilities should be within walking distance and be co-located. Should invest in redevelopment of Radcliffe town centre instead. ▪ Detailed proposals on infrastructure welcomed. Provision of new school welcomed.
Environmental – Green Infrastructure, Biodiversity, open space
▪ Important element of the GM green infrastructure network. ▪ Proposals would cause harm to the Special Landscape Area between the lodges. ▪ Negative impact on key ecological sites, considerable loss of wildlife home to a wide range of species, will reduce their movement. Deciduous woodland and priority ponds are on-site. ▪ Designations of Sites of Biological Importance/corridors need to be reviewed and extended. ▪ The proposals would lead to a loss of trees, woodland and hedgerows. There would be no net biodiversity gain. ▪ The policy should protect and enhance the Nurseries site and require a buffer. ▪ Loss of well-used recreation space and public rights of way would negatively impact on health and wellbeing. Routes need to be made safe for horse riders and others. ▪ Green infrastructure corridors should link further west and east to other Borough-wide routes e.g. Kirklees Trail. ▪ Proposals should provide a buffer for water bodies at Bolholt. ▪ We need strict guidelines to ensure carbon neutrality benefits. ▪ Further evidence required such as an Ecology Impact Assessment and maintenance of green infrastructure corridors. ▪ Opportunities exist to secure net gains for nature e.g. green infrastructure, woodland, ponds and protected species.
Air Quality
▪ Huge impact on carbon footprint/pollution likely to increase which would have a negative impact on quality of life.

Flood risk
▪ Concern over increase in flooding, surface water run-off. ▪ The policy should be more flexible with regard to natural drainage.
Heritage
▪ Development would have an impact on Walshaw Cross and historic cottages and farms at Bradshaw Road/Four Lane Ends. ▪ Should preserve open spaces around Christ Church to retain setting.
Other
▪ There would be a reduced quality of life from the construction process, which will be disruptive and detrimental to amenity and likely increase crime. ▪ Online consultation form was difficult to complete. Not everyone has internet access. The document contains too much jargon. We need plain English. ▪ This has been a developer-led process. ▪ Unfair that most Green Belt loss proposed in north. Unclear why previous draft allocations in north of the borough have been rejected. ▪ More bus/Metrolink/park and ride interchanges needed, remove bus lanes, widen roads, more ring roads needed, better linkages to motorway. Improved access to North Manchester General Hospital required. ▪ Housing need should be met through a new town. Should negotiate with surrounding authorities and extend timeframe to 15 years.

7 GMSF 2019 Integrated Assessment

- 7.1 The 2019 GMSF Integrated Assessment (IA) is available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>
- 7.2 The IA reviewed how the draft GMSF policies could impact upon the environment, the economy, local communities, equality and public health. The IA also recommended ways in which the GMSF can be improved to ensure that the policies are as sustainable as possible.
- 7.3 The Walshaw allocation performed well against the 2019 Integrated Assessment objectives. However a number of recommendations were made:
- Make specific reference to energy efficiency of the housing stock;
 - Consider how housing land can enhance work force skills and training, such as through construction jobs;
 - Consider feasibility study into requirements and ability of local utilities network to support development;
 - Benefits such as creation of construction and operational employment or improved transport links or increases in the range of community facilities, should consider deprived areas. Where possible, such benefits should be maximised to help bring about long term benefits for deprived areas.
 - The allocation needs to encourage integration with existing community and provision of a range of housing tenures.
 - Ensure any new social infrastructure provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered throughout future masterplanning stages.

- Ensure any new educational provision is accessible to all and that local capacity is considered through future masterplanning stages.
- Seek to minimise the number of trips made by private car to/from the site. Consider the use of mitigation solutions including green infrastructure, incentivising electric vehicles and/or masterplan layout which reduces emissions near sensitive receptors.
- Consider the priority habitat and wildlife corridor throughout detailed design to reduce risk throughout construction and operational phases.
- Integrate green infrastructure throughout the scheme at masterplan stage.
- A suitable flood risk assessment maybe required and associated mitigation in order to prevent the flood zone expanding.
- Appropriate flood risk mitigation should be implemented (in line with best practice) for all developments that are within or near to areas of flood risk.
- Make reference to energy efficiency directly and ways that it can be increased, such as highlighting the benefits of sustainable modes of transport.
- Consider receptors throughout detailed design to reduce risk throughout construction and operational phases.
- Consider how development of PDL sites could be encouraged as a result of greenfield development (e.g. by incentives or inclusion of adjacent PDL)
- Further research into agricultural land quality and investigation into if impacts on any 3a land can be avoided/minimised.
- Consider how development of derelict land, properties, buildings and infrastructure could be encouraged as a result of greenfield development (e.g. by incentives or inclusion of adjacent PDL).
- Promote sustainable construction methods.
- Consider waste and recycling facilities in design e.g. consider location of waste/recycling facilities in design/layout of masterplans and how waste facilities can be located to encourage recycling.

7.4 It is important to note that the IA was focusing on each policy in isolation from other policies and that many of the recommended changes for the Walshaw allocation policy is already covered in other GMSF policies. However some wording changes have been made as a result of the IA in relation to housing types, electric vehicles, heritage and archaeology.

Section B – Physical

8 Transport

- 8.1 The allocation is located to the north-west of Bury and is bound by Lowercroft Road to the west, Scobell Street to the north, residential dwellings and industrial units to the east accessed from Tottington Road. Walshaw Road travels east to west through the centre of the allocation. Elton High School is located to the south-east of the allocation, to the south of Walshaw Road.
- 8.2 The allocation includes the provision of a link road, running north to south between Lowercroft Road and Scobell Street. This will provide for development traffic and existing through traffic, reducing flows of traffic passing through Walshaw. The link road will also permit buses to pass through the site, providing flexibility in terms of service provision and routing. A number of other vehicular accesses to the development will also be provided across the local road network.
- 8.3 The Locality Assessment (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>): concludes that certain parts of the network would be constrained in 2040 without any GMSF related traffic. Whilst the creation of a link road through the Walshaw allocation will ease traffic conditions to the north, additional congestion is predicted to occur at the Crostons Road/Tottington Road junction towards Bury town centre and at the Cocky Moor Road signalised junction to the south as a result of additional GMSF traffic. However, implementation of a number of mitigation schemes at these locations will be sufficient to mitigate the GMSF traffic so that the highway network within the study area either operates at the same level or better than the 2040 Reference Case, or with spare capacity.
- 8.4 The following mitigation measures have been identified:

Mitigation	Description
Supporting Strategic Interventions	
Elton Link Road	New link road between the A58 Bolton and Bury Road and Radcliffe Road, providing access to the Metrolink Stops and associated park and ride facilities at Radcliffe (existing) and Elton (proposed).
Necessary Local Mitigations	
New Allocation Link Road	Link road providing bus penetration through the allocation between Lowercroft Road and Scobell Street, via Walshaw Road.
Junction 5: Crostons Road/ Tottington Road Junction	Extension of existing two-lane approach on Crostons Road
Junction 5a: Tottington Road/ Walshaw Road Priority Junction	Reconfiguration of the Walshaw Road approach
Junction 7: Cocky Moor Road Junction	Adjustments to signalised junction to improve entry capacities and improve efficiency of signal operation.
Junction 9: A58 Bolton Road/Ainsworth Road	Adjustments to signalised junction to improve operation. Requirement/form to be confirmed.

A58 Bolton & Bury Road/Starling Road	Adjustments to signalised junction to improve operation. Requirement/form to be confirmed.
Provision of bus services	
Provision of off-site active-travel infrastructure	
SRN Interventions	
None proposed	

- 8.5 In addition to the initial mitigation measures above, two further junctions are considered to possibly require mitigation:
- A58 Bolton Road/Ainsworth Road; and
 - A58 Bolton & Bury Road/Starling Road.
- 8.6 While the need for improvement at these locations is recognised in the Locality Assessment to ensure its robustness, the modelling undertaken does not at this stage confirm the need for or the form of any mitigation at these junctions. Further work will therefore need to be undertaken to assess the requirement for and nature of any improvements.
- 8.7 The proposed policy wording for the GM9 Walshaw has been informed by the Locality Assessment and ensures the allocation will be supported by the appropriate mitigation measures.
- 8.8 The allocation is considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process. The potential improvement works will be subject to further detailed assessment and viability work. All final design solutions will be consistent with Greater Manchester's best practice Streets for All highway design principles. The allocation would need to be supported by continuing wider transport investment across GM.

9 Flood Risk and Drainage

Flood Risk Summary

- 9.1 The allocation is located within Flood Zone 1.
- 9.2 There are three notable watercourses either within or in close proximity to the allocation:
- Unnamed watercourse to the north of Scobell Street, which flows through the existing residential area from west to east before becoming culverted approximately 50m to the west of Camberley Close. United Utilities records identify the culvert turning and flowing in a north easterly direction. There is no evidence to suggest that it enters the proposed development site.
 - Walshaw Brook, an ordinary watercourse which runs through the northern part of the allocations to the southern boundaries of the HIMOR, Redrow Homes land and the northern boundary of the VHW Land Partnership (Walshaw) Limited land, flowing in a south easterly direction. There are numerous tributaries that drain at various locations along its length. Also, there are ponds/lakes to the north of the Brook and to the south of the Redrow Homes site which have connectivity.
 - Elton Brook, an ordinary watercourse present just outside the VHW Land Partnership southern development site boundary. This generally flows in an easterly direction with a number of tributaries present within the allocation connecting at various points. One of the

main tributaries commences within the allocation and crosses a number of the development parcels. Outside the south east boundary, north of Elton Vale sports Club, are three large water features which are referred to as Elton Brook Reservoirs.

- 9.3 Surface water mapping shows areas of the allocation are potentially susceptible to surface water flooding. These are generally limited to the alignment of existing water features such as Walshaw Brook and the existing lake/pond features.
- 9.4 A number of existing noteworthy surface water overland flow flood routes have been identified from this data.
- The first originates to the north and east of the allocation and appears to be associated with a low point in Scobell Street which is prone to surface water flooding. Water appears to flow from Scobell Street along/through the allocation's eastern boundary in a southern direction and end up off-site in the pond/lake to the south of the Bolholt Hotel;
 - The second of these flow paths is located in the western area of the allocation that originates south of Scobell Street and flows south towards the junction with Walshaw Brook; and
 - The third of these flow paths is to the south east boundary of the allocation and appears to originate from the alignment of Walshaw Brook and around the western most pond/lake features.
 - The fourth of these flow paths relates to the alignment of Elton Brook and its tributaries.
 - Localised surface water flooding is also identified in sections of the local highway network adjacent to and bisecting the allocation. This generally tends to be contained within the highway boundaries.
- 9.5 There have been historical instances of sewer flooding north of Scobell Street. United Utilities have advised that this is due to a number of factors including blockages in the existing culverts to the brook running alongside Scobell Street and drainage connections from developments north of Scobell Street.
- 9.6 Given the topography of the allocation and the surrounding area, it is possible that flooding from surcharged sewers could impact on the allocation as any excess flow would follow the existing allocation topography.
- 9.7 Regular maintenance including gully cleaning is carried out and Untied Utilities are currently undertaking works to remove highway drainage from the combined sewers to increase the capacity within the sewer.

GMSF Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

- 9.8 The Greater Manchester Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (GM Level 1 SFRA) (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>): was completed in March 2019 as part of the evidence base to inform the preparation of the GMSF. This SFRA initiated the sequential risk-based approach to the allocation of land for development and identified whether application of the Exception Test was likely to be necessary using the most up-to-date information and guidance.
- 9.9 The Walshaw allocation is located within flood zone 1. Therefore the Level 1 SFRA recommended that the GM9 Walshaw allocation could be allocated subject to a site specific flood risk assessment which would ensure that any potential surface water flood risk could be mitigated on site through site design and layout.

- 9.10 The site promoters for GM9 Walshaw have prepared Flood Risk Assessments, to assess the risk of flooding in more detail and developed a Masterplan Drainage Strategy for the allocation.
- 9.11 A separate surface water drainage network is proposed within the allocation. This will ensure that surface water run-off from the allocation would not exceed the existing greenfield scenario and a betterment would be provided for longer return periods.
- 9.12 The new drainage system will be designed in accordance with drainage hierarchy and national sustainable urban drainage system (SuDS) standards. The use of green suds including detention basis, rain gardens, swales and the proposed controlled release of surface water to Walshaw Brook and Elton Brook will help to minimize the flood risk impact on the downstream watercourse network. It is expected that no surface water will be discharged to the combined public sewer.
- 9.13 Finished site levels will be engineered to provide positive drainage where required and prevent ponding and this should ensure that there will not be an accumulation of standing water.
- 9.14 Gradients of hard standing areas, where possible, will be designed to fall away from buildings such that any overland flow resulting from extreme events would be channeled away from entrances.
- 9.15 To ensure that the proposed development will not increase flood risk elsewhere, surface water drainage discharge rates will be restricted. This restricted discharge in conjunction with surface water attenuation on site will mitigate against flood risk to other land. By reducing the post development peak run-off to greenfield rates prior to its discharge into Walshaw Brook and Elton Brook, this will reduce the potential for surface water flooding on the downstream network. Suitable pollution control measures will be required to safeguard the local environment.
- 9.16 The development and drainage system will be designed to cope with intense storm events (with an allowance for climate change). If an extreme rainfall event exceeds the design criteria for the drainage network, it is likely that there will be some overland flows which are unable to enter the system and existing known overland flows.
- 9.17 Any overland flows generated by the proposed development would be directed away from the existing properties surrounding the allocation and towards the highway network where it can follow natural flow paths.
- 9.18 The proposed policy wording for the GM9 seeks to ensure that any development within the allocation is safe from and mitigates for potential flood risk from all sources. Policy GM9 requires development to incorporate sustainable drainage systems to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Proposals to discharge to public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should communicate with the public sewer.
- 9.19 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

10 Ground Conditions

- 10.1 The land within the Walshaw allocation has been used for a number of previous uses including agricultural fields, farmland, sewage works, bleach and print works, outbuildings and reservoirs.
- 10.2 Geological mapping indicates that the allocation is underlain by Cannel Rock Sandstone, Old Lawrence Rock Sandstone, Sandstone, Pennine Lower Coal Measures and Trencherbone Rock Secondary A Aquifers which are overlain by Till, Glaciofluvial Deposits of Sand and Gravel and Alluvial Clay, Silt and Gravel.
- 10.3 The allocation is located in an area of historic quarrying/mining activity and is also within an identified coal mining area. A Coal Authority reports shows that within the majority of the allocation no recorded opencast mining has historically occurred. The report states that part of the allocation could be affected by past underground mining of 2 no. seams of coal from an unnamed colliery at 42m and 56m depth, last worked between 1876 and 1878. It is likely that there are other unrecorded shallow (<30m) workings in this area. Two coal shafts have been identified within the allocation boundary. No mine gas emissions or emergency surface hazard call out procedures are recorded in the allocation.
- 10.4 Phase 1 Preliminary Assessments – available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents> - have been produced in support of the allocation and have been reviewed by Bury Council's Environmental Health department who have accepted the findings and confirmed that the level of work is sufficient to take forward the site allocation to the next stage of the GMSF.
- 10.5 A geotechnical and geo-environmental ground investigation will be required to be submitted with any planning application/s. This should include potential for ground gas and groundwater monitoring, and a watching brief to be carried out and further investigation of identified potentially contaminated areas to be carried out. Due to the presence of coal seams and 2 historical mine shafts on parts of the allocation it would be appropriate to identify the depth and extent of coal within the underlying strata, and if appropriate to install combined ground gas and ground water monitoring pipes to evaluate any requirements for gas remediation measures.
- 10.6 Furthermore, Environmental Health have requested analytical testing of all materials to be used in gardens and soft landscaped areas to ensure they are suitable for use. A site investigation proposal will be required for submission and approval by Environmental Health.
- 10.7 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

11 Utilities

United Utilities

- 11.1 Three Utilities Assessments have been carried out within the site allocation (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>). They confirm that there are no major diversions and there are points of connection for all utilities in close proximity to the allocation. However, there is a requirement for a water main easement and this has been incorporated into the Masterplan
- 11.2 United Utilities have reviewed the assessments and highlighted that new development should be focused in sustainable locations which are accessible to local services and infrastructure. Consideration must also be given to disposal of surface water in the most

sustainable way. United Utilities will continue to work to identify any infrastructure issues and appropriate resolutions throughout the development of the GMSF.

Electricity

Electricity North West

- 11.3 Electricity North West in their response to the latest GMSF consultation advised that they were confident in being able to meet the network capacity requirements for the investment and growth in proposed in Greater Manchester. Where necessary they have secured the appropriate regulatory allowances within their 'Well Justified Business Plan.'
- 11.4 Electricity North West have carried out assessments on the proposed areas, which fed into the 'Spatial Energy Plan' document. This is a high level assessment of the expected impact of the proposed developments on the electricity network, the information was presented as a Red/Amber /Green (RAG) indicator. In relation to Walshaw, this allocation presented as Green, which indicates that there are no primary substation capacity issues envisaged due to forecast additional load resulting from proposed developments.

Gas

National Grid Infrastructure

- 11.5 Cadent have confirmed that there is a low pressure network connection on Scobell Street, 2 meters from the allocation entrance. However, this point of connection will require reinforcement. Following further consultation and assessment it is expected that the most appropriate point of connection for the allocation will be the Medium Pressure Main in the carriageway of Scobell Street opposite the allocation entrance. As a result, a gas governor will be required within the allocation.

12 Telecommunications

Existing BT Infrastructure

- 12.1 Infrastructure records show that existing BT Openreach infrastructure is limited to existing highway surrounding the proposed allocation. As a result, no significant diversions will be required other than those required to facilitate access to the development. Connection points will be determined by BT Openreach upon submission of a detailed application following more detailed design.

Existing Virgin Media Infrastructure

- 12.2 Further detailed discussions will need to take place with Virgin Media as the allocation moves through the planning process to establish whether or not any existing infrastructure needs to be diverted as a result of the proposals. Discussions will also need to take place to establish if there is sufficient capacity within the network to support the proposals or if any upgrades to the existing infrastructure are required.

Section C – Environmental

13 Green Belt Assessment

- 13.1 The proposed removal of the Walshaw allocation has been informed by several studies undertaken by LUC (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>):
- The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016;
 - Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020;
 - Greater Manchester Green Belt Study – Identification of Opportunities, 2020
- 13.2 The proposed allocation would involve the release of 61 hectares of land from the Green Belt.
- 13.3 In 2016 GMCA commissioned LUC to undertake an assessment of the Green Belt within GM. The Study assessed the extent to which the land within the GM Green Belt performs against the purposes of Green Belts, as set out in paragraph 80 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The aim of this Green Belt Assessment is to provide the GM Authorities with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of how GM's Green Belt contributes to the five purposes of Green Belt, as set out in national policy. It also examines the case for including within the Green Belt potential additional areas of land that currently lie outside it.
- 13.4 In The Greater Manchester Green Belt Assessment 2016, GM9 Walshaw was included within Strategic Green Belt Area 10. There were 4 different purposes of Green Belt that each Area was assessed against and the Area performs as follows:
- Purpose 1: To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas: **Moderate-Strong**
 - Purpose 2: To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another: **Strong**
 - Purpose 3: To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: **Moderate-Strong**
 - Purpose 4: Preserving the setting and special character of historic towns: **Moderate-Strong**
- 13.5 In 2019 LUC carried out an assessment identifying the potential opportunities to enhance the beneficial use of remaining Green Belt within 2 km of the allocation site. The study considered the opportunities to offset the loss of Green Belt through compensatory improvements to the environmental quality and accessibility of the remaining Green Belt land.
- 13.6 Land lying within 2 km of GM 9 Walshaw will form the focus of GI recommendations / mitigation to enhance the 'beneficial use' of the Green Belt. There are two proposed additions to the Green Belt within 2 km of the allocation site at Woolfold to the east and Lower Hinds to the south east.
- 13.7 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt relevant to the Walshaw allocation identified in the assessment include:
- Upgrade and enhance (resurfacing, new access points) the existing footpath network to provide local level recreational facilities;
 - Create a more attractive gateway access point at Woolfold through resurfacing, interpretation, signage and new planting;

- Introduce surfacing improvements and an off road multi user route along Elton Brook;
 - Creation of community recreation space at former Cyrus Ainsworth Nurseries;
 - Undertaken enhancements to Elton Vale Sports Club and Dow Lane Play Area;
 - Enhance allotment provision;
 - Enhance existing habitat mosaics and introduce green infrastructure enhancements at Woolfold and Lower Hinds;
 - Improve vegetation management and reinstate species rich hedgerows parallel adjacent footpaths, multi-user routeway improvements or at strategic access points such as Leigh Lane;
 - Improve the health of still water bodies through the planting of appropriate aquatic and semi-marginal species to increase biodiversity and encourage native species succession and enhance the Cyrus Ainsworth Nurseries and Parkers Lodges SBI;
 - Retention and enhancement of existing hedgerow boundaries within GM9 where possible;
 - Enhance and restore the field boundaries in the area around Lowercroft Reservoirs and in the landscape north of Bentley Hall Road, replacing post and wire fences with species rich hedgerows and stone walls;
 - Vegetation management in adjacent natural and semi-natural open space at Woolfold and Lower Hinds, including tree works, replanting invasive species management;
 - Enhance the existing semi-natural greenspace north of Elton Brook in Green Belt to the east of GM9.
- 13.8 Some of these opportunities have been included within the policy requirements for the allocation, for others it is more appropriate for them to form part of the overall masterplan or subsequent planning applications.
- 13.9 In conjunction with the assessment of GI opportunities within the Green Belt, LUC carried out an assessment to identify potential harm to the Green Belt through The Green Belt Harm Assessment, 2020. The report concluded that the allocation makes a moderate contribution to checking the sprawl of Greater Manchester and safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. The allocation also makes a relatively limited contribution to maintaining the separation of Bury and Tottington which are already merged to a significant degree.
- 13.10 Releasing the allocation would increase the containment of retained Green Belt land to the southeast, but this plays a similar role in relation to Green Belt purposes and as such this does not increase the harm of release. Release of the allocation would therefore cause moderate harm to Green Belt purposes.
- 13.11 Evidence on Green Belt is only one part of the evidence base that influence any decision on green belt release. Consequently where studies have found that harm is to be caused by release of the Green Belt, this finding should be balanced against other important factors that could make up exceptional circumstances such as sustainability, viability and deliverability.
- 13.12 The Walshaw allocation is deemed necessary to deliver a key strategic housing opportunity with supporting transport infrastructure. The allocation is critical in responding to the spatial strategy in the GMSF and its key themes of 'Inclusive Growth' and 'Addressing Disparities' It also directly addresses the aspirations set by Policy GM Strat-6 Northern Areas which seeks to boost economic opportunities and diversify housing provision in the north of conurbation by the selective release of Green Belt.

- 13.13 The potential GI opportunities in the Green Belt study discussed earlier are not exhaustive and will require consultation with key stakeholders and may require further surveys and viability testing to establish costings. However the enhancement opportunities nonetheless demonstrate that opportunities exist to help offset the loss of Green Belt which will have a potential positive effect on the beneficial use of the Greater Manchester Green Belt moving forward.
- 13.14 The final masterplan for the allocation will be required to use the findings from all the assessments on Green Belt in the area to inform the layout and form development across the allocation.

14 Green Infrastructure

- 14.1 The emerging masterplan for the Walshaw allocation includes a multi-functional green infrastructure network which will provide an attractive setting within the allocation as well as extending the existing surrounding landscape into and through the new community. The objective is to provide accessible open space within walking distance of every home. The green and blue infrastructure network will incorporate:
- The retention and incorporation of existing trees, hedgerows and woodland;
 - The creation of green wedges and corridors that connect the development with existing neighbourhoods and Walshaw village;
 - Provision of strategic cycle and walking connections along the green routes, including the retention and incorporation of existing Public Rights of Way;
 - The creation of new biodiversity habitats;
 - The provision of a tree lined link road;
 - The provision of a network of connected green space and public open space;
 - The enhancement of key views;
 - Provision of a sustainable drainage strategy, designed to address surface water run off across the allocation.

15 Recreation

- 15.1 New play areas and sports facilities will be required to support the delivery of housing at Walshaw in line with Bury's Local Plan requirements.
- 15.2 Good cycling/walking links will integrate GM9 with surrounding communities allowing access to existing nearby sports and recreation facilities.

16 Landscape

- 16.1 The Walshaw allocation lies within the 'Manchester Pennine Fringe' Character Area (National Character Area 54). The Bury Landscape Character Assessment considers the allocation to be located within 'Fringe Industrial Brooks'. The allocation is also located within a Special Landscape Area which encompasses the standing water and woodland habitats in the southern part of the allocation.
- 16.2 There are no Conservation Areas within the allocation or within visual range of the allocation. The closest Conservation Area is Bury Town Centre, located 1.75km south east of the allocation.

- 16.3 Of the 'Guiding Principles' noted within the Bury Landscape Character Assessment for the Fringe Industrial Brooks, the following are of relevance with regards to the allocation and the future development of it in order to preserve and enhance the character and should be incorporated where possible:
- Consolidate and strengthen wildlife links and corridors in all fringe industrial brook areas;
 - Promote the introduction of broadleaved woodland and plantation woodland along Walshaw Brook;
 - Promote recreation links between brook area and surrounding residential areas;
 - Prevent boundary loss and fragmentation around urban fringes;
 - Repair and maintain network of hedgerows at Walshaw Brook
 - Preserve buildings and other industrial heritage; and
 - Retain industrial heritage features relating to the bleach work buildings at Elton and Walshaw Brook where possible.
- 16.4 Visibility of the allocation appears to predominately relate to the adjacent built settlement edge albeit there are localised opportunities for long distance views extending beyond the allocation. These long distance views extend to the north and provide sight lines of Peel Monument located 4.25km from sections of the public right of way network within and adjacent to the allocation. In addition long distance views can be achieved to general south west of Christ Church. By contrast, the rolling topography of the allocation, together with the presence of woodland and hedgerow vegetation results in pockets that are well contained visually which gives it a more intimate character with views contained to the allocation and adjacent land. The allocation has a settlement edge setting with built form often visible in the periphery of views across the allocation.
- 16.5 Given the screening benefit and character contributions made by the woodland and standing water habitats within the Special Landscape Area, these habitats should be retained and enhanced as part of the GI Strategy for the allocation.
- 16.6 Opportunities exist to maintain and improve public access across the landscape on allocation, to link up existing public rights of way network within the wider area, to introduce planting that would strengthen and enhance the existing landscape features and reflect the characteristics of the local landscape and to enable the connectivity of existing woodland habitats.

17 Ecological/Biodiversity Assessment

- 17.1 Ecology reports have been produced by the site promoters covering the allocation as a whole and as separate sites north and south of Walshaw Road (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>). The reports identify the following habitat types:
- Semi-natural broadleaved woodland;
 - Mill ponds
 - Permanent and ephemeral ponds,
 - Walshaw and Elton Brook
 - Network of hedgerows

- 17.2 Adjacent to the south-eastern boundary is the Cyrus Ainsworth's nurseries and Parker Lodges Site of Biological Importance (SBI). This SBI includes two water bodies, deciduous woodland, grassland and a brook. A minimum offset of 15m is suggested by the site promoters between the SBI boundary and the proposed development.
- 17.3 To the south of the SBI is Dow Lane informal recreation area and Elton Vale Sports Club, which comprises a cricket club, football pitch and tennis courts.
- 17.4 The SBI, Recreation Ground and land within the southernmost section of the allocation are located with a Wildlife Links and Corridors Unitary Development Plan (UDP) designation.
- 17.5 The Bury UDP policy for wildlife corridors requires that new development within or adjacent to identified Wildlife Links and Corridors should contribute to their effectiveness through the design, landscaping and siting of development proposals.
- 17.6 NPPF (para 174) requires LPAs 'to pursue opportunities for achieving measurable biodiversity net gain (BNG)'. The Environment Act currently passing through parliament will make this a statutory requirement. This requirement will be applied to all new development seeking planning permission, which to be granted consent will have to demonstrate that it will deliver a net gain for biodiversity. The metric to be used to assess biodiversity gain uses habitat quantity and quality as a proxy for biodiversity value. It is worth noting that habitat can also be used to a degree as a proxy for green infrastructure value so the calculation can also be used to demonstrate wider benefits.
- 17.7 Currently BNG is considered as an opportunity within this allocation and the policy requires the allocation to minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation. It is expected that the biodiversity gain provision will be focused on the Walshaw and Elton Brook corridors, Dow Lane and Cyrus Ainsworth and integrated with other green infrastructure functions such as recreation and surface water management.

Habitat Regulation Assessment

- 17.8 A Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required for the GMSF because it is considered to have the potential to cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European Protected Sites. The HRA made an appropriate assessment of the implications of the GMSF in view of conservation objectives (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>).
- 17.9 The Habitats Regulation Assessment (December 2018) concluded that the allocation is too distant and too separated from any European protected sites for there to be significant impacts on them. However, development at Walshaw could contribute a very small cumulative impact alongside other GMSF developments, via traffic pollution on the Manchester Mosses SAC, via water pollution on the Mersey Estuary SPA and via recreational disturbance on the Peak District SAC and SPA.
- 17.10 Further assessment will be required as the allocation moves through the planning process.

18 Heritage Impact Assessment

- 18.1 There are no designated heritage assets within the allocation, however one has been identified close to the allocation boundary (Christ Church, Walshaw). Due to the importance of the interrelationship within the surrounding environment, any proposed development within the allocation could impact on the setting of Christ Church.

- 18.2 There is potential for Pre-historic remains, however, Roman remains are unlikely due to the presence of the Roman road some distance away (approx. 1km to the west of the site allocation).
- 18.3 The GMSF Historic Environment Assessment Screening Exercise, June 2019 (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) concluded that further work is required to investigate the heritage potential of the allocation and this should include:
- Further assessment of the designated asset identified outside the land allocation;
 - Non-intrusive work including walkover and geophysical survey to identify any areas of prehistoric potential;
 - Historic building assessments of the farmsteads, hotel and print work remains; and
 - Targeted intrusive work, depending on the results of the non-intrusive works and also on the site of the former Bolholt print works.
- 18.4 In response, the Promoters for the allocation have engaged closely with Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service (GMAAS) regarding the proposed development within the allocation. A Walshaw Historic Environment Assessment, June 2020 (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) has been prepared and draws together the available archaeological, historical, topographic, geological and land-use information in order to provide a detailed assessment of the archaeological potential of the allocation, examine any heritage issues and identify potential mitigation measures.
- 18.5 In summary the Walshaw Historic Environment Assessment:
- Provides a detailed assessment of Christ Church and confirms its high heritage significance, with its setting within the graveyard and landmark position overlooking the landscape to the south and east contributing to its significance. In response, the emerging masterplan seeks to protect the Church with a surrounding green buffer in order to maintain its prominence in the area's character. Views towards the church are proposed to be maintained and framed for new development. An area of landscaping along the east perimeter of the graveyard is proposed along with tree planting to the south.
 - Recommends that the design of the final layout of the proposed development needs to consider maintaining the intervisibility of the church within its surroundings to the north east, east, south-east and south. In addition, any development will need to avoid narrowing the views of the church to those along the network of proposed roads as it was intended that Church was seen within the wider landscape.
 - Recommends further consideration of the effects of the proposed development on the setting of the designated heritage asset of Christ Church will be needed as part of the design process.
 - Requires a programme of non-intrusive and intrusive investigation and recording works to investigate any surviving archaeological remains primarily from the prehistoric period. This work will focus on those areas that have the most potential to contain evidence relating to prehistoric activities or settlement, i.e. well-drained sands and gravels, localised higher topography overlooking watercourses. By targeting these areas it is intended that features such as hearths, which are also indicators of prehistoric activity, may be revealed.
 - Identified historic landscape features which are of local historical interest. These represent historic footpaths or routeways, administrative boundaries or field systems. The Assessment recommended that these heritage assets are retained within the Allocation

and where feasible should be enhanced in order to maintain and preserve the links with the elements that shaped the existing landscape around Walshaw.

- Concludes that there is no evidence to suggest that the allocation contains, or have the potential to contain, any archaeological remains of sufficient importance to preclude or constrain development.

- 18.6 Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) have accepted the findings of the assessment and confirmed that the level of work undertaken to date is sufficient to take forward the site allocation to the next stage of the GMSF.
- 18.7 Policy GM 9 requires the allocation to protect and enhance the heritage and archaeological assets and their setting within the allocation and the wider historic character of the surrounding area including the Grade II* Listed building, Christ Church in accordance with the findings and recommendations of a Heritage Impact Assessment.
- 18.8 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

19 Air Quality

- 19.1 An Air Quality Assessment of GM9 has been produced. (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) The allocation is not situated within Bury's allocated Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), although it is in close proximity to main roads situated within the AQMA.
- 19.2 The development of land for residential use has the potential to cause air quality impacts during construction and operation, as well as expose future occupants to any existing air quality issues. However, the Assessment concludes that, whilst further detailed assessment will be required as the proposals develop, suitable mitigation measures will ensure that air quality levels are kept to acceptable levels. Mitigation measures could include:
- Production of a Travel Plan;
 - Sensitive Layout Design
 - Provision of electric vehicle charging points within the development; and
 - Financial off-setting of emissions.
- 19.3 The assessment has recommended that a Detailed Air Quality Assessment (DAQA) will be required in support of any future planning application/s for the development.
- 19.4 Bury Council's internal Environmental Health Team have reviewed the Air Quality Assessment. They have accepted the findings and confirmed that the level of work is sufficient to take forward the site allocation to the next stage of the GMSF. Further air quality assessments will be required prior to any planning applications being submitted within the allocation.
- 19.5 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

20 Noise

- 20.1 A Noise Screening Assessment, April 2020 (available at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/supporting-documents/>) has been undertaken to identify potential noise sources which are likely to impact on the allocation.

- 20.2 The Assessment states that the existing source of noise affecting the proposed allocation will be road traffic noise on the surrounding road network. Given the roads primarily serve the residents of Walshaw and the surrounding area, it is unlikely noise from the local road network will represent an insurmountable constraint to development.
- 20.3 The allocation will produce additional traffic on the local road network and may cause an increase in noise at existing residential properties. However, there are several routes from which traffic will disperse from the proposed allocation. Therefore, the development is not likely to cause a significant potential change in noise levels at these receptors.
- 20.4 Any proposed noise mitigation measures will be agreed with Bury Council prior to commencement of any development.

