

AGENDA FOR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE



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To: All Members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors : R Bernstein, C Birchmore, A Arif, N Bayley,
N Boroda, D Green, N Jones, K Peel, T Pilkington,
D Vernon (Chair) and M Walsh

Dear Member/Colleague

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Tuesday, 6 September 2022
Place:	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
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

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3 MINUTES *(Pages 3 - 10)*

The minutes from the meeting held on 19th July 2022 are attached for approval.

4 MATTERS ARISING

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A period of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to ask questions on matters considered at the last meeting and set out in the minutes or on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

6 MEMBER QUESTION TIME

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.

7 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN *(Pages 11 - 26)*

Attached is a report from Councillor Gold Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities. Chris Hill, Greater Manchester Police will also be in attendance.

8 BURY TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION *(Pages 27 - 72)*

Report from Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth attached.

9 URGENT BUSINESS

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

Minutes of:	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	19 July 2022
Present:	Councillor D Vernon (in the Chair) Councillors R Bernstein, C Birchmore, A Arif, N Bayley, N Boroda, D Green, N Jones, K Peel, T Pilkington and M Walsh
Also in attendance:	Councillor Morris, Cabinet Member for Culture and Economy Councillor Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations Lynne Ridsdale, Deputy Chief Executive Chris Woodhouse, Strategic Partnerships Manager Laura Swann, Assistant Director (Operations Strategy) Neil Long, Assistant Director Donna Ball, Executive Director, Operations Jacqui Dennis, Monitoring Officer Chloe Ashworth, Democratic Services.
Public Attendance:	No members of the public were present at the meeting.
Apologies for Absence:	None.

The meeting took place virtually following guidance from Public Health and in Consultation with the Chair due to the heat wave experienced on the evening.

Councillor Vernon informed Members to make any decisions the Local Government Act 1972 requires members to be present in person and does not allow decisions to be made virtually or in a hybrid manner. Therefore, if any decisions are made, they can be agreed in principle and be ratified at a future meeting. Similarly, if the Committee resolve to make and recommendations, then they can do so virtually by a show of hands.

OSC1 APOLOGIES

Apologies are noted above.

OSC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Peel declared an interest in items 8-10 as Deputy Cabinet Member Environment, Climate Change and Operations so left the meeting after item 7 (19:56pm).

OSC.3 MINUTES

Councillor Birchmore flagged that page 4 of the minutes should be amended to:

It was moved by Councillor Birchmore and seconded by Councillor Boroda and it was agreed unanimously.

Subject to the above amendment the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2022 be approved.

OSC.4 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

OSC.5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions.

OSC.6 MEMBER QUESTION TIME

There were no member questions.

OSC.7 CULTURE STRATEGY AND BURY'S TIME AS GREATER MANCHESTER TOWN OF CULTURE

Councillor Morris, Cabinet Member for Culture and Economy provided an overview of Bury Council's Culture Strategy and Bury's time as Greater Manchester Town of Culture.

In December 2019 Bury was named the inaugural Greater Manchester Town of Culture, an initiative to promote the 'distinctive culture' of towns across the region. As an outcome of the Town of Culture celebrations and recognised potential economic opportunity, a Culture Strategy was commissioned from a partner called Curated Place. This work was also tasked with exploring the opportunity to put cultural investment centre stage of the delivery of "Levelling Up" schemes in Bury and Radcliffe.

Councillor Morris then opened to questions from the Committee.

Councillor Birchmore asked the following questions; If you were writing this as a business plan what aims, and objectives would you have listed for this project? What outcomes do you think you have achieved? What do you think the legacy of this project will be for Bury and the other towns which make up Bury MBC?

In response Councillor Morris advised the proposed aim of the strategy is to be the best borough to be an independent creative in Greater Manchester. The objectives are to contribute to economic growth; to harness and celebrate community pride and identity and to enable delivery of the Levelling Up ambitions through a high-quality events programme in the new Radcliffe and Bury events spaces specifically. The intention is to establish the Borough as a cultural destination to increase visitor footfall and spend and to attract and retain new businesses to the borough, from the creative sector. The outcomes will be financial resilience through self-sufficiency of creative industries; increased business rates from the hospitality industry and the vibrancy of our town centres which will benefit from increased footfall and visitor numbers. Detailed evaluation measures will be determined when the strategy is finalised but are likely to include hotel stays; visitor numbers at principal attractions including Radcliffe hub and Bury Flexi Hall; numbers of resident artists and creative-based industries and increased regional and national media coverage.

In response to a question from Councillor Bernstein about Gigg Lane Councillor Morris advised that as per the report to Cabinet last week there is now a clear opportunity to bring professional football back to the town at Gigg Lane whilst maximising a key community asset, which would see the council provide £450k to release further funding from the Community

Ownership Fund. Throughout our time as Town of Culture and when considering a future Cultural Strategy, we have always intentionally applied the broadest definition of culture, which includes sporting activity, hence for instance the Radcliffe People and Communities Plan having a joint theme on Culture and Sport. The proposals provide the opportunity to bring a range of benefits to the communities surrounding Gigg Lane, providing spaces for creative (priority 3 in the Curate Place proposal) and in particular celebrate the mutually beneficial relationship between creativity and wellbeing, both in the creation and consumption of cultural activity.

During discussion of this item Councillor Peel referenced the Culture Strategy should focus on how to balance the day and night-time economy so that we do not have lots of bars and good nightlife and nothing to visit in the day.

Councillor Walsh sought clarification on assets and historic buildings within the Borough including Radcliffe Manor. In response Councillor Morris advised the military history was a large part of the culture and heritage of Bury. Councillor Morris asked for an invite to see Radcliffe Manor and hear about the history.

Councillor Vernon sought assurances of the details of the Purple Flag Accreditation. In response Councillor Morris advised the accreditation follows a two-year renewal process with a full renewal every two-years and an interim renewal in-between. The submission date for the full renewal is the 7th October 2022 and the work for this is led and co-ordinated by the Economic Development and Projects service within Business Growth and Infrastructure Department. Licensing Officers within the Public Protection Service have limited involvement but do supply information to support the renewal application relating to the night-time economy in Bury. Information would include current schemes including Best Bar Non scheme (GMP Led), PubWatch, Bury Driver Safety Initiative, Licensed Premises Women's Safety Charter, Taxi/Private Hire Trade Liaison Meetings and Compliance visits to Licensed Premises which are undertaken in collaboration with GMP.

In response to concerns about areas who are not as touched by the Culture/ major regeneration projects Councillor Morris advised that it is about connecting people to place and communities more than physical buildings.

During discussions of this item Councillor Bernstein sought assurances on how Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) will support the cultural economy in Bury. In response Councillor Morris advised the Council is in constant dialogue with colleagues across TfGM. We benefit from good transport links notably the Metrolink, where of course at the interchange have public art through a text-based neon. In addition, we ensure linkages with our Live Well service to maximise the opportunities for active travel options.

Councillor Vernon sought clarification on the Business Improvement District (BIDs), the appointment of a consultant and retail business owners. In response Councillor Morris advised the procured consultant is The Mosaic Partnership who have a wealth of experience in setting up BIDs. There is currently a Board made up of a number of Bury businesses who meet monthly to progress the work plan and next steps. The board will manage the process until the BID Director/Manager is appointed.

In response to a question from Councillor Jones regarding the cultural skills development programme Councillor Morris advised; this would be resourced from within a reconfigured team. Pending the establishment of additional specialist resources the council will also work with other cultural partners to harness their expertise, by repurposing the board that was established to lead Town of Culture delivery into a wider cross-borough culture board.

Questions regarding the indicative Annual events budget were asked. Councillor Morris clarified that any budget for events is part of the wider consideration of the Curated Place proposal in the context of resource constraints. There is not currently an existing core budget within the Council for delivering events, though many are supported through the Event Safety Advisory Group.

It was moved by Councillor Vernon and seconded by Councillor Jones, and it was agreed unanimously:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee voice their support for the Cultural Strategy and requests Cabinet to carry out further work on funding streams to support it. The Committee requested that Councillor Morris report back to it within the Municipal year.

It was agreed that:

1. Councillor Morris be thanked for her update and attendance at the Committee.

OSC.8 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY

Councillor Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations provided an overview of the Climate Action Strategy.

The Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and has made a commitment to become carbon neutral by 2038. This aligns with the target for Greater Manchester. In October 2021, following public consultation, the Council published its Climate Action Strategy and Climate Action Plan. These documents outline how the Council will work towards achieving carbon neutrality by 2038.

During discussion of this item Councillor Walsh sought clarification on the current flood defences on Hardy's Gate Bridge. Councillor Quinn explained the reason for the original plan of remodelling the bridge didn't go ahead due to a funding gap and whilst it is not at immediate risk there is a 1 in 40 chance a storm could be detrimental to flooding in the immediate area.

Councillor Bernstein asked based on where we are today are we confident that we will reach carbon neutrality by 2038. In response to the question Councillor Quinn stated the Council continues to prioritise climate action, and this was acknowledged last year with the publication of our Climate Action Strategy and Climate Action Plan and the creation of a Climate Action Team. There has been some positive progress recently but there needs to be a change from the government to ensure we are successful. It is also important to recognise that we need to act quickly as it is estimated at the Greater Manchester level that we will use up our Carbon budget in the next 6 years, which means that by 2028 we will already be on the path to greater than 1.5C of warming. The Council is heavily reliant on government being able to make the necessary national changes that help to support the Council to achieve its carbon reduction goal, as there are many areas that we simply do not have necessary level of influence i.e., decarbonisation of the energy grid.

Councillor Birchmore sought assurances regarding getting vehicle charging points on a proposed development on the East Lancs Paper Mill site. Councillor Quinn advised that for a number of years, the Environment Section have been recommending planning conditions requiring that all new residential properties with a dedicated parking space be provided with an electric vehicle charge point. However, following the release of the new Building Regulations in June 2022, electric vehicle charge points will be required by law on all new residential properties with a parking space. This will be enforced by Building Regulations and so will no longer be needed as a condition on planning applications.

Councillor Vernon questioned what action was taken to access the potential £8.5 million funding as Bury received £2.5 million. In assurance Councillor Quinn advised that Bury council were originally awarded £8.5 million to deliver a range of decarbonisation measures across 16 of our corporate buildings. The government set extremely challenging timelines for delivery of the decarbonisation measures and these challenges were made even more difficult by late notification of award, timescales changing throughout the project, the impact of COVID and long lead in times for delivery of equipment. Despite best efforts to deliver the original works it became necessary to reduce the scope in order to meet the agreed timescales and ensure the Council was not liable for the costs (if work ran over). Everything possible was done to enable works that were achievable in the timeframe to be delivered and we were able to complete decarbonisation works at 8 of our buildings.

