

**Geoff Little**  
**Chief Executive**

*Our Ref* JG  
*Your Ref* C/JG  
*Date* 29 November 2022  
*Contact* Julie Gallagher  
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**TO: All Members of Council**

**Councillors :** A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, R Bernstein, D Berry, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, N Boroda, R Brown, C Cummins, L Dean, S Donnelly, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, K Hussain, N Jones, J Lancaster, G Marsden, J Mason, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, K Peel, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, I Rizvi, J Rydeheard, L Smith, M Smith, T Tariq, C Tegolo, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh, M Whitby and Y Wright

Dear Member/Colleague

**Council**

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

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 7 December 2022
<b>Place:</b>	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
<b>Time:</b>	7.00 pm
<b>Briefing Facilities:</b>	<b>Pre council Meeting – ELR Buckley Wells presentation 6pm to 6.50pm – Peel Room</b>  <b>6.55pm – Council photograph to show support for the White Ribbon Campaign (Ceremonial Steps)</b>
<b>Notes:</b>	

## **AGENDA**

The Agenda for the meeting is attached.

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](http://www.bury.gov.uk)

**Yours sincerely**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G P Little'.

**Chief Executive**

**(Note: Members are reminded that under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, if a Member of a Local Authority has not paid Council Tax for at least two months and, even if an arrangement has been entered into to pay arrears, then at any meeting where consideration is given to matters relating to, or which might affect the calculation of Council Tax, that Member must declare the fact that he/she is in arrears and must not vote on the matter).**

## 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 (Pages 9 - 18)

### 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

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 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES (Pages 19 - 50)

To receive and consider the recommendations to the Council:

Committee/Date	Subject	Recommendation
Youth Cabinet – 8th September 2022	Changes to the terms of reference	Youth Cabinet approves for onward circulation to Council, the revised Terms of Reference
Democratic Arrangements Forum - 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2022	Amendments to the Constitution	The Democratic Arrangements Forum agree for onward consideration to Council that section 4.1.34.1 of the constitution be amended to: Amendments will be considered in the order in which they are received. An amendment to a Notice of Motion must be delivered to the Monitoring Officer by midday on the day prior to the meeting. Following consideration by the Monitoring Officer the content of the amendment will be shared, other than amendments made in advance of Budget Council; unless the Group Leader or their representative provides express permission to do so.
Cabinet – 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Freedom of the Borough	The Democratic Arrangements Forum recommends to Cabinet with onward consideration at Council that all five

		<p>nominations be progressed and an expediated ceremony be arranged for former Councillor, Roy Walker in December 2022</p> <p>and a further ceremony for the remaining nominees, including Kieran Trippier, in January 2023.</p>
Audit Committee – 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022	Contract Procedure Rules	The Audit Committee recommends to Council the Contract Procedure Rules be approved and implemented from 1 February 2023
Employment Panel – 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Appointment of Chief Executive	That the Employment Panel Recommends to Council that Lynne Ridsdale be appointed the Chief Executive and Place Based Lead for Bury Council.

## 7 **LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME** (Pages 51 - 76)

To receive a report 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, Cabinet Members and Chair of a Committee 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. (30 minutes)

A member may ask a verbal question of the Leader, any Member of the Cabinet or Chair of a Committee about any matter on the Council agenda and which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the Borough. Only one verbal question per Councillor. (20 minutes)

## 8 **COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES** (Pages 77 - 92)

- (A) A combined authority update report is attached, for information
- (B) Questions (if any) on the work of the Combined Authority to be asked by Members of the Council for which the necessary notice has been given, in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

## 9 **\*\*\*\*SHORT ADJOURNMENT\*\*\*\***

## 10 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **(i) School Meals in the Borough**

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

Councillors; Birchmore, Berry, Booth, Duncalfe, Marsden, Mason, Cllr Mike Smith and Cllr Mary Walsh

**This Council Notes:**

All schools in the Borough have policies around school meals regarding nutritional balance, variation and dietary requirements as per the legislative requirements.

It is noticeable that what is missing from these policies is the balance between the number of students attending cafeteria facilities and the time available to them to queue, choose, purchase and consume their meals. What is not clear from these policies is the available choice readily available to the students who are at the back of that queue.

Analysis has shown that Bury MBC does not have a specific policy for the management of the school meals, such as a Mealtime Management Plan for the distribution and consumption of the meals. From the all the non-feeing paying High schools within the Borough of Bury, only one of those schools does in fact, have a policy for the management of school meals.

We believe there is a need for such an overarching policy for Bury MBC to review the management of lunches and produce a Policy, that can be recommended for adoption and implementation to each High School, as either a separate policy to suit their own students and school circumstances or as part of the Whole School Food Policy.

We call upon the Council to recognise that as part of the healthy eating aspect of school meals, that there should be time to purchase and consume such a meal. We believe this action is required to avert potential issues of hunger, ineffective learning and digestive ill-health issues that may emanate from consuming lunches in a fast-paced and hurrying manner.

**The Council resolves to -**

Commission an internal review of meal management at Bury Schools and that the findings of the review inform a policy which can be commended to all Schools.

**(ii) Fair Tax**

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

Councillors: A. Arif, N Bayley, C Boles, N Boroda, C Cummins, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, M Hayes, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, K Peel, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, I Rizvi, L Smith, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley, and M Whitby.

**This Council notes that:**

1. The pressure on organisations to pay the right amount of tax in the right place at the right time has never been stronger.
2. Polling from the Institute for Business Ethics finds that "corporate tax avoidance" has, since 2013, been the clear number one concern of the British public when it comes to business conduct.
3. Almost two-thirds (63%) of the public agree that the Government and local councils should consider a company's ethics and how they pay their tax as well as

value for money and quality of service provided, when undertaking procurement.

4. Around 17.5% of public contracts in the UK have been won by companies with links to tax havens.

5. It has been conservatively estimated that losses from multinational profit-shifting (just one form of tax avoidance) could be costing the UK some £7bn per annum in lost corporation tax revenues.

6. The Fair Tax Mark offers a means for business to demonstrate good tax conduct, and has been secured by organisations with a combined annual income of £50bn and more than 6,500 outlets and premises, including many social enterprises and co-operatives. ([Fair Tax Councils - Fair Tax Foundation \(fairtaxmark.net\)](http://FairTaxCouncils-FairTaxFoundation(fairtaxmark.net)))

#### **This Council believes that:**

1. Paying tax is often presented as a burden, but it shouldn't be.

2. Tax enables us to provide services from education, health and social care, to flood defence, roads, policing and defence. It also helps to counter financial inequalities and rebalance distorted economies.

3. As recipients of significant public funding, local authorities should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct; be that by ensuring contractors are paying their proper share of tax, or by refusing to go along with offshore tax dodging when buying land and property.

4. Where substantive stakes are held in private enterprises, then influence should be wielded to ensure that such businesses are exemplars of tax transparency and tax avoidance is shunned - e.g., no use of marketed schemes requiring disclosure under DOTAS regulations (Disclosure Of Tax Avoidance Schemes) or arrangements that might fall foul of the General Anti-Abuse Rule.

5. More action is needed, however, current law significantly restricts councils' ability to either penalise poor tax conduct or reward good tax conduct, when buying goods or services.

6. UK cities, counties and towns can and should stand up for responsible tax conduct - doing what they can within existing frameworks and pledging to do more given the opportunity, as active supporters of international tax justice.

#### **This Council resolves to:**

1. Approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.

2. Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct, right across our activities.

3. Ensure contractors implement IR35 robustly and pay a fair share of employment taxes.

4. Not use offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty.

5. Undertake due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce the payment of tax and business rates.

6. Demand clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit & loss position.

7. Promote Fair Tax Mark certification for any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.

8. Support Fair Tax Week events in the area, and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride.

9. Support calls for urgent reform of EU and UK law to enable local authorities to better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct through their

procurement policies.

### **(iii) Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration**

A motion had been received and set in the Summons in the names of:  
Councillors Arif, Bernstein, Brown, Dean, Gartside, Harris, Hussain, Jones,  
Lancaster, McBriar, Rydeheard, Vernon

The United Kingdom has long been a safe haven for those individuals, and groups of people, who have had to flee their countries of origin due to religious, political, and social persecution. People also migrate for economic reasons due to unemployment, conflict, war, famine, and other natural disasters.

We are proud of our Country's humanitarian legacy in accepting refugees, asylum seekers through fair and legal means such as through the United Nation's Vulnerable Person's Resettlement Scheme (VPRS).

However, this motion aims to deal head on with a new and dangerous phenomena that is putting the lives of innocent men, women and children in grave danger and is leading to loss of life.

Since the beginning of 2022, more than 40,000 illegal immigrants, many of whom are at the mercy of criminal human trafficking gangs, have crossed the English Channel in small boats. This is up from 28,526 in 2021.

It is the view of many people living within the Borough of Bury, that this is one of the most pressing issues which our country faces today.

The increasing number of illegal migrants are putting a great deal of pressure on local services throughout the country and the residents of Bury are rightly concerned that the situation seen elsewhere with local hotels being commandeered for large numbers of irregular migrants could happen here in Bury. This would of course put intolerable pressure on local services.

We are not against lawful and controlled migration. On the contrary, we are immensely grateful to those who have made the United Kingdom their home and have shaped our nation for the better. Whether this be through working within the NHS or in other public, private and charitable fields.

Overseas workers are an integral part of our nation's fabric and diversity.

However, what we cannot condone, under any circumstances, is the arrival upon our shores of those who have deployed illegal and criminal means to enter the United Kingdom.

Whilst we sympathise with some of those who try to enter the UK through crossings, many are doing so in order to commit heinous crimes in the United Kingdom.

We must also remember that many criminal gangs and prohibited organisations are profiting at the misfortune of those crossing in small boats and putting the lives of

those who chose to cross in this manner at serious risk of danger.

It is incumbent on us all as elected officials to guarantee that the law of this country is upheld and respected.

Therefore, we must do all we can to prevent these illegal crossings and acts of illegal migration from occurring.

**That is why we are asking this Council to do the following:-**

\* Condemn the criminal gangs and organisations that are putting the lives of men, women and children at risk by enforcing small boat crossings in the English Channel.

\* Fully support the UK Government's plans to reduce these illegal crossings through a strategic partnership with our European neighbours.

\* Instruct the Chief Executive to write to both the Bury North and Bury South Members of Parliament to ask that they support the Government's plans to tackle illegal immigration and support offshore processing of illegal immigrants.

**a      LABOUR AMENDMENT TO THE CONSERVATIVE NOTICE OF MOTION**  
(Pages 93 - 94)

Amendment attached.

**11      COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER (Pages 95 - 110)**

A report setting out progress in respect of Motions passed at the last meeting of Council is attached.

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

There are no scrutiny review reports or specific items called in by the scrutiny committee.

**13      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:** 21 September 2022

**Present:** The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor , in the Chair)  
Councillors A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, R Bernstein, D Berry, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, N Boroda, R Brown, L Dean, S Donnelly, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, I Gartside, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, K Hussain, N Jones, J Lancaster, G Marsden, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, K Peel, T Pilkington, A Quinn, T Rafiq, I Rizvi, J Rydeheard, L Smith, M Smith, T Tariq, C Tegolo, S Thorpe, D Vernon, M Walsh and M Whitby

**Apologies for Absence** C Cummins, R Gold, M Hayes, J Mason, D Quinn, S Walmsley and Y Wright

**Public Attendance:** 3 members of the public attended the meeting.

#### **C. 14 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - MINUTES SILENCE**

The Mayor reported that she was privileged to lay flowers and sign the book of condolence as Bury's first citizen, in memory of her Majesty the Queen. Members stood to observe a minutes silence.

Group Leaders were invited to speak on behalf of their Group and place on record their sadness at the Queens' passing.

#### **C. 15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor D Berry declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration as a Member of friends of Bury Folk Keep it Green, a Member of Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Society. As well as a probationary bailiff for the Fishing and Angling Trust.

Councillor Gartside declared an interest in all matters under consideration as a member of Bury Folk Keep it Green.

Councillor Andrea Booth declared a personal interest in all items under consideration as a Member of Bury Folk keep it Green and a Member of Radcliffe litterpickers.

Councillor Carol Birchmore declared a personal interest in all items under consideration declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration as a Member of friends of Bury Folk Keep it Green, a Member of Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Society. As well as the probationary bailiff for the Fishing and Angling Trust and Radcliffe Litter pickers.

Councillor M Smith declared a personal interest as a Member of Bolton and Bury Canal Society.