Section D – Social

21 Education

- 21.1 Bury Council's Department for Children and Young People has identified that a proposed residential development sitting on the edge of Bury West providing 1,250 new homes would yield 263 primary age pupils and 175 secondary age pupils. Current forecasts show both primary and secondary schools in the area full to capacity, therefore all additional demand created would require additional school places.
- 21.2 It is proposed that the demand for primary places be met through the establishment of a new 1fe primary school located within the allocation providing 210 places, with the balance of the demand being met through an increase in capacity at an existing primary school. Cumulative secondary age demand pressures will need to be considered more strategically, potentially linked to other proposed developments across North Bury.
- 21.3 An area (c.2.5 Ha) of the allocation has been reserved for the provision of a new Primary School, as shown within the Masterplan. However, the most recent view on a potential location for a new secondary school suggests the Council owned former 'Coney Green' school site off Spring Lane would be most suitable. The site currently houses Radcliffe Leisure Centre and Pupil Referral Unit. The new school would be accommodated in a new building.
- 21.4 Initially, to meet current demand the building will comprise a provision of a 4fe (600 place) secondary school, with potential for this to increase to 7fe (1,050) in the longer term linked to the development of allocations contained within the GMSF

22 Health Impact Assessment

- 22.1 Further work will be required to determine whether there is additional capacity within any local healthcare facilities to meet the increased demands arising from the prospective occupants of the new development. If additional provision is necessary, the most appropriate means and location for such provision can be identified through future iterations of the masterplan. Alternatively, there may be a requirement to make a financial contribution toward off site health provision through a planning obligation or condition at the planning application stage.
- 22.2 The allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable although further work will be needed as the allocation moves through the planning process.

Section E – Deliverability

23 Viability

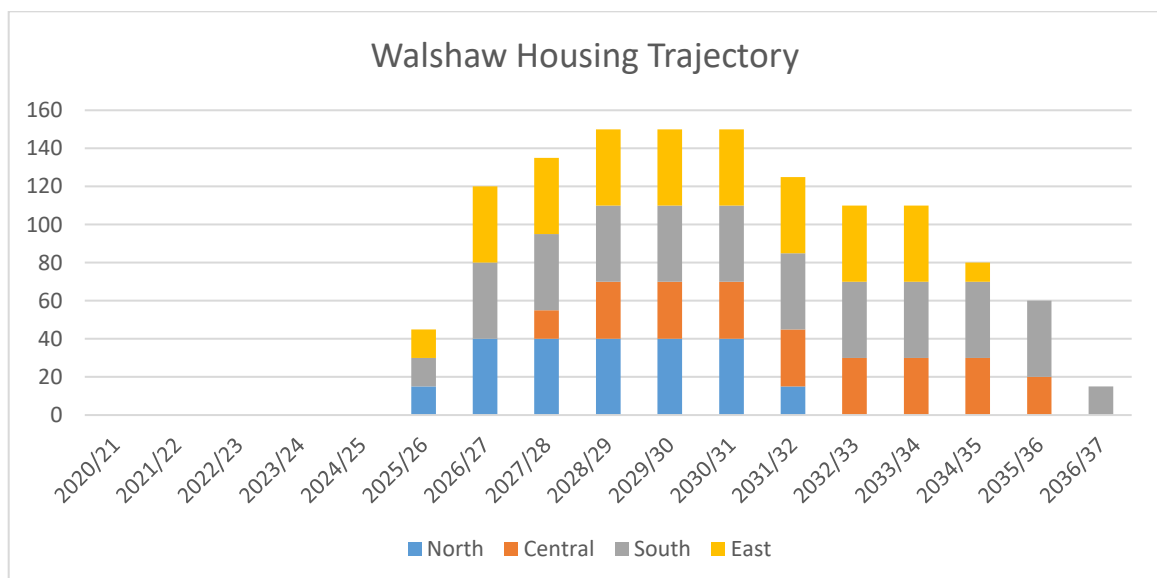
- 23.1 The Three Dragons Viability Appraisal of the allocation has been run using the base model, which showed the allocation would likely require public support to proceed. However, a sensitivity test has also been carried out for the allocation, showing that a small increase in values of 5% would improve the status of the allocation and return a positive value. The results are set out in the table below:

Test Type	Total BMLV, SDLT & Land acq fees	Scheme RV (incl BLV & return)	Viability measure as a % of BLV	Headroom (blended return)	Test result category
Whether the test is the 'Base' test or a sensitivity test	The total figure used in the testing for land value, includes tax and fees. BLV = benchmark land value SDLT = Stamp duty land tax	Scheme value (could also be described as headroom) once all costs have been accounted for including land and developer return RV = Residual value BLV = benchmark land value	Description of whether the scheme provides sufficient residual value in terms of how it compares with the benchmark land value i.e. if it is 10% or more above the benchmark land value it is shown as green, if it is within 10% of the benchmark land value it is shown as amber and where it is less than 90% of the benchmark land value it is shown as red.	The headroom expressed as blended rate of return. The percentages shown are the headroom available after all costs, except developer return divided by the total gross development value for the scheme. If schemes were to go ahead as described, then this is the total return available to the developer.	Category 1 - The residual value is positive and the residual value is 10% or more above the benchmark land value. Schemes in this group are viable and should be able to proceed. Category 4 - These schemes are generally not viable with the measures used in this study and will likely require public sector support to be developed. However, for a number of these residential schemes, despite not meeting the described viability measures, a developer return of 15% and above (still consistent with the range in the PPG) is shown as being achieved, this would suggest a viable scheme, if a developer/land owners found that acceptable.
Base model	£17,050,000	£4,260,000	Less than 90% BLV	14%	Cat 4
Sensitivity test – increase values by 5%	£17,050,000	£7,700,000	More than 10% BLV	18%	Cat 1

- 23.2 The Three Dragons report shows that without a contribution to strategic transport costs, the scheme produces a positive residual value both for the main and the sensitivity test. However, a small increase in house prices of less than 5% would be required to accommodate the full strategic transport costs identified.
- 23.3 With a small increase in values compared to the base model, the sensitivity test demonstrates that the allocation would be able to support all policy costs including 25% affordable housing and the infrastructure required to support the development, including the strategic transport costs. A 5% increase is considered appropriate for this location as it is in a popular residential area and is closely linked with Walshaw and the areas to the west of Bury where house prices are typically higher than other parts of the town.

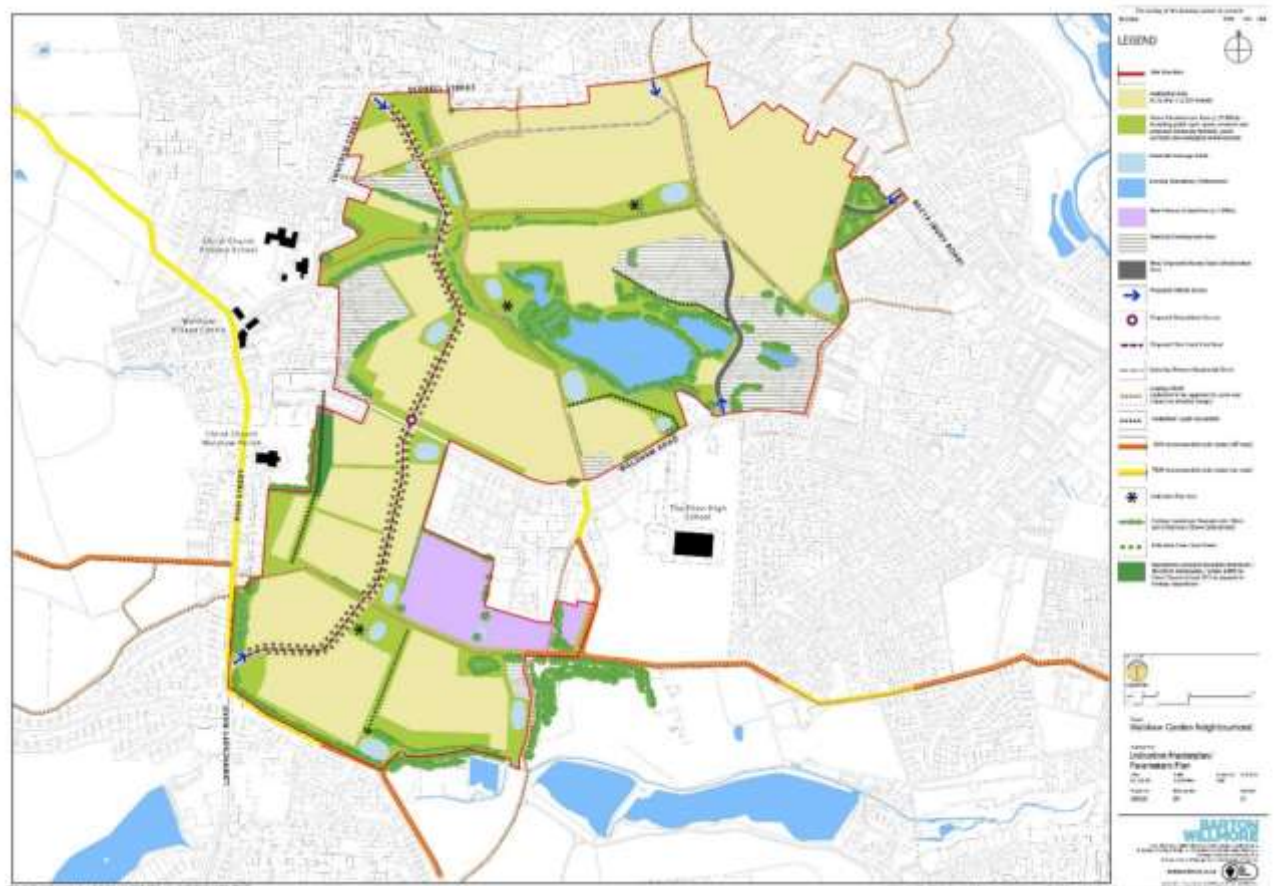
24 Phasing

- 24.1 The policy wording for GM9 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be approved by the LPA for the allocation, which any proposals must then be in accordance with. The policy states that this shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development. This should include the delivery of highways, infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.
- 24.2 The phasing strategy will be developed through on-going discussions with key stakeholders in relation to infrastructure delivery. The estimated phasing and delivery trajectory will evolve as the plans for the allocation are developed further.
- 24.3 The allocation is in an established market area and will deliver a range of dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing and provision for older people. The allocation is split into four separate outlets under the control of Himor (2 outlets), Redrow and Vernon and Co. Developments. Each parcel can be served by a separate access and can therefore be delivered simultaneously.
- 24.4 First completions are anticipated to take place in 2025/26, with a delivery rate of up to 40 dwellings per outlet per year, with all 1,250 dwellings expected to be delivered within the plan period. Although a significant amount of preparatory work has already been undertaken as part of the GMSF process, a lead-in time of five years from the start of the plan period has been allowed before the first completions to allow sufficient time from adoption of the plan for masterplanning to be completed, planning permission to be secured and enabling works to take place before the first units are delivered.



26 Indicative Masterplanning

- 25.1 The Site Promoters for the Walshaw Allocation have produced an Illustrative Development Framework Plan (see following plan) to show how proposed development could come forward within the allocation. This provides an indicative layout of the development, including the location of the residential parcels, green and blue infrastructure, schools, local centre, and key pedestrian and vehicular access.
- 25.2 Policy GM 9 requires a comprehensive masterplan to be submitted prior to any planning applications within the allocation. The masterplan must include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Delivery. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband and electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.



Section F – Conclusion

27 GMSF 2020 Integrated Appraisal

- 26.1 An Integrated Appraisal (IA) was undertaken on the 2020 draft GMSF in order to understand how the policy had changed since the 2019 IA and to identify if any further enhancement/mitigation was required.
- 26.2 The majority of the 2019 recommendations for the GM9 Walshaw were positively addressed by the draft 2020 policy itself or another thematic policy. A small number of residual recommendations remained from the 2020 IA, in order to further strengthen the policies.
- 26.3 In particular this included:
- Climate Change – since the 2019 IA was undertaken there has been greater emphasis on the climate change agenda and this is reflective of the declaration of a climate emergency by the ten GM authorities;
 - Accessible design standards – whilst this is broadly covered in Policy GM-E1 and within GM-H3 relating to housing, it was suggested that policies are strengthened with more specific reference to accessible design of buildings and spaces to meet the needs of users.
 - Deprivation – whilst this is also broadly covered within the supporting text and broadly within Policy GM-E1, particularly referencing social inclusivity, it is considered that the policy could be more explicitly in terms of inclusive growth and making jobs available to existing local communities or to those suffering deprivation.
- 26.4 The residual IA recommendations for GM9 could therefore be met through the strengthening of thematic Policy GM-E1, rather than any specific amendments to Policy GM9. This demonstrates the overall improvement of the 2020 draft GMSF in relation to the IA Framework.

28 The main changes to the Proposed Allocation

- 27.1 The boundary and level of development proposed within GM9 Walshaw has not changed since the 2019 GMSF.
- 27.2 The 2020 GMSF has additional criteria within the policy requiring:
- The provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
 - Financial contribution towards off-site secondary school provision to meet the needs generated by the development; and
 - The provision for the long-term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features;
- 27.3 A significant amount of evidence base work has been produced to support the allocation since 2019 and this has allowed the criteria within the policy to be expanded upon and be more specific to the allocation.

29 Conclusion

- 28.1 GM9 Walshaw is considered to meet the site selection criteria and make a positive contribution towards the overall vision, objectives and strategy of the GMSF. The allocation is considered to be deliverable and available for development. Further work has been identified to take forward the allocation through the planning process.
- 28.2 The allocation at provides the opportunity to deliver a high quality residential development in a sustainable location. Community facilities, including a new primary school and Walshaw Village, will be located within an easy and attractive walk of residents. A tree-lined link road will be provided centrally through the allocation while strategic green wedges with new pedestrian and cycle routes, will connect the allocation with the wider countryside and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – GM9 Walshaw

Any proposals for this allocation must be in accordance with a comprehensive masterplan that has been previously approved by the LPA. It shall include a clear phasing strategy as part of an integrated approach to the delivery of infrastructure to support the scale of the whole development in line with Policy GM-D1 Infrastructure Implementation. This should include the delivery of highways infrastructure, surface water drainage, grey infrastructure including utilities provision, green and blue infrastructure, broadband, electric vehicle charging points, recreation provision and social infrastructure and ensure coordination between phases of development.

Development within this allocation will be required to:

1. Deliver a broad mix of around 1,250 houses to diversify the type of accommodation in the Walshaw area. This includes an appropriate mix of house types and sizes, accommodation for older persons, and provision of plots for custom and self-build housing;
2. Make provision for significant new and improved highways infrastructure to enable the proposed level of development to be accommodated, including:
 - The provision of a new strategic through road to enable an alternative to Church Street, Bank Street and High Street that is designed to be suitable for buses and incorporates active travel and is in line with local design standards;
 - Off-site highway works where these are necessary to ensure acceptable traffic movement from the allocation, including appropriate linkages to the Elton Reservoir Link Road
3. Make provision for major investment in public transport in order to encourage more sustainable transport choices (including potential upgrade of existing bus services or a new bus service linking Tottington – Walshaw – Elton – proposed new Metrolink stop at Warth – Bury/Radcliffe);
4. Deliver a network of safe cycling and walking routes through the allocation linking neighborhoods with key destinations, incorporating Leigh Lane and Dow Lane and in accordance with national and GM standards of design and construction and local planning policy requirements;
5. Make provision for affordable housing in accordance with local planning policy requirements, equivalent to at least 25% of the dwellings proposed on the site and across a range of housing types and sizes (with an affordable housing tenure split of 60% social or affordable rented and 40% affordable home ownership);
6. Make provision for a new one-form entry primary school within the allocation to accommodate additional demand on school places;
7. Make a financial contribution towards off-site secondary school provision to meet the needs generated by the development;
8. Make provision for a new local centre in an accessible location which includes a range of appropriate retail, health and community facilities and ensure that it is integrated with existing communities;
9. Make provision for other necessary infrastructure such as utilities, broadband and electric vehicle charging points in accordance with relevant GMSF or local planning policies;
10. Ensure the design and layout allows for effective integration with surrounding communities, including active travel links and connections to the recreation areas at Dow Lane, Elton Vale, Whitehead Lodges as well as Walshaw Village and Bury Town Centre;

11. Make provision for recreation facilities to meet the needs of the prospective residents in accordance with local planning policy requirements;
12. Make provision for new, high quality, publicly accessible, multifunctional green and blue infrastructure within the allocation to provide health benefits to residents as well as to create a visually attractive environment and provide linkages to the sites wider drainage strategy in accordance with Policy GM-G2 Green Infrastructure Network and Policy GM-G9 Standards to a Greener Greater Manchester. This should include the integration and enhancement of the existing green infrastructure corridors and assets at Walshaw and Elton Brooks.
13. Minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity assets within the allocation in accordance with Policy GM-G10 A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity; It is expected that the biodiversity gain provision will be focused on the Walshaw and Elton Brook corridors and integrated with other green infrastructure functions such as recreation and surface water management;
14. Ensure the allocation is safe from and mitigates for, potential flood risk from all sources including surface water, sewer flooding and groundwater; The delivery of the allocation should be guided by an appropriate flood risk and drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development;
15. Ensure that sustainable drainage systems are fully incorporated into the development to manage surface water and control the rate of surface water run-off, discharging in accordance with the hierarchy of drainage options. Where possible, natural SuDS techniques should be utilised, prioritising the use of ponds, swales and other infrastructure which mimic natural drainage and be designed as multi-functional green infrastructure connecting to the wider green and blue infrastructure network in accordance with Policy GM-S5 - Flood Risk and the Water Environment and nationally recognised SuDS design standards. Proposals to discharge to the public sewer will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why alternative options are not available.
16. Make appropriate provision for the long-term management and maintenance of areas of green infrastructure, biodiversity features, other areas of open space and sustainable drainage features; and
17. Protect and enhance the heritage and archaeological assets and their setting within the allocation and the wider historic character of the surrounding area including the Grade II* Listed building, Christ Church in accordance with the findings and recommendations of a Heritage Impact Assessment.

Justification

This is an extensive area of land occupying a sustainable and well-connected location set entirely within the existing urban area. The land is loosely bounded by the urban areas of Tottington to the north, Woolfold and Elton to the east Lowercroft to the south and Walshaw to the west.

The allocation has the potential to deliver around 1,250 houses, providing a diverse mix of house types and affordable housing provision for the local area.

This number of new homes will require significant improvements to the local highway network to accommodate increased traffic generation. This will require the provision of a new route through the allocation that provides an alternative to the use of the existing highway network through Walshaw and may require a contribution to the proposed strategic route through the Elton Reservoir allocation which will also allow traffic from the Walshaw area to travel south without needing to travel through Bury town centre. The development will need to facilitate improvements to public transport into and around the allocation in order to allow for more sustainable transport choices.

The scale of the development will create additional demands for education and the provision of a new one form entry primary school and contributions to off-site secondary school provision will be required in order to accommodate needs that cannot be met through existing facilities.

The development will generate the need to make provision for a new accessible local centre providing facilities such as shops, health facilities and community facilities.

Existing sport and recreational facilities at Dow Lane and Elton Vale Sports Club are situated to the south of the allocation and the development should incorporate a green corridor to provide access from the allocation to these existing recreational assets.

The development will need to have regard to any existing ecological and wildlife features including Walshaw and Elton Brooks which run through the northern and southern parts of the allocation interest by minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity. The brooks should provide the focal point for the creation of a good quality green infrastructure network providing publicly accessible open spaces and recreational opportunities for residents in the area. Such a network should seek to maximise the value of existing features and areas of nature conservation value and offer opportunities for active travel, particularly between homes, schools, shops, places of work and recreation. Connectivity from west to east is already well established although there is potential for improved pedestrian and cycle routes linking Tottington in the north to Elton and Starling in the south. There are existing reservoirs within the allocation and other opportunities for blue infrastructure may exist to enhance visual amenity, provide sustainable drainage and widen local biodiversity.

To reduce the risk of flooding, the development should minimise the risk associated with inadequate sewer capacity and minimise and control the rate of surface water run-off through an appropriate drainage strategy which ensures co-ordination between phases of development and, where possible, safeguard land within the allocation for flood storage. Measures such as rainwater recycling, green roofs, water butts and permeable driveway surfaces should be considered to mitigate the impact of potential flood risk both within and beyond the site boundaries. As a green and blue infrastructure network will provide more sustainable options discharge surface water, only foul flows should connect with the public sewer.

Christ Church in Walshaw is a Grade II* Listed Building sitting adjacent to the allocation. Any development will, therefore, be required to respect the setting of the church and capitalise on opportunities to draw on the contribution that the church makes to the character of the area. The completion of a Heritage Impact Assessment will be required.

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Appendix 3 – Treatment of existing UDP Policies

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
EC1	EMPLOYMENT LAND PROVISION	GM-P1 (Supporting Long-Term Economic Growth)
	EC1/1 – Land for Business (B1), General Industrial (B2) and Warehousing Uses (B8)	Saved- refers to sites
	EC1/2 – Land Suitable for Business (B1) and Office Use	Saved- refers to sites
	EC1/3 – Land Suitable for Business (B1), Office and Hotel/Conference Facility Uses	Saved- refers to sites
EC2	EXISTING INDUSTRIAL AREAS AND PREMISES	GMP2 (Employment Sites and Premises) and GM-P4 (Industry and Warehouse Development).
	EC2/1 – Employment Generating Areas	Saved- refers to sites
	EC2/2 – Employment Land and Premises Outside the Employment Generating Areas	Saved- refers to sites
EC3	IMPROVEMENT OF OLDER INDUSTRIAL AREAS AND PREMISES	GMP2 (Employment Sites and Premises)
	EC3/1 – Measures to Improve Industrial Areas	GM-P2 (Employment Sites and Premises)
EC4	SMALL AND GROWING BUSINESSES	Saved
	EC4/1 – Small Businesses	Saved
EC5	OFFICES	GM-P3 (Office Development)
	EC5/1 – Office Development in Bury Town Centre	Saved- refers to sites
	EC5/2 – Other Centres and Preferred Office Locations	Saved- refers to sites

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	EC5/3 – Other Office Locations	Saved
EC6	NEW BUSINESS, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT	Saved
	EC6/1 – Assessing New Business, Industrial and Commercial Development	Saved
	EC6/2 – Hazardous Installations	Saved
H1	HOUSING LAND PROVISION	GM- H1 (Scale,Distribution and Phasing of New Housing Development)
	H1/1 – Housing Land Allocations	Saved refers to sites
	H1/2 – Further Housing Development	Saved
	H1/3 – Provision for Gypsies and Travellers	Saved
H2	HOUSING ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN	GM-H3 (Type, Size and Design of New Housing)
	H2/1 – The Form of New Residential Development	Saved
	H2/2 – The Layout of New Residential Development	Saved
	H2/3 – Extensions and Alterations	saved
	H2/4 – Conversions	Saved
	H2/5 – Conversions of Residential Property to Hotels and Guest Houses	Saved
	H2/6 – Garden and Backland Development	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
H3	INCOMPATIBLE USES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS	Saved
	H3/1 – Assessing Non-Conforming Uses	Saved
	H3/2 – Existing Incompatible Uses	Saved
H4	HOUSING NEED	GM-H3 (Type, Size and Design of New Housing)
	H4/1 – Affordable Housing	Saved
	H4/2 – Special Needs Housing	Saved
H5	HOUSING IMPROVEMENT	Saved
EN1	ENVIRONMENT	GM- E1 (Sustainable Places)
	EN1/1 – Visual Amenity	GM- E1 (Sustainable Places Clause 1, 2 and 11)
	EN1/2 – Townscape and Built Design	Saved
	EN1/3 – Landscaping Provision	GM- E1 (Sustainable Places Clause 16)
	EN1/4 – Street Furniture	Saved
	EN1/5 – Crime Prevention	Saved
	EN1/6 – Public Art	Saved
	EN1/7 – Throughroutes and Gateways	Saved
	EN1/8 – Shop Fronts	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	EN1/9 – Advertisements	Saved
	EN1/10 – Telecommunications	Saved
	EN1/11 – Public Utility Infrastructure	GM- E1 (Sustainable Places Clause 9)
EN2	CONSERVATION AND LISTED BUILDINGS	GM - E2 (Heritage)
	EN2/1 – Character of Conservation Areas	Saved
	EN2/2 – Conservation Area Control	Saved
	EN2/3 – Listed Buildings	Saved
	EN2/4 – Historic Parks	Saved
EN3	ARCHAEOLOGY	Saved
	EN3/1 – Impact of Development on Archaeological Sites	Saved
	EN3/2 – Development Affecting Archaeological Sites	Saved
	EN3/3 – Ancient Monuments	Saved refers to sites
EN4	ENERGY CONSERVATION	GM-S2(Carbon and Energy) GM-S3 (Heat and Energy Networks)
	EN4/1 – Renewable Energy	GM-S2(Carbon and Energy) GM-S3 (Heat and Energy Networks)
	EN4/2 – Energy Efficiency	GM-S2(Carbon and Energy) GM-S3 (Heat and Energy Networks)

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
EN5	FLOOD PROTECTION AND DEFENCE	GM-S5 (Flood Risk and the Water Environment)-
	EN5/1 – New Development and Flood Risk	GM-S5 (Flood Risk and the Water Environment)
EN6	CONSERVATION OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	GM - G9 (A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity)
	EN6/1 – Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SSSIs, NNRs and Grade A SBIs)	Saved refers to sites
	EN6/2 – Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (LNRs and Grade B and C SBIs)	Saved refers to sites
	EN6/3 – Features of Ecological Value	Saved
	EN6/4 – Wildlife Links and Corridors	Saved
	EN6/5 – Sites of Geological Interest	GM - G9 (A Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity)
EN7	POLLUTION CONTROL	GM-E1 (Sustainable Places)
	EN7/1 – Atmospheric Pollution	GM-S6 (Clean Air)
	EN7/2 – Noise Pollution	Saved
	EN7/3 – Water Pollution	Saved
	EN7/4 – Groundwater Protection	Saved
	EN7/5 – Waste Water Management	Saved
EN8	WOODLAND AND TREES	GM -G7 (Trees and Woodland)

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	EN8/1 – Tree Preservation Orders	Saved
	EN8/2 – Woodland and Tree Planting	Saved
	EN8/3 – Red Rose Forest	Saved
EN9	LANDSCAPE	GM -G1 (Valuing Important Landscapes)
	EN9/1 – Special Landscape Area	GM -G1 (Valuing Important Landscapes)
EN10	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT	Saved
	EN10/1 – Derelict Land	Saved
	EN10/2 – Riverside and Canalside Improvement in Urban Areas	Saved
OL1	GREEN BELT	GM-G10 (The Greater Manchester Greenbelt)
	OL1/1 – Designation of Green Belt	GM-G10 (The Greater Manchester Greenbelt)
	OL1/2 – New Development in the Green Belt	Saved
	OL1/3 – Infilling in Existing Villages in the Green Belt	Saved
	OL1/4 – Conversion and Re-use of Buildings in the Green Belt	Saved
	OL1/5 – Mineral Extraction and Other Development in the Green Belt	Saved
	OL1/6 – Reuse/Redevelopment of Clifton House, Prestwich	Saved
OL2	OTHER PROTECTED OPEN LAND	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	OL2/1 – Development on Other Protected Open Land	Saved
OL3	URBAN OPEN SPACE	GM -G6 (Urban Green Space)
	OL3/1 – Protection of Urban Open Space	GM -G6 (Urban Green Space)
OL4	AGRICULTURE	Saved
	OL4/1 – Agricultural Land Quality	Saved
	OL4/2 – Protection of Farm Holdings	Saved
	OL4/3 – Development Impact on Farming Areas	Saved
	OL4/4 – Agricultural Diversification	Saved
	OL4/5 – Agricultural Development	Saved
	OL4/6 – Agricultural Dwellings	Saved
	OL4/7 – Development Involving Horses	Saved
OL5	RIVER VALLEYS	GM -G3 (River Valleys and Waterways)
	OL5/1 – Designation of River Valleys	Saved
	OL5/2 – Development in River Valleys	Saved
	OL5/3 – Riverside and Canalside Development in Urban Areas	Saved
OL6	MULTI-FUNCTIONAL COUNTRYSIDE	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	OL6/1 – New Uses and Development of the Countryside	Saved
OL7	SPECIAL OPEN LAND AREAS	Saved
	~~OL7/1 – East Lancashire Paper Mill Water Catchment Area~~	Already deleted
	OL7/2 – West Pennine Moors	Saved
RT1	EXISTING PROVISION FOR RECREATION IN THE URBAN AREA	Saved
	RT1/1 – Protection of Recreation Provision in the Urban Area	Saved
	RT1/2 – Improvement of Recreation Facilities	Saved
RT2	NEW PROVISION FOR RECREATION IN THE URBAN AREA	GM- E7 (Sport and Recreation)
	RT2/1 – Provision of New Recreation Sites	Saved
	RT2/2 – Recreation Provision in New Housing Development	Saved
	RT2/3 – Education Recreation Facilities	GM- E7 (Sport and Recreation Clause 7)
	RT2/4 – Dual-Use of Education Facilities	GM- E7 (Sport and Recreation Clause 7)
RT3	RECREATION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE	GM-G3 (River Valleys and Waterways), GM-G2 (Green Infrastructure Network), GM-G5 (Uplands)
	RT3/1 – Protection of Existing Recreation Provision in the Countryside	Saved
	RT3/2 – Additional Provision for Recreation in the Countryside	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	RT3/3 – Access to the Countryside	Saved
	RT3/4 – Recreation Routes	Saved
	RT3/5 – Noisy Sports	Saved
RT4	TOURISM	Saved
	RT4/1 – Tourism Development	Saved
	RT4/2 – Safeguarding Tourism Assets	Saved
	RT4/3 – Visitor Accommodation	Saved
	RT4/4 – Tourism Support Facilities	Saved
	RT4/5 – Special Tourism and Leisure Provision	Saved
	RT4/6 – East Lancashire Railway	Saved
	RT4/7 – The Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal	Saved
S1	EXISTING SHOPPING CENTRES	Saved
	S1/1 – Shopping in Bury Town Centre	Saved
	S1/2 – Shopping in Other Town Centres	Saved
	S1/3 – Shopping in District Centres	Saved
	S1/4 – Local Shopping Centres	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	S1/5 – Neighbourhood Centres and Local Shops	Saved
	S1/6 – Additions to the Shopping Hierarchy	Saved
S2	CONTROL OF NEW RETAIL AND NON-RETAIL DEVELOPMENT	Saved
	S2/1 – All New Retail Proposals: Assessment Criteria	Saved
	S2/2 – Prime Shopping Areas and Frontages	Saved
	S2/3 – Secondary Shopping Areas and Frontages	Saved
	S2/4 – Control of Non-Retail Uses in All Other Areas	Saved
	S2/5 – New Local Shopping Provision Outside Recognised Shopping Centres	Saved
	S2/6 – Food and Drink	Saved
	S2/7 – Amusement Centres and Arcades	Saved
S3	NEW RETAIL DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS	Saved
	S3/1 – New Retail Development Opportunities Within or Adjoining Town Centres	Saved
	S3/2 – New Retail Development Opportunities Within District Centres	Saved
	S3/3 – Improvement and Enhancement (All Centres)	Saved
	S3/4 – Markets	Saved
S4	NEW RETAIL DEVELOPMENT OUTSIDE TOWN AND DISTRICT CENTRES	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	S4/1 – Retail Development Outside Town and District Centres	Saved
	S4/2 – Assessing Out-of-Centre Retail Development	Saved
	S4/3 – Nurseries, Farm Shops and Garden Centres	Saved
	S4/4 – Car Showrooms, Car Sales Areas and Petrol Filling Stations	Saved
S5	LARGE OUT-OF-TOWN SHOPPING CENTRES	Saved
HT1	A BALANCED TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY	GM- N1 (Our Integrated Network) GM-E1 (Sustainable Places), GM-N4- Streets for All
HT2	HIGHWAY NETWORK	Saved
	HT2/1 – The Strategic Route Network	Saved
	HT2/2 – Improvements to the Strategic Route Network	Saved
	HT2/3 – Improvements to Other Roads	Saved
	HT2/4 – Car Parking and New Development	Saved
	HT2/5 – Public Car Parks	Saved
	HT2/6 – Replacement Car Parking	GM-N7 (Transport requirements of new developments)
	HT2/7 – Lorry Parking	Saved
	HT2/8 – Taxi and Private Hire Business	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	HT2/9 – Highways Agency Road Schemes	Saved
	HT2/10 – Development Affecting Trunk Roads	GM-N7 (Transport requirements of new developments)
HT3	PUBLIC TRANSPORT	GM- N1 (Our Integrated Network) and GM-N3(Our Public Transport)
	HT3/1 – Schemes to Assist Bus Movement	Saved
	HT3/2 – Bus Services	Saved
	HT3/3 – Design of Roads for Bus Routes	Saved
	HT3/4 – Schemes to Assist Metrolink	Saved
HT4	NEW DEVELOPMENT	GM-N7 (Transport requirements of new developments)
HT5	ACCESSIBILITY FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS	Saved
	HT5/1 – Access for Those with Special Needs	Saved
HT6	PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS	GM- N1 (Our Integrated Network), GM-N4 (Streets for All), GM-N5 (Walking and Cycling)
	HT6/1 – Pedestrian and Cyclist Movement	Saved
	HT6/2 – Pedestrian/Vehicular Conflict	GM- N4 (Streets for All), GM-N5 (Walking and Cycling)
	HT6/3 – Cycle Routes	Saved
HT7	FREIGHT	GM-N6 (Freight and Logistics)

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	HT7/1 – Freight Facilities	Saved
CF1	PROPOSALS FOR NEW AND IMPROVED COMMUNITY FACILITIES	GM -E1 (Sustainable Places) GM -E3 (Cultrual Facilities)
	CF1/1 – Location of New Community Facilities	Saved
CF2	EDUCATION LAND AND BUILDINGS	GM- E5 (Education, Skills and Knowledge)
	CF2/1 – Bury College	Saved
CF3	SOCIAL SERVICES	Saved
	CF3/1 – Residential Care Homes and Nursing Facilities	Saved
CF4	HEALTHCARE FACILITIES	GM- E6 (Health)
	CF4/1 – Fairfield General Hospital	Saved
CF5	CHILDCARE FACILITIES	Policy GM- E5 (Education, Skills and Knowledge)
	CF5/1 – Childcare Facilities in New Developments	Saved
MW1	PROTECTION OF MINERAL RESOURCES	GM-S7 (Resource Effeciency)
	MW1/1 – Areas of Search	Saved
	MW1/2 – Mineral Working Within Areas of Search	Saved
	MW1/3 – Sterilisation of Mineral Deposits	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	MW1/4 – The Need for Aggregates	Saved
MW2	ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR MINERAL WORKINGS	GM-S7 (Resource Efficiency)
	MW2/1 – Assessing Mineral Extraction Proposals	Saved
	MW2/2 – Planning Applications for Mineral Workings	Saved
	MW2/3 – Development Control Conditions (Minerals)	Saved
	MW2/4 – Longstanding Planning Permissions	Saved
	MW2/5 – Derelict or Degraded Land (minerals)	Saved
	MW2/6 – Alternatives to Newly Won Minerals	Saved
	MW2/7 – Transport Routes for Minerals and Minerals Waste	Saved
	MW2/8 – Materials for Restoration	Saved
	MW2/9 – Standards of Restoration (Minerals)	Saved
MW3	WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES	GM-S7 (Resource Efficiency)
	MW3/1 – Derelict or Degraded Land (Waste)	GM-S7 (Resource Efficiency)
	MW3/2 – Waste Recycling and Bulk Reduction	GM-S7 (Resource Efficiency)

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
MW4	ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR WASTE DISPOSAL SITES	Saved
	MW4/1 – Assessing Waste Disposal Proposals	Saved
	MW4/2 – Development Control Conditions (Waste)	Saved
	MW4/3 – Household Waste Disposal	Saved
	MW4/4 – Transport Routes for Waste Disposal Sites	Saved
	MW4/5 – Land Contamination	Saved
	MW4/6 – Standards of Restoration (Waste)	Saved
TC1	TOWN CENTRES	Saved
	TC1/1 – Open Space in Town Centres	Saved
	TC1/2 – Pedestrian/Vehicular Conflict in Town Centres	Saved
TC2	TOWN CENTRE ENHANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	Saved
	TC2/1 – Upper Floors	Saved
	TC2/2 – Mixed Use Development	Saved
	TC2/3 – Vacant And Cleared Sites	Saved
TC3	BURY TOWN CENTRE	Saved
	BURY TOWN CENTRE	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	Area BY1 – Tentersfield/Millet Street/Tenterden Street	Saved
	Area BY2 – Bridge Road/Buckley Wells	Saved
	Area BY3 – Bolton Street/Market Street	Saved
	Area BY4 – Manchester Road/Knowsley Street	Saved
	Area BY5 – The Rock/Peel Way	Saved
	Area BY6 – Central Shopping Area	Saved
	Area BY7 – Townside/Market Street	Saved
	Area BY8 – The Rock/Moorgate	Saved
	Area BY9 – George Street	Saved
	Area BY10 – Rochdale Road/Lord Street/York Street	Saved
	Area BY11- Heywood Street/Spring Street	Saved
	RAMSBOTTOM TOWN CENTRE	Saved
	Area RM1 – Market Place/Carr Street/Ramsbottom Lane	Saved
	Area RM2 – St Paul’s/Crow Lane	Saved
	Area RM3 – Bolton Street/Bridge Street	Saved
	Area RM4 – Square Street	Saved

Bury UDP Policy		GMSF Replacement Policy/Policies
	Area RM5 – Railway Street/Bridge Street/Peel Brow	Saved
	RADCLIFFE TOWN CENTRE	Saved
	Area RD1 – Blackburn Street/Dale Street/Church Street West	Saved
	Area RD2 – Green Street/New Church Street	Saved
	Area RD3 – South of Pilkington Way	Saved
	Area RD4 – Stand Lane/Milltown Street	Saved
	Area RD5 – St Thomas's/Bridgefield Street	Saved
	Area RD6 – Spring Lane/Church Street West/Radcliffe Metrolink Station	Saved
	PRESTWICH TOWN CENTRE	Saved
	Area PR1 – The Longfield Centre/Bury New Road	Saved
	Area PR2 – Warwick Street/Derby Street	Saved
	Area PR3 – Rectory Lane	Saved
	Area PR4 – Church Lane/Bury New Road/Clark's Hill	Saved

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Equality Analysis Form

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

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Department	Business Growth and Infrastructure	
Service	Strategic Planning and Economic Development	
Proposed policy	Publication Greater Manchester Spatial Framework	
Date	14 th October 2020	
Officer responsible for the 'policy' and for completing the equality analysis	Name	David Wiggins
	Post Title	Unit Manager: Development Planning
	Contact Number	0161 253 5282
	Signature	<i>D. Wiggins</i>
	Date	29 th September 2020

2. AIMS

What is the purpose of the policy/service and what is it intended to achieve?	The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) is Greater Manchester's Plan for homes, jobs, and the environment. It has been put together by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, which comprises the Mayor of Greater Manchester and the leaders of Greater Manchester's ten local councils. It's a plan setting out where we will build the new homes we need, where our businesses will locate to sustain and create jobs for our people, what infrastructure is needed to support the development and to protect and enhance our towns, cities and landscapes. It covers a timeframe up to 2037. Whilst one of the key purposes of the GMSF is to make provision for the homes and jobs needed across Greater Manchester in a co-ordinated and managed way, it is also about establishing a framework for reducing inequalities, improving the lives of our residents and transforming Greater Manchester into the world-leading city-region we know it can be.
Who are the main stakeholders?	The main stakeholders which are involved in the GMSF are local residents, developers, land owners, businesses, planning and development consultants, statutory consultees, infrastructure providers, interest groups and representative bodies.