It was agreed:

1. Councillor Quinn Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations be thanked for his attendance and update.

OSC.9 UPDATE ON THE GREATER MANCHESTER CLEAN AIR PLAN

Councillor Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations attended and provided an overview Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan. The report sets out the case for a new Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan and Greater Manchester's annual mean standards for NO₂ in 2021.

The Health Scrutiny Committee were asked to note the 'Case for a new Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan' document has been submitted to the Secretary of State as a draft document subject to any comments from Bury Council ahead of the next Air Quality Administration Committee.

During discussion of this item members sought assurance on the change from the Government revoked the direction requiring the implementation of a category C charging zone. In response Councillor Quinn advised that as a result of legal action, in July 2017 the Secretary of State issued a Direction under the Environment Act 1995 requiring seven Greater Manchester local authorities, to produce a feasibility study to identify the option which will deliver compliance with the requirement to meet legal limits for nitrogen dioxide *in the shortest possible time*. In Greater Manchester (GM) Authorities have worked together to develop a Clean Air Plan to tackle NO₂ Exceedances at the Roadside, referred to as GM CAP. Following Government guidance a best performing option was identified within an Outline Business Case (OBC) for further consideration and discussion with stakeholders and the public to aid the development of the Full Business Case.

In March 2019 the GM Authorities agreed the submission of the OBC that proposed a package of measures that was considered would deliver compliance in Greater Manchester in the shortest possible time, at the lowest cost, least risk and with the least negative impacts. This involved a Charging Clean Air Zone Class C with additional measures.

In July 2019 the Secretary of State issued a direction under section 85 of the Environment Act 1995 requiring the 10 GM local authorities to implement the local plan for NO₂ compliance for the areas for which they were responsible, including a Charging Clean Air Zone Class C with additional measures, but with an obligation to provide further options appraisal information to demonstrate the applicable class of charging clean air zone and other matters to provide assurance that the local plan would deliver compliance in the shortest possible time and by 2024 at the latest.

Councillor Birchmore questioned the ANPR cameras purpose; in response Councillor Quinn advised the ANPR cameras that have been installed can be utilised for data capture which would allow the Greater Manchester authorities to better understand vehicle fleet currently in operation, and their associated emissions. Using this data allows us to understand how vehicle fleets have naturally renewed over the course of the project, and whether the impacts of Covid-19 has altered typical cycles. Where ANPR cameras are located adjacent to air quality monitoring, additional analysis can be undertaken to be understand how specific vehicle types might be contributing to overall emissions.

Councillor Bernstein sought clarification on recommendation 6; in response Councillor Quinn advised It means we are keen to work with Department for Transport to consider an appropriate regulatory device which would require that all private hire journeys within GM to be undertaken by a driver and vehicle which are both licensed by one of the 10 GM local authorities. Councillor Bernstein asked for a written response to how this would work for out of borough residents wishing to commute into the Borough or into Greater Manchester with a local taxi company.

Councillor Birchmore questioned the equipment reliability that provides the data for all measurements of traffic pollution levels over the last five years. In response Councillor Quinn advised we are always keen to make all our air quality monitoring results available to our communities and other interested parties. The Bury Council website you mention is currently being updated to include the 2021 results and in addition to this, the following data is also available

- All the real-time data recorded at our 3 automatic monitoring sites is all available at uk-air.defra.gov.uk/data.
- All our diffusion tube annual results are available at <https://cleanairgm.com/data-hub/diffusion-tubes>.

In response to questions Councillor Quinn assured Committee members that Greater Manchester leaders have committed to a participatory approach to the development of the new Plan to ensure the proposals are well-grounded in evidence in terms of the circumstances of affected groups and possible impacts of the Plan on them, and therefore the deliverability and effectiveness of that Plan. Jacqui Dennis, Monitoring Officer clarified this will be subject to public consultation.

OSC.10 HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE AND LGA PEER REVIEW

Councillor Quinn provided the Committee with an overview of Highways Maintenance and the recent LGA Peer Review.

Councillor Vernon requested an update from the LGA Peer Review Team visit and follow up action planning day that took place on the 12 July. In response Councillor Quinn assured members the follow up action day took place this week. Three members of the LGA team came back to Bury and facilitated a workshop with officers. This workshop looked at communication, internally, with members and with residents and stakeholders. From this an action plan is being drawn up and actions allocated across Engineers and Street Scene. There is also work taking place to develop a communications strategy for both publicising what we are doing, why and also how we engage with members on the development of programmes of work and the delivery of schemes.

Councillor Bernstein further questioned who the communications strategy is aimed at in terms of behavioural change. In response Councillor Quinn advised the terminology is from the LGA, and is aimed at communications with the public, our partners such as TfGM and with elected Members. Then to raise awareness with the public, elected Members and our partners in

connection with what we are implementing and achieving in connection with highways maintenance. By behaviour change this could refer to a more collaborative approach with our partners and Members in developing highways maintenance strategy together a better understanding by everyone of highway maintenance and improved customer satisfaction.

Councillor Birchmore wanted to voice positive feedback from Radcliffe residents on the roads being done in the area.

The Chair thanked Councillor Quinn for his contribution to the meeting.

OSC.11 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

COUNCILLOR D VERNON
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.50 pm)

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SCRUTINY REPORT**MEETING: Overview and Scrutiny Committee****DATE: Tuesday 6th September 2022****SUBJECT: Community Safety Partnership Plan update****REPORT FROM: Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Communities and Finance****CONTACT OFFICERS: Lynne Ridsdale, Deputy Chief Executive (Co-Chair of the Community Safety Partnership) / Kate Waterhouse, Chief Information Manager / Chris Woodhouse, Strategic Partnerships Manager (Community Safety)**

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In January 2022, Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report outlining the development of a new Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Plan for Bury. It was agreed that an update report to outline progress against the Plan would be presented to the Committee six months into delivery, which this report provides.
- 1.2 Following approval of the CSP Plan at Full Council in March 2022, delivery has commenced with organisations from across the whole Community Safety Partnership to work across the six priorities identified, which collectively support the wider delivery of Bury's LET'S Do It! ambitions.
- 1.3 The priorities within the CSP Plan are:
 - Reducing drug related offending
 - Supporting victims and tackling the causes of domestic abuse
 - Strengthening community cohesion
 - Creating and maintaining safe spaces
 - Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Reducing Reoffending.
- 1.4 For each of these priorities the update from Section 3 onwards below highlights partnership delivery activity and the latest data in relation to these.

2. DELIVERY OF THE PLAN

- 2.1 To ensure effective delivery, an action plan against each priority has been developed and is monitored on a monthly basis by the Board of the Community Safety Partnership. This is supported by a Data Dashboard including metrics for

each priority, some of which are included within this report. This data is shared across the Partnership and includes sensitive data which currently is not approved for publication however the annual Joint Strategic Needs Assessment will use this analysis and other publicly available data to allow full scrutiny of the achievements of the Partnership. It is proposed that annually the action plans will be tabled to this Committee for transparency and in order that progress by scrutinised appropriately.

- 2.2 In developing these action plans work has been undertaken to align the delivery of the CSP Plan with wider partnership activity. An example of this is the connection to the Children's Improvement Plan and the need to develop stronger links between the CSP and the Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership as recommended by Ofsted. This work has included the development of a mutual protocol, designed to keep each respective board aware of the latest activity; maximise the opportunity for joint learning from activities and case reviews; to outline opportunities for joint training and development.
- 2.3 Improving the quality and frequency of data and insight sharing has also been a focus in the first six months of the new Plan. Weekly neighbourhood demand management and priority setting meeting now take place between the GMP Neighbourhood teams and the Council's Community Safety Manager, so that collective insight can shape partnership responses to emerging trends. This is being supported by the development of fortnightly Serious Acquisitive Crime approach, providing granular insight which will be further used to target partnership community safety activity. This data, which includes violent crime and ASB insight, is very granular in detail and therefore classed as sensitive information which can not be put into the public domain but is now available for the CSP to use. Further work is being undertaken to produce aggregated data which can be cleared by GMP for wider dissemination, including benchmarking within the borough and across other GM authorities.
- 2.4 A recent restructure within the Council's Corporate Core has brought together the existing Community Safety functions with the Strategic Partnerships team, including the Community Hubs, to strengthen alignment and resilience within these teams. The team has also been strengthened through the addition of a fixed term Anti-Social Behaviour Officer as approved in the Council's budget for 2022/23. This is allowing for more cohesive engagement with community safety partners including GMP, Transport for Greater Manchester and communities. This structure also creates more capacity to focus on community safety within our neighbourhood model, as reflected in the Radcliffe People and Communities Plan.

3. REDUCING DRUG RELATED HARM

Measure	Q2 July- Sept 2021	Q3 Oct- Dec 2021	Q4 Jan- Mar 2022	Q1 Apr- June 2022	Trend from previous quarter
Number of drug related stop searches by police	65	119	145	254	↑
Number of crimes linked to drugs (L17 GMP Code)	46	37	39	64	↑
Number of crimes linked to	367	390	337	321	↓

alcohol (L15 GMP Code)					
Number of reports of drugs paraphernalia to Bury Council	6	4	6	4	↓
Note: Office of National Statistics Crime in England & Wales crime survey data indicated a drug related offences rate for Bury of 3 per 1,000 population, which is level with the Greater Manchester average.					