#### **C. 16 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 be approved.

#### **C. 17 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Notice had been received of 3 questions. 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>Questioner</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Responding</b>
<b>Charlie Allen</b>	<b>Bus services in Greenmount and Ramsbottom</b>	<b>Cllr Peel</b>
<b>Jacqui Connor</b>	<b>Traffic on Newcombe Road</b>	<b>Cllr Quinn</b>
<b>Andy Hay not present</b>	<b>One way system</b>	<b>Cllr Quinn</b>
<b>Additional Questions</b>		
<b>Jordan Lewis</b>	<b>Council Tax complaint</b>	<b>Cllr O'Brien</b>

## **C. 18 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

### **Meeting of Cabinet 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Treasury Management Outturn Report.**

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

#### **RESOLVED:**

**Cabinet is requested to approve, for onward submission to Council on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September, the:**

- **2021/22 Prudential and Treasury Indicators**
- **Treasury Management 2021/22 Outturn Report**

## **C. 19 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET 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:

	<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Cabinet Member</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Cllr Peel	Cllr O'Brien	Budget cuts
2	Cllr Moss	Cllr O'Brien	Anti-poverty strategy
3	Cllr Lancaster	Cllr Quinn	Skate park at Clarence Park
4	Cllr Thorpe	Cllr Morris	Bury Market Upgrade
5	Cllr McGill	Cllr Tariq	Health inequalities
6	Cllr Gartside	Cllr O'Brien	Petition

7	Cllr A Arif	Cllr Farooq	Flag of Kashmir
8	Cllr A Arif	Cllr Quinn	Energy Costs to transport fleet
9	Cllr Vernon	Cllr Rafiq	Council complaints
10	Cllr McGill	Cllr Farooq	Community Safety Plan

Due to the lack of time to answer questions 11 to 15 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

Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
Cllr Bernstein	Cllr O'Brien	Temporary Traffic Lights
Cllr Birchmore	Cllr O'Brien	Brownfield Sites and the PfE
Cllr Moss	Cllr O'Brien	George Peachment Commemoration
Cllr Pilkington	Cllr O'Brien	Leaving GM
Cllr Hussain	Cllr O'Brien	LGO complaints
Cllr Rydeheard	Cllr Quinn	Tree Canopy project
Cllr Berry	Cllr Quinn	Waste prevention Officer
Cllr M Smith	Cllr O'Brien	Radcliffe Hub Scheme

**C. 20**

**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 Rules:

Questioner	Combined Authority Member	Topic
Cllr Rizvi	Cllr Farooq	GMP response time
Cllr Bayley	Cllr Peel	Cap on bus fares
Cllr Hussain	Cllr Farooq	GMP
Cllr Green	Cllr Peel	Impact of Covid

Cllr Dean	Cllr Farooq	GMFRS
Cllr Rydeheard	Cllr O'Brien	Mcr airport passenger numbers

## C. 21 NOTICES OF MOTION

### (i) Anti-social driving

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

Councillors; Arif, Bernstein, Brown, Dean, Gartside, Harris, Lancaster, Hussain, Jones, McBriar, Rydeheard, Vernon

This Council is determined to take further steps to combat the scourge of dangerous and anti-social driving which has been reported over many years and months, and which continues to be a major issue for communities across the borough.

Speeding, reckless and dangerous driving in Bury, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Tottington, Prestwich and Whitefield is utterly abhorrent and poses significant and unnecessary risks to both road users and pedestrians alike.

In recent reports in the Bury Times and on social media (from community groups) it is clear the situation is becoming worse.

As a Council we have a duty and responsibility to protect all our residents living in the borough and those people who are visiting or passing through our towns and villages.

#### **This Council resolves to:-**

- Call on the Chief Executive to write to the GMP Bury Division Chief Superintendent to ask that mobile speed camera initiatives are implemented across the borough to catch offenders, crack down on dangerous drivers and to provide reassurance to the communities of the borough.
- Call on the Chief Executive to write to the GMP Bury Division Chief Superintendent to undertake a borough wide initiative with the objective to reduce the illegal use Off-Road Bikes and e-scooters which are a cause of significant anti-social behaviour.
- To ask the Council to hold meetings with residents and community groups in known hotspots of dangerous and anti-social driving to understand their concerns and to listen to their suggestions on how to combat these issues.
- To ask the Council to explore more options which can be implemented to reduce dangerous driving, whether this be speed humps, permanent traffic cameras or traffic islands.
- To ask the Council to consider if measures already agreed such as crossing points can be implemented earlier than announced.

On being put with 42 Members voting for and 0 members voting against and the Mayor abstaining

The Mayor declared the motion was carried.

Councillor Donnelly was not in the Chamber when the vote was taken.

### **(ii) Work towards improving and safeguarding the Bury MBC stretch of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal**

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

Councillors; Birchmore, Berry, Booth, Duncalfe, Marsden, Mason, Cllr Mike Smith and Cllr Mary Walsh

Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal is a fantastic wildlife corridor through Radcliffe and Bury. It extends as far as the border with Little Lever in the south and runs up to Elton Reservoir and into Redvales and Church ward at the north end. It is well loved by residents and in the lockdown period it served as a much-needed green space for residents. In recent years, the Bury MBC section has been looked after by Little Britain Anglers and Radcliffe Litter Pickers.

For many years there has been talk of restoring the canal but the Canal and Rivers Trust to consider the canal low priority. CRT are obliged to keep the MBB canal safe for public use, however they are under no obligation to make it navigable because it is classed as a 'remainder canal' (Transport Act 1968). As custodians of the canal the Council needs to find a way to work with CRT to improve the prospects for the canal.

### **The Council notes:**

The canal suffers from being overgrown by several species including:

- Duckweed, which as well as being unsightly and in hot weather is smelly, if left to thrive, the weed can cause problems for other aquatic plants and wildlife by starving it of oxygen and sunlight.
- Himalayan Balsam, growing along the banks and in reed beds is outgrowing native species and reducing biodiversity by restricting native plant growth
- Giant hogweed growing on the upper reaches near the Elton Reservoir end, is a very dangerous plant for which the sap can cause serious skin burns. It contains furocoumarin, which makes skin extremely sensitive to sunlight (phytophotodermatitis).
- Trees growing into the structure of the canal and can cause damage to the sides and will eventually impact on the structural integrity.

In addition to the problem plants and invasive species listed above, there is a problem with litter being thrown into the canal which is often difficult to retrieve. This is especially true at places where pedestrian bridges cross the canal. The Council should help to reduce the problems caused by litter by addressing littering on Council owned land bordering the canal and pedestrian access to the canal across Council owned land.

### **The Council resolves to**

Commit to the following:

- Carry out a feasibility study into renovation of the canal with the possibility of including it in the Radcliffe Regeneration plans. This should consider the ambition to use the canal as a facility for fishing and water sports and working with the Canal and Rivers Trust to improve the tow paths to give better access for walking and cycling.
- Look at ways of preventing fly-tipping and littering from Council owned land such as car parks and bridges crossing the canal
  - Work to ensure visibility in currently obscured areas of access to the canal to prevent risk of crime, anti-social behaviour, and damage to property such as graffiti
- Working with the police to address the safety concerns of residents accessing and using the tow path

- Call on the Canal and Rivers Trust to adopt a strategy to stop the water in the canal dropping to a level hazardous to wildlife

An amendment was moved by Councillor Peel and Seconded by Councillor A Quinn to

Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal is a fantastic wildlife corridor through Radcliffe and Bury. It extends as far as the border with Little Lever in the south and runs up to Elton Reservoir and into Redvales and Church ward at the north end. It is well loved by residents and in the lockdown period it served as a much-needed green space for residents. In recent years, the Bury MBC section has been looked after by Little Britain Anglers and Radcliffe Litter Pickers.

~~REMOVE [For many years there has been talk of restoring the canal but the Canal and Rivers Trust to consider the canal low priority. CRT are obliged to keep the MBB canal safe for public use, however they are under no obligation to make it navigable because it is classed as a 'remainder canal' (Transport Act 1968). As custodians of the canal the Council needs to find a way to work with CRT to improve the prospects for the canal.]~~

### **The Council notes:**

The canal suffers from being overgrown by several species including:

- Duckweed, which as well as being unsightly and in hot weather is smelly, if left to thrive, the weed can cause problems for other aquatic plants and wildlife by starving it of oxygen and sunlight.
- Himalayan Balsam, growing along the banks and in reed beds is outgrowing native species and reducing biodiversity by restricting native plant growth
- Giant hogweed growing on the upper reaches near the Elton Reservoir end, is a very dangerous plant for which the sap can cause serious skin burns. It contains furocoumarin, which makes skin extremely sensitive to sunlight (phytophotodermatitis).
- Trees growing into the structure of the canal and can cause damage to the sides and will eventually impact on the structural integrity.

~~REMOVE [In addition to the problem plants and invasive species listed above, there is a problem with litter being thrown into the canal which is often difficult to retrieve. This is especially true at places where pedestrian bridges cross the canal. The Council should help to reduce the problems caused by litter by addressing littering on Council owned land bordering the canal and pedestrian access to the canal across Council owned land.]~~

~~INSERT [The ongoing challenges of litter and fly-tipping and maintenance of trees and other growth along the canal and the responsibilities of all partners involved to keep the canal well maintained and prevent further deterioration.~~

The ambitious and exciting Restoration Feasibility Study commissioned in 2020 jointly by Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Society, the Canal & Rivers Trust, Bury Council and Bolton Council for the full restoration of the 5-mile stretch of canal through Bury to Bolton.]

### **The Council resolves to**

Commit to the following:

~~REMOVE [• Carry out a feasibility study into renovation of the canal with the possibility of including it in the Radcliffe Regeneration plans. This should consider the ambition to use the canal as a facility for fishing and water sports and working with the Canal and Rivers Trust to improve the tow paths to give better access for walking and cycling.]~~

- Look at ways of preventing fly-tipping and littering from Council owned land such as car parks and bridges crossing the canal
- Work to ensure visibility in currently obscured areas of access to the canal to prevent risk of crime, anti-social behaviour, and damage to property such as graffiti

- Working with the police to address the safety concerns of residents accessing and using the tow path
- Call on the Canal and Rivers Trust to adopt a strategy to stop the water in the canal dropping to a level hazardous to wildlife

INSERT [

- Maintain our commitment to the full restoration of the canal through Bury and Radcliffe as expressed in the 2020 Restoration Feasibility Study.
- Write to the relevant Minister making the case for funding for the restoration, which our study estimates would bring £1 million per annum in socio-economic benefits to Bury and Radcliffe.
- Continue as an active partner in the maintenance and restoration of the canal through the participation of our officer and member representatives on the MBBC steering group.]

The amendment on being put with 35 members voting for and 8 voting against and the Mayor abstaining

The Mayor declared the amendment was carried.

The substantive motion on being put with 36 members voting for and 7 voting against and the Mayor abstaining

The Mayor declared the substantive motion carried.

### **(III) Freeze Energy Prices With A Windfall Tax On Oil And Gas Companies**

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

Councillors: A. Arif, N Bayley, C Boles, N Boroda, C Cummins, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, M Hayes, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, K Peel, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, I Rizvi, L Smith, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley, and M Whitby.

The Mayor announced that following changes since the publication of the agenda an altered motion will be moved.

Councillor Tariq moved the altered motion set out below, this was seconded by Councillor Quinn;

REMOVE [This Council notes:

~~The announcement that the household energy price cap will rise to £3,549 in October, a doubling of the cap in the last 12 months – equating to energy bills of £300 per month for a typical household.~~

~~Analysis from Citizens Advice which shows that a quarter of people in the UK simply won't be able to pay their energy bills in October.~~

This Council notes:

The announcement that the Government will now cap energy bills for typical a household to £2500, nearly £1500 higher than two years ago.

That this cap will still leave households facing significantly higher bills and steep financial pressures.

REMOVE

~~Alarming reports that the energy price cap could hit over £5,000 in January.~~

INSERT:

That this change of policy will not be funded by a windfall tax on excessive profits within the oil and gas industries

RETAIN:

That extortionate price hikes will still hit businesses, schools, local Councils, and hospitals which are excluded from the price cap and there are still reports that many vital local small businesses like small retailers, pubs and fish and chip shops may be forced to close.

That all of this come at a time when oil and gas companies are making enormous profits off the back of this crisis, giving out billions of pounds to shareholders.

**This Council welcomes:**

The Labour Party's plan to freeze the household energy price cap, halting a massive hike in energy bills and saving every household in Bury £1,000 this winter, and that this will be paid for by a windfall tax on excess profits from oil and gas companies.

The Labour Party's package of support to help businesses facing spiralling energy costs, including an increase in the Business Rates threshold for small businesses saving high street businesses up to £5,000.

The Labour Party's broader plan for energy sustainability and security as part of a £28 billion Climate Investment Pledge which includes proposals to upgrade energy efficiency in 19 million homes - saving families in Bury an average of over £1,000 a year off their energy bills - double our onshore and offshore wind capacity, triple our solar power production and end the delay on nuclear power.