3. ESTABLISHING RELEVANCE TO EQUALITY

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

Protected equality characteristic	Positive effect (Yes/No)	Negative effect (Yes/No)	Explanation
Race	No	No	The Publication GMSF has been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including race.
Disability	Yes	No	The Publication GMSF includes policies that seek to ensure that all neighbourhoods are designed to enable residents to live healthier, happier and more fulfilling lives, with the barriers to doing so minimised as far as possible. This must include recognising and responding to the difficulties that people may face due to age, disability, illness or financial circumstances. The GMSF has also been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including disability.
Gender	No	No	
Gender reassignment	No	No	The GMSF has been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain

			groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including gender reassignment.
Age	Yes	No	A number of the development allocations state that they will provide housing for elderly people. The GMSF has also been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including age.
Sexual orientation	No	No	The GMSF has been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including sexual orientation.
Religion or belief	No	No	The GMSF has been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including religion or belief.
Caring responsibilities	No	No	
Pregnancy or maternity	No	No	The GMSF has been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including pregnancy or maternity.

Marriage or civil partnership	No	No	The GMSF has been subject to an Integrated Appraisal and part of this has involved an Equality Impact Assessment which has considered in its scope, the likely effects on discriminatory practices; the potential to alter the opportunities of certain groups of people; and/or effect on relationships between different groups of people, including marriage or civil partnership.

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

General Public Sector Equality Duties	Relevance (Yes/No)	Reason for the relevance
Need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010	No	
Need to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (eg. by removing or minimising disadvantages or meeting needs)	Yes	The GMSF will include policies that are specifically designed to make provision for special needs housing, including housing for the elderly as well as ensuring that all neighbourhoods are designed to enable residents to live healthier, happier and more fulfilling lives, with the barriers to doing so minimised as far as possible. This must include recognising and responding to the difficulties that people may face due to age, disability, illness or financial circumstances.
Need to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (eg. by tackling prejudice or promoting understanding)	No	

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

Go straight to Question 4

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

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

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

4. EQUALITY INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

4a. For a service plan, please list what equality information you currently have available (including a list of all EAs carried out on existing policies/procedures/strategies),

OR for a new/changed policy or practice please list what equality information you considered and engagement you have carried out in relation to it.

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

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

Details of the equality information or engagement	Internet link if published	Date last updated
Following consultation on two previous drafts in 2016 and 2019, the GMSF is now progressing to the formal Publication stage. If all 10 Executive Committees agree (including Bury Cabinet), the Publication GMSF 2020 will then be brought forward for eight-weeks of public consultation.		

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

No

5. CONCLUSIONS OF THE EQUALITY ANALYSIS

What will the likely overall effect of your policy/service plan be on equality?	Positive
If you identified any negative effects (see questions 3a) or discrimination what measures have you put in place to remove or mitigate them?	N/A
Have you identified any further ways that you can advance equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations? If so, please give details.	No
What steps do you intend to take now in respect of the implementation of your policy/service plan?	Following consultation, the Publication version of the GMSF will be formally submitted to the Government alongside all supporting evidence. The Government will then appoint an Independent Planning Inspector (or a panel of Inspectors) to undertake a public examination of the GMSF. Importantly, all representations made at the Publication stage will also be submitted to the Government and these will be considered by the Inspector(s) as part of the Examination of the plan.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

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

The GMSF will be continually monitored in order to determine the effectiveness of its policies.

COPIES OF THIS EQUALITY ANALYSIS FORM SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO ANY REPORTS/SERVICE PLANS AND ALSO SENT TO YOUR DEPARTMENTAL EQUALITY REPRESENTATIVE FOR RECORDING.



Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	COUNCIL
Meeting date:	25th NOVEMBER 2020
Title of report:	LICENSING ACT 2003 – REVIEW OF THE STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY
Report by:	Cllr Sandra Walmsley – Chair Licensing and Safety Panel
Decision Type:	Council
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Executive Summary:

The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Local Authority as Licensing Authority to prepare and publish a statement of licensing policy at least every five years. The existing policy was agreed by the Council on the 21st October 2015 with an effective date of the 7th January 2016.

The attached policy has been considered by the Licensing and Safety Panel on 15th October 2020 and has recommended its adoption by the Council as its statement of licensing policy for the period 2021 to 2026.

Key considerations

This is a Council Function that is delegated to the Licensing and Safety Panel by the Council's Constitution.

Recommendation;

Council is asked to;

- Adopt the Licensing Policy 2021 to 2026, as attached to the report.

Community impact / Contribution to the Bury 2030 Strategy

Not Applicable

Equality Impact and considerations:

24. *Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:*

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

25. *The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.*

The Licensing Service have considered the Equality Act 2010 and due to each application being dealt with on its own merits there is no positive or negative on any of the protected characteristics

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Not Applicable	.

Consultation:

Not applicable

Legal Implications:

If the Authority does not have a revised policy in place by 7th January 2021 it will be unable to fulfil it's duties under the 2003 Act.

The recommendation for adoption of this policy is within the remit of the Licensing and Safety Panel with final adoption lying within the remit of full Council.

Financial Implications:

The revenue budget includes provision for expenditure and income associated with the licensing activities covered by this policy. The proposed changes to the policy are not anticipated to result in any significant change to resource requirements.

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Duke Street
Bury
Telephone No: 0161 253 5208
Email: m.bridge@bury.gov.uk

Background papers:

Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 – 2021

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
None	

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Licensing Act 2003 regulates the sale and supply of alcohol, the provision of regulated entertainments and the provision of late night (hot) refreshment.
- 1.2 The Act requires the Local Authority as Licensing Authority, to carry out a review of it's Statement of Licensing Policy every 5 years and to publish the result.
- 1.3 The existing Statement of Licensing Policy was agreed by Council on the 21st October 2015 and took effect from the statutory deadline of the 7th January 2016. To comply with the statutory five year review period, the outcome of the review must be agreed before the 7th January 2021.
- 1.4 The Act stipulates four defined licensing objectives, namely:
 - The prevention of crime or disorder
 - Public safety
 - The prevention of public nuisance
 - The protection of children from harm

These are the only objectives that can be considered for licensing purposes.

2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 In preparing the policy, a Licensing Authority must have regard to the Secretary of State's Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act. This guidance is quite prescriptive in a number of areas.
- 2.2 A copy of the revised Statement of Licensing Policy is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.3 An equality impact assessment has been carried out and the impact is regarded as generally neutral within the terms of the objectives except for a positive impact as regards the protection of children from harm.

3.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 The consultation has been undertaken for a 5 week period between the 26th August 2020 until the 4th October 2020.
- 3.2 The Act requires consultation with a number of consultees defined in statute legislation as follows:
 - The Chief Officer of Police;
 - The Fire & Rescue Service;
 - Persons/bodies representative of local holders of premises licences;
 - Persons/bodies representative of local club premises certificates;
 - Persons/bodies representative of local holders of personal licence holders;
 - Persons/bodies representative of businesses and residents in it's area.

3.3 Additionally all responsible authorities defined within the Act and all 656 licensed premises, have been included in the consultation.

3.4 The consultation has also been published on the Council website.

3.5 The consultation summary is attached as Appendix 2.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The current policy has been in existence for five years and to date has not been challenged formally or informally.

4.2 The Licensing Service has received 4 responses to the consultation.

4.3 The policy can be reviewed at any time during the five year cycle to take account of emerging issues.

4.4 The policy having been approved by the Licensing and Safety Panel on 15 October 2020, approval for adoption by the Council is now sought.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION;

Council is asked to;

- Adopt the Licensing Policy 2021 to 2026, as attached to the report.

APPENDIX 1

Revised Licensing Policy

BURY COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY
2021-2026



BURY LICENSING POLICY

Licensing Act 2003

Contents	Page
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Please note: Whilst this policy endeavours to reflect the legal requirements of the Licensing Act 2003. The Act rather than the Policy will be the definitive reference source for such requirements.

Ratified by Council on XXXXX.

To find out more about any licensing related matter please contact the Licensing Office at Bury Council, 3 Knowsley Place, Duke Street, Bury, BL9 0EJ. Email:

licensing@bury.gov.uk

Telephone Number: 0161 253 5208.

i) Glossary

The Act

The Licensing Act 2003 as amended.

Applicant – within the statement of licensing policy may mean applicant, licence holder, club premises certificate holder as appropriate

Designated premises supervisor/DPS

Designated person with day to day control in premises that sell alcohol (specified on the Premises Licence).

NB there is no requirement for a DPS in premises operated through a club premises certificate

Interested Parties

- persons who live, or are involved in a business, in the relevant licensing authority's area
- a member of the relevant licensing authority.

Licensing Authority (the Authority)

Bury Council

Licensing Objectives:

A Licensing Authority must carry out its functions under the Licensing Act 2003 with a view to promoting the licensing objectives , these are:

- a) The prevention of crime and disorder;
- b) Public safety;
- c) The prevention of public nuisance and
- d) The protection of children from harm.

The Licensing Register

The Licensing Register contains details of all Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates. The register' is available online at:

<https://licensing.bury.gov.uk/PAforLalpacLIVE/>

Operating schedule

Document prepared by an applicant as an essential part of the application. It will detail the licensable activities to be carried out at the premises, the hours of operation which may be different for different activities, the steps to be taken to support the licensing objectives and where alcohol is sold details of the designated premises supervisor.

Relevant Representations

There are various types of applications that can be made under the Act, and in most cases representations are invited in relation to them. However, to be considered by an Authority they must be 'relevant representations' as defined by the Act.

A 'relevant representation' is one that is made in writing and:

- is about the likely effect of the licence on the promotion of the licensing objectives;
- has been made by a responsible authority, or other person as defined by the Act, within the relevant time period as prescribed by regulation;
- has not been withdrawn; and
- has not been determined by the Licensing Authority as frivolous or vexatious (or repetitious in respect of a review).

Responsible Authorities – bodies defined within the Act as detailed at appendix 1.

Secretary of State's guidance

Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act; to which the Licensing Authority must have regard in discharging its duties.

ii) Appendices

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iii) Consultees

The revised policy is subject to consultation. A full list of consultees can be found at Appendix 11. All consultation responses will be published on the Bury Council website and available from the Licensing Service by emailing licensing@bury.gov.uk

The act requires the Council to consult various bodies, to meet that requirement; the following Responsible Authorities have been consulted:

- the Chief Officer of Greater Manchester Police;
- the Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service
- the local enforcing authority for the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 (the Council's Environmental Health Team for the majority of premises on which licensable activities are carried on; in other cases the Health and Safety Executive is responsible);
- the local authority with responsibility for Environmental Health;
- the local Planning Authority;
- the Public Health Authority;
- the Council's Trading Standards Team (Chief Inspector of Weights & Measures)
- the Area Child Protection Committee, and;

- any other relevant Licensing Authority in whose area a part of the premises are situated Further to the minimum requirement's around consultation.

The Council also consulted representatives of holders of premises licences, club premises certificates, businesses and residents in the Borough.

A public consultation for a 6 week period was also carried out and full details of the proposed changes to the policy will be published on Bury Council's website, All replies received to the consultation will be considered before the policy is finalised and approved.

1.1 Introduction

The Licensing Act 2003 requires the Authority in respect of each 5 year period to determine and publish a statement of licensing policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions. The Act requires the Authority to consult various bodies before determining and reviewing the policy. Reviews will be conducted using the same process as the original consultation.

Bury Council is the Licensing Authority (the Authority) for the licensing of licensable activities under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 (the Act). Appendix 2 identifies the delegation of functions within the Authority.

1.2 Scope of the Policy

This policy relates to the licensable activities as defined by the Act:

- a) Retail sales of alcohol.
- b) The supply of alcohol by or on behalf of a club.
- c) Providing the following regulated entertainment in the presence of an audience.
 - i) Performance of a play
 - ii) Exhibition of a film
 - iii) An indoor sporting event
 - iv) Boxing or wrestling entertainment
 - v) Performance of live music
 - vi) Playing of recorded music (excluding incidental music)
 - vii) A performance of dance
 - viii) Entertainment of a similar description to that falling within v), vi) and vii).
- d) Providing late night hot refreshment at any time between 11pm and 5am for consumption on or off the premises.

1.2.1 In undertaking its licensing functions, the Council will be mindful of other legislation which may impact on the promotion of the licensing objectives, for example:

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998 in particular Section 17
- Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended);
- Noise Act 1996;
- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 (including powers for the Local Authority to issued fixed penalty notices to licensed premises emitting noise that exceeds the permitted level between 11pm and 7am);
- Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006
- Police and Crime Act 2009
- Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011
- Health Act 2006
- European Union Services Directive.
- De-regulation Act 2015
- Health Protection Regulation e.g. Coronavirus Act 2020
- The Health & Safety at Work Act etc. 1974
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- The Equalities Act 2010

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975
- Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

The Authority will not attempt to regulate matters that are provided for in other legislation through its licensing functions.

The policy cannot detail every factor that influences the achievement of the licensing objectives nor can it detail all the control measures that may be appropriate. Individual applicants and licence holders must consider the licensing objectives and control measures with regard to the particular nature of their business. Additional opportunities for licensable activities must be matched by appropriate and proportional measures to support the licensing objectives.

The Authority will aim to secure the proper integration of the licensing policy with other Council and Government strategies and policies so far as they impact on the licensing objectives.

The policy is designed to deal with matters within the control of the licence/club certificate holder on and in the vicinity of their premises. It is not a mechanism for the general control of anti-social behaviour by individuals once they are beyond the direct control of the licensee or licensed premises

Whilst the policy is prepared for the Authority's area it will also take account of the position in adjoining Authorities where common boundaries are relevant in licensing terms.

In some cases additional licences may be required under separate legislation, for example sexual entertainment venues, civil marriage venues and Performing Rights Society permissions.

General advice on organising events is available on the Council's Website:

www.bury.gov.uk Bury council has a corporate events group which considers events holistically.

2.0 Implementation of the Policy

This policy will come into force on 7th January 2021, and will remain in force for a period not exceeding five years, and will be subject to review and further consultation before 7th January 2026. During each five year period the Authority will keep the policy under review making amendments as it considers appropriate to support the licensing objectives.

3.0 Purpose of the Policy

- 3.1 The Act provides a clear focus on the promotion of four statutory licensing objectives.

The Licensing Authority must have regard to these four objectives when undertaking its various licensing functions and must ensure that they are promoted.

The four licensing objectives are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance;
- The protection of children from harm;

- 3.2 Each objective is of equal importance and they are the only matters that the Licensing Authority is permitted to have regard to when making determination on licensing applications.

- 3.3 The Council, in adopting this licensing policy, recognises both the needs of residents for a safe, healthy and sustainable environment to live and work, and the importance of well-run entertainment premises to the local economy and vibrancy of the Borough.

- 3.4 The Council is committed to partnership working with the Police, fire service, local businesses, licensing trade, local people and those involved in child protection towards the promotion of the common objectives as set out in this policy.

- 3.5 The policy aims to strike a balance between the safety and amenity of residents, visitors, businesses and those working or engaged in normal activity in and around the Borough. It seeks to support the Borough as a desirable destination for the widest range of user groups. In embracing a vision for the development of a successful and vibrant night time and evening economies it will encourage an entertainment and cultural offer with a diverse range of activity rather than premises focused mainly or exclusively on the sale of alcohol. The policy and seeks to support the philosophy of Purple Flag.

- 3.6 This policy has five main purposes:

- 1) To inform elected members of the Licensing Committee of the powers attributed to them by the Act and to highlight the boundaries within which to make decisions.
- 2) To inform applicants of the parameters within which the Licensing Authority will make decisions and how licensed premises are likely to be able to operate within the borough.
- 3) To inform residents and businesses of the considerations which the Licensing Authority will take when making licensing decisions

- 4) To inform Responsible Authorities of their powers under the Act to promote the four licensing objectives.
 - 5) To assist the courts with decisions made by the Council when these decisions are challenged in a court of law.
- 3.7 The Act has created a number of licensable activities for which it will be the responsibility of this Authority to accept applications, issue relevant licences and to enforce the requirements of the Act in relation to those activities, in line with the four licensing objectives.

4.0 Authority Profile

- 4.1 The Authority is one of the 10 Metropolitan Districts of Greater Manchester. With a population of 190,100 (of which c. 170k are over 18) it occupies an area of 9,919 hectares and is based on the 6 towns of Ramsbottom, Tottington, Bury, Radcliffe, Whitefield and Prestwich. The evening economy operates predominately around Bury Town Centre. Bury was the first Borough in Greater Manchester to receive Purple Flag status to recognise the vibrant and safe night time economy and in January 2020 received this accreditation for the fifth successive year.
- 4.2 The Authority currently licenses:
488 Premises Licences with Alcohol
116 Premises without Alcohol
48 Club Premises Certificate
2501 Personal licences



- 4.3 It is now ten years since The Rock development was opened in Bury which doubled the retail floor space of the town centre, providing a mix of retail, leisure, office space and residential. The mixed use approach recognises the changing nature of town centre settings, from being retail dominated to being a place where people seek experiences.
- 4.4 In 2020 Bury became the inaugural Greater Manchester Town of Culture. The accolade recognised Bury's rich cultural offer, including the Cultural Quarter made up of Bury Art Museum, The Fusilier Museum, the Victoria Wood statue, the East Lancashire Railway and the award winning Met Theatre. These venues boost the local day and night time economy, entertaining locals and attracting visitors to the Borough; whilst a vibrant community events programme celebrates Bury's tapestry of cultures across the Borough, from Prestwich Arts Festival to Black Pudding Throwing in Ramsbottom.
- 4.5 The Authority recognises that the entertainment/leisure industry is a major contributor to the economy and cultural development of the Borough. The Authority wishes to encourage licensees to provide a wide range of entertainment activities within the borough throughout their opening hours

and to promote all types of live music, dance, singing, theatre etc. including street art, for the wider cultural benefit of the community. Landowners within the Borough will be encouraged to licence publicly accessible open spaces for appropriate activities.

- 4.6 Council parks currently licensed for entertainment within Bury are:
- Whitehead Memorial Gardens, Bury
 - Clarence Park and Miss Walker's Fields, Bury
 - Nuttall Park, Ramsbottom
 - St Mary's Park (playing fields), Prestwich
 - Openshaw Park, Bury
 - Hoyles Park, Bury
 - Close Park, Radcliffe
- 4.7 Bury is well-connected north-to-south, with the Metrolink having stations in Bury, Radcliffe, Whitefield, Besses and Prestwich connecting into Manchester and the wider region, whilst bus connections connect the Borough with Bolton and Rochdale. The East Lancashire Railway also has stations in Burrs Country Park and Ramsbottom as well as linking with Heywood and up into South Lancashire.
- 4.8 During spring 2020, The Met became the home of live music across the North through hosting United We Stream in conjunction with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, streaming live entertainment in Covid secure conditions to keep people entertained whilst supporting the local cultural and creative economy.
- 4.9 To support Covid recovery, Town Centre boards have been established in each of the Borough's town centre, to support local businesses and organisations make the centres Covid secure and encourage the safe return and reuse of such places.
- 4.10 The East Lancashire Railway provides a tourism base on the station towns of Bury and Ramsbottom and a link to the neighbouring borough of Rochdale at Heywood station. Bury also has a bus/ metro interchange which provides links strong links to other neighbouring areas.

5.0 Applications

5.1 When considering an application, the Licensing Authority will have regard to:

- The Licensing Act 2003 and relevant regulations;
- Government guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003;
- Any supporting regulations (as may be issued and/or amended by the Secretary of State from time to time); and
- This Statement of Licensing policy. Applicants should also have regard to these documents when preparing their application.

5.2 The Licensing Process

5.2.1 The Authority will be prepared to discuss an application with an applicant prior to formal submission and in the event of an application attracting representations facilitate discussion between the various parties.

5.2.2 The Authority will expect applicants to address all the Licensing Objectives in their Operating Schedules, having regard to the type of premises, the licensable activities proposed, the operational procedures, the nature of the location and the needs of the local community

5.2.3 The processing of applications by the Authority is controlled by a strict timetable. To ensure the Authority meets that timetable the Authority will not accept an application unless it is complete in all respects at the time of submission.

5.2.4 An application for a premises licence must be made in the prescribed form to the Council. The application must be accompanied by:

- the required fee;
- an operating schedule (see below);
- a plan of the premises in a prescribed form to which the application relates; and
- if the application involves the supply of alcohol, a form of consent from the individual who is to be specified in the licence as the designated premises supervisor.

5.2.5 An application will only be deemed to be 'received' once all the required supporting information has been received

5.2.6 Each application will be considered individually on its own merits. This policy does not undermine the rights of any person to make an application under the Act for a variety of permissions or the right of any person to make representations or seek a review of a licence or certificate where the Act permits this.

5.2.7 Applications relating to premises will be made by a person who is, or who proposes to be carrying on the business involving the use of the premises. A person can include a company.

- 5.2.8 All applications for licences and variations of licences are subject to a consultation process, the following will be consulted:
- Responsible Authorities
 - Ward Councillors;
 - Ward Councillors of adjoining wards if premises are adjacent to ward boundaries
 - Neighbouring Boroughs should the premises be adjacent to a Borough boundary;
 - Appropriate Council departments;
 - Any other group the Council considers appropriate;
- 5.2.9 The applicant for any premises licence is responsible for placing an advertisement at the premises and in a local newspaper, the Council will advertise the application on the Council website. The law requires that the notice on the premises must be on pale blue paper of at least A4 in size, the writing must be of font size 16 or equivalent and that it must be clearly visible from the outside of the premises.
- 5.2.10 The newspaper advertisement must appear in a local newspaper circulating in the area within 10 working days starting the day after submission of the application to this authority.
At the end of the consultation process, the application will be determined.
- 5.3 If no representations have been made, then an officer of the Council will determine the application under delegated authority and the licence will be granted in line with the application and operating schedule.
- 5.3.1 If there are representations, the application will be determined by the Licensing and Safety Panel via a Licensing Hearing.
- 5.3.2 The Council may consider representations based on the impact of the promotion of the licensing objectives in the Borough generally, and on the grant of the particular application before them.
- 5.3.3 Where representations are made to a particular application, either from a responsible authority about a proposed operating schedule or from an "other person" that relates to the licensing objectives, a hearing will be held at which the applicant and those making representation will have the opportunity to comment on the representations made.
- 5.3.4 In all cases, applicants and those making representation in respect of applications made to the licensing authority have a right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court against the decisions of the Authority. Any appeal must be lodged within 21 days of the date upon which written notice of the decision is given by the licensing authority.
- 5.4 Guidance is available for applicants, which sets out the details of the application process, having regard to the Licensing Act 2003, the regulations, statutory guidance and local practice and procedures.

- 5.4.1 It should be noted that incomplete applications will not be accepted but will be returned with an explanation as to why it is incomplete.
- 5.4.2 Guidance is equally available for those wishing to make representation or to call a review of an existing licence.

6.0 Other Premise Type Licences

- 6.1 In addition to what may be described as traditional licensed premises, a licence may be required for public spaces, buildings such as community halls, parks and other open places. The Authority will support the owners of such spaces, including the Council, where appropriate. Licensable activities, carried on by many different organisations can then simply take place with the permission of the licence holder.
- 6.2 The Authority will consider applications from community premises e.g. church hall, chapel hall, village and parish hall or other similar buildings to remove the requirement needing a designated premises supervisor with a personal licence to sell alcohol.
- 6.3 If a Premises Licence authorises the retail sale of alcohol, there is a requirement to have a designated premises supervisor, the individual who is named as the designated premises supervisor has to hold a personal alcohol licence. A personal alcohol licence permits the holder of such a licence to authorise the retail sale of alcohol.

7.0 Late Night Refreshment Outlets

- 7.1 The Authority will expect the applicant to have considered a variety of control measures which will:-
- Promote community safety
 - Reduce the impact of dispersing customers within the local community
 - Promote better management of the premises
 - How they will reduce incidents of public disorder, violence and anti-social behaviour
 - Encourage health and Safety and welfare of both staff and customers

8.0 Club Premises Certificates

- 8.1 The supply of alcohol, and provision of other licensable activities on qualifying club premises, is authorised by way of a club premises certificate. The grant of a club premises certificate means that a qualifying club is entitled to certain benefits. These include:
- the authority to supply alcohol to members and sell it to guests on the premises to which the certificate relates without the need for any member or employee to hold a personal licence;
 - the absence of a requirement to specify a designated premises supervisor;
 - more limited rights of entry for the police and authorised persons because the premises are considered private and not generally open to the public;

- the club premises not being subject to police powers of instant closure on grounds of disorder and noise nuisance (except when being used under the authority of a temporary event notice or premises licence) because they operate under their codes of discipline and rules which are rigorously enforced; and
- not being subject to potential orders of the magistrates' court for the closure of all licensed premises in an area when disorder is happening or expected.

- 8.2 The arrangements for applying for, or seeking to vary, club premises certificates are similar to those in respect of a premises licence. Operating Schedules must include the steps the club intends to take to promote the licensing objectives.
- 8.3 The Act recognises that premises, to which public access is restricted and where alcohol is supplied other than for profit, give rise to different issues for licensing law than those presented by commercial enterprises selling direct to the public. For this reason, it preserves aspects of earlier alcohol licensing law as it applied to "registered members clubs". These clubs are organisations where members have joined together for particular social, sporting or political purposes and then combined to buy alcohol in bulk as members of the organisation for supply in that context.
- 8.4 Clubs traditionally have not been licensed because alcohol is supplied rather than sold to members.
- 8.5 The new authority for the supply of alcohol, and provision of other licensable activities on qualifying club premises, is a club premises certificate and this is issued by the Licensing Authority.
- 8.6 These will be translated into conditions included in the certificate, unless the conditions have been modified by the Authority, following consideration of relevant representations.
- 8.7 The legislation detailing the statutory qualifying conditions for clubs is provided at Appendix 6.

9.0 Temporary Events Notices (TENS)

- 9.1 If a licensable activity is planned to take place on non-licensed premises, the organiser can submit a Temporary Events Notice (TEN). A TEN can also be used to include additional licensable activities or alter the hours of operation on licensed premises.
- 9.1.2 They can cover any period up to 168 hours.
- 9.1.3 A TEN has to be served on the Police and the Licensing Authority at least 10 working days prior to commencement of the event, a longer period is preferable wherever possible.

- 9.1.4 There is nothing to prevent simultaneous notification of multiple events at a single time so long as the first event is at least 10 working days away and there must be at least 24 hours between events.
- 9.1.5 Only the Police and Environmental Health can object to a TEN.
- 9.1.6 Standard TENs must be given a minimum of 10 working days prior to the first day of the event, and the Licensing Authority recommend that wherever possible notice-givers submit their TEN a minimum of 28 days prior to the commencement of the event.
- 9.1.6 There is provision for making an application for a late TEN. Such applications may be made no earlier than 9 working days before the event and no less than 5 working days before the event. The Licensing Authority understands this to mean 9 or 5 clear days exclusive of the day on which the event is to start and exclusive of the day on which the notice is given.
- 9.2 Where one or more of the relevant statutory limits are exceeded, the Licensing Authority will serve a Counter-Notice to prevent the licensable activities from going ahead. There is no provision under the Act to appeal against the issue of a Counter-Notice.
- 9.3 Greater Manchester Police or the Council's Environmental Health service can issue an objection notice.
 - 9.3.1 The Licensing Authority will consider any such notice at a hearing (unless the objection notice is withdrawn before the hearing date). The hearing will be confined to consideration of the crime and disorder objective and will be held in accordance with the procedure.
 - 9.3.2 There is no provision for a hearing in the case of a late TEN.
 - 9.3.3 The Licensing Authority will notify the applicant of its decision at least 24 hours before the beginning of the event period specified in the temporary event notice.
 - 9.3.4 Depending on the nature and location of such events, these can have serious crime and disorder implications. Whilst accepting that the statutory notification period is a minimum of 10 days organisers of these events are encouraged to submit their notification as soon as reasonably practicable to enable the Police and the Authority to work with them to identify and reduce the risk of crime and disorder.

10.0 Personal Licences

- 10.1 The Authority recognises it has very little discretion regarding the granting of personal licences. In general, provided an applicant has a qualification determined by the Home Office and does not have certain criminal convictions, the application must be granted.

- 10.1.1 A person holding a personal licence should be a person who is not only properly qualified but a person who will assist the police and relevant authorities in the fight against crime. Granting a licence to a person with a criminal history may in some cases undermine rather than promote the crime prevention objective.
- 10.2 If an applicant has a relevant conviction the police can oppose the application.
 - 10.2.1 If an objection is lodged by the police, a hearing of the Authority's Licensing Panel will be held. The Authority will consider carefully whether the grant of the licence will be in conflict with the crime prevention objective. It will consider the seriousness and relevance of the conviction(s), the period that has elapsed since the offence(s) were committed and any mitigating circumstances.
 - 10.2.2 The Authority will only grant the application if it is satisfied that doing so will promote this objective. A person holding a personal licence should be a person who is not only properly qualified but a person who will assist the fight against crime. Granting a licence to a person with a criminal history may in some cases undermine rather than promote the crime prevention objective.
 - 10.2.3 Through the Operating Schedule the Authority will expect assurances on the accessibility of the personal licence holders and designated premises supervisors.

11.0 Designated Premises Supervisors

- 11.1 Under the Licensing Act 2003, all licences that authorise the sale of alcohol must contain details of the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS).
- 11.2 Responsible Authorities will typically look to develop constructive working relationships with DPS and the licensing authority expects that this is reciprocated to promote effective partnership working relations with the trade.
- 11.3 The Guidance to the Licensing Act states: 'the designated premises supervisor is the key person who will usually be charged with day-to-day management of the premises including the prevention of disorder.' The licensing authority will not normally impose conditions related to the management competency of DPS's, save where it is considered appropriate that in the circumstances associated with particular premises, poor management competency could give rise to issues of crime and disorder, public safety and public nuisance.
- 11.4 In exceptional circumstances, the police may object to the appointment of an individual as a DPS For example where they have a criminal record.
- 11.5 Where, following an objection by the police, the licensing authority is satisfied that the appointment of a person as a DPS would undermine the crime prevention licensing objective, the policy is to refuse the appointment or to remove them as the DPS in circumstances where they are already in post

12.0 Provisional Statements

- 12.1 The Authority recognises that in certain situations businesses and developers need to have security that a premises licence is likely to be granted following construction or alteration of unlicensed premises. The Authority will issue provisional statements in accordance with the Act and guidance.