- 3.1 The initial focus of this priority is to strengthen the collective partnership insight on drug-related offending in Bury. This work has been led by the Substance Misuse Delivery Partnership (SMDP), a sub-group of the Community Safety Partnership, working with Early Break and Achieve in particular. These are commissioned local services that support individuals to address underlying issues and the impacts of their substance misuse. Data analysis is taking place to inform a dashboard through which to better understand issues driving drug-related crime, and to target interventions.
- 3.2 The importance of local insight has been recognised by the SMDP which now has a standing item on their meetings focusing on partner (and community-led) intelligence and insight, which will systematically capture anecdotal feedback from front line services on new or emerging trends on drug taking and drug-related crime; reviewed on a three-monthly cycle to shape service responses.
- 3.3 To further inform this, community insight has been incorporated through the addition of guidance on the Council's website to report drug-related waste, including an online form in relation to nitrous oxide cannisters. The link to the Council webpage is: [Report needles or drug-related waste - Bury Council](#). Reports received into the Council contact centre on this will be included in the quarterly reviews outlined in 3.2. In addition, as part of ongoing work between Ward Councillors and Community Hub Managers, concerns about place-based hotspots are being raised and discussed at the weekly Neighbourhood Meeting with GMP as described above. This insight is combined with GMP data to target neighbourhood activity. Community intelligence has helped inform targeting of activity through Operation Saturn, proactive days of engagement and enforcement.
- 3.4 During May 2022, a day of action was led by GMP in Bury and the wider community safety partnership, named *Operation Avro*. Whilst covering a full spectrum of enforcement and engagement activities, a particular focus of Avro was on tackling drug-related offending. Through the operation (see 7.4 for further details) approximately £650k of Class A and Class B drugs were seized and taken off the streets of the borough, in addition to over 2,800 illegal cigarettes. This has been part of a concerted effort to tackle drug related harm and explains the increase in Quarter 1 of both the number of drug related stop searches and crimes linked to drugs in the data at the start of this section, alongside wider policing operations tackling serious organised crime.
- 3.5 Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas) canisters were also the focus of a key partnership campaign across Bury Council, GMP and Early Break to raise the awareness of the danger of such cannisters in May and June in advance of the summer festival season.

- 3.6 In recent months there has been closer working relationships between Children's Services and Early Break on prevention and early intervention work in relation to young people at risk of getting involved in drug-related criminality. This has involved joint outreach youth work, providing multi-agency support, which has included providing more training to front line staff on drug related information. This work has been targeted in hotspots within Bury East, Radcliffe and the Victoria Estate area of Whitefield based on Partnership insight.
- 3.7 Over the school summer holiday there has been the promotion of positive activities for young people, delivered in conjunction with community safety professionals to make any necessary support interventions. Part of this has been the Holiday Activity Fund programme which this summer has been opened up to include young people vulnerable to becoming involved in criminality, including drug related offending, as positive diversionary activity.
- 3.8 Looking forward, a substance misuse multi-agency workshop is taking place in in early September (8th), bringing together key partners and including people with experience of being in the system, to review the existing approaches to drug-related offending and to consider whether there are alternative approaches which should be considered. This will also increase awareness of existing pathways and outline further opportunities for collaboration.

4. SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND TACKLING THE CAUSES OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

Measure	Q1 Apr-June 2021	Q2 July-Sept 2021	Q3 Oct-Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-June 2022	Trend from previous quarter	GM average
Rate of Domestic Abuse in Bury (per 1000 residents)	5.2	4.7	3.6	3.9	4.4	↑	5.3
Number of Domestic related Incidents recorded by GMP	1,213	925	1,004	1,002	980	↓	<i>In development</i>
Percentage of Domestic Abuse victims that are repeat victims	27%	22%	19%	21%	22%	↑	29%
MARAC* Cases Referred	197	242	192	195	183	↓	240
MARAC* Repeats	98	124	90	75	90	↑	101
MARAC* Repeats as a % of overall	50%	51%	47%	45%	49%	↑	42%

Number of referrals to <i>Talk, Listen, Change</i> (see 4.8)	2	17	14	22	12	↓	<i>Local measure</i>
Referrals to IDVA who completed programme of support	21.9%	14.9%	22.1%	15.6%	19.1%	↑	<i>Local measure</i>
*MARAC – Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference							

- 4.1 The Domestic Abuse Partnership Board has continued to lead this agenda, through the delivery of the Bury Domestic Abuse Strategy and the implementation of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) development plan. The focus has been on a number of key objectives:
- ensuring victims can access timely and effective support with appropriate risk management through MARAC,
 - improved partnership working with a focus on prevention so that individuals and communities recognise the signs of domestic abuse and the promotion of healthy relationships, and
 - working with perpetrators to identify and stop harmful behaviours.
- 4.2 A review is currently underway to refresh the Partnership Board to ensure a strategic focus on delivery of the Domestic Abuse Strategy and to refocus membership by establishing a Community of Practice to share learning and practice within a core group of front-line workers.
- 4.3 MARAC meets fortnightly with an average of 30 cases discussed at each meeting. Daily domestic abuse partnership meetings take place to discuss all high-risk cases with representation from GMP, Social Care (adults and children), commissioned support including Safenet¹, Achieve², Probation, Criminal Justice Mental Health. A MARAC Steering Group meets regularly, chaired at Detective Chief Inspector level, and has been focused on developing the training needs of partners.
- 4.4 It is noted that repeat cases have increased, as they have elsewhere in the region. The daily meetings are identifying cases for positive action where there has been a breach which has resulted in an increase of cases being referred back to MARAC, alongside an increase in clients engaging with services where there has previously not been so. A GMP force wide lead will be in post from September who will be working with districts to review MARAC repeat cases. In addition, repeat cases are being fed through to the Drive panel (see 4.8) to reduce the potential for further repeats as part of a GMP force wide commitment to supporting victims.

¹ Safenet are a commissioned provider in relation to Domestic Abuse Services, including Independent Domestic Violence Advisors; community outreach support; and safe accommodation refuge
<https://safenet.org.uk/our-services/bury-services-bury-idva-bury-outreach-bury-refuges/>

² Achieve is the name of the substance misuse treatment and recovery service for Bury, of which Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust are the lead provider. [Achieve Recovery Services - services for drug and alcohol recovery in Bolton, Salford and Trafford | Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS FT \(gmmh.nhs.uk\)](#)

- 4.5 Significant work has taken place to increase awareness of, and training, in relation to referral pathways and the support available. This has included sessions with the Education Inclusion Officers who work with the local Roma and Traveller communities; with Holy Cross and Bury colleges to set up drop-in sessions and to promote the Cut It Out campaign; work with the LGBTQI+ forum to share support through their networks; and additional sessions with representatives from Jewish community groups.
- 4.6 On 1st July Safenet ran a partnership session to promote the Bury Refuge Service which opened in April to support women and children escaping from domestic abuse. There have been eight admissions into the provision to date. To support this a safe accommodation worker has been recruited by Safenet who will be co-located within the housing services team. There has also been a successful bid to the Ministry of Justice to fund a Children and Young Peoples IDVA (Independent Domestic Abuse Advisor), co-located in the local multi-agency safeguarding hub.
- 4.7 With regards to the demographics of individuals open to Independent Domestic Violence advisors and other support across the borough, 90% are female and 50% are aged between 30-49 (with the 40+ cohort having increased in the last quarter). Half of the individuals have children, and just under a third of cases involve an individual with a disability.
- 4.8 The Drive programme is now fully operational in Bury as part of a wider Greater Manchester programme. Drive works with high-risk, high-harm perpetrators and supports them to change and work with partner agencies, to disrupt abusive behaviour and protect victims. Facilitated by the regional organisation *Talk, Listen, Change* the panel presents an opportunity for partners to discuss a robust risk management plan for all cases and to agree the appropriate intervention and/or action needed. To date, ten high risk perpetrators have been identified and referred into the programme. To ensure cases are being proactively sent to the Drive panel, a meeting has been organised with the Drive panel Chair to consider how to increase the number of referrals.
- 4.9 In addition to Drive there is provision for standard and medium risk adult perpetrators through the Bridging to Change programme and in relation to Children and Young People there are the *Respect Young Peoples* programme which focuses on addressing adolescent to parent violence, and *Encouraging Health Relationships* programme which targets support to those who have harmed through intimate relationships. Both programmes are led by *Talk, Listen, Change*. The existing Children and Young People programme is targeted at 14 years plus, however funding has recently been secured to extend the therapeutic offer to five years plus. Discussions are ongoing with the provider on shaping this offer.

5. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY COHESION

Measure	Q1 Apr-June 2021	Q2 July-Sept 2021	Q3 Oct-Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-June 2022	Trend from previous quarter	GM average
GMP Survey: % of people who feel their community is a place where people from multiple backgrounds get along	80.0%	77.5%	77.8%	79.0%	79.0%	-	73%
GM Survey: My local area is a place where people look out for each other	77.2%	76.0%	76.6%	73%	76%	↑	73%
Number of Hate Crimes in Bury	221	223	214	171	159	↓	<i>In development</i>
Prevent Referrals	2	2	9	9	5	↓	<i>5.3 (excluding City of Manchester)</i>
Prevent volumes of Training	11	6	17	85	123	↑	<i>Local metric</i>

- 5.1 One of Bury's major strengths is the richness of our communities. The Community Safety Plan includes a priority to ensure that our communities are best supported to live together in Bury, to safeguard against hate and promote inclusivity as a means of increasing people's feeling of safety. The results of the GMP Pulse survey are the second highest in Greater Manchester which is a positive statement for the borough.
- 5.2 Since the CSP Plan was approved, conflict in Eastern Europe has escalated and Bury has welcomed over 90 Ukrainian nationals through the Homes for Ukraine scheme. Arrivals have been supported through public service colleagues including Community Hub staff to integrate into local services, including through a fortnightly drop-in session at the Ukrainian Club supported by the DWP, Healthwatch and the Schools Admissions Team. In addition, an ESOL (English as a second language) open day event was held including Bury College, Bury Adult Learning and Eagles Wing to help connect people into learning and volunteering opportunities.
- 5.3 Such work has been led by the refreshed Community Cohesion sub-group, which also ran a session in May to bring together our Hate Crime Ambassadors, to share understanding and look for new opportunities. A specific outcome of the session was for the LGBTQI Worker to connect into the Millgate centre, local schools and colleges in response to homophobic abuse staff had been experiencing.
- 5.4 Tackling hate crime is an area of focus of the Bury Faith Forum which has now reconvened and refocused following its work on the COVID-19 response. The

Faith Forum has committed to increasing the number of hate crime ambassadors and strengthening confidence in reporting. The Faith Forum has also considered the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on local communities and its role in supporting our communities at times of hardship. Planning has commenced for joint Interfaith week activities in November later in September, which will include a session on Prevent, see 5.6.