**This Council commits to:**

Write to the new Prime Minister urging them to adopt Labour's plans to save households in Bury £1,000 this winter through a windfall tax, start insulating millions of homes to save households money in future years and address our long-term energy needs through investment in sustainable, renewable energy.

Include in the letter our concerns about the rising cost of energy for public services, including schools, hospitals and local authorities – as well as local businesses – who are not subject to a cap.

Continue to do all we can as a local authority, through our new Anti-Poverty Strategy, to support those residents most in need through the cost-of-living crisis, with £2.5 million targeted support this year for households in Bury.

On being put with 24 Members voting for and 12 against and 8 including the Mayor abstaining the motion was declared carried

**C. 22 \*\*\*FOR INFORMATION\*\*\* COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER**

For information

**C. 23 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**



There were no scrutiny reports or specific items called in.

**C. 24 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS**

There were no questions on the work of the outside partnerships.

**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR**

**(Notes:** The meeting started at 7pm and ended at 10pm)

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**Youth Cabinet - Terms of Reference****What does the Youth Cabinet do?**

Their role is to represent young people's interests, views and concerns at meetings and events with councillors. As well as this, they work on projects which aim to improve situations and solve problems that affect young people.

The Youth Cabinet acts as a voice for the views and opinions of young people across Bury. It does this by:

- Identifying what young people think about various issues, what they feel is important and what they would like to see done.
- Informing young people of the different services, groups and opportunities available to them.
- Involving young people in decisions that affect them and in the development of services and activities that exist for them
- Influencing others to encourage them to listen to young people and respond to their needs and wishes.
- Campaigning on important issues to try to bring about change or improvements for the benefit of young people.
- Promoting positive images of young people and highlighting the contribution they make to the community.
- Supporting young people to be happy, healthy and safe and help them to achieve their full potential and have fun.

**Who are the youth members of the Bury Youth Cabinet?**

Voting Membership of the Youth Cabinet is open to any young person who meets the following criteria;

- Is aged between 11-25 and
- Has a local connection to the Borough which could comprise of one of more of the following:
  - The young person lives in the Borough,
  - The young person schools in the Borough,
  - The young person works in the Borough, or
  - The young person attends a youth group or project in the Borough

OR

- Is a member of Youth Parliament.

Voting membership is granted indefinitely until such time as the above criteria no longer apply to the individual.

Non-Voting Membership is open to the following, in the interest of the Youth Cabinet remaining politically neutral, but informed of political work within the Borough;

- Elected Members X9

**Roles**

- The Youth Mayor (Chairperson)
- Deputy Youth Mayor (Deputy Chairperson)

The Youth Mayor will be elected on the first Youth Cabinet meeting of the municipal year and will Chair the Youth Cabinet Committee. The Youth Mayor will also be a co-opted member of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee. The Youth Mayor will be in term for 12 months. The Deputy Youth Mayor will automatically take the role of the Youth Mayor once their term has finished.

Any Voting Member of the Youth Cabinet may put themselves forward as a candidate for any of the roles noted but must have attended at least 6 Youth Cabinet meetings (including informal meetings).

If a young person member misses three consecutive meetings, they will stand down from their role.

### **How do Youth Cabinet members vote?**

All items put to a vote will be decided upon by a show of hands, 'For' the item, 'Against' the item, and Abstainers.

Where the outcome of any vote is hung, whereby there is not a clear result, a second vote may be held following additional representation or debate. Should the result remain unchanged the Chairperson may, at their discretion, allow the matter to be resolved via a 'best of three' 'Rock, Paper, Scissors' challenge undertaken for one 'For' voter, and one 'Against' voter.

The process of electing Voting Members to roles within the Youth Cabinet will be undertaken via a secret ballot with a Council Officer acting as the 'Returning Officer' for votes cast, announcing those duly elected to the roles upon counting the ballot papers.

For elections to Youth Cabinet roles where there is not a clear result, the same process as outlined above will take place with each contesting candidate for the role participating in the 'best of three' 'Rock, Paper, Scissors' challenge.

### **What are the principles of Youth Cabinet members?**

Youth Cabinet members have the responsibility to uphold the following ethos and principles:

- Bury Youth Cabinet does not represent any party political view.
- The members have a duty towards the young people they represent.
- Every young person has the right to have his/her view heard and listened to by Youth Cabinet.
- Youth members should respect and listen to the views of others, challenging discrimination and promoting equal opportunities.
- Bury Youth Cabinet is a safe zone where young people feel free to be able to express their own opinions.

### **What are the expectations of Youth Cabinet members?**

- It is important that Youth Cabinet members take their role and duty seriously when representing the Youth Cabinet.
- They must attend cabinet meetings and support as many other meetings and events as possible.
- They must maintain contact with other Youth Cabinet members and the Youth Participation Worker via WhatsApp and responding to emails, texts, telephone calls and letters.

### **Quorum**

For a Youth Cabinet meeting to be quorate, a minimum of 4 Youth Cabinet Members must be present. In addition to this each meeting, in order to be quorate, must be supported by three Councillor members. If a meeting is not quorate, the meeting can still go ahead as planned but no decisions can be made.

Where the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are unavailable to attend, but the meeting would otherwise be quorate, a Voting Member of the Youth Cabinet may be elected as a substitute for this meeting only, and must step down at the end of the meeting.

### **Agenda items, minutes and meeting papers**

All agenda items will be forwarded to the Council Officer in Democratic Services by the close of business seven working days prior to the next scheduled meeting. The agenda, with attached meeting papers, will be distributed at least five working days prior to the next scheduled meeting.

The minutes of the Youth Cabinet will be prepared by the Officer in Democratic Services. The minutes of the meeting are published on Bury Council's website.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

There will be 6 Youth Cabinet meetings scheduled for each municipal year.

Additional meetings may be called in support of Youth Cabinet projects, and must be arranged at least 10 working days in advance of the proposed meeting date.

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<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Non-Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Audit Committee	<b>Date:</b> 01 December 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	Contract Procedure Rules	
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities	

## Summary

This report sets out proposals for new Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) that will form part of the Council Constitution. As part of the process of developing and agreeing new CPRs, the audit committee was consulted on the draft proposals in January 2021. This report sets out the final draft proposal. Feedback from the Standards Committee and Audit committee will be reflected in final proposals that will be presented to Full Council on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 for implementation from 1 February 2023.

Cipfa C.Co drafted the proposed rules over two years ago, therefore these have been further developed and amended by STAR Procurement to reflect more recent changes and best practice.

## Recommendation(s)

- Note the content of the report and provide feedback on the final draft Contract Procedure Rules
- Note that the final draft Contract Procedure Rules will be presented to Full Council in December 2022 for final approval prior to implementation from 1 February 2023
- Note the draft implementation plan and provide feedback for rolling out the processes aligned to the Contract Procedure Rules
- Note and provide feedback on the draft Procurement Guide

## Reasons for recommendation(s)

Provides up to date and appropriate Contract Procedure Rules with associated Procurement Guide. The implementation plans will ensure effective implementation of the approach.

## Alternative options considered and rejected

The current Contract Procedure Rules are dated 2016 and require significant updating as they contain out-dated information including Regulations, Thresholds, and a combination of both rules and requirements as well as guidance and advice. They are over-bureaucratic with complex governance arrangements.

The proposed approach will streamline processes whilst ensuring that specialist advice and support is provided by specialist staff for the highest value and highest risk tenders. The development of the Procurement Guide will ensure that managers are fully supported and that consistent procedures are in place across the Council.

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**Report Author and Contact Details:**

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*Position: STAR Procurement*

*Department: Strategic Procurement*

*E-mail: n.cooke@bury.gov.uk*

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## **1. Background**

- 1.1. Contract Procedure Rules (CPR) form part of the Council's Constitution and govern the way contracts for supplies, services and works are procured and awarded. As part of the agreed governance review it was agreed that a review of the Council's procurement processes and rules would be carried out.
- 1.2. To inform this work, all managers engaged in procurement activity have been consulted by Cipfa C.Co. This was carried out in two phases: an initial consultation questionnaire followed by stakeholder group meetings to feedback a number of key findings and to test some of the initial thinking. The outcome of these key pieces of work has been used to inform the draft CPRs.
- 1.3. As this work was undertaken over two years ago, a further update and review has been undertaken by STAR Procurement to ensure the Contract Procedure Rules are future-proofed for the upcoming Regulation changes, to provide flexibility in the way procurement is delivered operationally and to reflect best practice. The Procurement Guide and Implementation Plan have also been developed. Consultation has taken place with colleagues from Strategic Procurement, Finance, Legal and Audit.

## **2. Key Changes**

- 2.1. The final draft Contract Procedure Rules are attached at Appendix 1 and the main changes are summarised as follows:
  - Focus on rules and requirements, with advice and guidance moved to Procurement Guide (See Appendix 2)
  - The level at which 3 quotes are needed is proposed to increase from £1k to £10k and will reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and achieve better value for money overall for the Council. This brings Bury in-line with other Greater Manchester Authorities
  - Specific requirements regarding the Contracts Register to reflect the findings of Contracts Register audit report.
  - It is proposed that the procurement service will continue their advisory approach for low value tenders and that the work be undertaken by services. Low level tenders are anything with a value of up to £50k.
  - Process for tenders up to £50k will be supported by a Procurement Guide that will advise and support services through up to date guidance, standard templates and access to The Chest when needed.
  - All tenders above £50k will be coordinated by the procurement service. This ensures professional expertise is targeted at higher risk/value contracts and used to inform the approach to market, including the appropriateness of



openly advertising requirements or inviting selected bidders to tender for contracts up to regulation Threshold.

- Specific rules relating to residential care and educational placements to reflect the legal requirement to consider individual choice. The requirement for legal to seal placement contracts is also removed.
- Future proofed the wording and terminology to reflect the proposed new Regulations and changes in Thresholds

### 3. Implementation Plan

- 3.1. This report sets out the final draft proposal. Feedback from the committee will be reflected in final proposals that will be presented to Full Council on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022 for implementation from 1 February 2023.
- 3.2. A detailed implementation plan has been developed to support 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 implementation date. The implementation plan includes approvals, development of new templates, training (including in-person and on-line), communications and development/update of linked documents.
- 3.3. In summary the implementation plan includes:

Theme	Task	Milestone
Approvals	Full Council meeting	Dec 2022
Templates	Procurement Guide	Dec 2022
	Starting a procurement form	
	Award Report	
	Declaration of Interest	
	Exemption/modification form	
	RFQ	
	ITT	
	The Chest work flows	
Training	In-person training	Jan 2023
	Training via TEAMS	
	Recording of training	
	Manager Programme	
Communications	Council website	Jan 2023
	Intranet pages	
	Comms Plan	
Linked documents	Scheme of delegation	TBC
	Financial Procedure Rules	
	Procurement of External Expertise	

### 4. Procurement Guide

- 4.1. The Procurement Guide provides advice and guidance for sub-Threshold procurements. This will ensure that managers are fully supported and that consistent procedures are in place across the Council. This will help to address previous issues highlighted by Internal Audit.
- 4.2. The Procurement Guide can be regularly updated by Strategic Procurement to reflect new Regulations, updated guidance provided by Government, and any

new best practice and/or lessons learnt. A copy of the draft Procurement Guide is included in Appendix 2.

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### **Links with the Corporate Priorities:**

5. The Let's Do It Strategy sets out the corporate priorities and the Contract Procedure Rules help to deliver the following outcomes:
- Delivering inclusive economic growth by continuing our commitment to Bury-based businesses and reducing the complexity and bureaucracy of our procurement approach
  - Delivering carbon neutrality by 2038, improved quality of life, improved educational attainment and increased adult skill levels and employability by including guidance on Social Value

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### **Equality Impact and Considerations:**

6. The proposed Contract Procedure Rules do not bring about any changes that would impact on one protected characteristic over and above another, it doesn't result in increased/decrease access to services or provision for any particular group of the population or cause any disadvantage to a community of interest. The approach is to ensure value for all contracts and thus strive to mitigate Council costs, which would benefit all residents

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### **Environmental Impact and Considerations:**

7. Environmental impact and considerations in procurement are addressed through Social Value. The Procurement Guide provides information on how this can be achieved and potential measures that can be included in contracts.

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### **Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:**

<b>Risk / opportunity</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Revising CPRs in this way represents a risk based approach to resource allocation. Limited professional procurement expertise will be focussed on the highest risk/highest value contracts.	Procurement Guide and training will be put in place to ensure service based officers understand and can apply the rules appropriately. Governance controls will be strengthened through the introduction of new processes and templates to record and approve actions

Implementation of revised rules across the Council in a short period of time	A detailed implementation plan has been developed, including mandatory training
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### Legal Implications:

The Council is required to have Contract Procedure Rules under section 135 of the Local Government Act 1972 and to review them periodically. The revised Rules have the support of Audit, Finance and Legal Services. The increase in the procurement thresholds involves greater devolved procurement to Council departments and consequently a degree of non-compliance risk attaches. However this is properly mitigated through the implementation plan which includes mandatory training, supplemented with a comprehensive procurement guide and model templates and processes. The revised Rules are recommended for adoption on that basis.