13.0 Operating Schedule

- 13.1 The Operating Schedule is a major part of the application process; it should detail the steps which an applicant intends to take to promote the licensing objectives. Applicants are encouraged to undertake a risk assessment process in preparing an application which may cover the premises layout, construction and design, the licensable events and activities to be undertaken, control measures and the anticipated customer profile. Applicants are expected to include positive proposals in their application on how they will manage potential risks.
- 13.2 Whilst the Licensing Authority cannot require such risk assessments to be documented, (other than where required by other legislation), in appropriate cases it would consider such documentation to be good practice and a useful tool in the instruction and training of staff, as well as a sound basis for review by the licence holder, in the event of changing circumstances/conditions at the premises.
- 13.3 Responsible bodies and interested parties will scrutinise the schedule to get a thorough understanding of how the business will operate. The more detail given in the schedule the less likely the responsible bodies and interested parties are to raise concerns. Applicants are encouraged to consult relevant responsible bodies prior to application to ensure any concerns are understood at an early stage and are addressed via the schedule
- 13.4 Applicants are strongly encouraged to consider all matters within their control that support the licensing objectives. The more matters are dealt with through the Operating Schedule at the application stage the less likely applications are to attract representations. Measures to be taken identified through the schedule will form the basis of the conditions to be attached to the licence.
- 13.5 Additional opportunities for licensable activities must be matched by appropriate and proportional measures to support the licensing objectives especially where activities are planned to go late into the night or early morning. Premises in close proximity to residential areas should consider what effect their business will have on smoking, noise and dispersal policies etc to ensure the promotion of the public nuisance objective.
- 13.6 Premises selling alcohol must identify the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS). The Authority will expect the DPS to have been given the day to day responsibility for running the premises by the holder of the Premises Licence and, as such, be present on the premises on a regular basis. The Chief Officer of Police will object to the designation of a new or variation to an existing Designated Premises Supervisor where s/he believes that for exceptional

circumstances such an appointment would undermine the crime prevention objective.

- 13.7 Additional measures may be necessary on an occasional basis when a special event or promotion is planned, which is intended to, or likely to attract larger audiences and/or audiences of a different nature. Where anticipated reference should be made to such events in the operating schedule with the additional measures planned to promote the licensing objectives.
- 13.8 The Licensing Authority accepts that the Operating Schedule will reflect the circumstances at individual premises. Applicants are encouraged to liaise with the relevant responsible body when compiling their operating schedules

14.0 Licensing Hours

- 14.1 The Authority recognises the argument that widespread fixed closing times in certain areas can lead to peaks of disturbance and disorder if large numbers of people emerge onto the streets at the same time. Flexible licensing hours, particularly where alcohol is involved may therefore be an important factor in reducing friction at late night food outlets, taxi ranks and other late night services.
- 14.2 The Authority accepts that as a general principle, the act permits activity which does not undermine the licensing objectives, taking place over 24 hours and 7 days a week. The hours requested by the applicant will normally be approved where the applicant can show that the proposal would not, with regard to the licensing objectives, adversely affect the environmental quality, residential amenity and character of any particular area.
- 14.3 Applicants, who wish to sell or supply alcohol for consumption on premises, are expected to include in the Operating Schedule the times when the premises will open, when sales of alcohol will commence and cease, and the time when the premises will be closed. Shops, stores and supermarkets will generally be permitted to sell alcohol during their normal retail hours. However, in the case of individual premises which are a focus for disorder and disturbance then, subject to representations, limitations may be appropriate.
- 14.4 No general restriction or limitation on hours in any area is imposed by this policy but in seeking hours of activity that go through the night and into the morning, applicants will be expected to show, through the Operating Schedule, strong, proactive action and taking of their responsibilities to ensure their management of premises do not allow situations to develop which undermine the licensing objectives. Where late hours are requested, particularly for those in residential areas, subject to representations received, the imposition of stricter conditions may be appropriate to promote the licensing objectives.
- 14.5 Off sales of alcohol from retail outlets will generally be permitted during the premises regular opening hours. However, in the case of individual premises, which are a focus for disorder and disturbance then, subject to representations, limitations may be appropriate. The Authority recognises the

position of restaurants and other premises where the sale of alcohol is incidental to the main licensable activities at the premises.

- 14.6 The Council will always consider the nature of the licensed activity, the location of the premises and the proximity of surrounding late night commercial and residential uses. Where there is already an adverse impact on neighbouring residents, or an anticipated impact from licences granted but not yet trading, the Council will consider the extent to which the proposed use will add to that impact. The absence of appropriate infrastructure or resources to regulate activity in public areas beyond the responsibility of the licensee may be a factor in considering whether later hours for a particular premise should be granted. The nature of the licensed activity is an important consideration. A restaurant, for example, where alcohol is served to seated customers with food is less likely to impact on residential amenity than a use where the primary activity is alcohol consumption.
- 14.7 Where relevant representations are made, especially in residential areas, the Authority may seek to impose a time when the regulated activity needs to stop. This may be a different time to the closing times at the premises that doesn't give rise to nuisance. Later closing times may be permitted in certain circumstances:
- where there is a high level of accessibility to public transport services; and
 - where there is an appropriate amount of car parking, readily accessible to the premises, and in places where vehicular movement will not cause demonstrable adverse impact to local residents
 - where through the Operating Schedule an applicant indicates that appropriate steps to comply with the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance are to be taken.
 - the licensed activities would not be likely to cause adverse impact especially on local residents, and that, if there is a potential to cause adverse impact, appropriate measures will be put in place to prevent it;
 - there will not be any increase in the cumulative adverse impact from these or similar activities, on an adjacent residential area.

15.0 Planning

- 15.1 Within the Authority the licensing and planning functions are separate. It is strongly recommended that prospective applicants contact the Planning Service in advance of making a licensing application to seek advice on any planning consents or any conditions relevant to the premise to ensure planning and licensing usage is compatible. Where, as a condition of planning permission, a terminal hour has been set for the use of premises for commercial purposes that is different to the licensing hours, the licence holder must observe the earlier closing time in order to avoid any breach of conditions.
- 15.2 It is also advised that if consent has not already been granted, reference is made to various planning policies contained in the adopted Bury Council Unitary Development Plan and the emerging GMSF (Greater Manchester

Spatial framework) in order to ascertain whether any controls are also relevant from a planning perspective.

- 15.3 Copies of the relevant Policy Documents can be found on the Councils web site under Planning Policy or by following the link below:
<https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=10657>
- 15.4 The Licensing Authority is not bound by decisions made by the Planning Committee and vice versa, so the grant of planning permission does not mean a licence will automatically be granted and vice versa. The granting of any licence or variation of a licence which involves a material alteration to a building would not relieve the applicant of the need to apply for planning permission or building control consent where appropriate.
- 15.5 As the need arises there will be an exchange of information between the Planning and Licensing Committees regarding the numbers, types etc. of licensed premises. The Licensing & Safety Panel may receive reports on the needs and aspirations of the local tourist economy, the Cultural Strategy and the current employment situation to enable the Panel to reflect these matters in their considerations notwithstanding the fact that decisions on applications made under the Act, shall be made on the basis of promoting the licensing objectives.

16.0 Cumulative Impact

- 16.1 Where the Licensing Authority receives representations from a responsible authority or an interested party that the cumulative effect of new licences is leading to an area becoming saturated with premises making it a focal point for large groups to gather in and circulate away from leading to excessive crime/disorder/nuisance or loss of amenity of local residents/businesses and it is not possible to attribute those problems to individual premises the Authority will, with full consultation, consider the introduction of a special saturation policy
- 16.2 Where there is evidence that a particular area of the district is already suffering adverse effects arising from the concentration of late night premises, or that residential areas are under stress, this will be taken into account in determining any further application for premises within any area identified. As such, the Authority will take into account:
- 16.3 The character of the surrounding areas
- The impact of the licence on the surrounding area, both individually and cumulatively with existing licences; and
 - The nature and character of the proposed operation
 - In considering all licence applications, the Authority will consider the adequacy of measures proposed to deal with the potential for nuisance and/or public disorder and to support the licensing objectives.

17.0 Conditions

- 17.1 The Authority will not impose standard conditions on licences, nor will it impose disproportionate or over burdensome conditions on licences. However, where late hours are requested, particularly for those involving activities within residential areas, the imposition of stricter conditions may be appropriate to support the licensing objectives and they may be time and/or activity related.
- 17.2 There are a number of mandatory licensing conditions applicable to all licences that permit the sale or supply with alcohol. These are reproduced at Appendix 3.
- 17.3 The Authority has developed and published a pool of model general conditions attached as Appendix 4. Applicants are encouraged to consider the inclusion of relevant conditions within their operating schedule at the time of application. The conditions are for guidance only and do not form part of the policy, they will be modified and added to as the need arises. Following representations or to support suggested action by the applicant there is a need for conditions to be attached they will be tailored to the individual style and characteristics of the premises or activity concerned.

18.0 Representations

- 18.1 Without prejudice to the right of any person to submit an application at any time, applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposals in advance with the Police. It may be beneficial to draw on the experience of the Police in relation particularly to the prevention of crime and disorder. Whilst there is no obligation on the part of the applicant to accept any advice or proposed condition requested by the Police (any conditions must be proportionate and appropriate), it remains that should there be areas of agreement between the two parties a representation from the Police would be less likely and (in the absence of any other representations) would lead to a speedier determination of the licence application.
- 18.2 The policy sets out a general approach to the making of licensing decisions that are compatible with the Licensing Act 2003 and the associated guidance. It does not prevent any individual from making any application and having it considered on its individual merits. Nor does it seek to override the right of any person to make representations on an application or to seek a review where the Act allows them to do so.
- 18.3 When considering applications the Authority will take into account all relevant representations, and the measures to support the licensing objectives taken by or proposed by the applicant through the operating schedule. The Authority recognises that unless relevant representations are received in respect of an application there is no provision for the Licensing Authority, to refuse an application or impose conditions on a licence other than those proposed within the application.
- 18.4 Nothing in this policy will seek to limit the number of licensed premises simply because the Licensing Authority, any interested party or responsible authority

consider that there are enough licensed premises to satisfy demand. This is properly a commercial decision for the applicant.

- 18.5 Any person that is encountering problems related to a licensed premise or activity should contact the licensing authority in the first instance to report the problem to Bury Council's Licensing Service:

Email: licensing@bury.gov.uk
Or Telephone: 0161 253 5208

19.0 Petitions

- 19.1 Petitions may be submitted to the Licensing Authority so show depth of feeling for or against an application. There is no prescribed format for such petitions and whilst the licensing authority has no power to require any particular format individuals may find the following suggestion useful. Each page should include:

- i) The premise name and address
- ii) The details of the application
- iii) The reason for the petition and a linkage to one or more of the licensing objectives
- iv) The full name and address (in print) and signature of each person supporting the petition

- 19.2 Appropriate weight will be given to petitions having regard to the above. Petitions in respect of an application will only be accepted if submitted by a Responsible Authority, a person who has made a relevant representation or by the applicant. The licensing authority will not consider each signatory as a separate representation and so will not contact individual signatories.

20.0 Determining applications

- 20.1 The Policy is integral in managing the role licensed premises play throughout the borough. A key aim of the policy is to ensure that licensed premises have a positive impact on their locality. The authority is aware of the need to avoid the imposition of conditions and other controls, which could deter some forms of live entertainment. Only proportionate, reasonable controls necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives will be considered.
- 20.2 The Authority will endeavour to carry out its licensing functions in a way that supports well managed premises where licence holders display sensitivity to the potential impact of activities on local residents and other businesses.
- 20.3 Where premises do cause problems; they will be addressed swiftly and in the most appropriate manner.
- 20.4 The Authority will have regard to Guidance issued by the Home Office when determining applications. In particular, account will be taken of the need to encourage and promote live music, dancing and similar activities for the wider cultural benefit of the community as a whole. If representations are made concerning the potential for disturbance in a particular neighbourhood, then those concerns will be carefully balanced against the wider benefits to the community. The Authority acknowledges the advice of the Home Office that the views of local minorities should not be allowed to predominate over the general interests of the community. The Authority will endeavour to ensure that, if a decision is made which is contrary to the Home Office Guidance, the applicant will be given a full explanation of that decision

21.0 Public Health

- 21.1 Section 104 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012, amends the 2003 Act so as to include a Local Authority's 'Public Health' department as a responsible Authority.
- 21.2 As a responsible authority, Bury Council's public health department can make representations in relation to applications for the grant, variation, minor variation or review of premises licences and club premises certificates; in addition, public health may themselves seek a review of a premises licence. Any representation must be specific to the premises and cannot be a general objection.
- 21.3 Representations should be evidence-based and should demonstrably refer to one or more of the licensing objectives. As there is no licensing objective relating to public health, the Council's public health department must ensure representations are relevant to one of the four existing objectives
- 21.4 Through ensuring the responsible selling of alcohol, this may impact on reducing a person's drinking at harmful or hazardous levels. However, it is recognised that any such positive impact will be as a coincidence of the

licensing authority conducting its licensing function under the Act to promote the Licensing Objectives.

- 21.5 Local Health Bodies potentially have access to much data that can inform licensing decisions and policy. When such data is presented it will be considered and where links are made to any of the four licensing objectives it will be taken into account by the Licensing Hearings Panel in reaching its decision. The licensing authority recognises the impact of alcohol misuse in Bury and it is hoped that through the implementation of this licensing policy the promotion of the four licensing objectives will in turn have a positive effect on preventing alcohol misuse. For example by ensuring licensed premises refuse sales of alcohol to children, or those attempting to purchase it on behalf of children; this will impact positively on a reduction in child alcohol related health problems. Additionally, by preventing the use of illegal drugs on licensed premises, it is hoped this might reduce combined alcohol and drug misuse, which is a significant issue in the borough.
- 21.6 The licensing authority recognises there is no public health licensing objective and therefore cannot conduct its licensing function in order to promote public health. The licensing function can only be carried out to promote the four licensing objectives as set out by the Licensing Act 2003 (At the time of consulting on this policy the Local Government Association were seeking the introduction of a temporary public health or COVID-19 objective in the Licensing Act. This would enable councils to take action where premises are not protecting the public during the pandemic – such as collecting people's contact details or maintaining social distancing.)

22.0 Consideration of the Licensing Objectives

22.1 Licensing Objectives

This policy and the actions of the Authority will promote the 4 licensing objectives.

- a) The prevention of crime and disorder
- b) Public safety
- c) The prevention of public nuisance
- d) The protection of children from harm

- 22.1.1 The Authority recognises that these are the only objectives relevant for the purposes of this policy.
- 22.1.2 Each licensing objective is considered to be of equal importance within this policy. They will be considered in relation to matters centred on the premises or within the control of the licensee and the effect if any, which the carrying on of that business has on the vicinity.

22.2 Prevention of Crime and Disorder

22.2.1 Prevention of crime and disorder is both an objective of the Act and an important responsibility of the Authority under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

22.2.2 The Authority will expect applicants to demonstrate in their Operating Schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been considered to minimise or prevent crime and disorder in and around the vicinity of their premises and how any identified control measures will be implemented. Control measures may vary between premises and will be relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and events. The design and layout of premises can assist in the prevention, detection and recording of crime and disorder. A change in customer numbers or profile can alter the risks associated with any particular business.

22.2.3 Factors for consideration

In considering applications, the Authority will expect the applicant to have considered a variety of matters which may include:

- a) Effective and responsible management of premises
- b) Customer profile, potential for underage drinking and drink abuse and capacity control to prevent overcrowding. A change in customer numbers and profile can alter the risks associated with any particular business
- c) Condition and design of the premises including the provision of security measures, such as lighting outside premises. The design and layout of premises can assist in the prevention, detection and recording of crime and disorder.
- d) Use of CCTV both within and outside the premises where necessary which is compliant with the Information Commissioners Office guidance relating to surveillance camera code of practice; Applications in relation to licensed premises must take into account the circumstances surrounding that application and whether a requirement to have a surveillance camera system is appropriate in that particular case.
- e) Procedures for the risk-assessment of promotions and events that have the potential to cause or increase crime and disorder risks, and plans for minimizing the effects
- f) Measures to be put in place to help prevent the use or supply of illegal drugs, search and provision of secure deposit boxes for confiscated items
- g) Employment and regulation of licensed door supervisors and other appropriately trained supervisors/staff
- h) Active participation in an appropriate Pub & Club Watch Scheme, or other scheme designed to ensure effective liaison with the local community, the responsible authorities and other licensees, including participation in a local radio/pager link scheme and communication with the Police

- i) Dispersal Policy and the control of customers entering/ leaving the premises with opened bottles and glasses when observing smoking regulations etc
- j) Potential effects arising from the provision of adult entertainment
- k) Operation of glass collection and spillage policy
- l) Provision of toughened or plastic/polycarbonate glasses and bottles and/ or the decanting from glass bottles where appropriate
- m) Use of a last entry time for the premises

This list is not exhaustive and is provided, simply, to give examples of proposals for consideration in the operating schedule. Some control measures will assist in the promotion of more than one of the licensing objectives.

22.2.3.4 Drugs

The Authority will expect licensees of venues likely to be affected by drug issues to take all reasonable steps to prevent the entry of drugs into their premises, to take appropriate steps to prevent drugs changing hands within the premises and to take practical measures to prevent drug misuse on the premises.

In particular, the Authority will expect licensees of such venues to be familiar with the contents of Chapter 4 (drug awareness) of the BIIAB Level 2 National Certificate for Entertainment Licensees and to be following the recommendations of that handbook. The Authority will also expect licensees to be following the best practice guide on safer nightlife which builds on the safer clubbing published by the Home Office.

22.3 Public Safety

22.3.1 Public safety is about protecting the safety and the lives of patrons. It is the expectation of the Authority that anyone visiting a licensed venue can do so in complete safety, confident that they are visiting premises that have been constructed with safety in mind are well managed and maintained. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate through the Operating Schedule that suitable and sufficient measures have been considered and adopted to ensure public safety, in and around the vicinity of their premises and how any identified control measures will be implemented. In certain situations customers may be in unfamiliar surroundings and under the influence of alcohol. Additionally, they may be subject to reduced lighting levels and increased sound levels. The use of special effects may increase a feeling of disorientation. Control measures may vary between premises and will be relevant to the individual style and characteristics of their premises and activities.

22.3.2 Factors for consideration

The Authority will expect the applicant to have considered a variety of control measures which may include:-

- a) the capacity of the venue
- b) the condition, design and layout of the premises
- c) the nature of the activities to be provided whether licensable or not (e.g. hypnotism; see appendix 4
- d) the use of any special effects such as lasers, smoke/ foam machines
- e) means of access and egress
- f) the use of CCTV
- g) hours of operation
- h) customer profile including any special needs of any groups
- i) staff training especially in dealing with emergency situations, evacuations, over crowding etc
- j) conduct a Fire Risk Assessment for the premises, which is reviewed regularly
- k) demarcation, capacity control, supervision and monitoring of areas immediately in the vicinity of the premises, used by smokers etc.
- l) use of a daily pre-opening and closing checklist
- m) Operation of glass collection and spillage policy
- n) Use of a last entry time for the premises
- o) effective management of exterior spaces (e.g. beer gardens, smoking areas). Cleansing arrangements and ensuring the premises and surrounding area are kept clean and free of litter
- p) Hygiene and infection control e.g. Covid19 Secure

This list is not exhaustive and is provided, simply, to give examples of appropriate proposals for consideration in the operating schedule. Some control measures will assist in the promotion of more than one of the licensing objectives.

22.4 Prevention of Public Nuisance

- 22.4.1 Activity involving entertainment, eating or drinking in a public venue has the potential to impact adversely on the surrounding area as a result of noise, smells, or congestion. It may be caused by the premises directly or customers when leaving, leaving litter or taking up on-street car parking space in close proximity to residential premises.
- 22.4.2 The Authority defines 'public nuisance' widely to include noise and disturbance, light, odour, litter and anti-social behaviour, where these matters impact on those living, working or otherwise engaged in normal activity in an area. The impact of noise generated by these activities is particularly intrusive at night when ambient noise levels are much lower. As a result the Authority may make a distinction between the approach taken in predominantly commercial areas and predominately residential areas.
- 22.4.3 The Authority recognises the intention of the legislation to achieve a more flexible-licensing regime with the concept of wider hours of operation. However, this does not mean that all venues are suitable

either by design or location to host every form of licensable activity. Experience shows that premises adjoining or in close proximity to residential properties do not lend themselves to all forms of entertainment and longer operating hours. The Authority will expect applicants, particularly those wishing to operate late into the night, to demonstrate that they have taken strong effective measures to minimise the potential for nuisance to arise.

22.4.4 Factors for consideration

The Authority will expect the applicant to have considered a variety of control measures which may include:

- a) the hours of opening and operation
- b) the nature of the activity at the premises
- c) the location and use of nearby properties
- d) the number of people likely to attend the venue, available transport options and dispersal policy
- e) the design and layout of the premises
- f) operation of the premises to prevent escape of noise, smells etc
- g) the use of outdoor areas
- h) last admissions policy
- i) queue control
- j) effective management of exterior spaces (e.g. beer gardens, smoking areas). Cleansing arrangements and ensuring the premises and surrounding area are kept clean and free of litter
- k) responsible management of the use of flyers and other promotional material
- l) Appropriate arrangements for deliveries and collections

This list is not exhaustive and is provided, simply, to give examples of appropriate considerations for inclusion in an operating schedule. Some control measures will assist in the promotion of more than one of the licensing objectives. Appendix 8 gives applicant's guidance on management of potential noise nuisance.

22.4.5 Smoking – Health Act 2006

- 22.4.5.1 From 01 July 2007 it is illegal to smoke in virtually all enclosed public places and workplaces in England. The ban includes offices, factories, shops, pubs, clubs, bars, restaurants and public transport.
- 22.4.5.2 Businesses are required as from 1 July 2007 to display signs at entrances to premises. The signs are available from the department of health at www.smokefreeengland.co.uk/stayinformed or by calling 0800 169 1697.
- 22.4.5.3 A likely impact of the public places smoking restriction under the Health Act 2006 is that customers wishing to smoke may be attracted to premises that have 'beer gardens' or designated outside areas. There is likely therefore, to be more drinking outside of licensed premises. Although smoking is not a licensable activity, it may clearly at times be

associated with a licensable activity i.e. sale of alcohol and may be viewed as an area which requires consideration of possible control measures in the interests of avoidance of public nuisance.

- 22.4.5.4 There may be occasions where licensees are required (following representation or application for review) to control areas/hours for such activity and/or have conditions imposed upon their licence if this is deemed proportionate and appropriate in meeting one or more of the licensing objectives and in particular that of the prevention of public nuisance.

22.5 Protection of Children from Harm

- 22.5.1 It is hoped that family friendly premises will thrive, but the prevention of harm to children remains of paramount importance when determining applications. The protection of children from harm includes protection from moral, psychological and physical harm and, in relation to the exhibition of films or transmission of programmes or videos, includes the protection of children from exposure to strong language and sexual content. In certain circumstances children are more vulnerable and their needs will require special consideration. This vulnerability includes their susceptibility to suggestion, peer group influences, inappropriate example, the unpredictability of their age and their lack of understanding of danger.
- 22.5.2 The Authority recognises that with few exceptions the Act allows for the free access of children to all licensed premises, subject to the licensee's discretion and any conditions applied to the licence. When considering applications and options appropriate to prevent harm to children, the Authority will take into account the history of a particular premises and the nature of the activities proposed to be provided. Whilst children may be adequately protected from harm by the action taken to protect adults, they may also need special consideration and no policy can anticipate every situation. In certain circumstances conditions restricting access or excluding children completely may be considered necessary.
- 22.5.3 Where large numbers of unaccompanied children are likely to be present, for example, a children's show or pantomime, the presence of an appropriate number of adult staff may be required. If appropriate the provision of such staff should be included in the Operating Schedule. Special consideration is expected to be given to promoted events in licensed premises aimed at, or likely to attract, persons under 18. The licensing authority expects robust measures to be in place to address potential risks associated with such an activity.
- 22.5.4 **Factors for consideration**

The Authority will expect the applicant to have considered a variety of control measures which may include:

- a) the appropriateness of activities conducted on the premises
- b) an age restriction or age based exclusion for certain events
- c) proof of age schemes and the use of a refusals log
- d) the potential for underage drinking or other underage activity
- e) limits on the hours children can be on the premises, including identification of times when children should not be present
- f) the need for an accompanying adult or additional staff
- g) the use of licensed door staff
- h) the need to formally vet staff through the DBS scheme
- i) controlled viewing of age-restricted films to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classification or by the Council.

This list is not exhaustive and is provided, simply, to give examples of appropriate considerations for inclusion in an Operating Schedule. Some control measures will assist in the promotion of more than one of the licensing objectives.

23.0 Child Sexual Exploitation

- 23.1 The Licensing Authority is committed to protecting children from harm. It recognises that alcohol use, misuse and abuse is one of the recurring key 'parental factors' in child protection and safeguarding, often contributing to parental neglect of children and domestic abuse and violence within families.
- 23.2 Alcohol is also reported as a factor in CSE. Young people are encouraged or coerced into drinking alcohol, leaving them vulnerable to perpetrators of CSE. Licensed premises have been implicated nationally in the involvement with CSE, either taking place on the licensed premises or the premises being used for the purposes of grooming and enticement.
- 23.3 The Licensing Authority will report any issues of concern regarding the safeguarding of children to the appropriate safeguarding authorities and will act on any reports from them accordingly in relation to the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. Where there are serious concerns and/or any criminal investigations in relation to the abuse of children in connection with a licensed premises, serious consideration will be given to lodging a review of the premises licence / certificate as it relates to the negative impact on the Licensing Objectives and in particular crime and disorder and the protection of children from harm.
- 23.4 The Licensing Authority expects licence holders and operators of licensed premises:
 - To understand that the sexual exploitation of a child is a criminal offence;
 - To ensure that they and their employees are fully aware of the signs of CSE and how to report it;

- To report any concerns to the appropriate authorities or to the Licensing Authority who will then flag up their concerns to the relevant safeguarding professionals on their behalf.

23.5 The Licensing Authority will attend the Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership and all officers will undergo CSE training

24.0 Children and Adult Entertainment Venues

24.1 Sexual Entertainment Venues

24.1 Bury Council has re-adopted the provisions of Schedule 3 Local Government [Miscellaneous Provisions] Act 1982 and is currently drafting a policy which will relate to adult entertainment venues and activities.

24.2 In some cases additional licences may be required under separate legislation for sexual entertainment venues.

24.3 Where activities under a new licence would regularly include those with a sex related element, the premises may also require a sex establishment venue licence.

24.4 A sex establishment venue is defined as any premises where any live performance or any live display of nudity is of such a nature, regardless of financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to have been provided solely or mainly for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience (eg. striptease, table dancing, topless waitresses).

24.5 A new premises may need to hold both a licence issued under the Licensing Act 2003 to allow the premises to sell alcohol; and a licence issued under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended) to allow the premises to be used as a sexual entertainment venue.

24.6 Where an existing licensed premises provides or wishes to provide sex related activity, the Council will expect the premises licence holder to assess the impact of the proposed activity on the licensing objectives and, where appropriate, apply to vary the conditions attached to the premises licence to take account of any increased risk. This may avoid a possible review of the premises licence from an interested party or responsible authority. Where it is deemed appropriate to seek a variation to the premises licence, the Council will expect the application to vary the premises licence to accompany the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence

25.0 Alcohol Delivery Services

25.1 The authority considers there are particular risks associated with delivery services for alcohol. The authority expects measures consistent with relevant standards expected for licensed premises outlined in this policy in conjunction with the specific provisions of this section:

- 25.2 The authority expects operators to implement age-verification procedures at both the point of sale and delivery stages, with a Challenge 25 policy implemented at the point of delivery.
- 25.3 Particular attention should be paid to making it clear to customers that receipt of orders that contain alcohol must be by an adult. Retailers should ensure that delivery staff have been given appropriate training in procedures relating to requesting and identifying proof of age, and implement these procedures as standard.
- 25.4 Any promotional material including the name of the business and website should be consistent with the responsible sale of alcohol. Additionally, any website URL or telephone number to be used for orders is expected to be given to the licensing authority.
- 25.5 A zero-tolerance approach to new psychoactive substances (NPS) is also expected of operators.
- 25.6 The delivery of alcohol to problematic house parties causing local nuisance and disorder has been a problem in some areas of the city. Operators are expected to use their discretion to ensure that deliveries are refused in situations experiencing alcohol-related nuisance or is not given to persons who appear drunk.
- 25.7 Where the authority's discretion is engaged following relevant representations, conditions restricting the operation of alcohol delivery services may be imposed by the authority where appropriate for the promotion of the licensing objectives.

26.0 Minor Variations to premise licences or club premises certificates

- 26.1 It is possible to make small changes to a premises licence or club premises certificate through the minor variation process, which is cheaper, easier and quicker than the full variation process.
- 26.2 A minor variation is defined as one that could not impact adversely on any of the four licensing objectives. The process may be used for changes such as:
- small changes to the structure or layout of a premises;
 - the addition of authorisation for late night refreshment or regulated entertainment (such as performance of plays or film exhibitions);
 - small changes to licensing hours;
 - revisions, removals and additions of conditions (this could include the removal or amendment of out of date, irrelevant or unenforceable conditions, or the addition of volunteered conditions)and
 - any other minor matter where it is considered that the application does not adversely impact on one or more of the licensing objectives.
- 26.3 The Minor Variations process cannot be used to:

- add the retail or supply of alcohol to a licence
- extend licensing hours for the sale or supply of alcohol at any time between 11pm and 7am;
- increase the amount of time on any day during which alcohol may be sold by retail or supplied;
- extend the period for which the licence or certificate has effect;
- transfer the licence or certificate from one premises to another, or vary substantially the premises to which it relates
- specify, in a premises licence, an individual as the premises supervisor;
- add the sale by retail or supply of alcohol as an activity authorised by a licence or certificate; or
- disapply the mandatory conditions relating to a designated premises supervisor (there is a separate process by which community premises can apply for this).

26.4 A simplified process will be adopted for minor variations. The licensing authority will consult with any relevant responsible authority that it deems appropriate (if any) and any representations from them will be considered.

26.5 Whilst each application will be considered on its individual merits, it will be normal practice to refuse an application for a minor variation in favour of a full variation should any representations be received, unless agreement can be reached which satisfies the representation.

26.6 In the absence of any representation the minor variation would normally be granted provided that there is no likelihood of any adverse effect on the licensing objectives.

27.0 Licence Reviews

- 27.1 The proceedings set out in the Act and regulations represent a key protection for the community where there are problems associated with licensed premises.
- 27.2 Any person can apply for a review of a licence. The licensing authority encourages licensed premises, local residents and businesses to work together in achieving the promotion of the licensing objectives. Where problems arise it can be constructive for local residents to approach the manager of the licensed premises in the first instance. Alternatively, problems can just be reported to the licensing authority for them to address with the premises concerned. Responsible authorities are encouraged to give licence holders early warning of any concerns identified at a particular premise.
- 27.3 When considering whether any licensable activity should be permitted, on receipt of any relevant representations, the Authority will assess the likelihood of it causing unacceptable adverse impact, particularly on local residents, by considering the following factors amongst other relevant matters:
- the type of use, the number of customers likely to attend the premises and the type of customers at the time of the application;
 - the proposed hours of operation;
 - the level of public transport accessibility for customers either arriving or leaving premises and the likely means of public or private transport that will be used by the customers;
 - the means of access to the premises, which should have customer entrances on the principal pedestrian routes;
 - the cumulative impact of licensed premises in an area;
 - the scope for mitigating any impact;
 - how often the activity occurs.
 - and, in considering any application for a premises which is already licensed, the Authority will take into account any evidence:
 - of past demonstrable adverse impact from the activity, especially on local residents;
- Or
- that, if adverse impact has been caused, appropriate measures have been agreed and put into effect by the applicant to mitigate the adverse impact. If, however, such measures have not been put into effect or there has been insufficient time to assess them, this could impact on the determination of the application;
- Or
- of past history of the premises, where there have been no relevant complaints or problems.
- 27.5 The prime purpose of this part of the policy is to achieve the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance. In furtherance of this aim the policy lists particular matters that the Authority will take into account in considering whether a licensed activity is likely to cause an adverse impact, particularly to local residents:

- The precise nature of the activity, especially for entertainment, will be a factor in considering the impact, principally in terms of the age and orderliness of the customers.
- Levels of noise from licensed premises, which may be acceptable at certain times of day, may not be acceptable later in the evening or at night when ambient noise levels are much lower.
- The Authority's preference is to see licensed activities located in places where customers are not reliant on private car use, and can walk or use public transport. The Borough varies considerably. In town centres, a high use of public transport could be expected by the customers of licensed premises but, even there, car use is likely to increase when activities go on very late. Consequently, there could be unacceptable parking and traffic in nearby residential areas.
- The main impact of customers arriving, queuing and leaving should be confined to principal pedestrian routes as far as possible. It would not be appropriate, for instance, to have licensed activities which cause large numbers of people to exit into a residential area as opposed to a situation where pedestrian movement takes place directly to and from nearby public transport services.

27.6 With any adverse impact it may be possible to take steps to mitigate or prevent the impact and if such measures are reliable an activity may be licensed. In accordance with Government guidance, the decisions taken by the Authority will obviously be focused on matters within the control of individual licensees, and others granted relevant permissions, and the steps they can take to achieve the licensing objectives. Accordingly, these matters will centre on the premises and places being used for licensable activities and the likely impact of those activities on members of public living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned.

27.7 In taking its decisions the Authority accepts the difficulty a licence holder has in preventing anti-social behaviour by individuals, once they are beyond the direct control of that licence holder. However, it will also take into account that the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance will not be achieved if patrons from licensed premises regularly engage in anti-social activities to the detriment of nearby residents or businesses.

27.8 The aim of the policy is to achieve a balanced approach to these difficult issues.

27.9 The Authority has a range of powers when determining a review; it may take any of the following steps:

- to modify the conditions of the premises licence (which includes adding new conditions or any alteration or omission of an existing condition), for example, by reducing the hours of opening or by requiring door supervisors at particular times;
- to exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence, for example, to exclude the performance of live music or playing of

recorded music (where it is not within the incidental live and recorded music exemption);

- to remove the designated premises supervisor, for example, because they consider that the problems are the result of poor management;
- to suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months;
- to revoke the licence.

27.10 The Authority and responsible authorities will use the review procedures effectively to ensure promotion of the licensing objectives. Where reviews arise and the Authority determines that the matter under review is seriously detrimental to one or more of the licensing objectives revocation of the licence, even in the first instance, may be seriously considered. Appendix 9 explains to applicants the role of Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority.

27.11 Where an applicant is aggrieved by any decision or condition, there is a right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court. This appeal must be lodged within a period of 21 days from the day on which the applicant was notified by the Council of the decision. Unless an appeal is lodged a review decision takes effect at the end of the appeal period.