- 5.5 The next Faith Forum meeting falls within the Greater Manchester week of Awareness Against Hateful Extremism (19th-23rd September). As part of this week there will be the local relaunch of the Prevent handbook which outlines the duty, local referral processes and how to access training; a specific handbook has also been produced in relation to education settings. To accompany this will be a seven-minute briefing which is being finalised for use as part of a wider awareness raising campaign.
- 5.6 Prevent is an integral part of the government's counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, and places a duty on local authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This requires a partnership response and a risk-based approach to insight, training and co-ordination to respond to, and reduce, the risks of radicalisation and extremist ideology. In recent months a series of training opportunities have been developed and delivered locally, across front line public service colleagues, and through the voluntary and community sector to supplement an existing e-learning offer.
- 5.7 A revised Counter Terrorism Local Profile is expected to be received by Bury in August/September 2022, from which a local risk assessment will be completed to inform a refreshed Action Plan. In preparation for this the Prevent Steering Group met on the 22nd August to update their Terms of Reference, raise awareness of the district's tension monitoring arrangements, and embed learning from a GM peer review.
- 5.8 Council capacity in relation to Inclusion has been enhanced through the successful recruitment of a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion manager. The role will direct output of the Borough's Inclusion Strategy and will be take forward the activity which has been agreed through the inclusive listening events on Race, with over 80 attendees at the workshop held at The Mosses Centre in May. The focus of the activity includes:
- improving representation of our diverse communities in public life,
 - access to health and care provision,
 - consideration on developing more inclusive employment practices, and
 - raising awareness of, and celebrating, all of our cultures and communities.
- 5.9 Through this an annual inclusion calendar has been developed in conjunction with the Bury Inclusion Working Group and Team Bury partners to better co-ordinate partnership activity, in the manner of partnership activity undertaken for International Women's Day as per item 6.6.

6. CREATING AND MAINTAINING SAFE SPACES

Measure	Q2 July-Sept 2021	Q3 Oct-Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-June 2022	Trend from previous quarter	GM average
GMP Pulse Survey: How confident are you that you could get help from Greater Manchester Police in an emergency?	59.0%	59.1%	62.0%	58.0%	↓	60%
VAWG - Violence Against Women (Female victims of any age)	1,384	1,331	1,346	1,376	↑	<i>In development</i>
Percentage of women who feel unsafe in their local area	<i>New measure</i>		11%	10%	↓	11%
Road traffic safety	<i>Measures in development</i>					

- 6.1 This priority was identified through public engagement on the development of the new CSP Plan and recognises the need for a focus on reducing place-based vulnerabilities.
- 6.2 Since the approval of the strategy, Bury's network of Community Hubs have further developed working relationships with GMP Neighbourhood Policing Teams. This is to ensure feedback and intelligence from residents and communities informs partnership community safety activity. For example, following concerns about an increase in burglaries in the south of the borough, work was done to raise awareness of preventative activity to reduce the risk of being a victim of lock-snapping, and promotion of ways of reporting intelligence on potential perpetrators including through GMP's online portal and Crimestoppers.
- 6.3 Community Hub Managers report feedback from any engagement with residents and community groups, and insight from Ward Councillors, through to Neighbourhood Policing Team through the weekly priority setting session. Increasingly these sessions are used to ensure any planning around upcoming neighbourhood policing surgeries, Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and specific place-based operations are engaging local communities at the earliest opportunity. These sessions also draw on weekly data profiles provided by the GMP Intelligence Team.
- 6.4 Oversight of trends and place-based themes are also discussed through Public Service Leadership Teams in each neighbourhood, bringing insight from partners across multiple services and connection points with local communities. These teams including the GMP Neighbourhood Inspector and Community Hub Manager.
- 6.5 The targeting of activity within specific neighbourhoods follows the principles set out in *LET'S Do It!*, and through this there has been the development of a People and Communities Plan for Radcliffe. In conversations with the communities of Radcliffe, community safety was raised as a top priority which is reflected in the plan. This provides a neighbourhood focus across the

priorities of the CSP Plan and will test opportunities to develop further neighbourhood level insight with which to deliver local responses. It should be noted for the Borough as a whole the GM Police and Crime survey community perception feedback notes that 91% of residents feel safe or very safe, the second highest rating of any locality in Greater Manchester.

- 6.6 A particular area of initial focus on this priority was to develop a local plan to address an increase in Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) through a Women's Safety Action Plan. A multi-agency steering group meets routinely and in recent months has delivered the following:
- Education with young people, especially boys through a Circles of Influence initiative to co-design content for school's Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education curriculum to focus on relationship boundaries, defining consent and determining healthy behaviours.
 - Partnership activity with community leads including support to develop specific sessions from drama workshops and creative sessions, to confidence building through self-defence, including with Mad Theatre Company; Bury Defence Academy; Women of Worth; African and Caribbean Women's Centre; Supporting Sisters; and the BAME Project.
 - Transport for Greater Manchester frontline staff have received training in relation to women and girls' safety including on rape victim cases and spotting vulnerabilities.
 - Relaunch of Cut it Out campaign with Bury College students in Hair and Beauty Department. All hair stylists, barbers and beauty therapists are to receive training on identifying vulnerabilities and signposting to support.
 - *Operation Lioness* commenced in July 2022 to build trust and confidence; create safer spaces and relentlessly pursue perpetrators.
 - Development of a Licensing Women's Safety Charter, setting out commitments in relation to the night-time economy.
- 6.7 Linked to the last element on table above, additional activity in relation to the night-time economy includes the launch of Best Bar None in Bury. Best Bar None is a framework for licenced premises to improve safety for customers and training for staff which in turn provides a better and safer night out for local people. The scheme was launched locally in Bury on 10th May, with 18 premises signing up. The initial training was focused on Counter Terrorism and Childhood Sexual Exploitation.
- 6.8 Also within the Safe Spaces theme is a focus on anti-social driving. Road traffic casualty data is being analysed at a ward level to determine contributory causes of collisions. This will inform the targeting of a road safety education programme both through the Council and in conjunction with TfGM. Whilst this includes targeted activity in schools, it is acknowledged the audience for collisions where dangerous driving is the contributory factor means broader engagement is required.
- 6.9 Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service launched their Water Safety campaign on 17th June this year. This builds on previous year's campaigns focusing on the stories of family members and friends who have lost loved ones to accidental drowning. CSP partners have supported the campaign which has been focused on providing a range of awareness raising safety messages, in particularly targeting young people with the aim of preventing open water

swimming during the summer period. This is included within the Safe4Summer campaign with school resources such as lesson plans and presentations.

- 6.10 From a Council perspective, action has been continuing to deliver against Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) recommendations with respect to the safety of blue spaces owned by the council. These actions, which include aspects relating to railings, path surfaces and signage, will be complete by the end of September 2022.
- 6.11 During the summer engagement took place on Holcombe Hill, including on Saturday 9th July to raise awareness on behaviours that can cause moorland wildfires ahead of forecasted extreme heat and high-risk period for wildfire activity. There has been an additional focus on the impact of behaviours given the increase in cost-of-living pressures, including the sharing of guidance on the dangers of some alternative heating sources, which is being provided alongside financial resilience support.

7. TACKLING CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Measure	Q1 Apr-June 2021	Q2 July-Sept 2021	Q3 Oct-Dec 2021	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-June 2022	Trend from previous quarter	GM average
Rate of all crimes (per 1,000 residents)	28.4	28.6	27.4	24.5	27.3	↑	31.04
Rate of Violent Crimes (per 1,000 residents)	10.6	9.9	9.1	9.2	9.8	↑	11.51
Number of GMP Incidences involving knives	76	81	71	58	69	↑	90.9
Number of residential burglaries	199	311	336	250	305	↑	444
Number of ASB Offences (GMP)	1,850	1,743	1,723	1,681	1,945	↑	<i>In development</i>
Number of ASB Reports to Bury Council	89	99	49	57	101	↑	<i>Local metric</i>
Note: Office of National Statistics Crime in England & Wales crime survey data released in July 2022 identifies that Bury consistently has the third lowest rate in Greater Manchester and below the GM average for violence against the person, similarly for criminal damage and fourth for theft offences, again all below the GM average.							

- 7.1 April-June 2022 saw a relative upturn in anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, particularly in Bury town centre, through a number of linked crimes including a spate of knife-enabled robbery offences. These primarily involved incidents on The Rock between the Parish Church and Barclays Bank. There was not a particular single root cause of this and the town centre location

largely relates to it being a high footfall area, particularly for people to congregate after school or college. It is worth noting that during the time period June 2021 to June 2022 the total recorded crime across Greater Manchester as whole increased by 5.8% whilst the local figure for the last quarter is lower than the same time period last year.

- 7.2 In response to increasing levels of anti-social behaviour and criminality in Bury town centre, multi-agency activity took place through *Operation Heartbeat*. This included the deployment of dedicated GMP offices on mobile foot patrol at peak demand times, both as a deterrent and to take enforcement action, such as the use of Section 35 dispersal orders and stop-search activity where suspicion of individuals being in the possession of knives. Officers engaged in the Operation were shown CCTV footage of previous incidents in the proximity which supported the identification and detainment of offenders through the additional foot patrols.
- 7.3 To compliment *Heartbeat*, partnership activity has taken place to support both the increase of collective insight on criminal activity and to support prevention work. The Council and GMP arranged joint sessions with Secondary Heads, School safeguarding leads, Bury College and Holy Cross in terms of reporting pathways for insight in relation to concerns over criminality and ASB, whilst the Youth Outreach team conducted afternoon and evening sessions patrols to positively engage with young people.
- 7.4 On 26th May 2022, a day of enforcement and engagement action took place throughout the Borough through *Operation Avro*. This multi-agency activity included district and force GMP resources, Council team's across public protection, community safety, safeguarding teams and the community hubs, alongside partners at Six Town Housing, GM Fire and Rescue and our voluntary sector partners. From an enforcement perspective a total of 80 individuals were arrested, with 28 search warrants undertaken; whilst 8 weapons were seized and 93 traffic offences dealt with.
- 7.5 Through activity associated with *Avro* and *Heartbeat*, there are early signs from GMP insight for July that this partnership activity is making a positive difference in terms of reducing the number of knife-related incidents and offences. This will be kept under review, particularly to assess the impact of school holidays and the return of schools and colleges in September.
- 7.6 The review of this will be assisted through a fortnightly GMP led serious acquisitive crime meeting, in which intelligence shapes priorities which are reviewed and prevention activity agreed. In addition to the town centre being in focus, this information will inform the three GMP neighbourhood teams to set weekly neighbourhood priorities with a sharp focus on street level persistent hotspots to direct multi-agency activity. An example of this in practice is a response in June/early July to a concentration of burglary activity which was largely driven by lock-snapping. Increased foot patrols took place alongside an increase in messaging (online and via local leafleting, such as the image below) on the importance of property security. For this particular series of criminal activity a peak risk had been identified as taking place during the night, a number of neighbourhood staff have had their shifts diverted to run 6pm-4am, including the use of plain clothes officers in the vicinities at these times.