8.

### Financial Implications:

The implementation of strong and consistent Contract Procedures Rules and the roll out of an education and training programme for all who use them will help to ensure the Council achieves best value for money in all of its procurements.

### Background papers:

*Appendix 1: Final Draft Contract Procedure Rules*

*Appendix 2: Final Draft Procurement Guide*

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

Term	Meaning
CPR	Contract Procedure Rules
Contracts Register	A database of all Council Contracts maintained by the Strategic Procurement Team
Procurement Guide	A document providing advice, guidance and policies regarding operational procurement at Bury Council. It supports the CPR's but does not form part of the constitution
Social Value	The concept of seeking to maximize the additional benefit that can be created by procuring or commissioning goods and services, above and beyond the benefit of merely the goods and services themselves

Threshold	The Threshold pertaining to the values of Supplies, Services or Works derived from Regulations
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# **Bury Council**

## **Contract Procedure Rules**

### **2022**

**Issued TBC**

**Review Date TBC**

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## Definitions

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Best Value	The Council's duty under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1999 to secure continuous improvement in the way in which functions are carried out, having regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness
Bidder	means any Economic Operator that submits a Quote.
Call-Off Contract	means an order placed or a contract awarded in accordance with an established Framework Agreement or DPS
Concession Contracts	Where the consideration consists either solely in the right to exploit the work or service, or in this right to exploit together with payment.
Conflict of Interests	An actual conflict, or a potential conflict, between the pecuniary or personal interests of an officer and the duties that the officer owes to the Council
Contract	An agreement between two or more parties relating to supplies, services, utilities or the execution of works for payment or otherwise by an agreement intended to bind those parties.
Contracts Register	A database of all Council Contracts maintained by the Strategic Procurement Team
Dynamic Purchasing System	An agreement or other arrangement which establishes the terms under which the Provider will enter into one or more Contracts with the council or other Public body during the period in which the Dynamic Purchasing System applies
e-tendering system	The council's electronic procurement portal for the advertisement, receipt of tenders and conducting the Council's procurement process
Find a Tender Service	Means the e-procurement portal by which above Regulation Threshold tenders are advertised.
Framework Agreement	An agreement or other arrangement which establishes the terms under which the

	Provider will enter into one or more Contracts with the council or other Public body during the period in which the Framework Agreement applies
MAT (Most Advantageous Tender)	The evaluation or scoring of tenders using objective criteria covering price and quality, where the resulting Contract is awarded to the tender that achieves the highest score in that assessment
Notice	An advert giving details of the Contract being procured. The issue of the Public Procurement Notice starts the above Regulation Threshold tender process
Threshold	The Threshold pertaining to the values of Supplies, Services or Works derived from Regulations
Procuring Officer	The service team Officer who is responsible for the procurement process. This also includes third parties who are procuring on behalf of the Council.
Strategic Procurement	The member of the Strategic Procurement Team who has been assigned to the procurement exercise
Procurement Guide	Contains further detailed practical guidance and information on procurement requirements and process steps which Procuring Officers must refer to when undertaking procurement activities
Provider	An organisation that supplies goods to, provides services to or undertakes works for the Council.
Regulations	Regulations that govern public procurement procedures for Contracts with a value over specific Thresholds
Revenue earning Contract or Concession Contract	A Contract where either part of the consideration is a share for the Council of any income generated by the Provider or where the Council is acting as a Provider to another party.
Social Value	The concept of seeking to maximize the additional benefit that can be created by procuring or commissioning goods and services, above and beyond the benefit of merely the goods and services themselves



Specification	means the outputs, outcomes and the scope and nature of Goods, Services, execution of Works or Concessions Contract required by the Council from a procurement activity.
SQ – Supplier Questionnaire	The national standard questionnaire produced by Cabinet Office for use in shortlisting suppliers when using a two-stage procedure, or for confirming supplier credentials in a single stage procedure

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 These Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs) are made under the provisions of Section 135 of the Local Government Act 1972 and govern the making of Contracts for and on behalf of the Council.
- 1.2 The CPRs form part of the Council's Constitution and will be reviewed annually.
- 1.3 Compliance with the CPRs and observance of all relevant legislation from which they emanate in particular, but not limited to: the Public Procurement (Amendments, Repeals and Revocations) Regulations 2016; the Public Contracts Regulations 2015; Concession Contracts Regulations 2016; Equality Act 2010; Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012; the Local Government (Transparency Requirements) (England) Regulations 2015 (As amended from time to time); and the associated principles relating to fairness, non-discrimination, equal treatment and transparency, is mandatory for all Officers and Members.
- 1.4 These rules also apply to any third party, such as a consultant, who may be undertaking procurement on behalf of the Council. The responsibility for ensuring the rules are followed rests with the relevant Procuring Officer. Advice should be sought from the Strategic Procurement Team if in any doubt.
- 1.5 Procurements above the Regulation Threshold must comply with all relevant public procurement legislation. Where there is any conflict between legislation and these CPRs, the legislation will always prevail.
- 1.6 Value for money is fundamental to the procurement activity carried out by the Council. The Council has a best value duty under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 1999 having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness. This should be achieved through competition, unless there are compelling reasons to the contrary.
- 1.7 In all situations where the Council is the lead authority or the contracting body, procurement will be subject to these CPRs. Exemptions to the rules will be permitted only in the specific circumstances referred to in these CPRs.
- 1.8 These CPRs should be read in conjunction with the Councils Financial Procedure Rules and any advice, guidance and policies issued by Strategic Procurement ([link to Procurement Guide](#)).
- 1.9 Breaches of these CPRs will be investigated and may result in disciplinary action.

## 1.10 The CPRs do not apply to:

- Contracts of employment for the appointment of individual members of staff.
- Grant funding agreements – for grant agreements the appropriate guidance must be followed
- Contracts where the Council is the supplier of Works, Goods and/or Services to third party organisations. However, the Monitoring Officer and the S151 Officer must be consulted in situations where the council is contemplating acting as a supplier.
- Contracts procured in collaboration with other local authorities where the council is not the lead authority (subject to the necessary approvals having been obtained from the appropriate decision maker at the council). The CPRs of the lead authority shall apply. Assurance should be sought that the lead authority is in compliance with its own Contract Procedure Rules and Regulations.
- Contracts procured through frameworks let by other Contracting Authorities in compliance with Public Procurement legislation.
- Public to public Contracts e.g. between Bury Council and another local authority, which meet the provisions of Regulation 12 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Monitoring Officer and the Head of Strategic Procurement must be consulted where the Council is contemplating this route.
- Works, Supplies and Services procured from in-house companies which meet the criteria for the Teckal exemption e.g. Six Town Housing, Persona
- Contracts relating solely to the disposal or acquisition of securities;
- Contracts for the acquisition of an interest in land and property;
- Contracts for the appointment of Counsel or the appointment of experts for the purpose of legal, or potential legal proceedings by the SRO for Legal Services; and
- Any Contracts specifically excluded by relevant legislation

## 2. General Rules

- 2.1 Prior to commencing a procurement process, approval for the expenditure must be obtained from the relevant budget holder/officer in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits
- 2.2 Procuring Officers should not agree to verbal offers from Suppliers as this can create a binding Contract.
- 2.3 Adequate records of the procurement process must be retained. This includes records of any discussions held with stakeholders and/or potential Bidders prior to the issue of an advert or Contract Notice as part of soft market testing activity, any evaluation documentation including presentations or interviews held with Bidders and Contract award and unsuccessful notifications. Electronic copies of Contracts shall be kept of

each procurement process for a minimum period in accordance with the Council's Records Management Policy and public procurement legislation.

### 3. Conflicts of Interest and Anti-Bribery and Corruption

- 3.1 The Council's reputation with regards to procurement activity is important and should be safeguarded from any imputation of dishonesty or corruption. Advice should be sought from Strategic Procurement prior to any discussions to ensure that any conflicts of interest are recorded, and mitigation measures put in place.
- 3.2 No gifts or hospitality should be accepted from any Bidders or Tenderers involved in procurement activity except in accordance with the Council's Codes of Conduct.
- 3.3 Every Officer (including temporary, agency and interim staff) or Councillor involved in any decision in respect of the award of a Contract in which they, or any immediate member of their family, or close associate has a Pecuniary Interest shall immediately notify the lead Procurement Officer who shall make a record in the contract file and forward to the Monitoring Officer for inclusion in the register kept for the purpose under s.117 Local Government Act 1972 (Disclosure by officers of interest in contracts)
- 3.4 In the event of any doubt or uncertainty as to whether a Pecuniary Interest will occur, advice should be sought from the Head of Strategic Procurement who will consult with the Head of Audit and Monitoring Officer.

### 4 The Procurement Process

- 4.1 The table that follows sets out how a procurement process must be undertaken based on the total value of the Contract over its full period, including extensions, where applicable.

Anticipated Contract value (exc VAT)	Procurement Route	Advertising	Evaluation	Approval	Authority to Sign Contract
Below £10,000	Obtain at least one written Quotation  Where the value is less than £1,000 this can be evidenced by price list or website information  Process conducted and managed by Service team	Not required.  Bury suppliers to be invited where available.	Lowest price.	In accordance with the Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits	Use Purchasing Card or raise a Purchase order  No requirement for a signed Contract

	including written Specification or Statement of Requirements  Advice available from Strategic Procurement				
£10,001 to £50,000	<p><b>Request for Quotation (RFQ)</b></p> <p>Obtain at least three written quotations</p> <p>Process conducted and managed by Service team including written Specification or Statement of Requirements</p> <p>Advice must be sought from Strategic Procurement unless otherwise agreed by Head of Strategic Procurement</p>	<p>Not required</p> <p>(If three Providers cannot be identified, openly advertise. If openly advertised then contact Strategic Procurement to advertise on <b>e-tendering system</b> and on <b>Contracts Finder</b> website (if above £25k)</p> <p>Bury suppliers to be invited where available.</p>	<p>Lowest price or most advantageous based on criteria published with the request for quotation.</p>	<p>Complete <b>Award Report</b> and attach copies of the quotations.</p> <p>then</p> <p>If this is a new Supplier request a <b>New Supplier Set up form</b> is completed and submitted to <b>Accounts Payable</b>.</p> <p>Retain Award Report with quotes.</p> <p>Approval in accordance with Scheme of Delegation as detailed in Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits</p>	<p>Purchase Order and</p> <p>If the <b>Council's Standard Contract</b> terms used (or if procured via a valid framework, the relevant Call-off Contract is used, or an industry standard Contract is used for a works Contract) then an Officer in accordance with the Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits</p> <p>or</p> <p>If a bespoke Contract then Legal Services Authorised Signatory</p> <p>If openly advertised and above £25k issue Contract Award Notice on Contracts Finder</p>
£50k to Regulation Threshold	<p><b>Invitation to Tender (ITT)</b></p> <p>Obtain a minimum of 3 tenders</p>	<p>If openly advertised use <b>e-tendering system</b> and</p>	<p>Most Advantageous Tender</p>	<p>An <b>Award Report</b> must be completed.</p> <p>If this is a new Supplier request a <b>New Supplier</b></p>	<p>Purchase Order and</p> <p>If the Contract value is less than £100,000 and the</p>

	<p>Advice must be sought from Strategic Procurement before commencing and a <b>“Starting a Procurement”</b> form completed.</p> <p>Tender process using <b>e-tendering system</b>.</p> <p>A single stage ITT must be used for all Contracts up to the Works, Goods and Services Threshold.</p> <p>Managed by Strategic Procurement, unless otherwise agreed by Head of Strategic Procurement</p>	<p><b>Contracts Finder</b></p> <p>If not openly advertised, Bury suppliers to be invited where available.</p>		<p><b>Set up</b> form is completed and submitted to Accounts Payable. Confirm Award Report in place. Retain Award Report with quotes</p> <p>Approval in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits</p>	<p>Council's relevant Standard Conditions of Contract is used (or framework terms if applicable) then an Officer in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits</p> <p>or if the Contract value is more than £100,000 or</p> <p>if a bespoke Contract is used then Legal Services Authorised Signatory</p> <p>Legal proforma – instruction to award to be completed</p> <p>If openly advertised issue Contract Award Notice on <b>Contracts Finder</b></p>
Over Regulation Threshold	<p>Advice must be sought from Strategic Procurement before commencing and a <b>“Starting a Procurement”</b> form completed.</p> <p>Tender process using the Council's e-tendering system</p> <p>An Open procedure</p>	<p>Council's e-tendering system</p> <p>Contracts Finder Website</p> <p>and</p> <p>Find a Tender Service</p>	Most advantageous Tender	<p>Contracts below £500k in value that are non-key decisions can be approved by the relevant Executive Director.</p> <p>Contracts above £500k and are key decisions and delegated authority should be sought from Cabinet to award the Contract when the evaluation is completed.</p>	<p><b>Legal proforma</b> – instruction to award to be completed</p> <p>Purchase Order</p> <p>Issue Contract Award Notice on Contracts Finder and Find a Tender Service</p>

	single stage ITT to be used or by exception an alternative procedure as stated in the Public Contracts Regulations with a justification approved by the Head of Strategic Procurement  Managed by Strategic Procurement.			Award Report to be completed.	
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## 4.2 Starting a Procurement