27.12 The Council will give comprehensive reasons for its decisions. The Council will also address the extent to which the decision has been made with regard to its statement of licensing policy and the Guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 182

28.0 Compliance and Enforcement

- 28.1 The Council delivers a wide range of enforcement services aimed at safeguarding the environment and the community and at providing a 'level playing field' on which businesses can fairly trade. The administration and enforcement of the licensing regime is one of these services. The Council has adopted the Government's Enforcement Concordat designed to ensure effective and efficient public protection services. Specifically, the Council is committed to accord with the principles of good enforcement practice by carrying out its regulatory functions in a fair, open and consistent manner and will abide by its own Enforcement Policy.
- 28.2 The Enforcement Concordat is based on the principles that businesses should:
- - receive clear explanations from enforcers of what they need to do and by when;
 - have opportunities to resolve differences before enforcement action is taken
 - unless immediate action is needed;
 - receive an explanation of their rights of appeal.
- 28.3 All decisions and enforcement action taken by the Council will have regard to the relevant provisions of the Act, national guidance, the Enforcement Policy of the Council, and to the principles of the Enforcement Concordat. The Public Protection enforcement policy is currently being reviewed and the Council has, and will continue to have, regard to the statutory Regulator's code, issued by the Better Regulation Delivery Office under section 22 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. Once adopted this will be placed on the council website
- 28.4 The Council intends to establish enforcement protocols with Greater Manchester Police on enforcement issues to provide for efficient deployment of local authority staff and police officers who may be engaged in enforcing licensing law and the inspection of licensed premises. An existing joint partnership approach is intended to prevent duplication of effort, maximise the potential for controlling crime and disorder at premises and to ensure compliance when relevant conditions are appropriate.
- 28.5 Enforcement will be targeted to problem and high risk premises/activities which require greater attention, premises which are well run and managed and therefore present a lower risk will enjoy a greater degree of self regulation.
- 28.6 Compliance visits will take place at the discretion of the Authority, working with partner agencies and resources will be prioritised towards areas of greatest need.
- 28.7 The Authority will continue to work with the licensing trade to ensure compliance of the Licensing Act and the promotion of the licensing objectives. Officers attend local pub watch meetings on an invitation basis.

28.8 The Authority will investigate complaints where it is alleged that licensable activities have/or are to take place without the relevant licence/certificate/notice and will use its discretion to determine whether, in the circumstances, it is in the public interest to take enforcement action. Factors which may be taken into account are:

- The nature of the event
- The impact/likely impact of the event
- The safety measures in place to deal with any possible risks.

28.9 The licensing authority works in conjunction with partners such as Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Greater Manchester Police, Planning Department, Bury Safe, Bury Drugs and Alcohol Strategy Team, National Health Service (NHS), Bury Safeguarding Children Board and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, in delivering a range of initiatives aimed at ensuring the promotion of the Licensing Objectives throughout Bury such as:

- Joint-agency enforcement exercises
- Proactive monitoring of licensed premises
- Test purchase operations
- The establishment of Public Spaces Protection Orders deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone.

28.10 The Authority will undertake surveillance relating to under-age sales to ensure compliance with legal and conditional requirements.

28.11 Where a licence holder is convicted of an offence under the Act, associated legislation or as a result of some other serious crime or event a review of the licence will be considered.

29.0 Suspension of premises licence for non-payment of the annual fee

29.1 The Licensing Authority is required to suspend a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate if the annual fee has not been paid when it is due. Where a Premises Licence or Club Premises Certificate has been suspended, no licensable activities can be lawfully carried out at the premises until the annual fee has been paid. The suspension will be lifted immediately upon payment of the fee and the licensable activities can be resumed.

29.2 If an annual fee has not been paid by the due date, the licence holder will be notified accordingly by the Licensing Authority and given notice of the date the suspension will take effect.

30.0 Additional considerations

30.1 Purple Flag

Purple Flag is an external accreditation designed to provide recognition that a town or city centre is managing its night time experience (17.00 – 06.00) and thus helping overcome any negative public perceptions that may exist. It provides the opportunity for a centre to present itself in a positive light to town centre users, including operators, residents, tourists and visitors.

Purple Flag has been developed by from original research undertaken by the Civic Trust. This showed that:

- More people would use centres at night if they were safer, more accessible and offered more choice
- A good mix of clientele can lessen intimidation and improve perceptions
- A wider range of attractions and consumers leads to longer term economic viability

In January 2020, Bury Council were awarded the Purple Flag accreditation for Bury Town Centre for the fifth successive year. The Authority may look favourably on applications that promote the agenda and attributes of the accreditation.

Further info at www.purpleflag.org.uk

30.2 Large Scale Events

If you wish to hold an event in a public space in Bury general advice on organising events is available on the Council website: <https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11740> . Contact can also be made with the Council's Licensing Unit to discuss the application further.

Licensees should also make reference to The Event Safety Guide – A Guide to Health, Safety and Welfare at Music and Similar Events, commonly referred to as 'The Purple Guide'

Landowners within the Borough will be encouraged to licence publicly accessible open spaces for appropriate activities.

30.3 Film Classification

30.3.1 Where a Premises Licence authorises the exhibition of films, the licence must include a condition requiring the admission of children to films to be restricted in accordance with:

- Either the BBFC classification;
- Or where the film is not classified by the BBFC, any recommendations made by the licensing authority.

- 30.3.2 In accordance with the guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, the licensing authority shall concern itself primarily with the protection of children from harm when classifying films. It will not use its powers to censor films save where there is clear cause to believe this is required to promote the licensing objectives.
- 30.3.3 The licensing authority considers the classification system used by the BBFC to be nationally understood and accepted. It will, therefore, use this system as a reference point for determining its recommendation(s) on the restriction of access of children to the film(s). However, it should be noted that the licensing authority is not obliged to follow these guidelines.
- 30.3.4 Requests for certification by the licensing authority should be made at least 28 days in advance of the proposed screening date and submitted to the Licensing Unit. Requests should include:
- A DVD copy of the film
 - Details of any existing classification issued by an existing classification body, whether within or outside the UK
 - A synopsis identifying the material within the film considered by the exhibitor to be likely to have a bearing on the age limit for the audience for exhibition of the film
 - Such recommendation as may have been made by the film-maker upon age limit for the intended audience for exhibition of the film
 - Proposal of age restriction by the applicant.

30.2 Pubwatch and Off-licence Forums

- 30.3.1 Membership of such schemes are demonstrations of good practice by the licensed trade and are supported by the Licensing Authority as well as partner agencies such as Greater Manchester Police and Public Health England. The Authority encourages licensees to participate in such local groups, or for them to seek to establish new ones where none currently exist. The Authority will endeavour to provide as much support as possible to any members of the trade looking to work together with neighbouring residents and businesses to ensure the promotion of the Licensing Objectives.

30.3 The use of tables and chairs on the public highway (Street Cafe Licence)

- 33.4.1 Licensed premises that wish to use a portion of a public street, road or place for the for the placing of tables, chairs or other temporary furniture outside a restaurant or cafe for patrons to use may only do so under permission of a Street Cafe licence issued by the Council as Highway Authority. Applicants should be aware that approval is not automatic and no tables or chairs should be placed on the highway until formal approval has been obtained

- 33.4.2 Street Cafe licences are subject to their own specific restrictions, including limitations on the hours during which they may be used and the number of tables and chairs that may be provided.
- 33.4.3 Where these areas include the provision of any licensable activities, including the sale of alcohol they must be included in the plan attached to the licence or certificate.
- 33.4.4 Applicants are expected to have specific regard to the impact upon the Licensing Objectives that the operation of any areas on the public highway that are licensed for tables and chairs might have.
- 13.4.5 Applicants should note that the grant of a premises licence to include part of the highway does not in itself grant permission to use that part of the highway and similarly a licence from the highway authority does not grant permission to undertake any other licensable activity.
- 33.4.6 The Business & Planning Act 2020 Pavement Café Licences
July 2020 saw the introduction of Pavement Café Licences a new temporary regulatory regime for the licensing of tables and chairs on the highways following the Covid 19 Pandemic. This regime is set to end 30 September 2021 More information can be found on the councils website at <https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11018>

30.4 Early Morning Alcohol Restriction Orders

- 30.4.1 An Early Morning Alcohol Restriction Order (EMRO) allows the licensing authority to restrict the sale of alcohol at a specified time between the hours of midnight and 6:00am. There are no exceptions except for the supply of alcohol to residents with overnight accommodation via minibars and room service.
- 33.5.2 EMROs are intended to deal with alcohol-related crime & disorder anti-social behaviour, and serious public nuisance, which is not directly attributable to individual licensed premises. EMROs only apply to the sale or supply of alcohol they do not affect authorised hours for regulated entertainment or late night refreshment
- 33.5.3 An EMRO can apply to a specific area or even single street, it does not need to be Borough wide. It can apply to specific days of the week, can specify different times for different days of the week, and can apply to limited periods of the year or for an unlimited period. But it cannot apply on New Year's Eve/New Year's Day;
- 33.5.4 Any consideration for the introduction of an EMRO would be the subject of separate formal consultation and, if it is to be introduced, must be adopted at a meeting of the full Council

30.5 Late Night Levy

- 33.6.1 A Late Night Levy (LNL) enables Licensing Authorities to raise a contribution towards the costs of policing the Night Time Economy (NTE) by charging a levy on holders of Premises Licences and Club Premises Certificates authorised to sell alcohol.
- 33.6.2 It would apply across the whole Borough and be applicable to any premises licensed to operate from a fixed time between 00.00 hrs – 06.00 hrs.
- 33.6.3 Any consideration for the introduction of a LNL would be the subject of separate formal consultation and, if it is to be introduced, must be adopted at a meeting of the full Council.

Appendix 1

Responsible Authorities

Licensing Authority

3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ
Tel Number: 0161 253 5208
Email: licensing@bury.gov.uk

Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service

Protection Department
Bury Fire Station
Magdalene Road
Bury
BL9 0ES
Tel Number: 0161 909 0313
Email: area2fireprotectionteam@manchesterfire.gov.uk

Bury Safeguarding Children Board

18-20 St Mary's Place
Bury
BL9 0DZ
Tel Number: 0161 253 5705
Email: safeguardingteam@bury.gov.uk

Planning Authority

3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ
Tel Number: 0161 253 5314
Email: planning@bury.gov.uk

Greater Manchester Police

Dunster Road
Bury,
BL9 0RD
Tel Number: 0161 856 8177
Email: NDiv.Partnership@gmp.police.uk

Public Protection

Health & Safety, Pollution and Weights & Measures Sections
3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ
Tel Number: 0161 253 5353

Emails:

Pollution and Health & Safety: commercial@bury.gov.uk

Weights and Measures: tradingstandards@bury.gov.uk

Public Health

3 knowsley Place

Duke Street

Bury

BL90EJ

Email: publichealth@bury.gov.uk

Immigration

Alcohol Licensing Team

Lunar House

40 Wellesley Road

Croydon

CR9 2BY

Email: Alcohol@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Neighbouring Authorities

Bolton 01204 336570

Blackburn 01254 585585

Rochdale 01706 647474

Rossendale 01706 217777

Salford Council 0161 794 4711

Appendix 2**Exercise and delegation of functions**

The Council Constitution delegates the governance arrangements in respect of the Licensing Act 2003 to the Licensing and Safety Panel except Policy issues which are reserved to Council by the Act. The delegated functions are exercised in accordance with this table.

The Licensing & Safety Panel consists of 13 members, with a quorum of 3. A Hearings Panel consists of 3 members.

Matter to be dealt with	Full Panel	Hearings Panel	Officers
Application for personal licence		If a representation made	If no representation made
Application for personal licence with unspent convictions		All cases	
Application for premises licence/club premises certificate		If a representation made	If no representation made
Application for provisional statement		If a representation made	If no representation made
Application to vary designated personal licence holder		If a police representation	All other cases
Request to be removed as designated personal licence holder			All cases
Application for transfer of premises licence		If a police representation	All other cases
Application for Interim Authorities		If police representation	All other cases
Application to review premises licence/club premises certificate		All cases	
Decision on			All cases

whether a complaint is irrelevant frivolous vexatious etc			
Matter to be dealt with	Full Panel	Hearings Panel	Officers
Decision to object when local authority is a consultee and not the lead authority			All cases
Decision to object when local authority is a consultee and not the lead authority		All cases	
Determination of an objection to a temporary event notice		All cases	
Determination of an application to vary premises licence at community premises to include alternative licence condition.		If Police objection	All other cases
Decision whether to consult other responsible authorities on minor variation application			All cases
Determination of application for minor variation			All cases
Decision on whether a representation is irrelevant, frivolous or vexatious			All cases
Application for review by Licensing			All cases

Authority			

Appendix 3

Mandatory Conditions

This licence is granted subject to any **Mandatory Conditions** imposed by the Licensing Act 2003, **and conditions volunteered** on the application form to be undertaken by the applicant and where necessary, **conditions imposed by the Licensing Authority** in order to promote the Licensing Objectives.

Mandatory Conditions:

- a No supply of alcohol may be made under the Premises Licence at a time when there is no Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) in respect of the Premises Licence OR at a time when the Designated Premises Supervisor does not hold a Personal Licence or his/her Personal Licence has been suspended.
- b Every supply of alcohol under the Premises Licence must be made or authorized by a person who holds a Personal Licence.
- c Any Door Security staff employed to carry out a security activity at the premises must be licensed with the Security Industry Authority (SIA).
- d. In respect of the exhibition of films as mentioned below:
 - 1 The admission of children to the exhibitions of any film is restricted as follows:
 - 2 Where the film classification body is specified in the licence, unless 3(b) below applies, the admission of children is restricted in accordance with any recommendation of that body.
 - 3 Where:-
 - (a) the film classification body is not specified in this licence, or
 - (b) the licensing authority has notified the holder of the licence that this subsection applies to the film in question,the admission of children is restricted in accordance with any recommendation made by the licensing authority.
 - 4 In relation to the above:
"children" means persons under the age of 18 years; and
"film classification body" means the persons or person designated as the authority under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984.

Mandatory Conditions pursuant to The Licensing Act 2003

Mandatory Licensing Conditions (Amendment) Order 2014

- 1. (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.

(2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises:

(a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to:

(i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or

(ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise)

(b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective

(c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective

(d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner

(e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of disability).

2. The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.

3. (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.

(2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.

(3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification bearing their photograph, date of birth and either:

(a) a holographic mark, or

(b) an ultraviolet feature.

4. The responsible person must ensure that:

(a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures:

- (i) beer or cider: ½ pint
- (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml, and
- (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml

(b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises, and

(c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.

Definition:

Responsible person - as defined by section 153 (4) Licensing Act 2003

-

(a) *In relation to a licensed premises -*

- (i) *the holder of a premises licence in relation to a premises*
- (ii) *the designated premises supervisor (if any) under such a licence*
- (iii) *any individual aged 18 or over who is authorised for the purposes of this section by such a holder or supervisor.*

(b) *In relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables him to prevent the supply in question.*

The Licensing Act 2003 (Mandatory Conditions) Order 2014

1. A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.
2. For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1—

(a) "duty" is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979

(b) "permitted price" is the price found by applying the formula—

$$P = D + (D \times V)$$

where—

- (i) P is the permitted price,
- (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and

- (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence—
 - (i) the holder of the premises licence,
 - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
 - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;
- (d) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and
- (e) "value added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

3. Where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.

4. (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 on a day ("the first day") would be different from the permitted price on the next day ("the second day") as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.

(2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.

Appendix 4

Licensing Act 2003 – Model conditions

NOTE: the conditions below do not form part of the policy and will continue to be developed, if you have any questions about these conditions, please contact the Licensing Office.

The following conditions are offered for consideration by Licensing Hearings Panels should the Panel consider a licence be granted with additional and/ or modified conditions. They may also be offered by applicants through the application or mediation processes. It is not the intention to apply all these model conditions to each and every licence. It is accepted that any conditions will only be attached to a licence where it is reasonable and proportionate to do so and promotes one or more of the licensing objectives.

Any risk assessment to identify necessary conditions will consider the individual circumstances of the premises including:

- The nature and style of the venue
- The activities being conducted there
- The location and
- Anticipated clientele

Proposed Licensing Act 2003 Model Conditions

Martyn's Law

At all times that the premises are open to the public for licensable activities, all staff on-duty at the premises and all on-duty managers must have completed ACT:Awareness training. In addition, a minimum of 1 on-duty manager must also have completed the ACT:Operational or ACT:Strategic training.

The Designated Premises Supervisor must complete the ACT:Awareness training and ACT:Operational or ACT:Strategic training course within 28 days of the grant or variation of the licence. Should the Designated Premises Supervisor named on the licence change, the new Designated Premises Supervisor must complete those courses within 28 days of being named on the licence.

Within 28 days of the grant or variation of the licence, a documented security vulnerability assessment, which must incorporate counter terrorism measures, must be undertaken for the premises to include all areas in which licensable activities takes place and which the public will have access and/or transit through. The assessment shall be routinely reviewed and must be reviewed following the elevation of the change of the national threat level. All reviews shall be documented.

Within 28 days of the grant or variation of the licence, the premises licence holder shall evaluate any risks identified through the security vulnerability assessment and take promptly such steps to eliminate them or to reduce the risk as far as is reasonably practicable. A documented record must be maintained of any remedial action implemented and made available upon request to any police officer or an authorised officer of Bury Council.

Within 28 days of the grant or variation of the licence, the premises must have a documented counter-terrorism plan, which sets out counter measures to be

implemented in response to a terrorist attack, through the principles of 'Guide', Shelter' and 'Communicate' -

- **Guide** – Direct people towards the most appropriate location (invacuation, evacuation, hide)
- **Shelter** – Understand how your place or space might be able to lock-down and shelter people within it for several hours
- **Communicate** – Have a means of communicating effectively and promptly with users of your place and have staff capable of giving clear instructions. Also have the capability of integrating with any response or rescue operation by providing things like building plans.

Admission and control of entry

The designated queuing area shall be enclosed within appropriate barriers and ensure that a minimum width of 1.8m [or specify if greater] is maintained on the footway to allow safe passage by pedestrians.

An ID scanning system approved in writing by the licensing authority must be operated at the premises at all times it is open to the public. All persons entering the premises must provide verifiable ID and record their details on the system.

All persons entering or re-entering the premises must be searched by an SIA registered door supervisor [and all searches must be monitored by the premises CCTV system].

No patron shall be admitted or readmitted to the premises [after XX:XX hours] unless they have [passed through a metal detecting search arch] [been searched using hand-held electronic search wands] and, if the search equipment is activated, have been physically searched in accordance with a procedure agreed with Greater Manchester Police, which must include a 'pat down search' and a full bag search. Search equipment must be kept in working order.

No customer will be permitted to enter or re-enter the premises between the hours of [specify] save for persons who have temporarily left the premises (e.g. to smoke).

Between [specified times] no customer will be permitted to enter or leave the premises by means of [specified entrances].

No more than [insert number] customers will be permitted on the premises at any one time.

The premises licence holder shall ensure a suitable method of calculating the number of people present during licensable activities is in place.

Door supervisors

Door supervision must be provided on (specify days / circumstance). Door supervisors must be on duty from [specify hours] and must remain on duty until the premises are closed and all the customers have left.

On [specify days/hours], at least [insert number] of SIA registered door supervisors must be on duty at the premises [specify location at the premises] [or as shown on the plan].

Door supervisors shall be employed at the ratio of [XX] door supervisor for every 100 customers (or part thereof).

Door supervisors shall be employed by the premises based upon a risk assessment carried out in relation to the following factors:

- (i) Size of the venue
- (ii) Expected attendance
- (iii) Type of event taking place
- (iv) Location of the premises
- (v) Time of year
- (vi) Special occasion (New Year, Halloween, Local events etc.)
- (vii) Premises Licence Conditions

At least [XX] female door supervisor(s) shall be on duty at the premises at such times as door supervisors are required to be provided.

All door supervisors, and other persons engaged at the premises for the purpose of supervising or controlling queues or customers, must wear [high visibility jackets or vests or armbands].

Any door supervisors on duty at the premises must be supplied by an SIA-Approved Contractor Scheme company.

The Designated Premises Supervisor or on-duty manager must ensure that all door supervisors on duty at the premises are correctly displaying their current SIA accreditation and are briefed on their responsibilities and relevant company operating procedures before they commence duty.

Door supervisors must be provided with radios to enable them to contact each other and the duty manager at the premises.

Where SIA registered door supervisors are used at the premises, a record must be kept of their SIA registration number and the dates and times when they are on duty.

Bodycams

On [specify days/hours], at least [insert number] of SIA registered door supervisors on duty at [specify location at the premises] [or as shown on the plan] must wear working body cams.

All body cams must:

- (i) be activated by the wearer to record any incident of crime and disorder they witness;
- (ii) provide a continuous recording loop designed to ensure that relevant information is still captured if the User is unable to immediately activate the recording;
- (iii) produce an acceptable video recording under street lighting and inside buildings, including low-light conditions
- (iv) be overt, be pointed correctly to ensure best evidence is captured, and worn so that it will not be obscured by clothing;
- (v) be capable of clearly recording a conversation between the User and people in close proximity; and be optimised to record speech rather than background noise;
- (vi) record synchronised video and audio;

- (vii) employ a wide-angle lens that records a broad scene in full focus;
- (viii) be securely attached to avoid accidental loss and malicious removal
- (ix) be equipped with sufficient storage and battery capacity to cover the requirements of a working shift.
- (x) record in a format viewable in its original format using free software including VLC media player
- (xi) when transferred off the device, recordings should be preserved in their original format and any metadata retained
- (xii) must always show the correct time and date in video footage, for evidential continuity
- (xiii) be capable of still capturing video if the microphone malfunctions, and audio is still captured if the camera malfunctions.
- (xiv) not overwrite data once recording capacity is reached.

A record must be kept of the SIA registration number of the door supervisor and the ID of bodycam worn by them.

Bodycam images must be stored so that they are retrievable and accessible for replay and viewing, and kept in an environment that will not be detrimental to the quality or capacity for future viewing. They should be appropriately labelled to enable identification and retrieval and kept for a minimum of 28 days.

The premises licence holder must ensure there are members of trained staff at the premises during operating hours able to provide viewable copies on request to police or authorised local authority officers as soon as is reasonably practicable in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 (or any replacement legislation).

CCTV

The premises licence holder must ensure that:

- (i) CCTV cameras are located within the premises to cover all public areas including all entrances and exits [The location of cameras could also be specified on the plan attached to the premises licence].
- (ii) The system records clear images permitting the identification of individuals.

- (iii) The CCTV system is able to capture a minimum of 24 frames per second and all recorded footage must be securely retained for a minimum of 28 days.
- (iv) The CCTV system operates at all times while the premises are open for licensable activities [or specify timings].
- (v) All equipment must have a constant and accurate time and date generation.
- (vi) The CCTV system is fitted with security functions to prevent recordings being tampered with, i.e. password protected.
- (vii) There are members of trained staff at the premises during operating hours able to provide viewable copies on request to police or authorised local authority officers as soon as is reasonably practicable in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 (or any replacement legislation).

Preventing illegal drug use

There shall be a lockable 'drugs box' at the premises to which no member of staff, except the DPS and/or [designated role-holder at business], shall have access. All controlled drugs (or items suspected to be, or containing controlled drugs) found at the premises must be placed in this box as soon as practicable. Whenever this box is emptied, all its contents must be given to Greater Manchester Police for appropriate disposal.

Promotional activity

The premises licence holder must submit to [insert contact details for Responsible Authority] a completed risk assessment form as prescribed at least 28 days before any event that is

- (i) carried on by any person not affiliated with the venue; and
- (ii) promoted / advertised to the public.

No promotional social media communication may be carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol at the premises, which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise antisocial behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner.

Incident reporting

An incident log (which may be electronically recorded) shall be kept at the premises for at least six months, and made available on request to the police or an authorised officer of the licensing authority, which will record the following incidents including pertinent details (delete as appropriate):

- (i) All alleged crimes reported to the venue or by the venue to the police
- (ii) All ejections of patrons
- (iii) Any complaints received
- (iv) Any incidents of disorder
- (v) Seizures of drugs, offensive weapons, fraudulent ID or other items
- (vi) Any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment
- (vii) Any refusal of the sale of alcohol
- (viii) Any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment
- (ix) Any visit by a responsible authority or emergency service
- (x) The times on duty, names and the licence numbers of all licensed door supervisors employed by the premises.

Staff training (alcohol & vulnerability welfare)

34a) All staff authorised to sell alcohol shall be trained in (delete as appropriate):

- (i) Relevant age restrictions in respect of products
- (ii) Prevent underage sales
- (iii) Prevent proxy sales
- (iv) Maintain the refusals log
- (v) Enter sales correctly on the tills so the prompts show as appropriate
- (vi) Recognising signs of drunkenness and vulnerability
- (vii) How overservice of alcohol impacts on the four objectives of the Licensing Act 2003
- (viii) How to refuse service
- (ix) The premises' duty of care policy, understanding and dealing with situations involving vulnerable people, and incidents of harassment

- (x) Action to be taken in the event of an emergency, including the preservation of a crime scene and reporting an incident to the emergency services
 - (xi) The conditions in force under this licence.
- 34b) Training must include evidence that the trainee has gained knowledge and understanding of the training, which may consist of a test or quiz, completed and signed by the trainee.
- 34c) Documented records of training completed shall be kept for each member of staff. Training shall be regularly refreshed and at no greater than 6 [or specify] monthly intervals. Training records shall be made available for inspection upon request by a police officer or an authorised officer of Bury Council.

Preventing and dealing with drunkenness and vulnerability

35. The premises shall have a documented Duty of Care policy for managing intoxicated and vulnerable customers and dealing with incidents of harassment at the premises. The policy shall also include provision for persons refused entry to the premises who are also considered vulnerable by staff.

The premises shall display prominent signage indicating [at any point of sale] [at the entrance to the premises] [in all areas where alcohol is located] that it is an offence to sell alcohol to anyone who is drunk.

A Personal licence Holder must be present at the premises to supervise all sales of alcohol.

A minimum of [specify] persons must be employed and on duty at the premises between [specify days/hours] who are specifically tasked to maintain the safety of customers who may be vulnerable, ill or in distress as a result of alcohol and/or drug-related intoxication. Such persons must be trained on drunkenness, vulnerability, and drugs awareness in the night-time economy; and responding to these matters.

The premises shall provide facilities for customers to securely recharge their mobile phones.

Glassware and use of ice fountains / bottle sparklers

Drinks must only be served in polycarbonate/plastic containers [on specified days or events] [upon reasonable notice by Greater Manchester Police].

Customers will not be permitted to remove from the premises any drinks supplied by the premises (alcoholic or otherwise) in open containers [except for consumption in any delineated external area as shown on the plan attached to the licence].

Spirit, Champagne and all other glass bottles greater than [70cl] are restricted to customers seated at a [table] [booth] in the delineated area[s] as shown on the plan attached to the licence. These bottles must be secured to the table or ice bucket and must only be dispensed by a member of staff who is trained in the responsible service of alcohol. Customers must not be permitted to leave their table carrying any such bottle, or be permitted to drink directly from the bottle.

Ice fountains or similar products (which are classed as HT4 explosives):

- a) Must be kept in their original packaging and only stored in a secure store room or fire-resistant cabinet that the public have no access to. The room/cabinet must be kept locked, except for the depositing or removal of products but must be locked immediately thereafter.
- b) Their use must be risk assessed in advance and appropriate control measure put in place to reduce the risk to staff and customers, which must include (but is not limited to):
 - (i) staff training in their safe use and dispersal
 - (ii) the provision of appropriate first aid training and equipment
 - (iii) suitability of areas of the premises where the products will be used
- c) The risk assessment and control measures identified must be documented, kept on the premises and made available for inspection to a police, fire or authorised officer upon request.

Preventing underage sales

The Challenge [21] [25] scheme must be operated to ensure that any person who appears to be under the age of [21] [25] shall provide documented proof that he/she is over 18 years of age. Proof of age shall only comprise a passport, photo card driving licence, an EU/EEA national ID card or similar document, an HM Forces warrant card, a card bearing the PASS hologram, or any electronic or biometric age verification technology approved by the licensing authority.

The premises shall display prominent signage indicating [at any point of sale] [at the entrance to the premises] [in all areas where alcohol is located] that the Challenge [21] [25] scheme is in operation.

The premises shall display prominent signage indicating [at any point of sale] [at the entrance to the premises] [in all areas where alcohol is located] that it is an offence to buy or attempt to buy alcohol for a person who is under 18 and for a person under the age of 18 to buy or attempt to buy alcohol.

A refusals record must be kept at the premises which details all refusals to sell alcohol. This record must include the date and time of the incident, a description of the customer, the name of the staff member who refused the sale, and the reason the sale was refused. All entries must be made within 24 hours of the refusal. The record must be made available for inspection and copying within [specify days / hours or a reasonable time] of a request by an officer of a Responsible Authority.

Alcohol deliveries

The premises licence holder shall provide the following information in writing to the licensing authority before any sale of alcohol is carried out (and notify change to this information to the licensing authority within 7 days):

- (i) The trading name of any company that will operate under the licence
- (ii) All telephone numbers that will be used to accept orders
- (iii) The URL/website address that will be used to accept orders.

Any promotional material and/or any website home page used as part of the business operating under this licence will clearly state the premises licence number. For the

avoidance of doubt, this includes flyers, leaflets and business cards promoting the business.

All deliveries of alcohol shall only be delivered to a premises address with a valid postcode and will only be delivered directly to that property.

Restaurants and takeaways (alcohol)

The premises must only operate as a restaurant:

- (i) in which customers are seated at a table,
- (ii) which provides food in the form of substantial table meals that are prepared on the premises and are served and consumed at the table using non-disposable crockery,
- (iii) which do not provide any take away service of food or drink for immediate consumption, and
- (iv) where alcohol must not be sold, supplied, or consumed on the premises otherwise than to persons who are taking substantial table meals and provided always that the consumption of alcohol by such persons is ancillary to taking such meals.

Sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall only be supplied with, and ancillary to, a takeaway meal.

Restricting alcohol sales in relation to designated special events, eg. football matches

Prior to any [designated special event by Greater Manchester Police] ['designated sporting event' (as defined in the Sporting Events Control of Alcohol Act 1985)] the premises licence holder shall ensure that:

- (i) Alcohol sales in respect of cans of beer or cider are limited to no more than four cans per person for a minimum of four hours before the commencement of the relevant designated [special] [sporting] event
- (ii) No sales of alcohol in bottles or glass containers are made in the period four hours before the commencement of the designated [special] [sporting] event

- (iii) Alcohol sales cease for a period of one hour immediately before the commencement of the relevant designated [special] [sporting] event
- (iv) On any day where there is a relevant designated [special] [sporting] event taking place, the premises will not externally advertise as a result of a local store promotion the availability of beer or cider in such a way as to be likely to be the sole inducement to attract persons to the premises who are either attending the designated [special] [sporting] event or in the vicinity of the premises as a result of the designated [special] [sporting] event
- (v) All members of staff working at the premises are informed of this condition prior to taking up employment
- (vi) On the day of the relevant designated [special] [sporting] event, upon the direction of a police officer, using the grounds of the prevention of crime and disorder or public safety, the premises will immediately cease to sell alcohol until further directed.

Use of special effects

Any special effects or mechanical installations shall be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of those using the premises. The following special effects will only be used if 10 days' prior notice is given to the licensing authority where consent has not previously been given:

- (i) Dry ice and cryogenic fog
- (ii) Smoke machines and fog generators
- (iii) Pyrotechnics, including fireworks
- (iv) Firearms (eg. Blank firing pistols)
- (v) Lasers
- (vi) Explosives and highly flammable substances
- (vii) Real flame
- (viii) Strobe lighting.

Emergencies

The premises licence holder shall ensure that at all times when the public is present there is at least one competent person able to administer first aid, that an adequate and appropriate supply of first aid equipment and materials is available on the

premises, and that adequate records are maintained in relation to the supply of any first aid treatment.

All external emergency exit doors shall be fitted with sensor alarms and visible indicators to alert staff when the doors have been opened.

All staff on duty at the premises shall be trained in the Emergency and Evacuation procedures for the premises and aware of their individual responsibilities. This includes any door supervisors. Documented records of training completed shall be kept for each member of staff. Training shall be regularly refreshed and at no greater than [specify] monthly intervals. Training records shall be made available for inspection upon request by a police officer or an authorised officer of Manchester City Council.

The premises shall have a minimum 20m rescue throwline available on the premises for emergency use. All on-duty staff (including security) shall be knowledgeable of its location and the manufacturer's instructions for use.

Preventing noise and other public nuisances

All external windows and doors must be kept shut at all times when regulated entertainment is being provided. Doors may be opened for normal entrance and egress of people but must be shut immediately thereafter.

No noise shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises that gives rise to a nuisance.

A noise limiting device must be installed and must operate at all times regulated entertainment takes place at the premises. The device must be of a type, in a location and set at a level [specify if known] [approved in writing by the appropriate officer of the Council].

The location and orientation of loudspeakers must be as specified on the attached premises plan.

An [acoustic lobby / acoustic door / acoustic curtains/ acoustic door seals / automatic door closer] must be installed [specify the location / define on plan].

There shall be no noise or odours caused by the kitchen extraction equipment that gives rise to a nuisance.

Deliveries (nuisance)

A direct telephone number for the duty manager must be prominently displayed where it can conveniently be read from the exterior of the premises by the public. The telephone must be manned at all times the premises is open for licensable activities.

No deliveries or collections relating to licensable activities at the premises will take place between the hours of [insert hours].

Delivery drivers shall conduct the delivery in a manner that will not cause a noise disturbance to the occupiers of any residential properties surrounding the delivery address. This includes the avoidance of slamming doors, playing loud music, shouting, over-revving engines and sounding horns to signal their arrival. The driver shall turn the engine off immediately upon arrival at the delivery address and will park considerately without causing any obstruction to the highway.

Customers must be instructed when placing the order that they will not be able to collect the order from the vehicle. All deliveries will only be made directly to the property address and customers will not be permitted to take orders from the vehicle.

Smoking and other external areas

Customers permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises to smoke must be restricted to a designated smoking area defined as [specify location / mark on plan]. No more than [insert number] of customers will be permitted to remain in the designated smoking area at any one time.

Clear and legible notices must be prominently displayed at any area used for smoking requesting customers to respect the needs of local residents and use the area quietly.

No more than [insert number] customers will be permitted to enter or remain in [define outdoor area(s)] of the premises at any one time, between the hours of [specify].

Litter and cleansing

At [specify times] [specify areas] outside the premises, including [specify areas] must be swept and/or washed, and litter and sweepings collected and stored [specify storage and collection].

All takeaway packaging and wrappers shall clearly identify the premises, i.e. by way of company logo or name.

Where the premises provide late night refreshments for consumption off the premises sufficient waste bins must be provided at or near the exits, to enable the disposal of waste.

Empty bottles which have been collected must be placed into locked bins when deposited outside.