- 7.7 Whilst an increase in knife-enabled crime is not unique to Bury, action is taking place to ensure a specific local partnership response to this issue. In addition to the deployment of knife arches and awareness raising sessions, Bury's GMP Superintendent has been leading the development of a Bury Knife Crime strategy, consistent with the regional plan produced by the Violence Reduction Unit. This plan will focus on enforcement, prevention, intelligence, communications and communities, to reduce knife enabled robberies and incidents in the Borough. This plan is due to be published this September.
- 7.8 This will incorporate the fact that concerns in relation to knife crime were one of the areas raised by young people of the Borough through the Circles of Influence work. Circles of Influence is an annual conference organised by Bury Youth Cabinet that brings together young people aged 11 to 18 from across Bury with a range of public sector organisations. The conference is designed to give young people the opportunity to ask decision makers questions and work together to shape services. As a result of this, work has taken place through the Young People and Violent Crime Partnership Board to develop a tiered approach including targeted 1:1 work, identified group work and awareness raising, through PHSE sessions and talks through people sharing their lived experience. A community led pilot is taking place in addressing violent crime in Bury East and as part of this work there is training being developed with young people on 'how to talk to young people' for public service colleagues including GMP.
- 7.9 In relation to anti-social behaviour, the majority of cases reported to the Council relate to neighbourhood disputes. This is traditionally seasonal with increases in the spring and early summer and has been amplified by this being the first such season for three years in which there haven't been Covid restrictions. There has also been an additional focus on outlining the means through which residents should report ASB, including through the council's website, so to increase local insight on such behaviour. The Council now has an

additional neighbourhood anti-social behaviour officer in place whose work includes reviewing cases and addressing any underlying issues.

- 7.10 In addition to this, The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy is being refreshed in light of the new Community Safety Partnership Plan, and to strengthen the detail of the engagement and enforcement approaches and tools available to the Council and partners in order to address such behaviours. This includes the latest national policy direction on seeking community remedies and the right to activate a Community Trigger to review ASB cases where repeat incidents have been reported. This will be presented to CSP in September for review before being shared more widely with partners and the public for consultation.

8. REDUCING REOFFENDING

Measure	Q4 Jan-Mar 2022	Q1 Apr-June 2022	Trend	GM average
% of crimes committed by re-offenders	31%	31%	↔	33%
% of crimes committed by re-offenders – crimes by Under 18's only.	36%	33%	↓	33%

- 8.1 An early priority within this theme has been the development of a local offer to support offenders transitioning to adulthood. A lead officer from within the Probation Service in Bury has been identified to oversee all transition cases from the youth justice system to compliment a seconded probation service officer co-located with in the Youth Justice Service.
- 8.2 The intention is to increase capacity to allow the level of contact with 18-25 year old offenders, to include mentoring and welfare provision alongside supervision with their justice practitioner. This broader support is to help address the root causes in lives which lead to criminality and will build on increasing availability to Integrated Rehabilitative Services through a one-stop shop approach to provision.
- 8.3 Specialist intervention toolkits are being developed, with insight from young people, to provide more targeted support to different circumstances, an example being work with Early Break to tailor specialist substance misuse provision to inform a bid into the Probation Innovation Fund.
- 8.4 Work is currently taking place to review the refreshed Greater Manchester Reoffending Plan for 2022, including work with key partners to ensure we can receive outcome focused data in relation to localised priorities. As such there will be a greater volume of data in relation to this priority in future updates.
- 8.5 Following the approach outlined in 2.2 relating to the protocol between CSP and Bury Integrated Safeguarding Partnership, a standing item has also been introduced on the Reducing Reoffending subgroup through which learning is shared by probation and partners in relation to inquests and case reviews so to improve practice amongst services.

9. NEXT STEPS

9.1 This report has provided an update on activity to date in relation to the CSP Plan. Over the coming months activity will be continuing to deliver against the six priorities in the Plan, with some of the key priorities for the next six months being:

- Collaborative work with Children's Services to identify and support young people at risk of drug-related offending
- Partnership response to new drug-related offending dashboard
- Focus of refreshed Domestic Abuse Partnership Board and MARAC Steering Group on reducing MARAC repeats
- Further develop a comprehensive programme of inputs with young people on Healthy Relationships
- Review the new Counter Terrorism Local Profile in order to develop risk assessment, which in turn will inform refreshed Prevent Action Plan
- Delivery of the Women's Safety Action Plan
- Sign off and commence delivery on Bury's Knife Crime Strategy
- Engagement and enforcement activity through the delivery of the refreshed Anti-Social Behaviour policy

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Scrutiny is asked to note the significant progress that has been made in the first period of the new CSP Plan across all of the thematic priorities.

List of Background Papers:-

None

Contact Details:-

Chris Woodhouse, Strategic Partnerships Manager

Acronyms

- *ASB – Anti social behaviour*
- *CSP – Community Safety Partnership*
- *DA – Domestic Abuse*
- *GMP – Greater Manchester Police*
- *IDVA – Independent Domestic Violence Advisor*
- *TfGM – Transport for Greater Manchester*

List of GMP Operations

- *Avro - GMP force Multi agency day of action, takes place monthly rotating through the districts of Greater Manchester*
- *Gorgan - Serious Organised Crime, particularly focused around Bury East/ Moorside*
- *Heartbeat - Bury Town Centre addressing ASB and criminality*

- *Heliodor – Response to disorder related to public transport*
- *Lioness - Violence against women and girls*
- *Saturn - District GMP monthly days of action*



SCRUTINY REPORT



MEETING: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DATE: 6 September 2022

SUBJECT: Bury Town Centre Regeneration

REPORT FROM: Cllr. Eamon O'Brien- Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills

CONTACT OFFICER: Sarah Porru – Assistant Director Regeneration (Business & Growth)

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. Bury is the principal town centre in the Borough and is the focal point for retail, leisure, administration, services, tourism and culture. The town centre has fared comparatively well in recent years and has seen significant investment and regeneration. It remains one of the most successful retail centres in Greater Manchester.
- 1.2. However, like all town centres, Bury is increasingly facing unprecedented challenges including the continued growth of internet shopping, competition from other leisure destinations, wider economic conditions and the impact of the Covid Pandemic. As a result, town centres are having to adapt and reinvent themselves in a way that is less reliant on the retail sector.
- 1.3. The on-going threat to the high street makes it even more important to plan for the future and ensure that Bury town centre can respond to challenges and opportunities to sustain its success. The Council has therefore developed a comprehensive Town Centre Masterplan (hereafter known as the 'Masterplan') to direct the future growth and development of the town centre in a coherent and joined up manner.
- 1.4. The Masterplan provides a commercial, market facing and deliverable vision to guide the development and regeneration of Bury Town Centre. Given the scale and ambition of the proposals identified, alongside the level of investment that is required, delivery will be phased over a 20-year period.
- 1.5. The town centre assets will be strengthened through a committed £96.7 million investment programme delivering a modernised Transport Interchange which will facilitate an increase in sustainable travel choices in Bury and contribute to regeneration and economic growth in Bury Town Centre, a new flexible event space and revitalised market, new hotel and delivery of 90,000 sqft high-quality employment space to the north of the town centre.
- 1.6. This paper provides an update on the delivery of the priority projects within the Masterplan, focusing on the proposals that are expected to come forward in the short to

medium term. These will be key sites that are already cleared and/or within the Council's ownership or sites/proposals that have already secured funding.

2. Bury Town Centre Regeneration

2.1. Bury Town Centre Masterplan sets out the following vision for the town:

By 2040, Bury will be an attractive, thriving, healthy and forward-looking town where people aspire to live, work, study and experience.

With a diverse mix of uses and services, this exemplar for future towns will be a vibrant place to be, both during the day and into the evening. Building on its distinctive and popular cultural heritage, visitors will experience a wealth of museums and galleries, the celebrated East Lancashire Railway and renowned, bustling market.

Creativity, innovation and community will be at the heart of Bury's transformation, providing exciting opportunities to grow new ideas, skills and businesses. Connecting it all together, will be Bury's network of high-quality streets and public spaces which encourage people to walk, cycle, explore and stay.

2.2. To realise the vision, the Masterplan identifies opportunities within 10 Broad Character areas. These are supported by 8 Strategic objectives across the town centre. A Bury Town Centre Prospectus (Appendix 1) has been produced summarising these opportunities and promoting the town centre to investors. In May 2022, the prospectus was distributed at UKREiF (Real Estate, Investment and Infrastructure Forum) a major, regeneration event) and the document will be updated regularly and form the basis on ongoing promotional activity to support the regeneration of the town centre.

3. Priority Projects

3.1. Bury Market Flexi Hall

£20 million Levelling up Funds has been secured to undertake improvement works to Bury Market and create a new Flexi-Hall. The 'Flexi-Hall' anchor will be a key destination comprising a large, state-of-the-art, carbon neutral, multifunctional events space, providing 'pop-up' trading, live performance, conference space, and community events. The development will also include a new café bar along with replacement office space for the Bury markets team and bookable meeting space.

Vinci Constuction are leading the design development work and this is now underway with the design work is currently at RIBA Stage 3. A full planning application for the scheme is due to be submitted in October 2022. The current programme anticipates the Flexi-Hall and market improvements will be delivered by Q4 2024

3.2. Mill Gate

Bury Council entered into a Joint Venture vehicle with Bruntwood and subsequently acquired the Mill Gate shopping centre and associated estate. The development vehicle has been set up to facilitate transformational change across the Mill Gate estate. Development opportunities include consolidation and diversification of the retail offer along with the potential for addition of new residential accommodation, leisure uses, office accommodation, family leisure along with food and beverage.

The joint venture is currently undertaking a number of workstreams to further analyse feasibility for the estate including a wide scale masterplanning exercise which has been instructed.

3.3. Former Fire Station Site (Eastern Gateway)

The former fire station site is earmarked for development as a hotel. Negotiations between our respective solicitors regarding the legal documents is ongoing.

3.4. Chamberhall Business Park Phase 2

Building on the success of Phase I, Bury Council is now seeking to deliver a second (and final) phase of the Business Park. A developer brief was prepared which sets out the following requirements:

Provision of at least 50,000 sq ft light industrial (Use Class B2) floorspace; Seeking to provide smaller units that will accommodate SME aspirations.

Hargreaves Land have been selected as the preferred developer. Detailed site surveys are currently being undertaken for delivering commencing in 2023. The developer will be responsible for securing planning for the site.