- 4.2.1 Where the Council has an existing Contract in place that is suitable to source the services, supplies or works required this should be used. Approval for not using an existing Contract must be sought in advance from the relevant Strategic Procurement Officer and the technical or economic reasoning for not using the existing Contract should be recorded in the 'Starting a Procurement' form.
- 4.2.2 Where the Procuring Officer wishes to use a Framework Agreement, it is the duty of that individual to ensure that the agreement has been procured in a legally compliant manner and that the Council is legally able to access the agreement. The Procuring Officer should also ensure requirements in any access agreement, guidance notes or instructions are followed to ensure the procurement is compliant with Regulations. Failure to do this will make any Contract awarded from the framework (and potentially the whole framework) invalid. The Procuring Officer should seek guidance from Strategic Procurement where required.
- 4.2.3 If the value of a Contract is forecast to be less than £50,000 advice should be sought from Strategic Procurement prior to commencement but the procurement will be led by the Procuring Officer. Procuring Officers must adhere to the requirements outlined in the table above and award in accordance with authorisations set out in the Financial Procedure Rules: Scheme of Delegation – Financial Limits. The Procurement Guide provides advice and guidance on the processes and best practice.
- 4.2.4 If the value of a Contract is forecast to be £50,000 or greater, a 'Starting a Procurement' form must be completed and submitted to Strategic Procurement prior to the commencement of a procurement process.
- 4.2.5 If there is agreement between the Head of Strategic Procurement and a service team that a Procuring Officer within the service team will lead a procurement

above £50,000, the Procuring Officer shall complete a 'Starting a Procurement form' and record this agreement within the form.

4.2.6 In the event where a Contract has no specific end date, such as ongoing support or maintenance Contracts, then for the purposes of these rules the Contract Value should be considered over four years.

4.2.7 If the value of any Contract (including for works or social services) is forecast to be greater than £500k then delegated authority to commence the procurement process must be sought from the Cabinet.

4.2.8 A Conflict of Interest declaration form must be completed by all parties involved in a procurement process at the appropriate stage. This applies to Officers (including temporary, agency and interim staff) and Elected Members.

4.2.9 In the event of a Conflict of Interest the Head of Strategic Procurement, following consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Audit, shall determine the appropriate course of action to be taken based on the facts of the particular situation.

#### 4.3 Publishing Contract Notices (Advertising Contracts)

4.3.1 All procurement documentation must be completed prior to publishing the Contract Notice. This, as a minimum must include the Specification, Contract terms, pricing model and other evaluation criteria and background documentation.

#### 4.4 Selection Questionnaires (SQ)

4.4.1 The standard Selection Questionnaire (SQ) is the document used by the Council to screen potential tenderers in accordance with Regulations. For Works Contracts, the PAS91 questionnaire can be used in place of the standard SQ.

4.4.2 A pre-qualification stage must not be used in any procurement below the Regulation Thresholds for supplies and services. A completed SQ must however, be obtained from the winning Bidder prior to award of any Contract over £50k.

#### 4.5 Contents of a Request for a Quotation (RFQ) or an Invitation to Tender (ITT)

4.5.1 A **Request for a Quotation (RFQ)** is used for procurements with a value less than £50,000. Evaluation and award of Contract will normally be based on the lowest price, or the most advantageous tender based on criteria published with the RFQ.

4.5.2 An **Invitation to Tender (ITT)** is used for procurements with a value greater than £50,000 or by exception for complex and high-risk procurements of any value. Evaluation and award will be determined by the most advantageous tender based on criteria published with the ITT.

4.5.3 The standard template for a RFQ or an ITT must be used and include all the information set out in the template. Templates are maintained and updated by Strategic Procurement.

- 4.5.4 The **Specification** must describe the Council's requirements in sufficient detail to enable the submission of competitive offers and follow the Procurement Guide. A risk analysis of the scope and Specification of the Contract should be undertaken and included as additional Contract conditions if required.
- 4.5.5 **Evaluation criteria** must comply with the information in the table at 4.1 above in relation to relevant Contracts values. All evaluation criteria and sub criteria, any financial models and a clear scoring matrix must be included in the RFQ, or ITT documentation and full details disclosed to potential Bidders. The evaluation process must follow the published criteria without deviation.
- 4.5.6 The methodology for **evaluating price** should be clearly set out in the RFQ or ITT.
- Where appropriate, the whole life cycle cost, including cost of operation, maintenance and end of life, should be considered.
  - Where appropriate the implementation costs, including training, process redesign and system integration, should be considered.
- 4.5.7 **Conditions of Contract**
- In most circumstances the Council's standard forms of Contract should be used for supplies and services. The relevant Contract conditions must be issued with the RFQ/ITT.
  - Where procurement is via an existing Framework Agreement, the conditions of contract will be those governing the framework and Call-off Contracts.
  - For works contracts (other than those for minor works where the Council's standard services Contract may be appropriate) standard industry forms must be used, for example, JCT, NEC.
  - Where there is a need to deviate from the Council's standard forms of Contract or amendments are required to works standard industry forms (due to the risk imposed by the nature of the procurement or where the standard Contract is deemed to be unsuitable), Contract terms must be drafted by Legal Services prior to the RFQ or ITT being advertised.
  - Contracts on supplier's conditions will only be entered into by exception and must be approved in advance by Legal Services for Contracts over £10k.

## 4.6 Advertising Durations

- 4.6.1 A RFQ should be advertised for a period of time appropriate to the complexity of the procurement and to ensure there are sufficient quotes received to demonstrate that a proper competition has taken place. As a minimum this should be 7 days, unless otherwise agreed by Strategic Procurement.
- 4.6.2 An ITT should be advertised for a period of time appropriate to the complexity of the procurement, as a minimum this should be 14 days, unless otherwise agreed by Strategic Procurement
- 4.6.3 If a Framework is being used, the timescales set out in the Framework should be followed.
- 4.6.4 Where the Contract value is above the Regulation Thresholds then the appropriate minimum time periods in accordance with Regulations must be followed.



- 4.6.5 If a reduced timescale is required due to genuine urgent need, then this must be recorded and approved by Strategic Procurement prior to the procurement commencing.

#### **4.7 Contract value and duration**

- 4.7.1 Prior to a procurement being undertaken an estimate of the total Contract value over its full duration, including any extension options must be established. A record of how this forecast was calculated should be retained in the 'Starting a Procurement' form.
- 4.7.2 The value of the Contract must not be split to avoid the application of the CPRs and Regulations.
- 4.7.3 The appropriate length of individual Contracts should be considered pre-procurement taking account of Regulations, commercial factors such as market conditions and required investment, and internal considerations such as implementation costs and cost of change.

#### **4.8 Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment (TUPE) and Pensions**

- 4.8.1 Where a service is already being provided and is being retendered or tendered for the first time, the TUPE regulations need to be considered and if applicable, incorporated within the ITT. Where appropriate, information will need to be requested from current contractors.
- 4.8.2 Advice from Legal Services should be sought at the earliest point that the Procuring Officer becomes aware that a staff transfer may form part of the procurement. The relevant HR Business Partner must also be consulted if Council staff may be affected.
- 4.8.3 Where a transfer of staff will occur, Pensions liabilities and the arrangements for these need to be considered, and specialist advice sought from Strategic Procurement, Legal Services, HR and Finance.

#### **4.9 Appointment of Temporary, Agency, Interim Resources & Consultants**

- 4.9.1 Advice must be sought from the relevant HR Officer prior to commencing the appointment of any temporary, agency and interim staff and the guidance on procurement of external expertise must be followed.
- 4.9.2 The appointment of temporary, agency and interim staff must be in accordance with these CPRs, with the addition of an HR business case being approved. The appropriate guidance on procurement of external expertise must also be followed.
- 4.9.3 The appointment of temporary, agency and interim staff with an equivalent day rate of £500 or more must be approved by the Head of HR and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR prior to commencing the appointment.

- 4.9.4 The appointment of temporary, agency and interim staff with an equivalent day rate of £499 or less must be approved by the relevant HR Business Partner and Finance Advisor prior to commencing the appointment.
- 4.9.5 A copy of the completed Executive Team approval must be retained on the contract file.
- 4.9.6 In the event that temporary, agency or interim staff are proposed to transfer employment to become permanent employees, then it is likely that transfer, finders or similar fees will be charged by the agency. Approval must be obtained in advance from the relevant HR Business Partner prior to any transfer of employment and payment of relevant fees.
- 4.9.7 Contracts for consultancy services shall be procured in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules and the guidance on procurement of external expertise.

#### **4.10 Communications with tenderers during the procurement process**

- 4.10.1 All communications with tenderers after the RFQ or ITT has been issued must be conducted via the secure messaging service which forms part of the e-tendering system, or via email for those RFQs below £50k that have been issued by email.
- 4.10.2 Questions from Bidders must be submitted electronically, for RFQs by e-mail or through the e-tendering system where this has been used. Responses to questions must be shared with all Bidders unless there is an overriding commercial or confidential reason not to. Advice should be sought from Strategic Procurement if there is any uncertainty.
- 4.10.3 During the procurement process, verbal communication should not be entered into except to provide instruction on using the e-tendering system or in exceptional circumstances following advice from Strategic Procurement.

#### **4.11 Quotation and Tender opening and late submissions**

- 4.11.1 All responses to SQs or ITTs must be submitted electronically through the Council's e-tendering system where they will remain locked until the closing time and date.
- 4.11.2 For RFQs which have not used the Council's e-tendering system, responses should be returned by email to the Procuring Officer. Evaluation of quotations should not take place until all quotations have been received or the closing date and time has passed, whichever is soonest.
- 4.11.3 Late submissions will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances e.g. if the other quotations/tenders have not been opened and/or there has been a failure of the e-tendering or email system, or if the failure to comply is the fault of the Council.
- 4.11.4 The final decision on whether a tender will be accepted is at the discretion of the Head of Strategic Procurement.

- 4.11.5 The date for receipt of tenders may only be extended in exceptional circumstances. This must be approved by Strategic Procurement and the reasons documented.

## **5 Evaluation**

- 5.1 Evaluation of SQ responses, quotations and tenders must be in accordance with the criteria and scoring published with the SQ, RFQ or ITT. In the event no criteria have been published in the RFQ or ITT then the evaluation will be based on lowest price.
- 5.2 No information about SQ responses, quotations and tenders should be shared with competing organisations during the tender period.
- 5.3 Clarifications of SQ responses, quotations and tenders may be requested from Bidders and must be made in writing using the e-tendering system or via email for RFQs issued by email.
- 5.4 Negotiations with tenderers are only permitted in limited instances with approval of Strategic Procurement.
- 5.5 Once a SQ, RFQ or ITT has been evaluated and the successful organisation selected, only minor refinements that do not substantially change the tenderer's proposal or the commercial position, can be made. Advice should be sought from Strategic Procurement in advance.
- 5.6 Evaluation should involve a minimum of two officers and should follow Procurement Guide.
- 5.7 Evaluators must come to a consensus on scores awarded, scores must not be averaged.
- 5.8 Justification and reasons for the scores awarded must be recorded and retained in accordance with Regulations. This information is to be used for providing feedback to Bidders.

## **6. Awarding a Contract**

- 6.1 Approval to award the Contract must be obtained prior to the award being carried out in accordance with the table in Section 3.
- 6.2 A 10-day standstill period between notification of the Contract award and the Contract Award must be included for relevant Contracts with a value above the Regulation Threshold.
- 6.3 Officers must not issue letters of intent, memorandums of understanding or similar communications without the prior approval of Legal Services.
- 6.4 Contracts should be signed in accordance with the table in Section 3 of these Rules. Contracts should only be signed after the correct approval to award has been granted.
- 6.5 Certain categories of Contracts must be executed as deeds and are to be sealed by the council by affixing the common seal or appropriate electronic alternative. This means that in the event of a dispute, the council can make a claim under the Contract for up to 12 years. The following Contracts must be sealed:
- Contracts above the value of £75K;

- New Framework Agreements;
- Where there is no consideration (i.e. money or money's worth) by one party (e.g. grant agreements, where the council is paying a voluntary sum to an organisation but the organisation is not giving anything in return); and,
- Other high risk Contracts (as advised by Legal Services) where a longer limitation period of 12 years is required.