All waste shall be properly presented and placed out for collection no earlier than 30 minutes before the scheduled collection times.

Between the hours of [insert hours] no waste/glass bottles will be moved or deposited outside.

Children on the premises

No person under the age of [insert age] years of age is permitted to enter or remain on the licensed premises when alcohol is being sold or supplied.

The PLH/DPS will provide [specify ratio] adult supervisors at a ratio of [specify ratio] who can provide care for the children as they move from stage to dressing room etc., and to ensure that all children can be accounted for in case of an evacuation or an emergency.

The licence holder and/or DPS shall ensure that any child performer is licensed with Bury Council's Licensing Unit and accompanied by a registered chaperone.

Documented records should be kept for six months, including the child's name, their licence number and chaperone details.

Where children are allowed on the premises, information shall be displayed [location] on what to do if there is a cause for concern regarding a child's welfare. This shall include reporting to Bury Council on 253 5678 or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 (free 24-hour service) or dialling 999 in the event of an immediate threat.

Late night refreshment

Any hot food or hot drink provided after 11pm (late night refreshment) under this licence must only be consumed on the premises.

Between [specify hours from 11pm/days] customers must not be permitted to remove from the premises any hot food or hot drink (late night refreshment) provided at the premises.

Large events

The Premises licence Holder must comply with the Event Management Plan submitted to and approved by the Licensing Authority and no changes will be made to the Event Management Plan without the prior written consent of the Licensing Authority.

Boxing and wrestling (including MMA and other combat sports)

The Premises licence Holder must comply with the Event Management Plan submitted to and approved by the Licensing Authority and no changes will be made to the Event Management Plan without the prior written consent of the Licensing Authority. The Plan must set out (but is not limited to):

- (i) how fighters will be matched
- (ii) the measures that will be in place to ensure the safety and welfare of competitors; including medical facilities and qualified staff provision
- (iii) fighter details
- (iv) layout of the venue
- (v) competition rules
- (vi) referee details including qualifications.

Adult entertainment

The premises may not show R18 films without the benefit of a sex cinema licence.

No person under the age of 18 will be permitted to enter or remain on the premises when any “relevant entertainment” (as defined in Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982) is taking place.

For reference:

Relevant entertainment is ‘Any live performance or any live display of nudity, which is of such a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience (whether by verbal or other means).

Display of nudity means in the case of a woman - exposure of her nipples, pubic area, genitals or anus; and
in the case of a man - exposure of his public area, genitals or anus.

The audience can consist of one person.

Dispersal

The dispersal of customers from the premises must be managed in accordance with the following:

- (i) Clear and legible notices must be prominently displayed at all exits requesting customers to respect local residents and leave the area quietly.
- (ii) Public announcements requesting customers to leave quietly to minimise disturbance to nearby residents
- (iii) A [specify minutes] period where [music volume is reduced / lighting increased / alcohol sales cease].
- (iv) A suitable member of staff or a Door Supervisor[s] will be visible at each public entrance / exit to control the dispersal, to remind people to leave quietly, and to prevent patrons from re-entering the premises, and shall deter customers from using private hire vehicles without a prior booking
- (v) All drinks and glass vessels must be removed from patrons as they leave to ensure no glass leaves the premises.

From no later than 1 hour before the premises closes to the public, a member of staff shall be dedicated to monitor the dispersal of customers and ensure patrons do not

contribute to anti-social behaviour in the vicinity. They will be easily identifiable by way of their uniform or high visibility jacket / vest; will have a detailed knowledge of all transport options in the area and provide directions for patrons who may be loitering in the vicinity of the premises.

Appendix 5

THE HYPNOTISM ACT 1952

Stage hypnotism provided as an entertainment requires special consideration and planning. If an applicant knows they may wish to have a performance of stage hypnotism at any time this should be addressed in the Operating Schedule. The Act states that no person shall give an exhibition, demonstration or performance of hypnotism on any living person at or in connection with an entertainment to which the public are admitted, whether on payment or otherwise, at any place unless the controlling authority (Bury Council) have authorised that exhibition, demonstration or performance under this section. Where consent is given for this type of entertainment the Council will impose specific licence conditions designed to ensure the safety of the audiences and in particular to ensure that children are not admitted to and cannot participate in such activities.

There is no prescribed format for an application to hold a performance of stage hypnotism, however, an applicant will be expected to include in their written application, their full personal and contact details and the details of any professional qualifications, membership and experience they may have in relation to the performance of stage hypnotism acts. They should also provide full details of the venue and timings during which they request the performance to take place. Applications should normally be received at least 28 days before the first performance is due to take place, however, the council will consider accepting applications less than 28 days prior to the performance taking place particularly in circumstances where the hypnotist has previously performed at the venue with the approval of the council and without giving the council any cause for concern.

Applications to hold a performance of stage hypnotism will be considered by the Licensing and Safety Panel.

CONDITIONS

1. The artiste shall be competent in the inducement of, and reversal of, a state of hypnosis.
2. No exhibition, demonstration, or performance of hypnotism shall involve any person under the age of 18 years.
3. The exhibition, demonstration or performance of hypnotism shall not, either directly or indirectly, induce, suggest to, or direct any person to behave in a manner which is either:
 - a) obscene, indecent, or offensive, and/or
 - b) aggressive, and/or
 - c) demeaning to an extent which would be unacceptable to the ordinary common person.
4. Any form of induced sleep or trance, under which any person is placed in the course of the exhibition, demonstration, or performance of hypnotism, shall be fully reversed immediately after that person's part in the exhibition, demonstration, or performance is concluded.

5. These Conditions form part of the authorisation, and shall be monitored/enforced by a responsible member of the management of the premises.
6. The hypnotist must produce satisfactory evidence of current Public Liability Insurance cover, (to a minimum level of £1,000,000), to the management of the venue prior to the performance taking place.

Appendix 6

STATUTORY QUALIFYING CONDITIONS FOR CLUBS

The following qualifying conditions which a club must satisfy are extracted from the Act.

- **Condition 1** is that under the rules of the club persons may not —
 - a) be admitted to membership, or
 - b) be admitted, as candidates for membership, to any of the privileges of membership, without an interval of at least two days between their nomination or application for membership and their admission.
- **Condition 2** is that under the rules of the club persons becoming members without prior nomination or application may not be admitted to the privileges of membership without an interval of at least two days between their becoming members and their admission.
- **Condition 3** is that the club is established and conducted in good faith as a club (see Section 63 of the Licensing Act 2003).
- **Condition 4** is that the club has at least 25 members.
- **Condition 5** is that alcohol is not supplied, or intended to be supplied, to members on the premises otherwise than by or on behalf of the club.

Appendix 7

Management of Potential Noise Nuisances

One of the greatest irritations to residents trying to sleep is the sound of music escaping from licensed premises. Particularly at night when it is generally quieter noise will be amplified and provide more disturbance for residents. Clearly a responsible applicant will wish to further the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance by introducing adequate control measures.

In relation to noise from within the building the Authority will expect the applicant to have considered the likelihood of any sound leakage from the premises. This noise could relate not only to music but also to equipment or patrons. If there appears to be a potential for sound leakage the applicant will be able to address this in practical ways such as:

- Keeping doors and windows closed and providing adequate mechanical ventilation.
- Reducing sound levels and installing a sound-limiting device to prevent sound exceeding the appropriate level.
- Installing soundproofing measures to contain sound and vibration.
- Music and associated other noise sources (e.g. DJs and amplified voices) shall not be generally audible inside noise sensitive property at any time. The DPS or a member of staff is to carry out noise level checks of the surrounding outside area whenever entertainment is being provided taking action to reduce noise levels where there is a potential for nuisance to be caused.

Excessive noise and/or disorder will require more rigorous action. It is important that queues formed later in the evening are supervised to keep noise to a minimum. In terms of patrons leaving the premises, particularly late at night or early in the morning, the Authority will expect the applicant to have included in the Operating Schedule practical step to minimise problems, such as the examples given below, although there will be few premises that need to address all these:

- Erecting prominent notices at the exits to premises asking customers to leave quietly and not to slam car doors.
- At appropriate times using the PA system to make announcements to the same effect.
- Instructing door staff to ask customers leaving the premises to leave the area quietly.
- Reducing the volume of music towards the end of the evening and where appropriate playing quieter, more soothing music as the evening winds down.
- Availability of licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles to take patrons from the premises.
- In appropriate cases door supervisors or a manager patrolling nearby streets to assess for themselves whether there is a problem and how best to deal with it.
- Banning from the premises people who regularly leave in a noisy fashion.
- Increasing outside lighting levels, where practicable without causing further nuisance.

- Where there is a private forecourt, preventing patrons from using it for eating and drinking etc after a specified time, or ensuring it is vacated 30 minutes before the terminal hour.
- Ensuring that customers are not permitted to take open bottles or glasses of alcohol out of the premises.
- Taking appropriate steps where necessary to deal with noxious smells and light pollution.
- Licensing objectives.

Appendix 8

Local Authority as Responsible Authority

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 amended the Licensing Act 2003 to enable licensing authorities to act as the other Responsible Authorities. This will enable the Licensing Authority to take early intervention action where they consider it appropriate. The Licensing Authority will still expect that other responsible authorities to intervene where the basis for the intervention falls within their remit, for example the police in criminal matters. Further, the licensing authority does not expect to act as a responsible authority on behalf of other parties (for example, local residents, local councillors or community groups).

Licensing Authority making representation as a Responsible Authority

As far as reasonably practical the Licensing Authority will make provision for separation of roles between the licensing officer making a representation and the licensing officer preparing and presenting the report to the a Hearings Panel.

1. Review/ representation is submitted by the officer to the Licensing Unit Manager or Head of Trading Standards and Licensing
 - a. If it is a review application, the submitting officer is responsible for completing the application process e.g. sending the copies of the application to all Responsible Authorities
2. Once the review application/representation has been submitted the submitting officer does not take any further involvement with the application process until the matter is considered by the Hearings Panel
3. The report will be drafted by someone other than the submitting officer
4. At the hearing the Licensing Unit Manager/Deputy Licensing Officer/Acting Head of Public Protection will present the report.

The submitting officer will attend the hearing to present his/her case findings.

The role of Councillors

All hearings are before 3 Councillors drawn from the 13 Councillors that constitute the Licensing and Safety Panel.

Any Councillor is able to make a representation in their capacity as a member of the Council. If members of the public have concerns over a premise and do not wish to submit a representation themselves they may contact their local Councillor to enquire whether they will make a representation on their behalf. However, it is a matter for the individual Councillor whether they accept and it is recommended that such requests are made in writing so that any request can be clearly demonstrated.

Additionally, if a member of the public makes a representation, they may in turn nominate any person, including a local Councillor, to represent them at

the hearing. However it is the individual's responsibility to ensure that the nominated person is available and willing to represent them.
As above, any request should be made in writing so that the licensing authority can be satisfied the person has been correctly nominated.

Appendix 9 Good practice for making a representation

Relevant Representations

There are various types of applications that can be made under the Act, and in most cases representations are invited in relation to them. However, to be considered by an Authority they must be 'relevant representations' as defined by the Act.

If you want your views to be considered by the Council in respect of a particular application, you must submit a 'relevant representation'. A relevant representation must:

- (a) be made by any person or Responsible Authority
- (b) be made in writing to the licensing authority
- (c) be received by the licensing authority no later than 28 days after the date the application was made (ten days for a minor variation)
- (d) relate to the likely effect of the granting of the application upon one or more of the Licensing Objectives, which are:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- The prevention of public nuisance
- Public safety
- The protection of children from harm.

Potential issues could include noise or disturbance from the premises, previous examples of crime and disorder associated with the premises, litter problems associated with the premises, or provision of activities not suitable for children where children could be admitted. Any representation that is considered as frivolous or vexatious by the licensing authority will not be accepted.

Representations may be made by email and the licensing authority does not require email representations to be followed up with a hard copy. Representations should be made to:

By post: By email:

The Licensing Unit
Bury Council
3 Knowsley Place
Duke Street
Bury
BL9 0EJ

Email: licensing@bury.gov.uk

Representations should:

- Demonstrate a link to the promotion of the licensing objectives. If you are making a representation in support of an application, explain how the proposed application would promote the Licensing Objectives

- Provide an evidential base for the grounds of the representation, which could include written logs of problems, details of previous complaints, photographs or video evidence of the particular issues.
- Ensure as far as possible that the representation is specific to the premises.
- Consider how you would like the issues to be addressed. For example, you may wish to propose additional or alternative conditions to those proposed in the operating schedule. Alternatively, you may wish to propose restricted hours or licensable activities.
- Representations will not be considered if they are considered 'frivolous' or 'vexatious' by the licensing authority. 'Frivolous' and 'vexatious' have their ordinary meaning; therefore, the licensing authority might disregard representations that are made because of a business dispute between rivals or representations that lack seriousness.

Representations can be made in opposition to, or in support of, an application. In cases where only 'positive' representations are made, without qualifications, the Licensing Authority will consider whether a hearing is necessary

The Licensing Authority will determine whether:

- *the representation has been made by a other person as defined under the Act; and*
- *would consider the issue(s) raised in a representation as frivolous or vexatious (or repetitious in respect of a review).*

Another person aggrieved by a rejection of their representation on these grounds may challenge the Licensing Authority's decision by way of judicial review.

Where a relevant representation is made in respect of:

- an application; or
- an existing licensed premises

A hearing will be held, unless an agreement is reached between all relevant parties that a hearing is not required.

The Licensing Authority will attempt mediation between the relevant parties wherever it may be practicable or appropriate to do so, so as to avoid unnecessary hearings.

Disclosure of personal details of persons making representations

The licensing authority is required to provide the licence applicant with copies of any relevant representations received in respect of the application. The licensing authority may consider withholding some or all of a person's personal details where that person can demonstrate they have a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation and the circumstances justify such action. The withholding of personal details by the licensing authority will only be taken in exceptional circumstances and any person requesting their details to be withheld will be expected to demonstrate why such action is necessary.

Where a person who has concerns over an application but does not wish their personal details to be disclosed, alternative approaches include requesting a local councillor to submit a representation based on their concerns, or alternatively providing details on how the licensing objectives are likely to be undermined to a responsible authority, who may make representation, if they consider it justifiable and appropriate to do so.

Appendix 10

Information for residents and other persons

Local residents and businesses can play an important role in the licensing process as it will be they who are most likely to be directly affected. This section provides useful information on understanding how to find out about applications and submit any comments (representations) in respect of them. Representations do not have to be objections and can be made in support of an application.

Finding out about the application

Applicants for new licences and variations to existing licences are required to advertise the application in two ways by:

1. Placing a notice at or on the premises on A4 (or larger) pale blue paper prominently at or on the premises where it can be conveniently read from the exterior of the premises and
2. Placing a notice in a newspaper in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the premises. Advertisement will be at least once in the ten days following the application being given to the licensing authority.

A notice will also be published on the Council's website (<http://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3016>) outlining key details in respect of an application.

Representations can be made against or in support of the application within 28 days

Additionally, the Authority's Licensing Unit provides email notifications of applications received by the licensing authority on a ward-by-ward basis to Councillors.

Information about application can be obtained by contacting the Licensing Unit and providing a valid email. While the Licensing Unit will normally advise of all applications within the ward, the Council is not legally required to do so. This information is provided as a courtesy to Bury Councillors and there may be occasions when notice is not provided. Therefore, the Authority recommends

that those interested or requiring this information regularly check the Council's register of licence applications and notices on premises which can be found on the Council's website at: <https://licensing.bury.gov.uk/PAforLalpacLIVE/>

Appendix 2

Summary of Responses

Licensing Act 2003 Review of Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation - 26th August 2020 until 4th October 2020		
Organisation making Response	Comments made	Licensing Authority Response
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	I'm just providing feedback to the proposed policy update for consideration prior to production of the final document. I have no major comments regarding the main body of the policy. The only things I wanted to draw your attention were as follows: Page 5 – the document records Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service as the Fire Authority, this is now Greater Manchester Combined Authority Page 7 – the legislation should be Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, the document says 2004. Page 46 – due to the regular changes to personnel that take place, it would be better to updated the contact details to: Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service Protection Department Bury Fire Station Magdalene Road Bury BL9 0ES Tel Number: 0161 909 0313 Email: area2fireprotectionteam@manchesterfire.gov.uk I hope that is useful and if you need any further information, please contact me on the details below.	Policy Amended 24/09/20
CLlr Grimshaw Bury Councillor	I don't need to add anything, I do think that you have covered everything, Well done.	No amendments required
Mr B Lorenzini – Prestwich Sport	On behalf of PCTBC we support the new policy and offer nothing additional to it.	No amendments required
Arnold Wilcox-	I thank you for sending me your letter	The licensing

Wood – Centre Director The Rock	regarding the review as above .I am taking this opportunity to bring to your attention some points of view that I know you will have heard me mention many times at meetings with you and at various committee meetings that we have both attended . Historic Scene As you will remember I have managed shopping centre in most of our competing towns during the last forty years . Originally Bury was only a bit player and I used to attract customers from Bury to centres at Middleton ,Blackburn, Manchester and probably in the main to Bolton . This changed dramatically in 2010 with the opening of The Rock when Bury moved up 100 places in the retail league table .The Rock together with investments at The Mill Gate ,Burys Famous Market ,The Lancashire Fusiliers Museum and The East Lancashire Railway has propelled Bury into being the third most popular shopping destination in the Greater Manchester Area . The improvement in our customer drive time now includes all of these towns and stretches now to Burnley and the Rossendale Valley . As you will also remember in addition to this I have always acknowledge that we are fortunate in having a supportive town council with regards to retailing in the town centre in what I have always called Bury PLC . However our success has had a big impact on our competing towns especially Bolton ,Rochdale and Oldham who naturally have started to make efforts to recapture their customers that we have now persuade to shop here in Bury . We have seen the new shopping development at Rochdale and Bolton have purchased Crompton Place that will form the heart of a multi pound redevelopment of Bolton Town Centre . We now have to add in the effects of Coronavirus that has changed the face of retailing in the High Street and in shopping centres . The High Street was under threat from retailing on the internet before the virus but this virus has accelerated the threat from internet retailing. The retailing scene within town and city centres has	service have reviewed the content of the response and feel that no suggestions for amendment were made.

	changed out of all recognition and town centres and shopping centres along with High street retailers have now got to address the problem of how we encourage customers to come back to town and city high streets and into shopping centres . I am pleased to see that the council are proposing to hire a £100 K per annum town architect to address the problems facing Bury Town centre . However we have the opportunity to make a difference here and now without spending vast amounts of money .Problems can be tackled immediately by taking back control of the streets within our town centre and by using some of the powers contained in the Licensing Act . The four licensing objectives you quote can be used for the purpose of improving the town centre scene we present to our customers on arriving in Bury Let's look at these objectives Prevention of Crime . There is a serious lack of police presence in our streets . Shoplifting is increasing and the lack of police activity in this area is encouraging this activity .Failure to even respond to theft of items amounting to hundreds of pounds in a single attacks and offenders apprehended by retail staff then having to be released has resulted in many retailers now not reporting thefts from retail premises .The failure of the 101 system and the fact that on certain days there is no police presence of either constables or PCSO in the town centre due to leave days overlapping is troubling . Public safety There is an increasing use by cyclist both by youngsters and those of mature years riding through the town centre causing problems to our pedestrian customers again with no intervention or prevention from the powers that be and In addition to the cyclists we also have skate boarders and the increasing use of electric scooters adding to the dangers of our pedestrian customers and visitors . We allow retailers to trade outside of their	

	demise in the high street and" A Boards " contrary to council regulations adorn the public footpaths . Visitors and customers have to feel safe when walking the streets of Bury! Public Nuisance You will have seen the number of beggars usually accompanied by a dog frequenting the Rock Street area and a number of homeless sleeping some on Rock Street in sleeping bags during the morning particularly outside of Mc Donald's I call the area between the Halifax and the post office CHUGGERS ALLEY. Customers and visitors are CONFRONTED by the numerous mainly young promoters looking to either sell them something or by getting them to sign up to whatever they are promoting .Customers and visitors have no option but to take avoiding action to miss them . We then have buskers using amplifiers in this area and they can be heard outside M&S some 100 yards away and they include the Bongoman and the bagpipe players . These buskers are causing complaints from the retailers and café promoters who are trying to encourage al fresco dining and we have apartment holders who have paid a high price to live in the centre of town who can't either sleep or enjoy their apartments because of the noise . As we move forward in helping to make town centres vibrant again town centre like Bury will be looking to encourage people to live in their town centre . We don't appear to be helping in this . Cleaning The town centre cleaning has for a long time been a concern to all and sundry and to the council also along with graffiti and chewing gum. This area again needs constant maintenance .	

	I am a big supporter of Bury and I am proud of the progress we have all contributed to in making Bury PLC the third most important Shopping Destination in The Greater Manchester Area . However we are now under attack from our competing towns added to the ever increasing use of shopping on the Internet . it's imperative that we now take steps to protect our hard fought for gains in attracting visitors from our extended drive time area of attractiveness for our visitors and customers .We must ensure that the town centre grasps the basics of a welcoming appearance ,cleanliness and security , I realise that licensing can only influence some of the items I have touched on We must provide a town that licences attractions that makes Bury different from our competitors whilst ensuring that our customers and visitors are not bombarded by noise , obstructions, beggars ,cyclists, graffiti and unsightly litter . If we get the basics right and the relatively small cost of doing this can be achieved by consultation with the police ,council and retailers allied to a licencing policy that is imaginative and protects the attractiveness of Bury Town Centre PLC then this frees up the finance needed to plan and implement a re-planned Bury Town Centre that will ensure that Bury PLC continues to set the bench mark for other to try and match . I thank you for giving me this opportunity of commenting on the Licencing Policy	



Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	25 November 2020
Title of report:	Corporate Plan 2020/22
Report by:	Cllr Rafiq, Elected Member and Corporate Affairs and HR Portfolio Holder
Decision Type:	Council
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Executive Summary:

In October 2020, Cabinet received a draft Bury 2030 Strategy as a proposal and basis for consultation which would drive and direct a common ambition, vision, delivery plan and improved outcomes for the Borough.

The Corporate Plan is a key delivery vehicle to realising the Bury 2030 vision and translated the Strategy into tangible corporate and departmental plans and priorities with clear deliverables and measures outcomes over a two-year period and is the first Corporate Plan for the Council and CCG under the single leadership and partnership structure.

Drafted in the context of the current national Covid-19 pandemic and associated local response, with a specific strategic objective to ensure a sustained focus building further on the initial 10-point plan which was delivered pre Wave 2, the Corporate Plan outline core actions to enable and address recovery for the next 6 months. It is also informed by the recent Equalities Review and the need to strengthen Inclusion throughout all our activities.

As with the Strategy, the Corporate Plan also aligns to the Locality Plan and supports the delivery of the ambition to secure transformational improvement in population health so that residents are in control of their lives and enabled through a joined-up health and care system.

The Corporate Plan is ambitious and in defining a new way of working it is exciting, but will also demand tough decision-making, routine monitoring and constructive challenge so that we hold ourselves and each other to account in order that outcomes and experience is improved for our communities, citizens and patients.

The Cabinet will be asked to approve the Corporate Plan with a recommendation to full Council to adopt it at its meeting on 24 November 2020.

Let's Do It.

Recommendation(s)

Council is asked to:

- Adopt the attached Corporate Plan

Community impact/links with Community Strategy

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Equality Analysis	<i>Please provide a written explanation of the outcome(s) of either conducting an initial or full EA.</i>
The Corporate Plan embraces the recommendations from the recent Equalities Review and reflects the requirement for further progress to be made in respect to the wider Inclusion agenda. Through the delivery of the Corporate Plan, whether as a whole or through individual departmental objectives and priorities, there will be improved outcomes and experience for the Borough, which will support demonstrable due regard as required by legislation, but also improvements and greater cohesion within and across communities. There is no adverse impact in respect to the protected characteristics of communities of interest.	

**Please note: Approval of a cabinet report is paused when the 'Equality/Diversity implications' section is left blank and approval will only be considered when this section is completed.*

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Lack of Ownership	Regular performance reporting against deliverables.
Level of ambition exceeds resources	Regular review and refresh

Consultation:

Legal Implications:

The report and attached plan set out the vision for Bury. The associated Bury 2030 Strategy will be the subject of consultation.

The approval of plan and recommendation to Council for adoption by Cabinet is non-key as approval of this plan is within the remit of the Council.

Financial Implications:

The Council will deliver the corporate plan within the available financial resources. Any additional funding that may be required to deliver the plan will be considered at the relevant point in time.

Report Author and Contact Details:

Lynne Ridsdale – Deputy Chief Executive
l.ridsdale@bury.gov.uk



CORPORATE PLAN 2020-22

Bury Council and NHS Bury CCG

Our Corporate Plan 2020/22 sets out key themes, principles and deliverables to support the Borough of Bury as it recovers from the local impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and builds a better and brighter future for our people, communities and businesses. Through this plan we set out the foundations from which new relationships, responsibilities and outcomes will emerge to support delivery of the Bury 2030 Strategy.

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Introduction

Welcome to our Corporate Plan 2020/22.

In 2015 NHS Bury Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Bury Council committed to working closer together to integrate health and care services in Bury. The appointment of a single and joint Chief Executive of Bury Council and Accountable Officer for the CCG in 2018 cemented this commitment and enabled us to join up 'everything the Council does' with the CCG and, through shared objectives, to further improve the health and wellbeing of the people in the Borough and bring to bear the full powers, influence, resources and capabilities of both organisations.

The partnership is now working to deliver its role in the Bury 2030 Strategy – the 10-year vision for the whole Borough, which will improve life chances for everyone through:

- five clear commitments to make significant progress in carbon neutrality; healthy lives; economically strong; inclusive and digitally enabled by 2030
- the five delivery themes of the local industrial strategy: people, place, ideas, infrastructure and business environment; and
- four principles of ways of working from which we all operate to drive *inspiration; aspiration; participation* and *collaboration*

This plan describes how, through the joint working of the Council and CCG through the four departments and One Commissioning Organisation, the partnership will work together to contribute to the Borough Strategy over the next two years. It describes the work of our teams; the priorities we are working towards and the outcomes we are committing to achieve.

All of this work is required at a time of great national challenge and uncertainty because of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the time of writing the vaccination programme is in development; infection levels remain highly unstable and there are huge demands on the Council and CCG to lead the local public health response; protect the NHS and support the community in conjunction with private and voluntary sector partners. The economic and health impacts of Covid-19 remain unclear but there is no doubt they will make our mission to reduce inequalities harder and increase the challenges to achieving economic growth and improving the quality of life for local people.

Our response to the Covid-19 pandemic as a health and care system has generated a momentum that we must keep hold of whilst we strive for a safe and sustainable recovery from the emergency. This is a catalyst for change that will create new ways of receiving services, new ways of working and a different relationship with our residents and our communities. The learning from our experiences will help drive and deliver real improvements.

Our Corporate Plan sets out our priority deliverables for the next two years in this context, as a platform to harness the very best of our partnership. It is aligned to the Locality Plan and supports the delivery of the ambition to secure transformational improvement in population health so that residents are in control of their lives and enabled through a joined-up health and care system. There are exciting plans proposed but some tough decisions too. We will track our progress on this challenging journey through a new outcomes' framework and the delivery of our budget strategy.

Let's do it!

Who we are

The Council and CCG partnership is organised as for departments and a One Commissioning Organisation.

The Business Growth and Infrastructure department leads:

- Strategic development strategy and functions of the Council including the Local Plan;
- The Council's capital development programme;
- Town planning and building control functions;
- Housing strategy development including the relationship with the private rented sector.

The Children and Young People's department:

- Provides universal and targeted early help support for the Borough's children, including:
 - Supporting 1136 vulnerable children, including 358 for whom we are their Corporate Parent and a further 140 who are supported into adulthood after leaving care;
 - Providing dedicated support to early years settings and child minders who provide 5,550 places to the Borough's pre-school children;
 - Supporting the leadership of 80 schools across the Borough, enabling head teachers to delivery high quality education for 29,000 children;
 - Providing strategic leadership around inclusion and statutory support for children with additional needs and disabilities;
 - Delivering services targeted at supporting young people through provision of youth work and education, training and employment support.

The Corporate Core:

- Leads the corporate strategy functions across the Council and CCG and co-ordinates the Team Bury network of public, private and community partners;
- Provides professional enabling services including HR, communications, legal services and business support;
- Provides the partnership's governance and democratic functions, including support to the council's 51 Elected Members and the CCG Membership, Governing Body and committees.

Finance sits alongside the Corporate Core and

- Leads on the medium-term financial strategy, providing strategic oversight and guidance on financial sustainability and resilience;
- Provides stewardship over all financial activities across the Council and CCG;
- Provides and delivers effective payment mechanisms for staff, providers and suppliers;
- Delivers an internal audit function to support and report on governance specifically for the Council; and
- Delivers revenue, benefits and welfare services to our residents and businesses.

The **Operations** department is responsible for:

- All environmental services operated by the Council including waste management, street cleansing and grounds maintenance;
- Management of all highways, street lighting and engineering;
- Operation of the Council's leisure, civic and regulatory services;
- A range of commercial services including Bury Markets, Schools catering, caretaking and cleaning;
- Facilities management; and
- Refuse collection.

The '**One Commissioning Organisation**' (OCO) brings together all the health and social care commissioning functions of the CCG and Council into one structure. It is responsible for:

- The health of the Borough's residents through its public health functions and by leading a single strategy for health and care commissioning;
- Managing a pooled budget of all our combined health and care funding;
- Ensuring robust clinical leadership to enable delivery of a wide-reaching health and care transformation delivery programmes;
- Delivery of statutory requirements across primary, secondary and community commissioning, safeguarding practice and quality;
- Ensuring the services that we commission are of a high quality and people have a good experience of their local services;
- Ensuring the public are protected through integrated safeguarding practices and safe services.

What we do



Operate a significant number of individual services from a range of buildings across the Borough



provide leadership to 80 schools and education to 29,000 children



answer 228,075 calls into our services every year



registered 1736 births; 1955 deaths; and 436 marriages last year



receive 15000 contacts each year in relation to Adult Social Care leading to 5000 assessments; provide support to between 3500-4000 adult social care users at any one time



are parents to 358 Looked After Children



employ 5873 staff across all our services



a pooled budget for health and care spend of £0.4bn



manage 660km of carriageway, 300km of footpath, 19,000 street lighting columns, 36,500 street gullies and 400ha of green space



Collected waste from 83,500 households; and recycled 33,090.42 tonnes of waste last year



operate 118 healthcare contracts across the Bury area



purchase a range of health care and services for 190,000 people including 72,880 A&E attendance, 25,435 hospital appointments for planned care, 26,480 treatments on an emergency basis and 157,130 follow-up hospital appointments



own a stock of council houses

Where are we now

This is an exciting time for Bury Council and CCG.

Under the leadership of a new Executive team we have established system-wide leadership of the health and care system including a One Commissioning Organisation and a Local Care Organisation. Together, we have developed a Locality Plan which sets out an ambitious plan to guide this partnership over the coming years.

The Council and CCG have led the wider Borough partnership to develop a strategy and clear plan for the next ten years, **Bury 2030**, which describes the outcomes; activities and behavioural shift we want to achieve to drive life chances for all our residents.

Our hard work is paying off. Major **regeneration** initiatives are beginning to reach a positive conclusion - the strategic regeneration framework for Radcliffe has now been agreed and we are waiting to see if a new high school is approved by the Department of Education.

This year Bury was awarded the accolade of being the first **Greater Manchester Town of Culture** and the quality of our parks and public spaces continues to be recognised through our reaccreditation of **Purple Flag town centres** and **12 Green Flag parks**.

There are, however, significant **challenges** ahead. The gap in healthy life expectancy between those who live in the most and least affluent parts of our Borough is, after decades of improvement, starting to widen; the measure of deprivation in our towns is stagnating and our educational attainment is not as good as it was. We have also made a challenging

commitment to be carbon neutral by 2038 which will require radical change across all aspects of our lives.

The resources we have to be able to tackle these issues also continue to be challenging. Council and CCG budgets have reduced year-on-year and the forecast for the next two years is no less difficult. This is further exacerbated by the impact of Covid-19 and the lack of any certainty around future funding.

Based on the latest information:

- savings of c£70m will be required by the Council over the next 4 years, and
- the CCG began 20/21 with a financial gap of £20m and requirement to save c£40m over the next 4 years – the ongoing national changes to financial and contracting frameworks and funding methodologies puts a great deal of uncertainty on these original forecasts, but it is clear that the impact of Covid-19 will result in greater financial pressures to the system

These challenges all become much harder to address in the context of the **Covid pandemic**, of course. Sadly, we expect the health and economic impacts of the emergency to be far-reaching and the practical stretch in Council and CCG capacity between leading the local response and maintaining our focus on wider services and policy work is a challenge

This is the year to tackle these issues, however this requires major transformation of the way we deliver our services and manage our resources.

Local people deserve improvements in our local outcomes and the likely requirement to “live with Covid” for some time requires a relentless focus on economic recovery and community care and support.

Where do we want to get to

This plan explains how the Bury 2030 strategy will cascade into the practical delivery priorities of the Council and the CCG, through **four clear objectives** which have been defined for delivery by the partnership during 2020/22. These are to:

- Support the Borough through a robust **emergency response** to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Deliver our role in the Bury 2030 **local industrial strategy** priorities and recovery
- Lead a programme of **transformation** to establish the capabilities required to deliver the 2030 vision and embed the principles of *Inspiration, Aspiration, Participation* and *Collaboration* in all we do
- Secure financial sustainability through the delivery of the agreed **budget** strategy

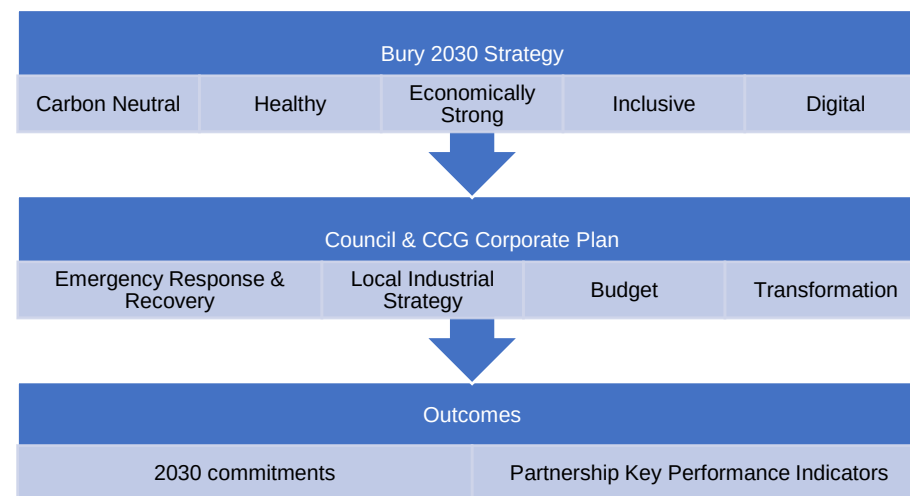
Underpinning the priorities are the **equality** objectives which have been set by the partnership; are reviewed annually and driven by the Strategic Commissioning Board.