3.5. Health Innovation Centre Bury College

Over £60m investment is committed by Bury College, including a new Health Innovation STEM Centre. Construction is underway and continued engagement with Bury College will ensure training, education & skills ambitions for local residents and businesses are considered as part of the Masterplan delivery.

3.6. Bury Interchange

The Interchange will be redeveloped to create a new transport interchange. Opportunities to refurbish the Metrolink platform, introduce a new southern step free access and new mixed uses into the site, will help to create an active frontage with the Flexi Hall and onto Kay Gardens. TFGM are a key partner in the delivery of the masterplan and discussions regarding final design, funding and the timetable for construction are underway.

3.7. Parking Strategy

WSP have been commissioned to develop a parking strategy to fully understand parking demand in Bury TC and determine usage of both off-street and on-street parking across Bury town centre during a neutral weekday (Tues/Weds/Thurs only) and a Saturday. The on site surveys have now been completed and WSP are currently analysing the data. A summary report on the survey findings is due at the end of August.

3.8. Housing & Services

The introduction of new homes and services is critical to achieving increased footfall in the heart of the town and to boosting the night time economy. The Western Gateway and Southern Gateway are highlighted as fully residential zones which will deliver high-quality new housing within the town centre. However, wherever possible, all of the priority projects listed above will consider opportunities for residential development and/or the development of shared space and services to maximise footfall and increase vibrancy. To achieve this, it is recognised that the Masterplan must be considered in parallel with the ambitions of Bury's Housing Strategy and health & social care provision.

4. Funding

- 4.1. A £96.7 million investment programme has already been identified for town centre projects. The Masterplan establishes a clear and planned approach towards the future of the town centre that will be used to underpin further funding bids from other sources such as Active Travel monies; Evergreen; the Brownfield Land Fund; Homes England; and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Work to attract further private investment will also continue with further marketing & promotional activity planned.

4.2. **Bury Business Improvement District (BID)**

Bury Council has been working with Bury Town Centre Management Board (BTCMB) who have led on the development of a town centre BID. A BID Ballot (March 2022) supported the formal establishment of a BID. The BID is funded through a small, annual levy which will be used to deliver agreed projects to the benefit of businesses within the BID area. Projects will include the appointment of a BID Manager, Marketing and promotion and events which will bring an additional and complementary investment into the town centre.

5. **Governance**

- 5.1 Delivery of the Masterplan will be monitored by a Town Centre Advisory Board comprised of Council members, project partners and stakeholders. Membership of the Town Centre Advisory Board is attached at Appendix 2 The first meeting of the Town Centre Advisory Board was held on 25 July 2022 and membership and Terms of Reference are agreed.
- 5.2 The Board will give joint consideration to, and ensure the integration of, physical improvements to the town centre as contained within the town centre masterplan, with the economic, educational, social and cultural activities being developed as part of the emerging Bury People & Communities Plan. This will ensure that the economic success of the town centre benefits local people within the surrounding neighbourhoods, including East Bury which has deep and enduring levels of deprivation.
- 5.3 The Advisory Board will ensure joint working & engagement to achieve broader outputs and outcomes. It will also consider opportunities for new investment, into culture and heritage and the people and community workstreams. To ensure cross service engagement, a number of workstream subgroups have been agreed. Updates from each subgroup will be reported to the Advisory Board to ensure shared understanding and enable benefits to be maximised. These are:
- Flexi Hall & Market development
 - Millgate redevelopment
 - Interchange/Metrolink development
 - Culture & Heritage
 - People & Communities (Plan development)
 - Education
 - Housing
 - Transport

List of Background Papers:-

Bury Town Centre Masterplan - [Bury Town Centre Masterplan - Bury Council](#)

Contact Details:-

Sarah Porru – Assistant Director Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business)
S.porru@bury.gov.uk

Executive Director sign off Date:_____

JET Meeting Date:_____

Appendix 1 – Bury Investment Prospectus – attached

Appendix 2 - Membership of Bury Town Centre Advisory Board

To enable the Panel to deliver the above responsibilities the following membership is proposed :

- (a) Political representation from the Council: Leader of the Council, a representative from the largest Opposition Group and one Ward Councillor from East Bury.
- (b) MP for Bury North.
- (c) Chair of Bury Town Centre Management Board.
- (d) Representatives of the public and private sector partners that have decided to invest in Bury Town centre: the Rock, Bruntwood, TfGM, GMCA and Bury College.
- (e) A representative to be nominated by the key culture and heritage organisations based in Bury town centre.

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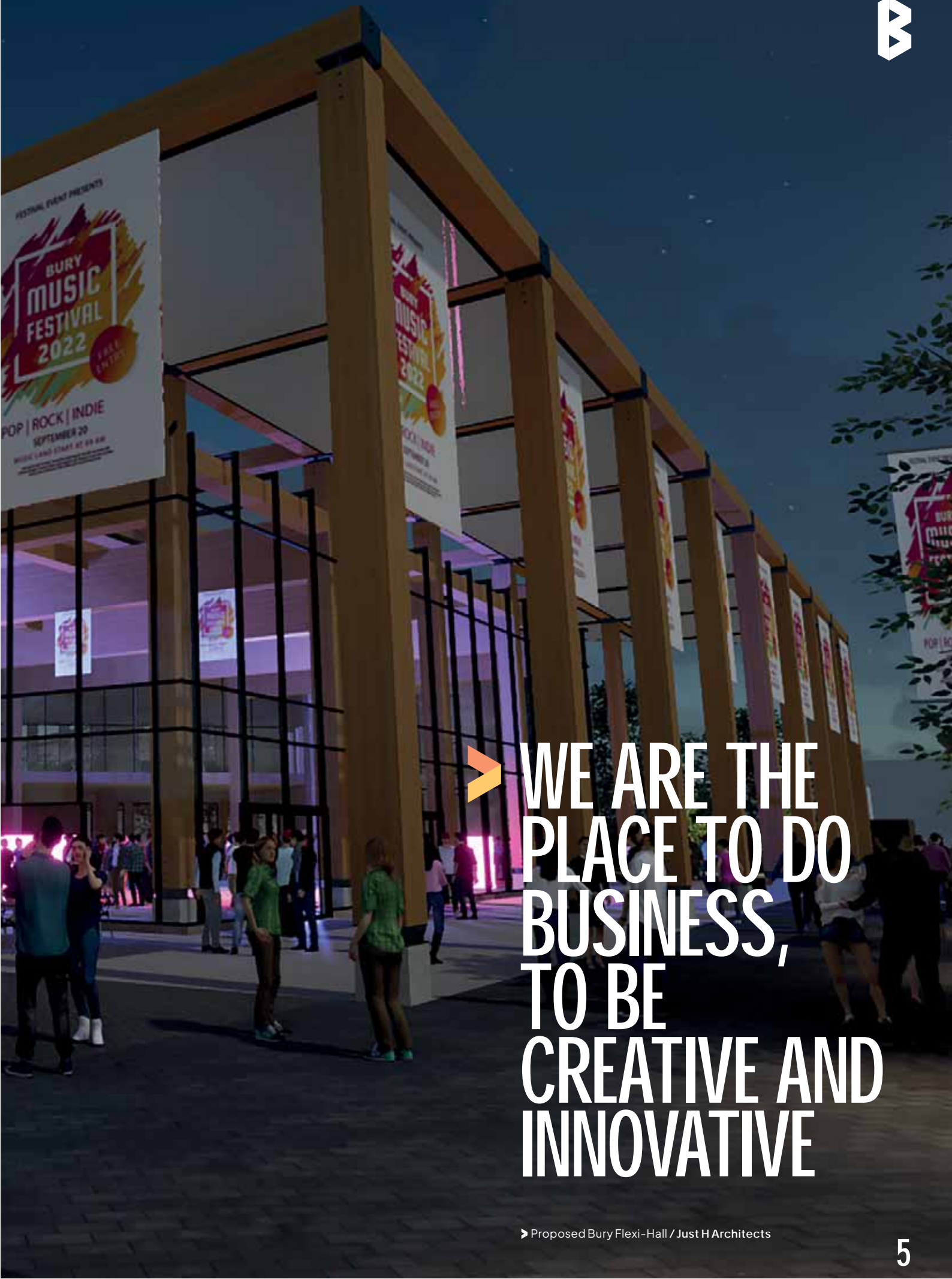
CULTURAL QUARTER

► Proposed new Station Square / Aecom



INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE



➤ WE ARE THE
PLACE TO DO
BUSINESS,
TO BE
CREATIVE AND
INNOVATIVE

Bury town centre provides a rich and diverse experience, with the opportunity for growth, transformation and positive change, building on the key assets that we already have as a town. Our comprehensive town centre wide masterplan confirms the scale of opportunity and ambitious vision that we will deliver over the next 20 years, and we want you to be part of Bury's exciting transformation.

Bury already benefits from being a hive of activity, a thriving and bustling market, an unrivalled tourism offer and superb connectivity to Manchester City Centre and the wider North West region. Our assets will be strengthened further with a committed £96.7 million investment programme over the next 15–20yrs, delivering a modernised Transport Interchange for the town centre which will facilitate an increase in sustainable travel choices in Bury and contribute to regeneration and economic growth in Bury Town Centre, a new flexible event space and revitalised market, new hotel and delivery of 90,000 sqft high-quality employment space to the north of the town centre.



£96.7 MILLION

COMMITTED INVESTMENT

➤ **Come and experience Bury
for yourself and discover more**



► Proposed new Market Place / View towards Church of St Mary the Virgin / Aecom



► View of proposed Western Gateway site / Aecom

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE



£96.7M

**TOTAL PLANNED
INVESTMENT IN BURY
TOWN CENTRE**



900

**NEW HOMES
PROPOSED**



200,000

**VISITORS TO EAST LANCASHIRE
RAILWAY EACH YEAR**



32 Ha

**OF LAND WITH
DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL
IN BURY TOWN CENTRE**



3RD

HIGHEST RANKED
RETAIL DESTINATION IN
GREATER MANCHESTER



6,300

STUDENTS WITHIN
BURY TOWN CENTRE



BURY MARKET

VOTED 'BRITAIN'S
FAVOURITE MARKET'
IN 2022



150%

(BY 2037) IN TOWN CENTRE -
PLANNED POPULATION GROWTH

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

WELL CONNECTED

One of Bury's key strengths is its accessibility. Benefitting from excellent links to the strategic and local road network, in addition to great public transport connections.