- 6.6 Before a Contract can be awarded by Legal Services, a signed copy of the relevant Award Report must be provided by the designated decision maker. The signing or sealing of the Contract by Legal Services is simply affixing the common seal and does not indicate that legal advice has been sought or that Legal Services approve the Contract. A scanned copy of the signed Contract must be sent to Strategic Procurement to allow for inclusion in the Contracts Register
- 6.6 Contract Award Notices must be placed in Contracts Finder and Find a Tender Service in accordance with Regulations. The publication of Notices will be undertaken by Strategic Procurement.
- 6.7 All Bidders should be informed of the outcome of a procurement process as soon as possible and at the same time. Unsuccessful Bidders should be provided with feedback on their submission. In a two-stage process they should be informed when they are eliminated from the process and advised of the reasons why they did not meet the standard to be shortlisted.
- 6.8 For ITTs above Regulation Threshold, where the evaluation criteria is most advantageous tender, then unsuccessful Bidders should be advised of their score against each criteria and weighted marks, the relative strengths and weaknesses of their proposal and the total score and price of the winning Bidder, in accordance with Regulations.
- 6.9 Information on the successful Bidder's proposal including the method of undertaking the work or a breakdown of the price should not be provided to unsuccessful Bidders. If there is any doubt advice should be sought from Strategic Procurement.

## **7 Supplier Questionnaire (SQ)**

- 7.1 For Contracts above £50k, before awarding a Contract, the Procuring Officer needs to ascertain whether any of the mandatory or discretionary exclusions, as set out in the SQ apply. A Contract must not be awarded to a Provider if a mandatory exclusion applies. For Contracts below £50k, only the leading Bidder should be required to complete a SQ prior to Contract award. Any concerns relating to mandatory or discretionary exclusion criteria should be referred to Strategic Procurement.
- 7.3 In the event that a discretionary exclusion applies, then the Provider should be requested to submit an explanation which details actions taken to rectify the situation. The Head of Strategic Procurement will assess the Provider's explanation and determine whether the Provider should be excluded.

## **8 Exemptions**

- 8.1 The CPRs ensure that the Council complies with its legal requirements and is fair and transparent with respect to how public money is spent. Only in exceptional

circumstances will approval be granted to do something different. Where this is needed an Exemption will be submitted by the Head of Service, reviewed by the Head of Strategic Procurement in consultation with Legal Services and approved in line with the Scheme of Delegation.

- 8.2 If the value of the Contract is greater than the Threshold for Works, Services and Supplies then approval must be sought from the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Head of Procurement and the Section 151 officer, to confirm that one of the exceptions within Regulations applies.
- 8.3 All Exemptions from these rules must be recorded using the Exemption Form and approved before entering into a Contract with a supplier.
- 8.4 Circumstances where time is lost through inadequate forward planning or any unnecessary delays will not constitute a reason to issue an Exemption and Procuring Officers should make adequate preparation in advance of commencing the procurement exercise.
- 8.5 An Exemption will only be approved if it is for one of the following reasons;
  - 8.5.1 Where there is an existing corporate Contract, and a service decides they do not wish to use the corporate Contract, a business case to justify this must be demonstrated. This should be included in the Exemption Request.
  - 8.5.2 Where there is only one supplier within the market. Evidence that this is the case and what investigation has been done to try and find other suppliers must be demonstrated. This should be included in the Exemption Request.
  - 8.5.3 Where the procurement activity is grant funded or the Council is matching grant funding and the original grant has been given conditionally on the use of a named supplier, group of suppliers or particular framework. A copy of the grant agreement or other evidence should be attached to the Exemption.
  - 8.5.4 Where services need to be procured as a matter of extreme urgency - e.g. in response to an emergency situation - and there is insufficient time to advertise. Justification should be included in the Exemption.
  - 8.5.5 Where software is being procured that must be compatible with an existing ICT system, or where ongoing licencing and maintenance Contract is only available from one ICT supplier, and the cost of change is uneconomic. A business case justifying this should be included in the Exemption.
  - 8.5.6 Where it would be in the interests of the efficient management of the service and represent best value to the council. A business case justifying this should be attached to the exemption.
- 8.7 If an Exemption is not approved then a change to what is being proposed will be required to comply with the CPRs. If it is impossible to do this then a non-compliance will be recorded by Strategic Procurement and notified to the Audit team. An action plan to avoid a repeat occurrence will be required.
- 8.8 Where there are repeated non-compliances in a service team, the relevant Budget Holder will produce a plan to assess the situation and propose remedial action to be taken. This plan will be provided to Audit Committee.

- 8.9 A list of both approved Exemptions and any non-compliances will be reported to Audit Committee annually.

## **9 Contract Management, Variations and Extensions**

- 9.1 As part of the pre-procurement activity, the officer who will be responsible for managing the Contract must be identified, known as the Contract Manager.
- 9.2 Reporting and monitoring processes appropriate to the size and nature of the Contract must be put in place to ensure that all obligations are fulfilled by the contracted parties. This includes the delivery of agreed Social Value targets.
- 9.3 All Contracts must be included and published on the Contracts Register maintained by Strategic Procurement in line with the Local Government Transparency Code 2014. This is a mandatory requirement and it is the responsibility of each Service to ensure that they have informed Strategic Procurement of the Contracts they are responsible for and provided them with the information necessary to update the Contracts Register accordingly.
- 9.4 Contracts may only be varied to implement minor changes which may include either increasing or decreasing the service or for services of a similar nature. Advice must be sought from Strategic Procurement and Legal Services.
- 9.5 Contracts can only be extended if options for extensions were included in the original Contract.
- 9.6 Contract variations and extensions must follow the same authorisation process as though they were new procurements. The relevant Thresholds for supplies, services, works and for the light touch regime, as defined in Regulations, apply.
- 9.7 If the value of the original Contract plus the sum of any extension or variation exceeds the Thresholds within these CPRs with the result that a different procurement process should have been used then an Exemption will need to be requested.

## **10 Social Care Contracts**

- 10.1 It is recognised that either because of service user choice or the nature of the market for specialist placements, and the requirements of the Care Act 2014, that for some types of social care Contracts, competitive procurement processes cannot be undertaken. Only Contracts for the following have specific exclusions from these CPRs;

### **10.2 Residential Care**

- 10.2.1 Residential Care placements are exempt from the full requirements of the CPRs. Sections 1,2,3,7 and 9 apply.
- 10.2.2 The Council will Contract with Residential Care Providers using a standard Contract. The Contract will set out a breakdown of the price that is set each year via the Council fee setting process. Any deviations from this standard Contract must be approved in advance by the relevant Integrated

Commissioning Strategic Lead officer who will consult with Legal and Strategic Procurement and liaise with the appropriate Executive Director.

10.2.3 If a weekly fee for an in-borough placement is higher than the standard fee then approval must be gained from the appropriate funding panel and/or relevant Team Manager, where they have delegated responsibility from the appropriate Executive Director, who will consult with the Integrated Commissioning Strategic Lead prior to agreeing the placement with the Provider.

10.2.4 For out of area placements for older people the fee per week must be the standard rate for the relevant local authority area. For placements where the fee per week is above this, approval must be gained from the appropriate funding panel and/or relevant Team Manager (where they have delegated responsibility from the appropriate Executive Director) who will consult with the Integrated Commissioning Strategic Lead prior to agreeing the placement with the Provider.

10.2.5 Where there is an emergency need and approval cannot practically be requested in advance (including by any on-call arrangements), then this should be notified to the relevant Team Manager and Integrated Commissioning Strategic Lead/ Contract & Commissioning Manager (Children's) as soon as possible and in all cases within 72 hours of the placement commencing.

10.2.6 In the event of the above occurring then the relevant Integrated Commissioning Strategic Lead/Contracts & Commissioning Manager should be advised as soon as practical.

### 10.3 **Social Care Frameworks**

10.3.1 Where a framework, Dynamic Purchasing System or alternative Flexible Purchasing System relating to Social Care is in place, e.g. foster care placements, children's residential care, learning disability and mental health packages, then the following will apply.

10.3.2 Where placements are made outside of the Framework Agreements, approval must be gained from the relevant Team Manager (where they have delegated responsibility from the appropriate Executive Director), who will consult with the Integrated Commissioning Strategic Lead/Contracts & Commissioning Manager prior to agreeing the placement with the Provider.

10.3.3 Prior to making an outside of Framework placement a breakdown of the price must be obtained from the Provider and value for money demonstrated. Advice should be sought from the relevant Integrated Commissioning Strategic Lead/Contracts & Commissioning Manager where the costs are more than the typical expected costs.

### 10.4 **Educational Placements**

10.4.1 Where the Council is required to pay for Education Placements these are generally required to be paid in advance and are not subject to competitive tendering. Prior to making a placement a breakdown of the price must be obtained from the Provider and value for money demonstrated.

10.4.2 Advice should be sought from the relevant Contracts & Commissioning Manager where the costs are significantly more than the typical expected costs.

## **11 Finance Leases excluding Land and Property**

- 11.1 Where a Contract requires the Council to enter into a finance or lease agreement then advice should be sought from the relevant Finance Officer in advance.
- 11.2 In addition to the Contract Award approvals required as set out in the table in Section 3, finance and lease agreements must be approved by the Section 151 officer prior to signing.

## **12 Concessions and Revenue Earning Contracts**

- 12.1 Any procurement of a Concession Contract should be carried out in accordance with these Rules
- 12.2 Prior to the Council awarding a Concession or entering into a revenue earning Contract, whether in its own right or with a commercial partner, approval of the commercial arrangements and Contract terms and conditions must be obtained from the Section 151 officer and from Legal Services.
- 12.3 Where the Concession or revenue has a value greater than the Threshold or has a significant risk profile (as assessed by the Section 151 officer and Legal Services) then approval is required from Cabinet prior to entering into the agreement.
- 12.4 Where the Council is a Bidder and submitting a proposal or tender in response to a contract opportunity then approval must be obtained from the relevant Executive Director and the Section 151 officer. Where the Contract has a value greater than the Threshold for Services and Supplies or has a significant risk profile (as assessed by the Section 151 officer and Legal Services) then approval is required from Cabinet prior to submitting the proposal or tender.
- 12.5 Advice from Legal Services must be sought prior to commencing any work on compiling a proposal or tender to determine if the Council has the power to enter into the Contract.

## **13 Disposal of Assets excluding Land and Property**

- 13.1 The disposal of assets excluding land and property must comply with the following
  - A minimum of 3 competitive bids must be invited if the goods have an estimated value greater than £5,000 and up to £25,000.
  - A minimum of 4 sealed bids must be invited if the goods have an estimated value greater than £25,000. Alternatively, disposal can be by sale by auction. The Section 151 officer should be consulted in advance of the decision on disposal route.
  - The highest value unconditional bid received should be accepted unless in the view of the Section 151 officer a conditional bid offers better value to the Council

## **14 Disposal of Land and Property**

- 14.1 Where land or premises are to be disposed of by competitive tender the procedure for receipt and opening tenders shall be as determined by the Executive Director of Place.



- 14.2 Tenders must contain a declaration as to whether the person submitting the tender is a Member or Officer of the Council or whether so related.
- 14.3 A tender may be accepted by the Executive Director of Place after consulting with the appropriate Cabinet Member subject to the following conditions being met:
- highest tender to be accepted except where the evaluation criteria are based upon Most Advantageous Tender in which case the tender that achieves the highest score in the assessment must be accepted;
  - where the evaluation criteria is based upon the highest tender the price represents the best price that could be reasonably obtained;
  - the tender accords with the "particulars/conditions of sale";
  - where the evaluation criteria are not based upon Most Advantageous Tender the tender does not include any non-financial considerations.
- 14.4 If any of the conditions in Rule 14.3 are not met or if the tender to be accepted is from a Member or Officer or a relative of such person the sale shall be determined by the Cabinet.

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<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>The Council</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Leaders' Report</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Non key decision</b>
<b>Ward(s) to which the report relates:</b>	All Wards.
<b>Summary:</b>	To provide a summary of the work of the Cabinet since this last report, an update on progress against the corporate plan, and a statement from the Leader of the Council.