A high-level delivery plan against all priorities is provided, together with the key measures against which we will track our progress. We will measure:

- demonstrable **outcomes** which contribute to the Bury 2030 commitments to:
 - Carbon neutrality
 - Healthy Communities
 - Economic growth/recovery
 - Equalities and inclusion
 - Digital-first

- Improving **outputs**, measured through a new internal performance dashboard to monitor the performance of partnership organisations themselves

Whilst we have set a clear objective in respect to our **emergency response**, we recognise that all of our work, not only in the short and medium term but also the longer term, will need to take account of the local situation and will require careful prioritisation of all activity across the partnership.



Details of our four Corporate Plan objectives are described overleaf.

Our Objectives

Emergency Response and Recovery

We could never have predicted the scale or impact the Covid-19 pandemic. We responded promptly, with a focus on protecting the health and care system and delivery of an initial “ten point” recovery plan. We have now defined four clear priorities for the rest of 2020/21, to take us to the point of a vaccine. These are:

Containing COVID by managing:

- Infection prevention control including outbreak management
- Restrictions, including enforcement
- Tiers of intervention
- Test, trace and supporting self-isolation
- Mortality Planning
- Plans for the vaccination programme

Supporting our Health and Social Care System

- Planned, Urgent & Community based Health & Care
- Support for children in need of help and protection
- Population Health including mental health
- Strategic Finance

Mitigating the impacts by supporting

- children and families deemed vulnerable, to reduce the risks of widening inequalities;
- schools, early years providers and FE colleges to mitigate the detrimental impacts of Covid-19 on learning;
- establishing the Neighbourhood Model of integrated, early help, including community safety and cohesion;
- Business and town centres including local jobs.

Supporting Our Communities including

- Communications and engagement
- The provision of humanitarian aid; a network of volunteers; support to the lonely and those facing hardship through our Community Hubs.

Bury 2030 Local Industrial Strategy

We will drive the delivery of the Bury 2030 vision, with an initial focus only on those activities which drive recovery from the present emergency. This will include:

- the health, wellbeing and connectedness of our **people** through a new physical activity strategy; mental health review and embedding progress with community healthcare; children's school readiness; early help and educational attainment
- Developing **Place** regeneration plans to the point of business case within Radcliffe, Prestwich and Bury town centre, including a One Public Estate
- Harnessing **Ideas** by implementing our inclusion strategy; strengthening the Youth Cabinet; a refresh of the Armed Forces' Covenant and new strategy for the voluntary & community sector
- **Infrastructure** improvements including 5G roll out; progression of the Highways Investment Strategy and the creation of more cycling and walking routes. We will implement the housing strategy, including homelessness prevention
- Local **Business** will benefit from large-scale land release in the Northern Gateway; a skills strategy and a Covid-19 economic recovery strategy, with a focus on local spend

'Business Excellence' Transformation

To deliver improved outcomes and secure financial sustainability, an internal and external transformation programme will begin, according to the principles of business excellence:

Investment in **Leadership** will include Elected Member and senior officer development strategies; the development of a clear joint vision and identity and staff engagement plan;

Partnership resources will be corralled in a neighbourhood model within each township, to mitigate demand and take pressure off statutory services through joined-up, all-age “early help” and mainstreamed community hubs;

Our **workforce** will be developed including a refreshed induction; apprenticeship strategy and updated core skills programme to maximise our resources and target our work in the right places; and

All **processes** will be reviewed to establish integrated and efficient business processes which enshrine the five Bury 2030 Commitments, in particular a digital-first approach.

Financial Sustainability

The Council is facing a forecast financial gap of c£21m by 2022 as a result of Government spending restrictions; demand increases for statutory services and additional pressures as a result of Covid pressures not covered by Government grants. The forecast for the CCG will be determined when national announcements are made.

In balancing our budget, we will look to:

- Make changes and efficiencies to our services which are aligned with the Bury 2030 pledges, to ensure decisions on resources match policy commitments as far as possible. Proposals for the next 12 months are described below;
- use our reserves to balance the need to support short-term funding gaps whilst recognising the need to deliver ongoing savings; and
- Introduce a new operating model that will increase the time we spend on delivery by removing duplicated and fragmented systems and processes.

Carbon Neutrality	Healthy Communities	Economic Growth	Equalities and Inclusion	Digital First
• reduction in the Council's fleet ; • more efficient waste collection rounds; • streetlight dimming; • introduction of district parking charges	• development of community-based health model to keep people well for longer and reduce demand for and provision of statutory social care packages; • a review of all children's social care services to take every opportunity for efficient provision	• creation of opportunities for all Bury people to access the wealth that economic growth brings and thereby reduce demand for reactive services	• review of the provision for vulnerable people including all-age learning disability • deliver efficiencies by transforming our offer, targeting resources and continuously improving what we do	• number of office locations will be reduced and staff enabled to work flexibly; • Full use of digital technologies to maximise the efficiency of our operations • extended reach into the community to reduce the costs of our processes and communication

Inclusion at our Core

Between 2016 – 2020 the Council has been working to the equalities objectives of taking action to 1) tackle unwanted behaviour; 2) reduce the proportion of unknown workforce data and 3) work to digital include more of our employees. A report against progress was produced in 2019: “Three years on” which set out the further work required.

The CCG has been working to 1) Improved equality monitoring data collection across all NHS services; 2) Develop an effective partnership approach to delivering robust responsive Services; 3) Being an employer who embraces the concept of work life balance and 4) Being an Inclusive Leader.

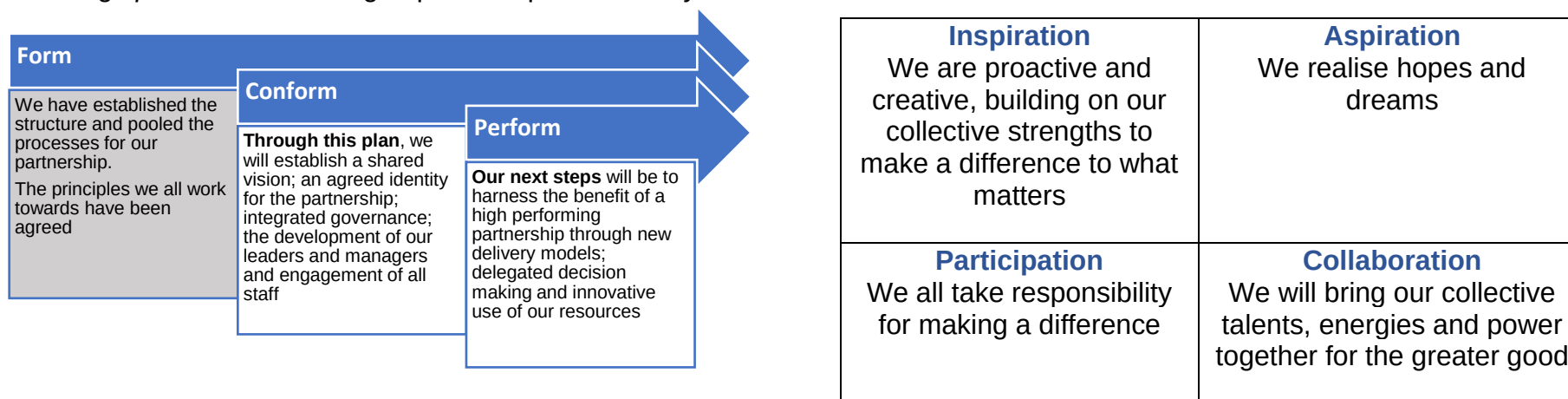
Both partners recognised that there is more to do to make progress to fulfil these objectives. A joint, independent equalities review was therefore undertaken in 2020, from which an Inclusion strategy was agreed, and the following equalities objectives have been set as required by the Equalities Act 2010. Detailed actions are included in the action plan appended:

1. **Performance and Scrutiny:** establish effective governance arrangements in order to ensure there is a robust performance and scrutiny function;
2. **Equality Data and Information:** To use data more effectively to promote equality in all decisions made by the Council and the CCG and to help ensure they give due regard to the general equality duty;
3. **Community Engagement:** develop inclusive community engagement structures in order to strengthen community engagement opportunities for the Borough’s diverse communities;
4. **Representative Workforce:** to take steps towards having workforces that are representative of the diversity of the local population;
5. **Training and Learning:** to raise awareness of people’s rights and responsibilities and to aid the delivery and embedding of the Inclusion Strategy;
6. **Improve user access and experience:** by seeking effective assurance from providers, where appropriate and embedding EDHR into commissioning;
7. **Framework Delivery:** take action to adopt and ensure real progress is made on the implementation of Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES), the Workforce Disability Equality Standard (WDES), Equality and Delivery System2 (EDS2) and Equality Framework for Local Government (EFLG)

How we will deliver

The Bury 2030 strategy sets out a clear set of principles which will be the basis of all work across the partnership: **Inspiration, Aspiration, Collaboration and Participation**.

The Council and CCG will lead by seeking to lead by example in demonstrating these principles in all work to deliver this plan. A phased programme of organisation development (OD) will be designed to determine what this really means and to equip leaders, managers and staff with the skills and understanding to adopt the new approach. A multi-year programme of change across our people, systems and processes is proposed to *form* the partnership, establish and *conform* to a corporate approach and then achieve high *performance* through optimised processes, systems and structures.

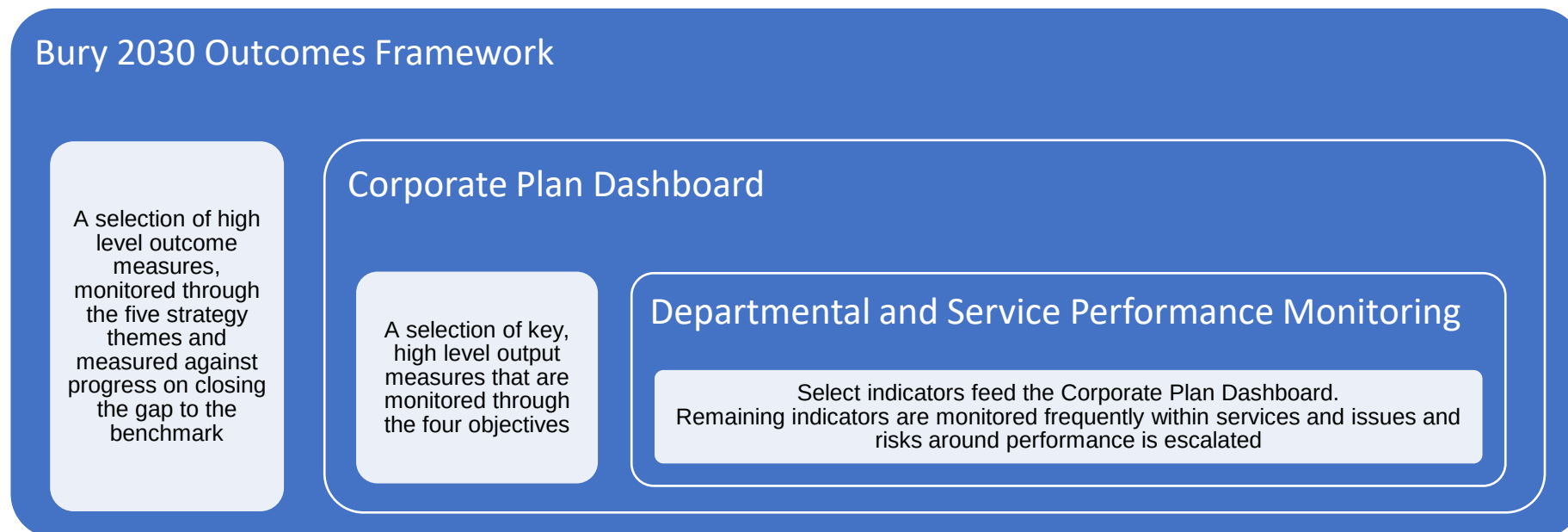


The journey to **high performance** begins as this plan is set, with a series of expectations about how we will work including:

- The performance management of all staff, led from the top, which evaluates behaviours as well as outputs
- Effective governance that ensures transparent decision making and management of delivery
- Evidence-based investment only
- An evidence-led understanding of risk and impact to ensure the right intervention at the right time
- Business cases for savings or investment tracked, delivered and evaluated
- Improvement targets monitored and achieved

Our Measures of Success

A **Corporate Performance Dashboard** will be implemented with this plan, which also follows the business excellence model and evaluates the result of the plan on people; society; customers and the organisation. Outputs and outcomes will be monitored quarterly and reported to the Council's Cabinet and CCG's Governing Body.



We will monitor our success against a range of metrics which have been presented against our four objectives overleaf.

Emergency Response and Recovery

- 1) Monitoring R number and Infection levels
- 2) Number of rough sleepers currently being supported
- 3) Number of rough sleepers moving into suitable accommodation
- 4) Visits to libraries and archives
- 5) Number of Kickstart placements
- 6) Attendance at targeted youth support groups
- 7) Numbers of children using fit and fed clubs
- 8) IMC Bed Occupancy
- 9) Residential and Nursing Care Bed Occupancy
- 10) Number of referrals to Adult Social Care
- 11) Number of Looked After Children
- 12) Number of Children In Need
- 13) Number of Child Protection Plans
- 14) Medically Optimised Awaiting Transfer
- 15) Number of Clinically Extremely Vulnerable supported through Community Hubs
- 16) Numbers accessing self isolation £500 benefit scheme

Bury 2030 Local Industrial Strategy

Infrastructure

- 1) Annual housing completions
- 2) Highway repairs completed on time
- 3) Street lighting faults completed on time

People

- 1) Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks
- 2) School Readiness
- 3) Smoking prevalence in adults (18+)
- 4) Emergency hospital admissions due to falls
- 5) Dementia diagnosis rate (65+)
- 6) Live Well Services including BEATS referrals
- 7) Flu immunisation uptake high risk

Ideas

- 1) % parks and recreation grounds with friends of groups
- 2) New Personal Health Budgets
- 3) Numbers of volunteers engaged through the VCFA
- 4) Number of local offers on TBD

Place

- 1) Carbon emissions from council vehicles
- 2) All materials sent for Recycling, Composting and reuse
- 3) Green flags ?
- 4) Number of ASB complaints received by the council
- 5) Number of residential burglaries
- 6) Total number of violent crimes by young people

Business

- 1) Net business growth rate (start-ups minus dissolutions)
- 2) Number of business contacted through the Workplace Health
- 3) Number of individuals who have stayed in work or found a new role due to accessing the support of the Workplace Health Programme

'Business Excellence' Transformation

- 1) % Invoices paid within 10 and 30 days
- 2) Payment days for SMEs
- 3) Average time taken to repair street lighting
- 4) Average number of days in temporary accommodation
- 5) Number of housing complaints completed within 20 days
- 6) Number of empty properties brought back into use
- 7) High and medium food standards inspections completed
- 8) % uptake of primary school meals per school
- 9) Sickness absence: average number of days lost per FTE per year
- 10) Staff turnover
- 11) Employee engagement: overall satisfaction with Bury Council as an employer
- 12) FOIs completed on time
- 13) SARs completed on time
- 14) Complaints responded to within timescale / escalated to ombudsman
- 15) Contact centre – number of contacts
- 16) Prevent – Volume of Training for Council and CCG Staff

Financial Sustainability

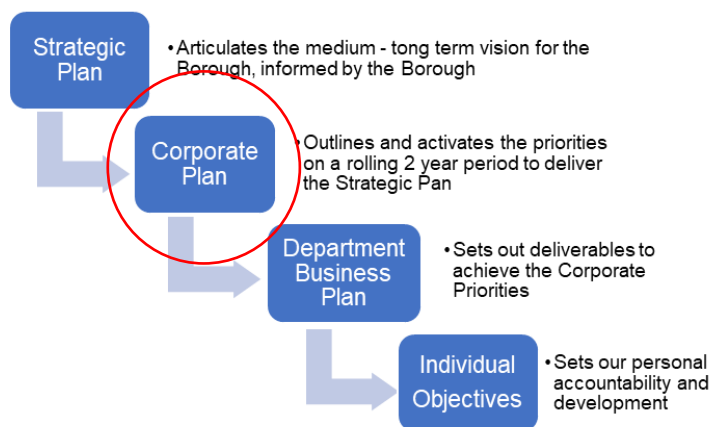
- 1) PCN collection rates
- 2) Council tax collection
- 3) Business rate collection
- 4) Debtor days above 30 days
- 5) Capital projects completed
- 6) Capital slippage
- 7) Departmental savings achieved
- 8) Total amount cashable savings from Health and Care Recovery schemes
- 9) Actuals against plan: CCG, Council, Pennine Care, Pennine Acute

Our Delivery Framework

This corporate plan drives the cascade of strategic objectives into tangible delivery. It translates both the Bury 2030 vision and operational priorities into detailed corporate and departmental plans and performance objectives for every member of staff to help us to:

- Clearly articulate our priorities and desired outcomes
- Prioritise what gets done within the resources available
- Provide and demonstrate value for money
- Provide good services and satisfaction for users and the local community
- Improve performance
- Motivate and manage our staff

The process begins in February each year when the Corporate Plan is presented for approval alongside the annual budget. The approval of strategic objectives forms the basis of the annual performance review of the Chief Executive/Accountable Officer, following which all other performance reviews can begin on the basis of cascaded objectives.



During the year the progress and impact of the Corporate Plan will be managed through quarterly reports to the Council's Cabinet and CCG Governing Body. Reports will:

- **track delivery** to confirm plans are being delivered; consider new priorities and revise work plans
- **report on outcomes** to evaluate the impact of our work on in improving the lives of our residents

"Deep dive" challenge on particular work plans will be welcomed through the Scrutiny function and CCG Sub Committee structure.

Our Corporate Plan 2020/22 – Delivery Plans by Department

Business Growth and Infrastructure

Priorities	Timeframe	Our Commitments					Our Objectives			
		CN	HC	EG	IN	DF	ER	FS	TR	IS
Growth Strategy	Q3 2020/21			✓				✓		
Council Strategic Asset Management Strategy	Q4 2020/21									
Housing Strategy (including review of affordable housing)	Q3 2020/21		✓	✓					✓	
Private Rented Strategy	Q4 2020/21		✓						✓	
GMSF	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
Northern Gateway	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
Preferred option in respect to Bury Interchange to be approved	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
5G network	Q4 2020/21			✓						✓
Economic Recovery Plan including Barclays Thriving Local Economies programme	Q2 2020/21			✓			✓			
Town Centre Recovery Boards	Q2 2020/21			✓						✓
Ramsbottom Town Centre Development	Q2 2020/21		✓	✓						✓
Prestwich Village Regeneration	Q4 2020/21		✓	✓						✓
Bury Town Centre Masterplan	Q4 2020/21		✓	✓						✓
Radcliffe SRF	Q4 2020/21			✓						✓
Estates Strategy	Q3 2020/21								✓	
Investment proposition approved to improve performance of the commercial estate	Q4 2020/21			✓				✓		
Proposals approved in respect to One Public Estate programme	Q4 2020/21			✓						✓
Complete feasibility study of Uplands	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
Approval of enhanced disposal programme	Q3 2020/21		✓	✓					✓	
Identification of suitable council space for business incubators	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
Business relationship and engagement function	Q3 2020/21				✓					✓
Inward investment approach	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
Working Well programme	Q3 2020/21		✓				✓			

Children's and Young People

Priorities	Timeframe	Our Commitments					Our Objectives			
		CN	HC	EG	IN	DF	ER	FS	TR	IS
Support for children in need of help and protection through the period of Covid-19 restrictions	Q3 2020/21		✓				✓			
Support to schools, early years providers and FE colleges to mitigate the detrimental impacts of Covid-19 on children and young people's learning	Q3 2020/21		✓				✓			
Focused support children and families deemed vulnerable to reduce the risks of widening inequalities and narrowing of life chances	Q3 2020/21		✓				✓			
Development of early help support for children and families via a neighbourhood management model of delivery integrated with social care and community health teams	Q3 2020/21		✓	✓						✓
Preparation for SEND	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Support to the Star Academy Trust to deliver a new secondary school in Radcliffe or deliver on a contingency plan Free School Presumption application to the Department for Education	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Education Improvement Strategy to rebase the performance profile of each Key Stage in Learning in mitigation of the impact of Covid and Focus on the imperatives of a Schools-Led improvement programme.	Q4 2020/21		✓	✓						✓
Improvements to children's social care practice and partnerships in response to the findings of the September 2020 Ofsted focused visit and preparation of ILACS inspection	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Delivery of 4 million of savings and robust management of the Dedicated Schools Grant recovery plan	Q3 2021/23						✓			
Leadership of the Borough's contribution to delivery of the Greater Manchester Children's Plan	Q3 2020/23		✓							✓
Establish the principles and practice of co-production in the areas of special educational needs and community safeguarding prevention	Q3 2020/22		✓							✓

Corporate Core

Priorities	Timeframe	Our Commitments					Our Objectives			
		CN	HC	EG	IN	DF	ER	FS	TR	IS
Corporate Plan & departmental business planning process launched	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Homeless Strategy 2020/21 (No rough sleepers ABEN 2020/21)	Q4 2020/21				✓		✓			
HR policy review	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Joint Equalities Review and Strategy agreed	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
i-Trent/transactional HR review	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Boundary Commission Review	Q3 2020/21			✓						✓
Development of VCFA requirements including volunteer strategy	Q3 2020/21		✓		✓				✓	✓
Microsoft 365 rolled out	Q3 2020/21					✓			✓	
Council constitution updated inc. member Development Plan	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Transformation partner commissioned & planning begins	Q3 2020/21					✓	✓	✓		
Brexit Planning	Q3 2020/21			✓			✓	✓	✓	
Agile working strategy	Q3 2020/21					✓	✓	✓	✓	
Health & Safety Strategy (inc centralised resource)	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Talent Strategy including Apprenticeships	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓	
Business support review	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
IG strategy review	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Culture Strategy (inc events and blue plaques)	Q4 2020/21		✓	✓						✓
Joint Communication Strategy updated	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Performance data dashboard & reporting begins	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Armed Forces Covenant Refresh	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Social Value Policy and Procurement Review	Q4 2020/21			✓						✓
Local Election Planning and Delivery	Q4 2020/21				✓					✓
Digital Strategy	Q4 2020/21					✓			✓	
Neighbourhood Model defined and programme plan developed	Q1 2021/22			✓				✓		
Domestic Violence Strategy	Q1 2021/22		✓		✓				✓	

Finance

Priorities	Timeframe	Our Commitments					Our Objectives				
		CN	HC	EG	IN	DF	ER	FS	TR	IS	
Risk Registers and Risk Maturity Assessment	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓		
Procurement Strategy	Q4 2020/21			✓					✓		
Financial Procedures and Policies	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓		
Capital Strategy	Q4 2020/21			✓					✓		
Medium Term Financial Strategy and Delivery	Q4 2020/21			✓					✓		
Treasury Management Strategy	Q4 2020/21			✓					✓		
Making Tax Digital	Q4 2020/21					✓			✓		
Council Tax Support Scheme	Q4 2020/21		✓	✓				✓			
Finance Service Offer	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓		
Financial Management Code of Practice Compliance	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓		
Section 75	Q4 2020/21				✓			✓			
Contracts Register refresh	Q3 2020/21				✓				✓		
Anti-poverty Strategy	Q2 2020/21		✓		✓		✓				
Capital Programme review	Q3 2020/21			✓					✓		
Commercial Strategy (Including Traded Services)	Q3 2020/21			✓					✓		
Income and Debt Management Review and Write-off Policy	Q3 2020/21			✓					✓		
Six Town Housing VFM Strategy	Q4 2020/21			✓				✓			
Community voucher scheme	Q2 2020/21		✓		✓			✓			
Housing Revenue Account Strategy	Q3 2020/21			✓				✓			

Operations

Priorities	Timeframe	Our Commitments					Our Objectives				
		CN	HC	EG	IN	DF	ER	FS	TR	IS	
Accommodation Review - Develop Asset Rationalisation plan - Town Hall Maintenance and Repairs - COVID secure buildings - FM Strategy and Structure	Q4 2020/21 Q3 2021/22 Q3 2020/21	✓ ✓	 ✓	 	 	 	 	✓ ✓	✓		
Bury Markets investment and improvement	Q3 2021/22	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
Civic Venues Review	Q4 2020/21			✓				✓			
Clean Air and Minimum Licensing Standard Consultation	Q3 2020/21	✓	✓						✓		
Climate Change Strategy - Produce Carbon Footprint Report - Recruitment of additional resources - Develop strategy for consultation - Deliver the Housing Strategy action plan in relation to Carbon Management	Q3 2020/21 Q3 2020/21 Q4 2020/21 Q3 2021/22	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓	 	 ✓	 	 	 ✓	✓ ✓ ✓	 ✓	
Environmental Quality - Reduce contaminated bins and maximise recycling - Strategy in respect of community ownership – keeping the Borough clean and tidy	Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22	✓	✓ ✓	 	 ✓	 	 	✓	✓		
Green Space Strategy - Implement the playing pitch strategy, including 3G pitch plan - Play areas strategy - Green Flag improvement programme - Accessible allotments strategy - Promoting our physical strategy in green spaces - Tree planning in conjunction with City of Trees - Country parks sustainability projects	Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22 Q3 2021/22	 ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	 	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	 	 	 ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	 ✓	
Highways and Engineering											

- Highways Investment Tranche 2 - Cycling and Walking Infrastructure - Transport plan with 'on the shelf' schemes	Q3 2021/22							✓	✓	
	Q3 2021/22	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	
Leisure Review - Determine options re: the viability of a facility as part of the Bury Town Centre Masterplan - Determine options re: the viability of a facility as part of the Strategic Regeneration Framework plans in Radcliffe - Determine the options re: the viability of a facility as part of the Ramsbottom Town Centre development	Q3 2021/22	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
	Q3 2021/22	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
	Q3 2021/22	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
	Q3 2021/22	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Waste and Transport 3 Year Vehicle Replacement Programme 12 new refuse collection vehicles ready for use - Waste collection review including optimisation and balancing	Q4 2020/21	✓								✓
	Q3 2021/22							✓	✓	

One Commissioning Organisation

Priorities	Timeframe	Our Commitments					Our Strategy			
		CN	HC	EG	IN	DF	ER	FS	TR	IS
Urgent Care System Transformation	Q2 2020/21		✓						✓	
Primary Care Programme including Primary Care Network Development	Q2 2020/21		✓						✓	
Children's Integrated Health and Care Commissioning including SEND	Q2 2020/21		✓						✓	
Health and Care System Recovery into Transformation	Q2 2020/21		✓						✓	
Local Outbreak Plan	Q2 2020/21		✓						✓	
Physical Activity Strategy	Q3 2020/21		✓						✓	
Community Health Service potential re-procurement	Q3 2020/21		✓						✓	
Adult Social Care Transformation Programme	Q3 2020/21		✓						✓	
Learning Disabilities Commissioning - Transformation	Q3 2020/21		✓						✓	
Discharge to Assess arrangements	Q3 2020/21		✓							✓
Clinical and financial led rationalisation of secondary care services	Q3 2020/21		✓							✓
Tackling loneliness	Q3 2020/21				✓					✓
Population health and health inequalities	Q4 2020/21		✓						✓	
Mental health reform and integration	Q4 2020/21		✓						✓	
Planned Care System Transformation	Q4 2020/21		✓						✓	
Quality and Assurance Frameworks review	Q4 2020/21		✓						✓	
Health and Care System Enabling Frameworks - Estates, Workforce, Digitalisation,	Q4 2020/21				✓					✓
Governance Review of OCO	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
Community Based Health and care integration including LCO form and function	Q4 2020/21				✓				✓	
DFG, Aids & Adaptations Strategy	Q3 2021/22		✓		✓					✓
Extra care/community care	Q1 2021/21		✓		✓					✓

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Q	Party	Question
1	Labour	Can the Leader outline the next steps to be taken in the Ramsbottom Town Plan? Councillor Gold
	Councillor O'Brien	A proposal to appoint a multi-disciplinary consultancy to prepare a public realm and place management plan for Ramsbottom has now been approved by Cabinet. The plan will guide a series of actions and initiatives aimed at the improvement and promotion of Ramsbottom town centre as a quality visitor destination, helping to secure its role as one of the Boroughs main visitor destinations over the next 10 to 15 years. The Plan will seek to identify several key interventions in the town to help improve its attractiveness. This includes public realm works to opportunities to exploit the towns assets. It will also look at parking and transportation issues.
2	Lib Dem	Can the cabinet member for transport and infrastructure clarify why the decision was made to not complete the planned 'pop-up' cycle lane on the A56 and how much of the Government funding to enable active travel remains unspent? Councillor Wright
	Councillor Smith	There was an accumulation of factors that lead to the decision not to install the pop-up cycle lane element of this emergency active travel scheme. The Council considered the impacts on traffic as witnessed on site after some lining went down, had received concerns from bus operators about the stop designs in the cycle lane, had heard reports of similar measures being removed and under-utilised in other districts and recognised that there were challenges with Salford's delivery/continuation of the pop-up cycle lane in the City centre - essentially leaving the pop-up as a cycle lane to nowhere. The public, however, will still benefit from a new length of unsegregated cycle lane near St Mary's Park as well as two controlled toucan crossings. The EATF Tranche 1 was a Greater Manchester allocation and, as such, money spent on measures is claimed back rather than given up-front. However, the Council is also seeking to introduce a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in the Brandlesholme area in line with the governments express expectations for "...local authorities to make significant changes to their road layouts to give more space to cyclists and pedestrians." to lead to a more pleasant environment that encourages people to walk and cycle.
3	Labour	With the appointment of Sir Howard Bernstein as Chair of the Radcliffe Regeneration Delivery Board now confirmed, can the Leader update the Council on the progress made with the Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework? Councillor Cathcart
	Councillor O'Brien	The early actions set out in the Radcliffe SRF are now being progressed. In particular, a Radcliffe Regeneration Delivery Board and a wider SRF governance structure are currently being put in place. The governance structure includes the Radcliffe Cabinet Committee which provides executive political leadership for the delivery of the SRF and the Radcliffe Regeneration Advisory Group which includes all elected Ward Members for the town and a number of community and business stakeholders. Initial meetings for the above bodies are to be scheduled over the next couple of months. A Programme Management Office has been established to drive forward the delivery programme and priority projects including:

Q	Party	Question
		• A new public services Hub building in the town centre; • A whole town approach to housing; • Development of the Market and the Market Chambers building; • The creation of a lifestyle/leisure facility; • The delivery of a new secondary school on the Coney Green site. This early work will inform a more detailed funding strategy that will clearly set out the way in which each proposal can be delivered.
4	Lib Dem	Could the Leader inform members whether or not consideration of new Residents Parking Schemes has been suspended, and if so when will schemes that have been triggered under the policy be taken forwards? Councillor Powell
	Councillor Smith	Given the pressures on services within the Council it is no longer possible to accommodate the processing of residents parking schemes and as such requests for new schemes will be recorded but not actioned. At this time, there is no planned date at which schemes will be picked up and progressed.
5	Labour	With the recent success of the Brownfield Fund bids for two sites in Bury, can the Leader outline how this funding will help the Council deliver on its "Brownfield First" approach? Councillor Hayes
	Councillor O'Brien	As Members will be aware, this Council is committed to prioritising the development of brownfield land. Nearly 90% of our new homes over the past decade has been on brownfield land and, in addition to providing much needed new homes, this has helped with the regeneration of key sites across the Borough. We recently secured over £1million of the Greater Manchester Brownfield Land Fund and this will be used to address the costs associated with remediating the land at the brownfield sites of Fletcher Fold and School Street. We will continue to work with key stakeholders, including Homes England, the Combined Authority and landowners - to ensure that we continue to bring forward our brownfield sites. As part of this, we will be seeking to secure more of the Brownfield land funds for other key sites in the Borough.
6	Lib Dem	Can the leader confirm how many EU citizens in Bury have yet to apply for settled status in spite of being eligible for it? What steps are being taken to improve support and awareness among these citizens of the need to apply for settled status? Councillor Tegolo
	Councillor Jones	According to the latest government data (published in August 2020), 6,360 applications to the EU Settlement Scheme have been made by residents of the Borough since the 28th August 2018. This is up from 4,510 applications at the start of 2020. Of these the nationalities which have the highest frequency of applications are residents from Poland, Italy, Spain and non-EEA family member. Of those who have applied 3,210 applications have been concluded resulting in Settled Status with a further 2,440 for pre-settled status. Data from Europaia, presented in conjunction with Bolton and Bury CAB earlier this year,

Q	Party	Question
		projected the population of EU nationals living in the Borough to be 6,000 with a confidence level of 3,000, ie at a higher would be 9,000 EU Citizens. Additional communications has taken place in recent weeks given the increased prevalence of Brexit content in the national news agenda; including circulating of guidance and encouragement for EEA citizens and their family members to apply. Information including translated guidance is available through https://www.bury.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=14961 (EU Exit on Bury Council website) Work continues to take place with ADAB, including the production of a one-page summary which is being printed as a guide for their staff, volunteers and residents most affected, including translated materials. This summary includes details on the means of which people can apply, the support on offer in the Borough and clarification of the scheme to address misinformation ADAB had become aware of when engaging with EU citizens and their families in the Borough. Bury is actively involved in Greater Manchester Brexit Readiness meetings and the next Bury Brexit Readiness meeting takes place on the 1st December 2020 which will include updates in relation to ensuring settled status application completion for Looked After Children, and on work with social care providers to ensure that EU residents in their care have applied for settled status before 30 June 2021. Brexit is also on the forward plan for Team Bury to ensure partner 'front doors' have the latest information readily available.
7	Labour	Can the Leader update on the work being done to provide business grants to those businesses impacted by the lockdown and additional restrictions? Councillor Walmsley
	Councillor Black	Government announced a series of measures to support those businesses who had been operating under Tier 2 and Tier 3 restrictions and then further packages as the country went into a second national lockdown. The support is complex with 5 levels of support for periods of restriction and lockdown. Council Officers are working hard to ensure eligible businesses receive grant funding as soon as possible. The Business Rates Team are working to make payments this week to businesses hereditaments appearing on the local rating list. The Local Restrictions Support Grant is now live on Bury Council's website. In addition £60m Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) is available for GM Authorities to allow some discretion to support those businesses that fall out of the support available to those organisation known the Business Rates team. It is the intention to use an early deployment of the funding to support critical business infrastructure. However, the funding envelope is available until March 2022 and can be used up until the end of this period. The Government has warned that there will be no further local discretionary payments. For Bury this is a share of c£4m to allocate over this financial year and next.