METROLINK

30 MINUTES

TO MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE

EVERY 6 MINUTES

TO MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE



BUS

REGULAR BUS SERVICES

FROM BURY ACROSS GREATER
MANCHESTER AND LANCASHIRE



CAR

1.7 MILES

FROM TOWN CENTRE TO M66 (JUNCTION 2)

4.4 MILES

FROM TOWN CENTRE TO M60 (JUNCTION 17)

The Metrolink runs from Bury to Manchester, with Bury Interchange providing connections between the Metrolink and local bus services, enabling sustainable public transport connections from Bury across Greater Manchester.

Bury is investing in its transport infrastructure.

PIPELINE PROJECTS INCLUDE:



Transport Interchange
redevelopment



Metrolink capacity
improvements



Restoring the Bury-Heywood-
Rochdale rail connections



A quality bus transit route
between Bury-Rochdale/
Bury-Manchester

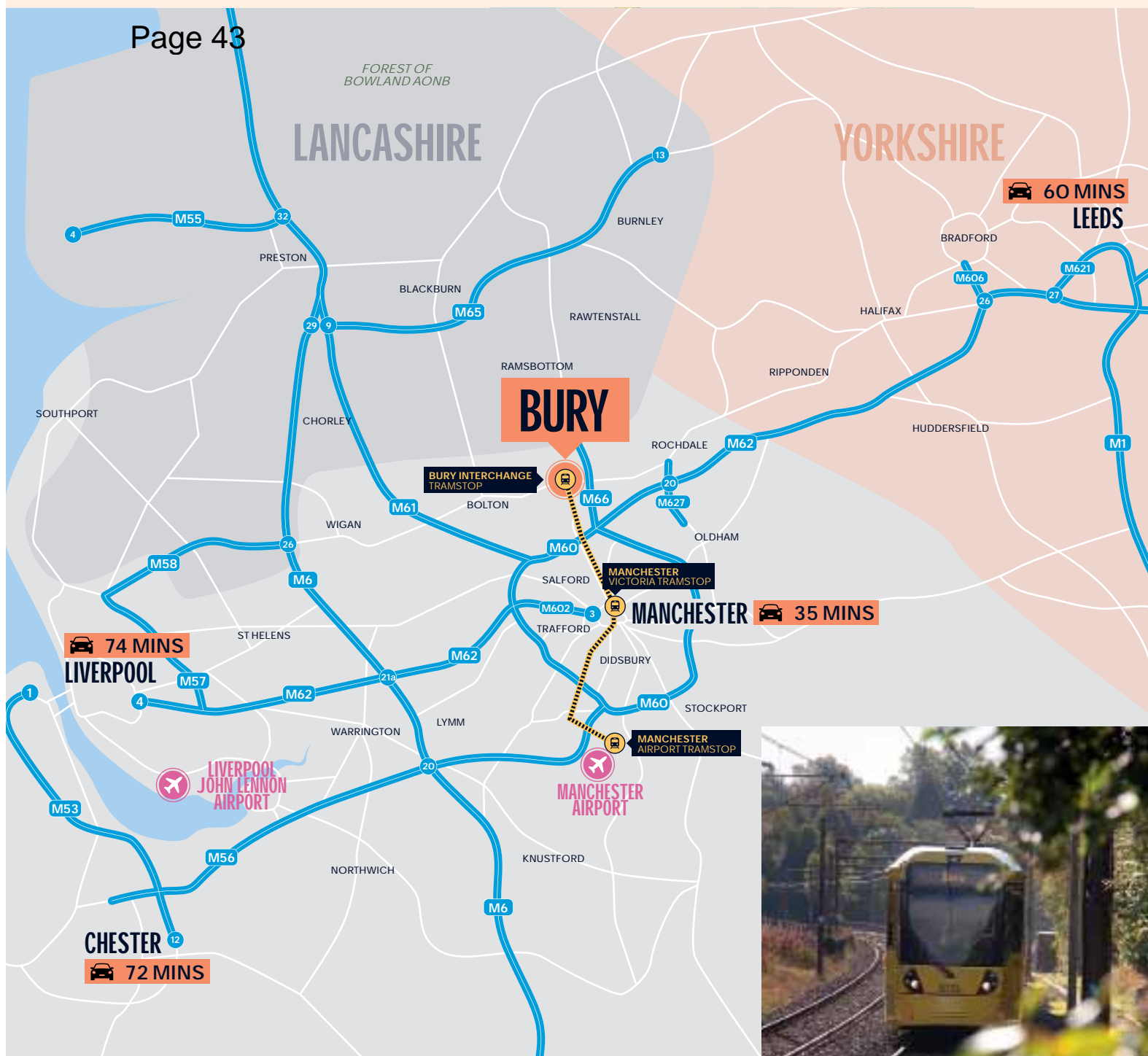


Enhancements to Angloulème
Way, providing better active
travel links to the town centre



New walking and cycling
infrastructure enhancing
the experience for all in the
town centre





➤ The redevelopment of Bury Interchange as a key town centre gateway, anchor and transport hub, is a vital part of the town centre Masterplan.

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

A PLACE TO INVEST



➤ **BURY'S
ECONOMY IS
PROJECTED
TO GROW BY
32% TO 2040,
EQUATING TO
OVER £1.7BN
GVA GROWTH**

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

> A PLACE TO INVEST



► Bury College

The town centre will benefit from connections to the **Atom Valley Mayoral Development Zone (MDZ)**, creating a new centre of **employment** and **opportunity** north of Greater Manchester, driving new industries at the cutting edge of the UK economy.

The digital, creative and tech sectors are the fastest growing in the city-region, with over £5 billion of economic activity, the largest digital and creative hub outside London.

Bury is striving to be at the centre of the Fourth Industrial Revolution where digital and smart technology is increasingly prevalent.

> JD Sports, William Hare and Tetrosyl Group already recognise the benefits of being in Bury





Full fibre broadband and access to **4G** & **5G** mobile will be delivered across the Borough by **2025**



Bury benefits from one the region's **leading apprenticeship** and **training providers**



Bury's residents have **skill levels exceeding** the North West and GM average



Over **£60m** investment is committed by **Bury College**, including a new **Health Innovation STEM Centre**



'Start Smart' provides business support and advice for **new businesses** in Bury



Bury Business Improvement District (BID) will be launched in **Summer 2022**, bringing **£2m** investment into the town centre over **5 yrs**



► The Rock Shopping Centre

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

A PLACE TO VISIT

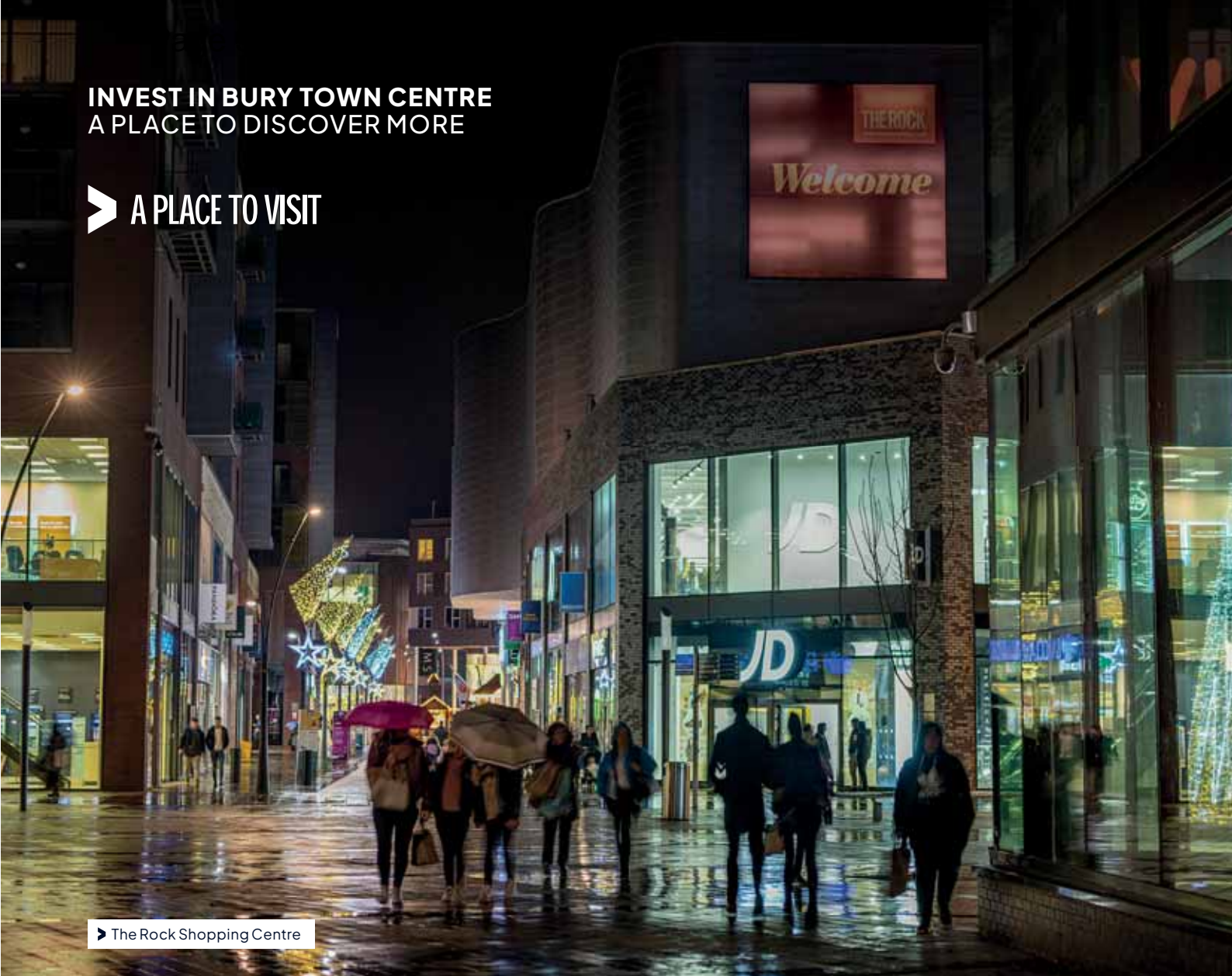


➤ **BURY WAS DESIGNATED AS THE FIRST GREATER MANCHESTER TOWN OF CULTURE IN 2020, TO CELEBRATE ITS DIVERSE RANGE OF CULTURAL DESTINATIONS AND ATTRACTIONS**



INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

> A PLACE TO VISIT



► The Rock Shopping Centre

Bury Town Centre Masterplan will strengthen **Bury's Cultural Quarter**, creating new high-quality public realm '**Station Square**' centred around the Castle Armoury and Castle Remains and capitalising on Bury's growing visitor economy.