## **1 Leader's note**

- 1.1 I am pleased to provide Council with my report covering the period from 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 to 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- 1.2 The cost-of-living crisis continues to weigh heavily on the shoulders of the people in our borough. The Government has offered little to no further support in the Autumn Statement, but at Bury Council we are doing what we can despite our limited financial resources to ensure our residents can get the support they need across this winter.
- 1.3 Prior to the Autumn Statement I, along with Bury businesses, charities, community groups and councillors called on the Chancellor to give Bury a fair funding deal to cope with the cost-of-living crisis. The letter explained that for over a decade we have seen increasing demand for services, and in recent months this has escalated even further with more and more households requiring help. The letter then called on the Government to intervene with a series of measures designed to help those in need, and better fund the institutions which support those in need. I look forward to sharing the Chancellor's response.
- 1.4 At the November Cabinet meeting we brought a report which recognised the actions which have taken place following the publication of our Anti-Poverty Strategy, and approved proposals for allocating the Household Support Fund. This includes a provision of free-school meals vouchers to cover school holiday periods, those on income related benefits which aren't Universal Credit, vouchers to support the energy costs of those who have living equipment which requires electricity, vouchers to support the

energy costs of care leavers up to the age of 25, proactive targeting of deprived households, and provisions of resilience support to community support groups.

- 1.5 Following the cost-of-living summit held in early September and the positive reaction from attendees, we held a follow-up event to continue important discussions with our partners about how we better work together to deliver for the residents of our borough.
- 1.6 At the November Cabinet meeting I was delighted to award the Freedom of the Borough honour to six people who have demonstrated a strong and continuing connection with, and commitment to, the borough; or have made a major contribution to national life and, in doing so, have enhanced the reputation of the borough. Among the recipients this year are former councillors and mayors Trevor Holt, Roy Walker, and Dorothy Gunter. The others are Itzik Alterman, a Holocaust survivor who uses his experiences to do vital Holocaust education work; and Akram Baig, chief executive of the Jinnah Day Care Centre in Bury which, among other activities, provides care to the area's elderly Asian community.
- 1.7 In November our commitment to honouring our veterans was further awarded when we were presented with a Silver award from the Ministry of Defence for actively supporting the armed forces community in our workplace. The Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) encourages organisations which champion the armed forces and encourage others to follow suit. This includes employing serving and former members of the armed forces community and demonstrating flexibility towards training and mobilisation commitments for Reservists and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers. We had previously been awarded bronze status, but it is a fantastic compliment for us to have been presented with the silver award.

## 2 Reporting progress against stated commitments in Corporate Plan

- 2.1 The following table provides a brief summary of the Council's progress against the priorities set out in our Corporate Plan covering August 2022 to October 2022.

Dept	Priority	Deliverables
BGI	Developing Bury Market & Flexi Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION</b> – Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Stage 2 is complete and the team are developing RIBA Stage 3 outputs, including planning documentation. Initial consultation has been undertaken with key stakeholders and officers held a public session with Market Traders on the 21st of September. Pre-planning advice has been received through the Bury Planning team and an external design review</li> </ul>

		<p>has now been completed (06/10) for the project. Following receipt of this feedback, the development team have been tasked with revising the design of the market canopy. The revised options will be reviewed by the Council on the 14th of November. Further work will also begin on landscape design work for public realm areas on the 23rd of November. This will take 2-3 weeks, the results of which will be presented for approval alongside other design improvements to Regeneration Board on the 2nd of December. Consultation is continuing with the Market Traders Association and other stakeholders during this period to ensure that they are kept informed with more detailed presentations and events in the New Year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LAND ASSMEBLY</b> – CBRE have now made offers to assemble the remaining 3 properties required to deliver the development. The offer presented to the casino operator has been immediately rejected and CBRE are undertaking further discussions. The sale of 2 Princess Parade has now been agreed and a paper will be presented to Cabinet to progress matters.</li> <li>• <b>OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT</b> - Internal work has been carried out to agree an operations management strategy for the flexi hall. The market is now being tested to select an external operator.</li> <li>• <b>MONITORING / REPORTING</b> - Monitoring reports to Department for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) will be submitted in November and will now include more detailed outcome/benefits realisation information which is now required by Civil Servants.</li> </ul>
	Radcliffe Hub Levelling Up programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION</b> - RIBA Stage Three is complete, and a VE exercise is currently underway to ensure the project remains within the approved budget envelope. Forecast commencement date for main contract works is currently 8 weeks behind programme due to re-design of the building facade, with enabling works due to commence at the start of 2023. The planning application for the temporary modular unit to house Freak Dance is to</li> </ul>

		<p>be submitted on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov, on the Railway Street site (amended from the library car park)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CONSULTATION/COMMS</b> - Community Engagement events are now complete. Reports on feedback have been shared with colleagues from Operations for their review. Report due to be uploaded to webpages by end of November</li> <li>• <b>COMMERCIAL</b> – Negotiations ongoing to reach an agreement on vacant possession with Boots</li> <li>• <b>TEMPORARY/ENABLING WORKS</b> - Decant planning ongoing with Radcliffe Market operator and traders. Project remains on programme, with the majority of Utility diversion works now been instructed. Dialogue is ongoing with BT Openreach and Cadet in relation to fibre cable and gas main diversions</li> <li>• <b>MONITORING/REPORTING</b> - DLUHC report on project progress has been submitted, support will be required to progress benefits realisation plan as a priority</li> </ul>
	Radcliffe SRF including: - Housing - North Block - Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deloitte has been appointed to deliver a multi-disciplinary study and recommendations which will baseline plans for parking on the Radcliffe Hub alongside wider development opportunities in the Town. Commission will reference recent progress and design development for the Radcliffe Hub, the SOBC plans for the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and developments at the new High School and the East Lancs Papermill sites.</li> <li>• East Lancs Paper Mill site Reserved Matters application due in December 2022.</li> </ul>
	Delivering the Prestwich Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Joint Venture (JV) Agreement</b> - Joint Venture Agreement, Option Agreement and Development Management Agreement all in final stages for sign off.</li> <li>• <b>Design and Planning</b> - RIBA stage 1 Preparation and Design work: Design team working on draft Masterplan, cost plan, financial modelling, and business case in preparation for RIBA Stage 1 report by Jan 2023. Hub Building engagement scoping session with Health 14th November to establish interest in the Hub from health perspective</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Comms and Engagement</b> - Mid November Comms and Engagement activity due to commence running for a period of 5 weeks, webinar, drop-in sessions at Prestwich Library, Newsletter, and social media campaign</li> <li>• <b>Vacant Possession (VP)</b> - Operational work on the lease renewals, tenancy engagement, and agreeing HoTs for the Vacant units. VP strategy to be developed for the LSC</li> </ul>
	Delivering the Bury Town Centre Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bury Town Centre Advisory Board has been established along with several subgroups. Meetings of the Flexi Hall &amp; Interchange subgroups have taken place. Millgate JV have appointed an architectural team to develop a centre masterplan – draft report imminent.</li> <li>• Meetings continue with regards to the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the new Interchange.</li> <li>• A proposal has been submitted to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to fund some public space enhancements.</li> <li>• Work in progress to produce a high-level programme/project plan that will be used to monitor progress and overall delivery of the masterplan. Additional support has been secured from the Council's Delivery Unit to support its further development.</li> <li>• The new, business led, Bury Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) has now been established, with scope to support the delivery of the masterplan. Bury BID report requested by Overview &amp; Scrutiny for their November 22 meeting.</li> <li>• Meetings with Strategic Transport lead regarding borough-wide transport strategy and Bury Parking provision</li> </ul>
	Assets disposed of in line with the Land Disposal Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme continuing – active steps being taken to move transacted deals through the legal process</li> <li>• Closing bids for the sale of Summerseat House received and under review</li> <li>• Marketing of former Police Station site commenced.</li> <li>• Preparation for further housing sites to go to the market</li> </ul>

	Delivery of the Economic Development Strategy including embedded all age skills strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase 2 initiation meeting held with Hatch</li> <li>• Outline structure prepared - Will be presented to Economic Development strategy steering Group &amp; Business Leadership Group in November.</li> <li>• Meetings held with key officers from across the Council to introduce the strategy and gain their support for helping to input into shaping the document. Proformas to be sent out seeking information on issues, strategies, and actions. Meetings with Hatch and the steering group continue.</li> </ul>
	Delivery of activity associated with the progression of the Bury Local Plan: Places for Everyone (PfE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All statements in response to the Inspectors' Matters Issues and Questions submitted.</li> <li>• Hearing sessions commenced on 1 November and scheduled to finish at the end of March 2023</li> </ul>
	Delivery of Brownfield Housing Site Sales Programme	<p>Continuing to progress delivery of Brownfield Tranche 1 and 2 sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• William Kemp Heaton - various surveys and ground investigations underway.</li> <li>• Wheatfields – exchanged contracts 28.10.22, deposit monies received 31.10.22. Planning ap determination due Dec 2022.</li> <li>• Willow St - pre-app to be determined.</li> <li>• Fletcher Fold – report going to Cabinet 16 Nov for disposal to a registered provider. Red book valuation received. Procurement brief being prepared.</li> <li>• Pipeline of sites in place, prioritisation of sites in line with updated Accelerated Land Disposal Programme (ALDP) commenced:</li> <li>• School St – preparing legals to exchange contracts 29/11/22</li> <li>• Seedfield site - exchanged and deposit received 10/11/22 and planning app submitted 11/11/22</li> <li>• ELPM site –Cabinet report seeking approval for revised offer 16th November 2022.</li> <li>• Green St – Exchange and deposit received on 4/10/22. Planning app due in 14th October.</li> <li>• Humphrey House – Growth Location funding sought for due diligence work for Build to rent apartment scheme.</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Townside close 100% affordable homes scheme being scoped.</li> <li>• Pyramid Park – Soft market testing commenced and joint master plan with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) being scoped.</li> <li>• Housing Propositions on Townships scoped to understand current mix of houses and what new homes are needed to achieve desired mix and affordability.</li> </ul>
CYP	Delivery of activity within the OFSTED Improvement Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ofsted monitoring visit on 12 &amp; 13 October 2022</li> <li>• Children's event on 29 September 2022 for the whole service to launch the Threshold Document (Continuum of Need), the Revised Early Help Strategy and to share plans for the Family Safeguarding model.</li> <li>• Introduction of Teaching Tuesdays to deliver training and close the loop on our learning cycle</li> <li>• Diagnostic work undertaken by Hertfordshire in preparation for the implementation of the Family Safeguarding model.</li> <li>• Further work on the recruitment and retention offers for front line SW practitioners – outline proposals re international recruitment, business support pilot, enhanced offer for those in front line safeguarding.</li> <li>• Review of children in high-cost placements completed.</li> </ul>
	Support to deliver the Schools Capital Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Star Leadership Academy Radcliffe – Detailed planning and delivery programme to be developed during autumn term. Planning application expected January 2023. Pre-application discussions on planning/highways underway. Lease agreement close to completion mid-October. Start on site anticipated July 2023, with completion of main school building August 2024, and site works by October 2024.</li> <li>• Detailed programme for adaptation of Spurr House in place and financial approval to proceed in place. Adaptation works to be completed autumn term 2023. Actual relocation date to be confirmed but prior to the required vacant possession date on the Spring Lane site.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good progress made in respect of ASC Special Free School, with planning application secured May 2022. Identification of first cohort is now a priority, to inform engagement between parents and school for intake in autumn 2023.</li> <li>• New secondary Social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) Special School competition closed, with 7 expressions of interest received. Expected to translate to 6 applications by closing date in mid-October. Local authority (LA) evaluation panel to be established late October to produce draft short list that will then be subject to moderation with Department for Education (DfE). Final selection interviews February 2023. Draft Heads of Terms for site nearing completion with Property Services and Legal services. On target for practical completion and opening September 2025.</li> <li>• Draft application for Special Free School 3 produced, submission mid October 2022.</li> <li>• Schools Capital Board established; Terms of reference produced, and draft Capital Strategy developed. Ongoing discussions with Mace for technical support for delivery. Round table workshop held early October to refine terms of reference/governance</li> <li>• Discussions with proposed sponsors on the development of new Alternative Provision (AP) DfE competition.</li> </ul>
	Delivery activity within the Safety Valve programme (PSV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSV submission went in during September 2022.</li> <li>• The Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) Team have commenced the online Special Educational Needs (SEND) Training in preparation for the face to face 4-day joint training with parents and DfE (training on affective communication / chairing skills / person centred approaches); training took place on the 22nd/27th September and a further session is planned in October.</li> <li>• Meeting held with the Council for Disabled Children regarding joint work with us around the developing collaborative policy and practice around children who are deemed Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAs)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress development of new provision – autistic spectrum condition (ASC) Special Free School secured planning permission; SEMH Special Free School timescale agreed for expressions of interest; draft application for primary Speech, language and communication needs (SCLN) Special School being finalised with submission mid October 2022. ongoing discussions with schools about development of Resourced Provision; additional capacity to be identified to support the standardisation of the offer across Bury</li> <li>• SEND event took place on 6th October 2022 to launch the graduated response</li> <li>• Contract monitoring for First Point held in September 2022; this has resulted in an established schedule of contract monitoring throughout the year</li> <li>• Progress continues to be made within agreed time frame on the redesign of request to assessment &amp; Advice for Education Health Care Plans</li> <li>• In September 2022 we have introduced a process for QA feedback forms with all parents at the end of the EHCP process</li> <li>• Reworking the finance strategy and approach in light of increased expenditure of out of borough Places.</li> <li>• Work undertaken to identify possible satellite provision &amp; ongoing discussions with schools with regards to an increased continuum of provision</li> </ul>
	Improve education outcomes at all Key Stages (KS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing analysis of the provisional data received for early years foundation stage (EYFS). Key Stage 1 &amp; Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 &amp; Key Stage 5 – detailed analysis will be provided through Scrutiny. EYFS declined at a greater rate than national; KS1 in line with national and expected but challenges at greater depth; KS2 in line with national; KS4 an improving picture but awaiting national comparators; KS5 similarly initial results in line with national and awaiting national comparators</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Above analysis being used to risk assess school; revise the school tool kit and inform brokered school to school support.</li> <li>• Health checks and other brokered support in schools identified as causing concern</li> <li>• Increase in proportion of good or better schools with 91% of primary schools good or better. Reports following inspection during the latter part of the summer term now published – St Michael's (Special Measures) and St Stephen's (requires Improvement). Philips High still to be published.</li> <li>• National Exclusion data published for 2020/21. Bury has reduced its permanence exclusion rate from 0.05 – 0.03 (National 0.05); Suspension rates have increased in Bury to 4.45 and are now at national.</li> </ul>
	Review of Early Years Services against the 1001 days pathway and GMCA 8 stage delivery model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The review has been completed; we are now in consultation on recruitment to key posts which will progress following consultation final agreement of the restructure at the end of September</li> <li>• The Family Hub transformation lead has now been appointed and started on 4th October. This will bring some capacity and traction to the implementation plan</li> </ul>
	Develop locality teams to a Family Hub model through Bury East pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entered delivery stage of the model</li> <li>• There is some delay in progressing the implementation of the Family Hub due to a review of buildings as Redvales which is the identified site is part of the review</li> <li>• Transformation lead now in place to take this agenda forward</li> </ul>
	Increasing attendance levels through a strengthened strategic approach to attendance and by the expansion of the role of the Virtual school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Model attendance policy produced and shared with all schools. Supporting guidance being produced for circulation to schools (mid-October)</li> <li>• Review of school attendance service level agreement (SLA) offer under review. Commitment to honour for schools already buying-back, and new LA funded universal offer to be available from January 2023</li> </ul>