Q	Party	Question
		It is imperative that support those businesses that are crucial to our economy and the future recovery. The Team within Business Growth and Infrastructure are developing a local scheme taking into consideration the guidance provided by Government. Bury worked at pace during the first lockdown and subsequent months to allocate grant payments. Bury was allocated £2m for the initial discretionary grants and successfully delivered the support on a phased basis ensuring that a wide spectrum of businesses with property related costs were financially supported. In addition the team have offered wider business support by signposting to funded organisations to plan for recovery or change their business model to adapt during the crises. I urge all member to encourage local businesses to sign up for our weekly E bulletin. This is one of the quickest ways we can share up to date key messages.
8	Lib Dem	How many schools and school bubbles have had to close due to Covid-19 cases since schools reopened in September and how does this compare to the other authorities in Greater Manchester? Councillor Powell
	Councillor Tariq	Just under 50% of all primary and secondary schools have reported one or more confirmed cases within their setting, involving either members of staff or pupils. Many of these schools have gone on to experience a number of confirmed cases, largely as a result of the prevalence of Covid-19 in the wider community. In the majority of instances, this has required other staff members and/or pupils to self-isolate as a consequence of being a close contact of a confirmed case. At its highest point in late September/early October there were approximately 2,000 pupils absent representing 7% of the school age population. Through measures to more accurately identify close contacts, this number has reduced, but remains in the order of 1,000 pupils absent from school each week. Since September, four schools have had to close to all pupils for a period of time, through a combination of confirmed cases and close contacts amongst staff, reducing staffing levels below sustainable levels. The levels of absence are broadly in line with other GM authorities although the situation remains dynamic and subject to constant change.
9	Labour	What support is in place to look after rough sleepers during the winter period? Councillor McGill
	Councillor Cummins	The Council will continue to provide the existing provision of accommodation with support during the winter months with a robust outreach rough sleeper service to identify new rough sleepers and engage with them to help ensure they are accommodated and supported during the colder winter months. The current provision is:- • ABEN – In-house accommodation working with Adullum Homes - 15 individual,

Q	Party	Question
		independent and 24/7 supported accommodation with food aligned to the GM specification. • MHCLG - Next Steps revenue funding – Stepping Stones Charity – 15 individual, independent and 24/7 supported accommodation with food provision. • Therefore an increase from 10 supported shared bed spaces in 2019 /20 to 30 supported individual accommodation with an enhanced specification for 2020 / 21. • MHCLG – Next Steps Capital funding – funding to purchase 4 properties for the sole use of rough sleepers with support. Anticipated these will go live during the winter period to help with the demand. • Since the start of Covid the Council has obtained £464k of external funding to help deliver support and accommodate for our rough sleepers and keep them off the streets as per the directive of MHCLG in April. • GM Housing first – wrap around support for the most entrenched and complex rough sleepers in the Borough. These cases are discussed at the weekly rough sleeper operational panel with all relevant stakeholder. • Food provision provided in conjunction with the Christian fellowship. • MHCLG - Cold weather fund has just been announced - Bury has been allocated £10k. Currently working up bid and options to access this funding to benefit the needs of our Rough sleepers over the winter period. • Links to Health – currently Bardoc delivering flu vaccination to the homeless and rough sleeper community including clinics and outreach. • Rough sleeper outreach provision working with Pennine care to link into the Access & crisis team to support our Rough sleepers with mental health and links to Bury Achieve to support and address drug, alcohol and substance addiction. • Homeless friendly – Links / access to GP's & Dentistry support. • We have a joined up and partnership approach to supporting all our rough sleepers with all relevant stakeholders and partners in the Borough via the Homeless Partnership so that we can react quickly and maximise our resources working together.
10	Lib Dem	Could the Leader inform members what proportion of green belt is proposed to be lost in each Township area in the GMSF proposals and what proportion of housing provision in the GMSF in each Township area is on greenbelt land? Councillor Wright
	Councillor O'Brien	In overall terms, the Publication GMSF proposes a 57% reduction in Green Belt release from the first iteration of the GMSF. This has been achieved by removing some sites in full and substantially reducing the amount of Green Belt proposed to be released on the remaining sites. The sites that are proposed to be released across Greater Manchester have been selected in accordance with an approach to promote sustainable locations and boost northern competitiveness. For Bury, this means that a significant part of the Green Belt release in the Borough is to create important employment opportunities at the Northern Gateway. The proposed net change in Green Belt for each Township is: ▪ Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor (-1%) ▪ Bury West (+6%) ▪ Bury East (+2%) ▪ Radcliffe (-11%) ▪ Whitefield and Unsworth (-29%)

Q	Party	Question
		▪ Prestwich (-14%) Clearly the reduction in Green Belt is greatest in Whitefield and Unsworth but it should be noted that all of the Green Belt release in this township is the result of the Northern Gateway site, which as I have already indicated, will provide a strategic employment site for the benefit of our residents – albeit that the Northern Gateway includes a small pocket of residential development within it. In terms of the existing supply of housing land and the additional supply proposed through the GMSF, the proportion of housing within each Township that will be on land currently designated as Green Belt would be: ▪ Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor (69%) ▪ Bury West (54%) ▪ Bury East (14%) ▪ Radcliffe (63%) ▪ Whitefield and Unsworth (64%) ▪ Prestwich (69%) These figures show that the proposed sites in the GMSF are important for some of the townships, indicating that there is a lack of current supply to meet the housing needs of a growing population.
11	Labour	Can the Leader outline what support is now in place to ensure that children eligible for Free School Meals will get fed during school holidays? Councillor Susan Southworth
	Councillor Tariq	Prior to the autumn half-term break, the Government indicated that it would not intend to provide support to children of families eligible for free school meals during the half term holiday period. The Council stepped in and agreed to fund continued support to those families, through the provision of vouchers that can be redeemed at key supermarkets. Over 5,000 children benefitted from these arrangements. The Government has now indicated that it will provide financial support to Council's to enable these arrangements to continue through the Christmas period, and also future school holiday periods in 2021. Schools will be able to provide their eligible families with vouchers in advance of the school holiday periods.
12	Lib Dem	Could the Leader inform members what proportion of non-strategic roads which require resurfacing (as defined by their condition) are being resurfaced under the current programme? Councillor Tegolo
	Councillor Smith	The question has a quite technical answer which is not appropriate to go through here at Full Council, but officers are willing to discuss the details with Councillor Tegolo. However, a superficial indication can be given but should not be used to determine the size of possible future work streams. The unclassified network is 497 kilometres in length and, currently, 14% has had its condition determined as red (using a red/amber/green scoring system). This 14% therefore

Q	Party	Question
		represents around 70 kilometres. The current 3-year Highway Investment Strategy will see just over 13 kilometres resurfaced which, in turn, represents around 19% of the unclassified network which is in red condition but 2.6% of the overall unclassified network.
13	Labour	In response to the latest period of lockdown, what support is in place for those who are clinically extremely vulnerable and are shielding? Councillor Holt
	Councillor Jones	Bury Council has been preparing for the reintroduction of support for clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people since Sept 1st when draft guidance was issued by government following the previous pausing of shielding over the Summer. CEV residents have since received a letter from the NHS advising them of the revised guidance for CEV people under the latest Lockdown restrictions and a letter from Bury Council setting out support available for CEV residents who have no other natural support from family, friends and neighbours. This support is in the form of a telephone hotline, 5 community hubs staffed by redeployed Council staff and a number of volunteers on the ground linked to the hubs who can respond to requests for support. There are also a number of voluntary and community organisations who are supporting each hub and the hubs can refer CEV people to a large number of supporting services that were established through the first Lockdown. This includes support for mental health, befriending, tackling social isolation, digital support, help and advice about debt, benefits and grants. Supporting organisations include VCFA and affiliated organisations, CAB and Age UK as well as Council services such as the Staying Well Team in Adult Social Care. The hubs are also able to refer into a multitude of community based mental health groups, Acute Mental Health Services and the Integrated Neighbourhood Teams in health and social care. On the ground, the volunteers and staff in the hubs are predominantly focused on the supply food to CEV residents via the provision of priority supermarket slots, volunteer shopping efforts and access to foodbanks as well as working closely with local pharmacies to ensure medication is collected and delivered to CEV households. A small number of residents have also asked for support to access online services and this is being managed by digital buddy volunteers, Adult Learning and the Library Service.
14	Labour	What support is in place to look after the health and wellbeing of our Council staff during this incredibly difficult time? Councillor Haroon
	Councillor Rafiq	In immediate recognition of the impact that the pandemic would have on our workforce, the Council brought forward the introduction of our new Employee Assistance Programme in April. This provides all staff with a confidential 24/7/365 helpline and the facility to self-refer for counselling or CBT, as well as online support including LifeChat. More recently, we have been developing a revised wellbeing programme, which builds upon our exiting wellbeing strategy. We are now ready to launch the new initiative which will be called 5 Ways to Wellbeing, designed to help staff build resilience in their working lives. The aim is to help our workforce protect their own health and wellbeing, both mentally and physically, through the following themes: • Connect – will include weekly updates from the Exec Team, meetings capped at 55 minutes, making way for a 30 minute chat with a colleague and we will be setting up social interest groups. • Take Notice – managers will be arranging a weekly 10 minute call with direct reports

Q	Party	Question
		to talk about wellbeing issues. • Keep Learning - 1 hour per week will be put aside for mandatory and personal interest learning. • Be active – no corporate meetings will be held between 12.30 and 1.30 with staff encouraged to take some exercise. We will also be streaming free leisure classes. • Give – creates positive feeling and self-worth. We are encouraging staff to take up their existing allowance of 3 days to volunteer for a worthy cause, including working in the hubs, or to mentor a fellow colleague. Lastly, we will continue to provide specific guidance around the ever changing covid legislation and its impact upon working lives and support those individuals who need our help the most on a case by case basis through the HR support team.
		Joint Authority Questions
1	Lib Dem	Could the Council's spokesperson on the Greater Manchester Transport Committee inform members on whether the free wi-fi on Metrolink services is still suspended and if so, are there any plans to restart this soon? Councillor Powell
	Councillor Gold	This was discussed on the TFGM metro and railway sub-committee and we have asked for a report to be delivered on this and I will fill in Councillor Powell when the report is delivered to the sub-committee. The free Metrolink Wi-Fi service was suspended in March during the first lockdown period to address anti-social behaviour caused by groups congregating at stops to use the Wi-Fi service, and also as a result of the reduction in patronage on Metrolink. Patronage has remained low resulting in a significant loss of revenue, requiring a funding deal with Government to keep services running. In light of this financial pressure the decision was made to maintain the suspension to save on operational and substantial renewal costs that were required. The cost of the Wi-Fi service was previously covered by a sponsorship deal with Vodafone. Unfortunately, current economic conditions mean that finding a similar deal at present would be unlikely. As previously stated, TfGM has secured Government funding for the majority of Metrolink operating costs as part of ongoing 12-week support packages. However, long term funding sources remain uncertain. For all these reasons there are no immediate plans to reinstate the free Wi-Fi service.
2	Lib Dem	Could the Council's spokesperson on the Greater Manchester Transport Committee inform members why the number 90 bus (Simister to Prestwich) has been suspended and why there was no engagement with ward members or bus users on these proposals before their implementation? Councillor S Wright
	Councillor Gold	There are 2 sub-committees for TFGM delegates, one is the Metrolink and train sub-committee which I am on, the other one is the bus committee, which I am not on, for which Councillor Walker is our representative. A number of contracts for subsidised bus services in the Bury area were due to be renewed in October 2020. Unfortunately, the responses received to the retendering process represented a 20% increase in the cost which was unaffordable within the current budget. A review of Bury services was undertaken and a proposal was developed to withdraw the 90

Q	Party	Question
		service which overlaps with the 66, 94 and 96 services, with those services amended to maintain links to Prestwich so that they go to Prestwich village. These changes ensured that connectivity is protected and services remain affordable, they also allowed resource to be redirected to other Bury services such as the 494 Ferngrove and 492 Pilsworth. The recommendation to withdraw the 90 service was then considered by the Greater Manchester Bus Sub-Committee Friday 11 September and the committee took the decision to withdraw the route and amend other services accordingly to mitigate the impact.
3	Lib Dem	Could the Council's spokesperson on the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Committee inform members on how the 2020 lockdown and other restrictions have affected recycling and waste disposal rates in the Borough? Councillor Tegalo
	Councillor Quinn	Under their Resources and Waste Strategy published in 2018 DEFRA is intent on pursuing a number of measures that are designed to make household waste collections across the country more consistent. Further consultations are due in Spring 2021 but the favoured approach appears to be the collection of food waste separately on a weekly basis, provide garden waste collections FOC, collect residual waste 2 weekly, collect plastic pots, tubs and trays and film for recycling, consider a greater separation of recyclables (meaning more containers for residents) and standardised bin colours for different waste streams. Likely separate waste streams: Residual; Food; Garden; Paper/card; Glass, Plastics & cans. The implications are huge and the bill for implementation on a national scale massive. DEFRA have maintained all along that any additional cost burden will not fall on LAs and that it would be covered by industry through extended producer responsibility and the new burdens fund, but there is a lack of certainty about what that will mean in reality. Funding may be based on a formula and not actual costs. In summary, the Council may be compelled to collect some wastes (residual and food) more frequently than we do currently and with a greater degree of separation. That will mean more vehicles, staff and containers required which obviously come at a cost. It may well also require a larger depot in which to accommodate the additional vehicles. Research is ongoing across Greater Manchester to quantify the potential costs of new burdens and this will provide robust evidence for the 2021 consultation response.

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TFGM UPDATE FOR BURY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 2020

1. NATIONAL LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS

On 31 October the Prime Minister announced that new national “lockdown” measures would be in place across the entirety of England from 5 November to 2 December. As part of these new national measures residents in England have been told to “Stay at Home”. TfGM has issued the following travel information and advice for passengers during national coronavirus restrictions, based on the [Government’s safer travel guidance](https://tfgm.com/coronavirus). Further information can be found at: <https://tfgm.com/coronavirus>

- **Help protect the NHS and save lives - stay at home and avoid travel, except for work, education, or other essential reasons.**
- Consider walking or cycling if you can.
- Public transport is running as usual for those who need it, but you must wear a face covering unless exempt and should follow safety guidelines - keep your distance from other passengers, clean your hands frequently and use contactless payment.
- If you have to travel please plan ahead, allow extra time for your journey, consider travelling outside peak times and using quieter routes.

2. NETWORK UPDATES

In the week ending **8 November** the number of overall trips made in Greater Manchester was **38.3million**, a decline of **1.3%** from the previous week and approximately **26%** below typical pre-pandemic levels.

As anticipated, it was a week of two halves, with the period Monday to Wednesday seeing a **12%** increase in activity as pupils returned to school following half term, however this was offset by a **17%** decline in trips between Thursday and Sunday following the start of national lockdown restrictions.

While bus patronage increased by around **17.3%**, last week saw further declines in passenger number on Metrolink (**-8.6%**) and in footfall at Piccadilly Rail Station (**-16.1%**).

Highway activity fell by **3.5%**, but there was a sharp rise in cycling trips (**38.7%**) – which could be attributed to lockdown restrictions and a spell of better weather.

Face covering compliance currently stands at **90%** on bus, **86%** on Metrolink and **87%** on rail.

3. LIVING WITH COVID

The latest Transport Focus passenger survey data shows that concerns over safety and cleanliness are preventing a significant proportion of people from using public transport. For example, of those surveyed:

- 33% of people who used public transport frequently prior to lockdown are not doing so because they don’t feel safe.

- More than two-in-five are avoiding public transport because they don't think enough passengers are wearing face coverings.
- More than two-in-five are avoiding public transport because they don't think it is clean enough.

A number of additional measures have been announced including:

Covid Ambassadors

- A team of 'ambassadors' will engage with customers around the network, provide free face coverings and hand sanitiser, explain safety measures and encourage off-peak travel and contactless payment.

Enhanced Metrolink cleaning

- An increase of 500 hours per week, equating to 11 full time staff working five days per week on a seven day rota.
- Provides two additional stop cleans per day outside of city centre stops (which are already cleaned four times per day).
- Cleaning on trams whilst travelling to each stop and focussing on common touch points (which are already cleaned at least every two hours).

Enhanced cleaning at bus stations and interchanges

- Common touch points cleaned at least every two hours.

Roll-out of hand sanitisers on the Metrolink network

- Trialling the installation of hand sanitiser dispensers at, initially, 20 locations on the network.

Roll-out of the 'sunflower' lanyard for hidden disabilities

- Wearing the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower discreetly indicates to people that the wearer has a hidden disability and may need additional support, help or more time.

TfGM will procure packs of sunflower lanyards, pins and other items and donate them to customers who require them. Staff will be trained to identify the sunflower and provide appropriate support.

4. SCHOOL TRANSPORT FUNDING

Greater Manchester has [secured](#) a further £2.4m to continue running additional school bus services to support social distancing for the second half of the Autumn term. This is in addition to the initial £2.25 million funding package secured by TfGM for dedicated school and college transport in August.

5. METROLINK FUNDING

Last month the Department for Transport (DfT) confirmed that a further funding package of up to £33.58 million will be made available to Metrolink.

The money is part of a wider £67.8m funding package which has been made available to tram services across the north and midlands. The funding will be available from 27 October 2020 to 31 March 2021, and will be split into two tranches, with £17.5m assigned to Metrolink for the first 12 weeks and the rest available to support services to the end of the financial year subject to a government review informed by a plan to move the network onto a financially sustainable footing.

6. NEW TRAMS

The first of 27 new trams arrived this week, boosting capacity on the network and providing more space for social distancing. Once testing and commissioning has been completed the first trams will be put

into service before Christmas, with further trams set to arrive every 3-4 weeks after that. Once in full service the new trams will increase capacity on the network by 15% and will enable Metrolink to run more double trams for customers. The new trams are being funded by the Transforming Cities Fund and were first announced as part of the Congestion Deal in March 2018.

7. BURY PARK AND RIDE

Plans to increase parking provision at park and rides in Bury have been approved. The applications, which will see the number of spaces increased at Radcliffe by 111 to 480 and at Whitefield by 123 to 331, were approved last week by Bury Council's Planning Committee. The plans will see single additional decks added to the existing sites as well as increased lighting, signage, CCTV, electric vehicle charging points and cycle storage. To minimise the impact, the closures will be staggered with Whitefield closing first in Summer 2021 and re-opening ahead of Radcliffe, which will close in Autumn 2021 and re-open in Winter 2021/22. A separate planning application, to provide 250 temporary park and ride spaces on land to the rear of Spring Lane School, has also been submitted to the planning committee and will be considered at a future meeting. Should permission be granted, the temporary car park will be built before the closure of either site to minimise disruption.

The project will not only support Greater Manchester's vision of having world class transport connections, it will also support Radcliffe's long-term, sustainable economic growth, providing increased access to opportunities. TfGM is also currently developing business cases to expand a number of similar park and ride schemes serving key commuter routes, making public transport accessible to even more people across the region.

8. CYCLING AND WALKING

Last month TfGM announced that a further 55 miles of new cycling and walking routes, and an additional 140 new crossings, were to be created across Greater Manchester by December 2021. The projects, which will benefit all 10 districts, total around £85 million and mark the start of regions Bee Network infrastructure. In addition, 25 miles of pop-up cycling, and walking routes will be delivered by spring 2021. In Bury, £2.2m has been allocated for crossing point and junction improvements which are expected to be completed by Winter 2021. Also, £1.8m has been allocated for the Elton Beeway, which will complete a direct route from Bury to Radcliffe via the canal towpath and is also expected to be completed by Winter 2021. Additionally, funding has been allocated for GM wide projects including; £2.2m for Bee Network crossings, £6.1m for safety camera digitalisation, and £7.1m for a GM Bike Hire Scheme due to launch in Spring 2021.

Last week, the Secretary of State for Transport announced £175m in further funding to English transport authorities under the next tranche of the Active Travel Fund (formerly Emergency Active Travel Fund). Greater Manchester has been allocated £15.9million, based on a bid of £13.9million. This reflects DfT's criteria which has awarded LAs with the strongest bids 125% of their allocation and is a further recognition of our position as a leading active travel city-region. This figure is in addition to the £3.174million GM received under tranche one of the fund. TfGM and local authority officers will meet over the next week to work through details and delivery arrangements.

9. AUTUMN CONSULTATIONS

Two public consultations have launched on the [GM Clean Air Plan](#) and [Minimum Licensing Standards](#) for Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles. The consultations will run concurrently for 8 weeks until 3 December.

The Clean Air Plan consultation asks for views on key elements of the GM-wide Clean Air Zone including its proposed boundary, daily charges, discounts and exemptions, and a request to

government for a multi-million-pound funding package to support local businesses to upgrade to cleaner vehicles. Questions about the impact of COVID-19 on businesses are also included.

A consultation on Minimum Licensing Standards for Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles is running alongside the GM Clean Air Plan consultation, so that those affected by both can understand the full impact of the proposals.

Greater Manchester-wide minimum standards are being proposed to help ensure that all residents and visitors see these services as safe and reliable, and preferable to those not licensed by GM local authorities.

Questions about the impact of COVID-19 on the trade are also included in this consultation, which will inform the final standards.

Last month also saw the launch of a consultation on the [City Centre Transport Strategy](#). Running for six weeks it will ask for people's views on the draft strategy. The consultation is being hosted by Manchester City Council and is a joint strategy with TfGM and Salford City Council.

10. BURY INTERCHANGE

The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 Delivery Plan identifies Bury Interchange as a priority project for redevelopment. In consultation with Bury Council TfGM has developed outline proposals to upgrade the interchange including bus and Metrolink platform/access improvements.

With the support of Bury Council, TfGM is progressing the procurement exercise to assemble a consultant team to develop a Strategic Outline Business Case for delivery of a comprehensive redevelopment of the current interchange site. The scheme will deliver a customer focused, future-ready travel hub enabling interchange for current and future transport modes that acts as a catalyst for regeneration whilst seamlessly integrating with the emerging Bury town centre revised masterplan.

Securing a case for the Interchange will ensure we are ready to take advantage of any funding opportunities. In this regard, the scheme has been included within the recent Greater Manchester Infrastructure Programme (GMIP) submission to the Comprehensive Spending Review. There is also engagement with DfT and HMT on the Future Cities transport funding package to 2025.

Design ambitions include:

- High quality architecture aligning with town centre plan.
- Contributing to Burys target of carbon neutral by 2030
- Flexibility for future transport opportunities to be “built in”
- High standards of accessibility
- Vibrant and community oriented focal point with local business opportunities



Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	The Council
Meeting date:	25th November 2020
Title of report:	Update on Combined Authority activity
Report by:	Leader of the Council
Decision Type:	Non Key Decision
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Executive Summary:

This report provides an update on the activity of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, and associated bodies following a previous update in September 2020.

Recommendation(s)

That Council notes the report and agrees that further updates on the Combined Authority are provided to future Council meetings

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This report provides an update on work of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority following an update to Council in September 2020.
- 1.2 During this period the region has, along with the rest of the country faced new national restrictions in relation to Coronavirus; firstly in terms of the three-tiered approach and subsequently the further restrictions which came into force on the 5th November 2020.
- 1.3 Since the last update there has been two meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, the minutes of which can be found through the following link
<https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=136>

2.0 Greater Manchester Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment

- 2.1 Following consultation on two previous drafts in 2016 and 2019, Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment (the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework [GMSF]) has now progressed to a stage where the AGMA Executive Board has recommended to districts that they approve for consultation and for submission to the Government for Examination.
- 2.2 A report was tabled at Cabinet on 11th November, and is tabled as an item for this Council meeting, which sets out the a strategic overview of what the GMSF is planning for across Greater Manchester and highlights the key proposals for Bury in terms of homes, jobs, the environment, infrastructure and other background information. It also describes the key benefits that the GMSF will bring to Bury and examines the implications of Covid and the recently released Planning White Paper before setting out when and how consultation on the Publication GMSF will take place. It is proposed that the GMSF should be subject to a eight-week period of public consultation between 1 December 2020 November and 26 January 2021.
- 2.3 The GMSF is one of the suite of strategic documents setting out how Greater Manchester can achieve the ambition set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy. It sits alongside other plans and strategies, including the Transport 2040 Delivery Plan (also tabled at 11th November Cabinet), Local Industrial Strategy, Housing Strategy, 5 Year Environment Plan, Digital Strategy and Cultural Strategy.

3.0 Community Safety and Cohesion

- 3.1 In October, the Standing Together Annual Report was published highlighting community safety activity in the region over the past year. This report detailed that overall crime numbers in the region have decreased by 8% over the last twelve months, with a 10% reduction in domestic abuse and 6% reduction in victim-based crime.
- 3.2 The report acknowledges the additional pressures that Coronavirus has places on protecting the most vulnerable in our communities. The Greater Manchester Domestic Abuse Partnership Board held virtual meetings and worked with schools to support children, produced guidance for GPs and secured additional emergency accommodation for women fleeing abuse.
- 3.3 Also since the last update to Council a 'Plan to Tackle Hate Crime' has been published, focusing on reducing intolerance and hate in communities. Hate crime is defined as 'any criminal offences perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility, prejudice, towards someone based on a personal characteristic'. In Greater Manchester hate crime is monitored across six strands: race, religion, sexual orientation, trans identity, disability and alternative subcultures. Figures show there were 488 hate crime prosecutions in Greater Manchester from March 2019 to March 2020.
- 3.4 The Plan was launched during the national Hate Crime Awareness Week (10th-17th October). Within the Hate Crime Plan includes a specific focus on support for victims of

such crime and work on the TravelSafe Partnership to combat hate crime across the TfGM network.

- 3.5 The Plan builds on existing advisory and scrutiny panels, including those across protected characteristics, with applications have been promoted locally and regionally throughout October for members of the new Greater Manchester Race Equality Panel and takes place at a time when Bury Council and Bury CCG will be publishing a joint Inclusion Strategy following equality review activity over the summer and autumn of 2020.
- 3.6 Regional activity in relation to Community Safety has also heavily focused on the period around Halloween and Fireworks night, as part of Operation Treacle as part of a partnership approach both locally and regionally between local authority, Greater Manchester Police, and Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue colleagues to ensure the consistent dissemination of advice, information and support to keep people safe and aware of local/national restrictions.

4.0 Cultural Recovery

- 4.1 In December 2019 Bury was named as the inaugural Greater Manchester Town of Culture. Whilst 2020 has been a very different year to what was originally envisaged, Bury has been at the centre of Greater Manchester's work promoting the value of culture. United We Stream GM has led the way with livestreaming performing arts, literature, comedy, and music, with the vast majority of this activity having being streamed for The Met Theatre in Bury. United We Stream has raised over £475k to support the regional cultural, creative and night time economy. United We Stream will return over the festive period and once again be primarily based in Bury with further information to be shared through the Bury GM Town of Culture social media channels.
- 4.2 Within the region's Covid Recovery plans a specific Cultural Recovery Strategy has been developed to recognise the importance of the sector to both the region's economic and social wellbeing. Within this is confirmation that Bury's title as Town of Culture will continue in 2021, recognising much of the planned activity for this year, particularly in relation to the Happy Festival celebrating the life and influence of Victoria Wood, has not been able to take place as planned.
- 4.3 The Cultural Recovery Action plan will be a key driver of activity, alongside the LGA's recent Creative Places report, to inform a revised Cultural Strategy for Bury.

5.0 GM Environment Fund

- 5.1 The Greater Manchester Environment Fund aims to raise public, private and philanthropic funds to deliver strategic and co-ordinated natural environment projects to help GM to deliver the targets of the GM Five Year Environment Plan. The intention of the fund is to attract monies and provide officer resource to help develop and deliver environmental projects to meet our own strategic priorities.
- 5.2 The fund aims to attract more finance and to aggregate this where possible and spend it in a more co-ordinated way. This should benefit Bury by providing greater levels of

investment and more effective improvements in our local natural environment. The fund is currently in development and Bury Council is actively engaged in its development and implementation to ensure that both our natural environment and carbon targets are suitable progressed.

- 5.3 The proposal to prioritise of the development of a Carbon Offsetting facility will help Bury to deliver carbon sink projects that will help achieve our carbon neutrality aspirations set out in the Bury 2030 strategy.
- 5.4 In addition a bid is being submitted by the GMCA on behalf of the ten local authorities to the Government's Green Homes Grant: Local Delivery Phase 1 Fund. This funding will be used to upgrade the energy performance and to install renewable energy heating in those homes with poor energy performance and occupied by people on low income. This will help to address fuel poverty, improve the health and wellbeing of our vulnerable residents whilst also reducing carbon emissions.

6.0 Preventing Rough Sleeping

- 6.1 The A Bed Every Night(ABEN) programme has provided a key accommodation and support pathway for people who are experiencing rough sleeping, or at imminent risk, in Greater Manchester for the last 2 years. It has been delivered as one part of a wider system of activity to prevent and relieve rough sleeping, including the Rough Sleeper Initiative, Rapid Rehousing Programme, and Housing First pilot, to provide options and complementary resources for people who rough sleep.
- 6.2 The September update to Council outlined that ABEN phase 3 seeks to increase accommodation capacity and ensure further wrap-around support for individuals. ABEN Phase 3 funds 15 bed spaces in Bury, an increase from 10 the previous year. Linking this provision with ABEN operationally and strategically with our other multi-agency stakeholders especially health will provide a more robust service with more positive longer term outcomes for our rough sleepers.
- 6.3 To supplement this the locality has been successful in securing £81k of Next Steps funding to bring a total capacity of 30 bed spaces through to the end of the financial year.

7.0 Brexit Readiness

- 7.1 On 16th November 2020 the latest Greater Manchester Brexit Readiness meeting took place, including representatives from the GMCA, GM Health and Social Care Partnership, Greater Manchester Police, Local Resilience Forum, Growth Company and local authority representatives. These monthly meetings have been reinstated given the proximity to the end of the transition period which ends on the 31st December 2020.
- 7.2 The partnership meeting considered the latest regulations and guidance from national government, including the Border Control regulations which begin to come into force from 1st January 2021; business continuity planning given the concurrency of the transition period ending during a time of Coronavirus pressures; and to co-ordinate advice and information to individuals and businesses on changes as a result of the UK's exit from the EU.

- 7.3 The next Bury Brexit Readiness meeting is scheduled to take place on 1st December 2020.

8.0 Update on Waste and Resources Contract

- 8.1 During the national lockdown (5th November-2nd December 2020), Household Waste Recycling Centres have remained open, operating their normal opening hours.
- 8.2 During the lockdown residents will be urged to only visit facilities where essential. Residents who do visit household waste recycling centres are encouraged to separate waste and recycling before their visit to make it easier to use the site quickly; maintain two-metre social distancing from other site users; and wash their hands/use hand sanitiser before and after their visit.
- 8.3 A Borough wider paper and card recycling campaign has taken place, with all households with a kerbside collection (83,000) having had their green bin stickered during their bin collection. Over the course of late October and into November, crews used red stickers to highlight 'contaminated bins' to highlight what should be recycled in each bin. This was accompanied by radio adverts on Tower FM and an social media animation to mirror the audio campaign.
- 8.4 From a wider waste and recycling education perspective, virtual sessions continue to take place instead of sessions taking place in schools. In October, this involved seven sessions for schools and three for community groups to over 400 participants. In November they have 20 sessions booked in already. The Prestwich Environmental Forum have booked a virtual session on 9th December.

9.0 Recommendation

- 9.1 That Council note the updates from the Combined Authority, with further updates to be presented to future Council meetings

Community impact / Contribution to the Bury 2030 Strategy

Bury 2030 takes account of regional opportunities for the locality.

Equality Impact and considerations:

24. *Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:*

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*

- (b) *advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
 - (c) *foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*
25. *The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.*

Equality Impact considerations included on the individual Combined Authority reports.

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
No specifically arising from this report; any specific risks in relation to GMCA/AGMA activity referenced in the respective individual reports.	.

Legal Implications:

To be completed by the Council's Monitoring Officer

There are no legal implications arising from the report

Financial Implications:

To be completed by the Council's Section 151 Officer

There are no specific financial implications arising from the update report. Any financial implications arising from proposals involving the Greater Manchester Combined Authority are considered as and when decisions are needed to be made at an individual district council level.

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Background papers:

None

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
AGMA	Association of Greater Manchester Authorities
GMCA	Greater Manchester Combined Authority
GMSF	Greater Manchester Spatial Framework – officially know as Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment

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Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	25 November 2020
Title of report:	Monitoring of Urgent Items and Exemption of Call-In
Report by:	The Leader of the Council
Decision Type:	Non Key Decision
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Executive 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.

Recommendation(s)

That:

That Council notes the Executive Key Decisions that have been taken as urgent items and which were exempted from call-in in.

Key considerations

Background

- 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.

(i) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group – 8.10.2020
Re Test and Trace Support Payments**

Decision Taken:

- Note the government scheme for test and trace support payments;
- Approve the proposed discretionary scheme and note that this aligns to the Greater Manchester scheme;
- Note the process for accessing the scheme.

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

Following the introduction of a new legal obligation to self-isolate if someone tests positive or is identified as a contact by NHS Test and Trace, the Government has introduced a new Test and Trace Support lump sum payment of £500 to support those on low incomes if they cannot work during their self isolation period and will suffer a loss of income as a result. The Government has also provided local authorities with funding to develop a discretionary scheme to support those that may not be eligible for the national scheme but who would benefit from some financial assistance. The scheme is to be administered by Local Authorities and must be launched by 12 October.

(ii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group – 22.10.2020
Re Distribution of the Adult Social Care Infection Control
Fund: round 2, to Care Homes, Care at Home (domiciliary
care), Supported Living Providers and other Community
Settings.**

Decision taken;

- Note Bury's further allocation of an additional £1.9m from the recently announced Adult Social Care Infection Control Fund: round 2;
- Note and approve the grant conditions and the distribution methodology;
- Note the reporting requirements October 2020 to March 2021;

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 Community settings such as Care Homes, in their own homes supported by Care at Home Providers, Supported Living Providers and to support wider workforce resilience and infection control in this sector to deal with COVID-19.

(iii) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group – 22.10.2020
RE Temporary Closure of Longfield Car Park in Prestwich to
create COVID 19 Testing Centre**

Decision taken;

Authority to close the relevant car park fully for the period until Wednesday the 28th of October to allow the remedial works and the construction of the test centre, and the subsequent closure of half the car park for the foreseeable future during the operation of the DHSC run Prestwich test centre.

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

Rapid deployment of DHSC testing capability in response to second wave COVID growth

(iv) **Leader Decision via Emergency Powers Group – 22.10.2020
Re Care at Home Contract Extension**

Decision taken;

Approval to extend the current care at home contract for a period of 12 months, in line with the extension options in the contract, to allow for a full review of the service to be completed and recommendations for future provision.

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

Continuity of support pending a full review.

Community impact / Contribution to the Bury 2030 Strategy

N/a

Equality Impact and considerations:

24. *Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:*

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*
25. *The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.*
-

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Failure to comply with Constitution	Reported decisions for note.

Consultation: N/a

Legal Implications:

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 the last Council.

Financial Implications:

No implications.

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Background papers:

Council Constitution

Records of Urgent Decisions

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning

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