> A new 4* hotel offering will be coming to Bury in Spring 2024





► The East Lancashire Railway



► The Met



East Lancashire Railway

12 mile heritage railway offering train rides along with special events and dining experiences throughout the year

4th most visited paid for attraction in **Greater Manchester 2019**, attracting over **200,000** visitors a year



Bury Art Museum & Sculpture Centre

Built to house the Wrigley Collection: showcasing the best of international and local art, and tracing the rich history of Bury



Fusilier Museum

Tracing **350 years** of heritage of the XX Lancashire Fusiliers and the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

THE ROCK

mill
gate
Shopping Centre

Bury town centre

has **2 shopping centres**, with well-known brands offering retail and leisure opportunities



The MET

Award winning venue with live music, comedy and theatre, noted nationally for its specialist folk programme



Events

Bury Town Centre has a varied events programme throughout the year, including events such as **Bury Pride** and **Bury Running Festival**



Bury Market

Multi award-winning market, providing over **370 stalls**, noted for its wide array of locally grown and world foods

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

A PLACE TO LIVE



➤ **BURY TOWN
CENTRE PROVIDES
THE OPPORTUNITY
FOR NEW HIGH-
QUALITY TOWN
CENTRE LIVING
ALONGSIDE AN
EXCELLENT RETAIL,
LEISURE AND
CULTURAL OFFER,
AS WELL AS
ACCESS TO GREAT
SCHOOLS**



INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

> A PLACE TO LIVE



Bury has an active and accessible housing market. Sales volumes and prices compare well with other GM towns, and average sold prices across the borough have **increased by 20%** on the previous year, yet affordability remains positive. The rental market in the town centre is strong, with demand outstripping the constrained supply and rental values have risen steadily in recent years.

The town centre benefits from a range of public realm and access to open spaces on its doorstep.

The River Irwell, an important green corridor on the western edge of Bury Town Centre, provides important links for wildlife and recreation through the Irwell Sculpture Trail and National Cycle Route 6.

There are five parks located within close proximity of the local centre, which have all been awarded green flag awards. Burr's Country Park covers 36 hectares and provides a range of adventure and recreational activities.

> **6.5 Ha**
of land identified
for new town centre
residential development

> Potential for
900
new dwellings in
the town centre



Bury Town centre's **population** projected to increase by over **150% by 2037**



Buoyant rental market within the town centre



High quality educational institutions, including **Bury College**, Holy Cross College & University Centre, and Bury Grammar Schools



Green Flag Awarded **Burrs Country Park** is within 20 minutes' walk of Bury Town Centre



Purple Flag Award for **6 consecutive years** for recognising the quality and range of the evening and night-time offer



Homes England

Future investment potential from **Homes England**



► Market Square



► Burr's Country Park

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WOODBURY CENTRE

► Visualisation / Wilson Mason



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A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE



SPATIAL PLAN TOWN CENTRE

OPPORTUNITIES

- 1 The Green
- 2 Western Gateway
- 3 The Old Rock
- 4 Townside
- 5 Pyramid Park
- 6 Station Square (Cultural Quarter)
- 7 Town Centre South
- 8 Manchester Rd
- 9 Moorgate/Walmersley Rd
- 10 Potential Sports Campus

EXISTING ASSETS

- 11 The Rock
- 12 Mill Gate
- 13 Former Fire Station
- 14 Chamberhall
- 15 Bury Market/Flexi-Hall
- 16 Interchange

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

MILL GATE

bruntwood

Bury Council has acquired the 15-acre Mill Gate shopping centre estate and have entered into a Joint Venture with Bruntwood to create a development vehicle that will facilitate transformational change across the town centre.

Development opportunities include consolidating and diversifying the current retail offer, with the addition of **new residential, leisure uses, serviced offices and food and beverage uses.**

► Proposed visualisation of Mill Gate / Chapman Taylor





THE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY INCLUDES THE POTENTIAL FOR:



Improving town centre connectivity, enhancing footfall by creating a new link between the Rock and Interchange.



Reconsidering access roads to create new public spaces.



Creating space between the Market and the shopping centre through good quality public realm whilst unlocking investment opportunities.



Rationalising under-utilised space, surplus land and yards to intensify use.



Delivering mixed tenure high-quality residential



Providing a range of employment and commercial spaces.



Delivering a new community and civic hub



Creating new health and wellbeing facilities.



WHILST PLANS ARE EVOLVING, SHORT-TERM INTERVENTIONS INCLUDE:

Creation of improved pedestrian links between The Rock, Mill Gate and the transport interchange.

Mixed-use development with residential above with retail and food and beverage units providing active frontages on the ground floor.

Visible improvements around the site signifying the regeneration of the Mill Gate estate.

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BURY MARKET AND FLEXI-HALL

Bury Market is widely regarded as a successful, large and diverse market and is a popular tourist destination.



£20M

LEVELLING UP FUNDING INVESTMENT
SECURED TO REFRESH THE MARKET
AND CREATE A NEW FLEXI-HALL

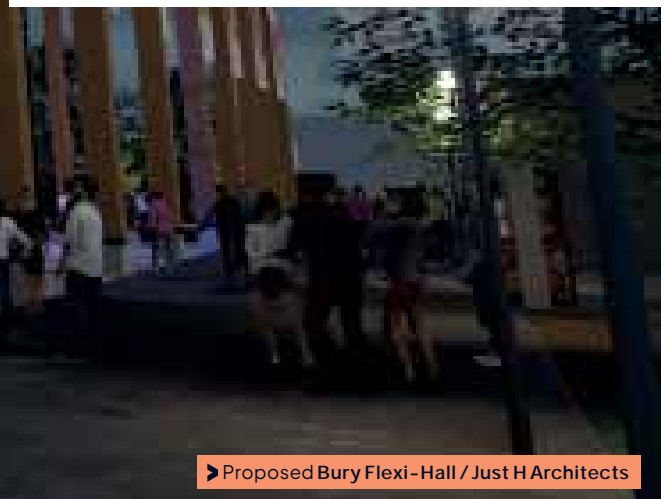
2025

THE FLEXI-HALL WILL BE
DELIVERED BY MARCH 2025.



The 'Flexi-Hall' anchor will be a key destination comprising a large, state-of-the-art, **carbon neutral, multifunctional events space**, providing 'pop-up' trading, live performance, and community events.

The development will also include a **new café bar and space for small business start-ups and co-working**.



► Proposed Bury Flexi-Hall / Just H Architects

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
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STATION SQUARE (CULTURAL QUARTER)

Building on Bury's existing cultural and visitor attractions, the Cultural Quarter focuses on diversifying, strengthening, and promoting the current offer. A comprehensive public realm strategy will enhance Bury's historic character, aid wayfinding and legibility through the town centre. The creation of a new Station Square will incorporate the creation of a new culture trail, creating new spill-out space for both existing and new food and beverage outlets in and around the Castle Remains and Castle Armoury.





► Proposed visualisation of Castle Armoury and New Station Square

OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:



Greater visibility of the tourist assets within the town centre, including East Lancashire Railway



Potential new high density residential uses



Retention of visitors in the town centre, with scope to broaden the existing cultural offer



An annual cultural events programme will be created to build on the vibrancy within the town.



True place-making through creating a new public square

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

TOWN CENTRE LIVING

Bury town centre's existing population is thriving but there's a real opportunity to deliver more high-quality housing, creating a new town centre living offer as part of our vibrant offer.

PROSPECTIVE SITES INCLUDE:

NEW WESTERN GATEWAY

2.52 ha site with potential for around 320 new homes to create a sustainable and high quality, family-focused community within the town centre.

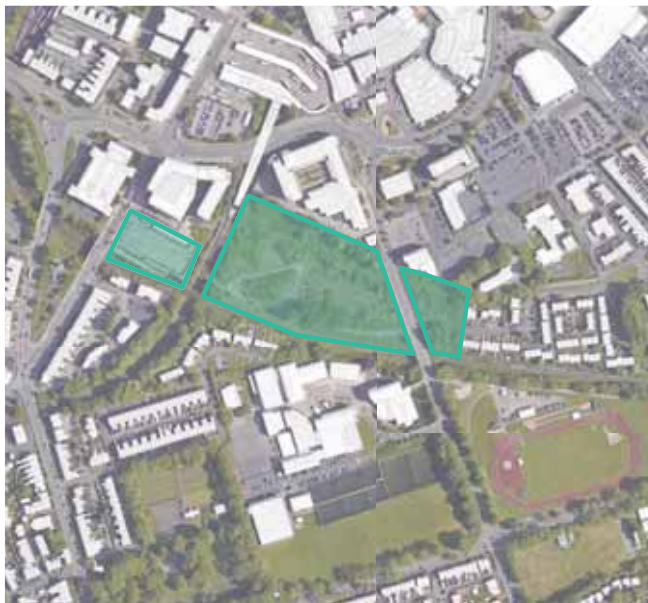


► Proposed visualisation of Western Gateway / Aecom



PYRAMID PARK AND TOWNSIDE

3.2 Ha site with potential for 400 new homes, creating a vibrant and varied community including family housing, apartments and housing for older people.



TOWN CENTRE SOUTH

Potential to provide new, high density residential uses, delivering up to 110 new homes, which would generate further demand for Bury's cultural and retail assets.



► Proposed visualisation of Pyramid Park / Aecom

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

EASTERN GATEWAY

Eastern Gateway, an important new gateway into the town, which mirrors the quality of the nearby Rock development. A new high-quality hotel will provide the cornerstone to the gateway, fronting strongly onto the ring road, with the opportunity for new residential development to complement The Rock.

There is also potential to revitalise underused retail space through the introduction of new commercial opportunities including a new innovation hub for SME's & start-ups.



► Proposed The Rock High Street / Chapman Taylor



OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:



Potential new residential development within the heart of the town centre



New co-working and innovation hub for small businesses as part of a revitalised high street



New leisure and food and beverage offering to diversify the traditional retail

INVEST IN BURY TOWN CENTRE
A PLACE TO DISCOVER MORE

GET IN TOUCH

BURY MEANS BUSINESS

We have a dedicated service for businesses connecting them to business support and an array of other services.

For business support and further information about the investment opportunities outlined in this prospectus,

CONTACT

investin@bury.gov.uk

burymeansbusiness.bury.gov.uk





MILL GATE

► Proposed visualisation / Chapman Taylor