	Develop SEND integrated transparent pathways through the revised Graduated Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduated response work completed and now be progressed onto the portal – Generic launch took place at the SEND Information Day on the 06-10-22 as planned</li> <li>• Multi Agency Training to commence in November onwards</li> <li>• Linked work within Early Years underway to support the development of the SEND Support that links into the Graduated Response -</li> <li>• Next step is the work around the post 16 work on Graduated Response</li> </ul>
	Increase the proportion of 16–25-year-olds with SEND in employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training around the annual review process to ensure that the Transition paperwork is embedded to support this agenda concluded on the 18th October</li> <li>• Team now using the preparing for Adulthood framework within the writing of EHCP plans to support aspirational work</li> <li>• Transition pathway steering group meet monthly</li> <li>• Joint review of 14-25 option with adult has been completed with recommendation around development or service offer</li> </ul>
	Improve the outcomes of SEND children and young people so they attain educationally to the best of their ability and potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance continues to stabilise through strengthening data performance and the embedded performance clinics / weekly reporting</li> <li>• Team is now working on the phased transfer action plan to ensure we completed this activity within time scale</li> <li>• Joint training with the Council For Disabled children concluded on the 18th October which support our improvement on quality and focus on clear outcomes which should support Children and Young People meet their full potential</li> </ul>
Ops	Develop the Wellness model and prepare to move existing provision to the new Radcliffe Hub (Ops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport England full bid for Radcliffe Hub submitted £1.5m</li> <li>• Community engagement re design and layout complete.</li> <li>• Full Wellness investment business plan developed.</li> <li>• Prep work underway for Planning Application.</li> <li>• Operational Plan for Radcliffe Hub developed</li> </ul>

	improvement plan)	
	Achieve carbon neutrality by 2038 and be single use plastic free across the Council by end 2022/23	Develop business case together to use Go Neutral - This will be progressed for corporate buildings once the asset rationalisation project is complete and there is an understanding of what buildings the council will keep going forwards. Feasibility studies carried out for 2 primary schools suggest solar PV could be beneficial and could therefore make use of Go Neutral. Liaised with Childrens Services to investigate how we should approach/prioritise the schools. A meeting has taken place with GM Community Renewables to gather information on their model for installation of solar on schools.
	Highway resurfacing and preventative maintenance (delivery of Highway Investment Strategy (HIS) - Tranche 2) and Improvement programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision made on HIS3* strategy (3-year highway programme). Work continues on the development of the strategy and will be shared with Cllr Quinn and Cllr Peel November 22.</li> <li>Continue planning and programme development of HIS3. Prioritisation will follow after Nov/Dec with a report going to cabinet in Q3.</li> </ul>
	Ops Improvement Plan - Corporate Landlord implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed disposal programme with advice from Robertsons</li> <li>Developed Corporate Landlord structure.</li> <li>Development of Neighbourhood Asset Review (Lead BGI).</li> <li>Building conditions surveys, including health and safety to be completed.</li> </ul>
	Introduction of Clean Air Zone for Greater Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater Manchester has now published a case for a new investment-led Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan, with no charging Clean Air Zone. This was submitted to government on 1 July 2022 and still awaiting a response.</li> <li>Participatory engagement approach delivered via early stakeholder engagement.</li> </ul>
	Introduction of a women's safety charter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Safety coordinating training video to help licensed premises meet WSC commitments.</li> </ul>

	(WSC) (voluntary pledge for all licensed premises)	<p>Video production expected to be completed in November 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web forms and webpage finalised and will go live following WSC launch.</li> </ul>
	Develop a Driver Safety initiative for the Taxi Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Consultation open for licensed drivers 26/6/2022-9/8/2022 (6 Weeks).</li> <li>• Consultation now completed - 421 aware participants with 83 contributors to the consultation. Separate focus group completed by Trade Engagement Officer. Consultation findings report being drafted, and findings will be used to develop the initiative and training video.</li> </ul>
OCO	Managing and overseeing transition to ICS	Development work continues. Confirmation of Deputy Place Based Lead
	Health and Care System Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) Improvement Plan continues</li> <li>• Winter Planning Sub-Group met three times now, Directory of Services being updated, Admission Avoidance schemes being updated</li> <li>• Presentation for Locality Board submitted</li> <li>• GM System Operational Response Taskforce additional schemes (£900) submitted</li> <li>• Virtual Ward continues to progress at Fairfield General Hospital (FGH)</li> <li>• Northern Care Alliance (NCA) Four Localities work on no reason to reside ongoing, control Room established at FGH</li> </ul>
	Deliver the government's adult social care reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult Social Care Reform Program board established, and programme manager recruited</li> <li>• Fair Cost of care submission 14th October submitted</li> </ul>
	Population Health system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First cohorts of L1 &amp; L2 Health Improvement courses delivered</li> <li>• 'Path to Pantry' toolkit for Bury Foodbanks on Bury Directory</li> <li>• Completed Wellbeing strategy and business case which was approved at locality board</li> <li>• Developed an older people winter support pack (distributed during covid boosters and flu jabs) with key information around vaccinations, keeping</li> </ul>

		<p>warm, physical activity, financial support, self-care, mental wellbeing and keeping safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carried out an evaluation of the Move More Live Well Health Improvement Fund</li> <li>• Recruited the 'Start Well, Public Health Practitioner' role</li> <li>• Facilitated the 'Connect 5' Mental Wellbeing training across Bury through the Voluntary, Community, Faith Alliance (VCFA)</li> <li>• Facilitated a multi-agency substance misuse workshop agreeing a system approach to delivering new national strategy 'Harm to Hope'</li> <li>• Continued roll out of COVID-19 and flu vaccine programme. Completion of care home roll out. Revised vaccine governance in place with single vaccine assurance group covering all vaccination programmes.</li> <li>• First meeting of newly formed Screening Assurance Group to bring oversight to screening programmes commissioned under s7a of the NS Act 2006.</li> </ul>
Corp Core	Embedding the Neighbourhood Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Anti-poverty</b> - Planning underway for second Anti-Poverty summit in Nov. New details of Household Support Fund received including cover for Oct Half Term.</li> <li>• <b>Culture Strategy</b> - Draft report produced for November Cabinet, now delayed to December. Budget consultation on Bury Art Gallery underway.</li> <li>• <b>Bury East People Plan</b> - Draft with Bury Town Centre Board for sign-off. Further work undertaken to embed culture and to incorporate social value offer from lead contract on the Bury Town Masterplan.</li> </ul>
	Getting the basics right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LETS Values &amp; behaviours framework: Launch planned for 15<sup>th</sup> Nov</li> <li>• Problem solving training delivered to senior managers</li> <li>• iTrent: MFA / Single sign on launched. Plan for further functionality implementation between now and April 23 on track</li> <li>• Social media policy: Social Media policy due to Cllr Gold for approval on 17 Nov</li> <li>• New Website: Initial designs shared, and addition content migration resource identified.</li> </ul>



		<p>User acceptance testing to commence in November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital Team – implementation of new operating model: Phase One completed – scoping the As-Is position. All staff interviewed and feedback received by management team. Phase Two commenced re design of the new TOM and accompanying staff structure</li> <li>Review of Bury ACEs completed and new model live</li> </ul>
	Delivery of the Internal Transformation Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Channel shift: December Cabinet report will start consultation with staff.</li> <li>M365 training rolled out: Programme delivery underway and plan of action for utilisation of remaining support time agreed by Programme Board</li> <li>Anti-Social Behaviour Policy review: Draft policy approved at Portfolio. To be presented to the Community Safety Partnership on the 8th of December 2022</li> <li>Legal Services restructure: Job descriptions drafted. Following evaluation finalised structure will proceed to formal consultation. Ongoing staff meetings to ensure staff are engaged with the restructure proposals</li> <li>Corporate business support service: Service live and paper on progress agreed by Exec. Further work to manage operational issues in Children's and Operations underway and planning for phase 2 savings commenced</li> </ul>
	People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff survey: Pulse survey 2 results shared and action planning underway. Planning for Survey 3 in December</li> <li>Adult Education Improvement Plan: Learner numbers now higher than at any point in 2021. Further work being undertaken to link with Prevent training and safeguarding awareness. Adult Ed now represented on the Radcliffe People &amp; Communities Steering Group.</li> </ul>

### 3 Additional reports

- 3.1 Attached as an appendix to this report are a summary of Cabinet decisions and urgent decisions taken since the last ordinary council meeting.

**List of Background Papers:-**

None identified

**(i) Urgent Cabinet Decision – 10 November 2022**  
**Re. NHS GM Financial Support to Discharge of Hospital Patients - Bury**  
**Adult Social Care Contribution**

**Decision taken:**

Bury Council Adult Social Care to receive £672,548 from NHS GM to facilitate hospital discharge process and be spent upon:

- £512,523 received to fund 16 additional discharge to assess beds until 14th May 2023 (including multi-disciplinary team support to reviews and discharge from this service).
- £160,025 received to fund upfront block booked care at home for a total 320 hours per week until 14th May 2023 to effect immediate additional capacity in the system to support hospital discharge.

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

NHS GM released funds to support Bury health and social care system facilitate hospital discharges.

This funding has been released at short notice and services are to be commissioned and in use as soon as possible.

An urgent decision was required as waiting for the next Cabinet meeting would delay the delivery of the services that will be provided with this funding.

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## GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 OCTOBER 2022

### MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY REFRESH

1. Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities, presented the report which presented the mid-year review of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which ran to 2025/26. This had been undertaken as a matter of good practice and in the context of the unprecedented inflationary and demand pressures being experienced so far this year.
2. The review indicated a provisional budget deficit of £29.204m in 2023/24; a further gap of £3.475m in 2024/25 and a further £5.866m in 2025/26, and the report set out a range of options to address this deficit as a basis for consultation with affected stakeholders. Members noted this was a challenging picture but was one being faced by Councils across the country. Cross-party concerns were being raised nationally, and the response from the Government through the settlement figures expected in December would be crucial.
3. Members discussed the information and, in response to Members' questions, the following was noted:
  - Sufficient strategic capacity was important in ensuring the Council could run efficiently, but despite proposed reductions Chief Officer pay would remain competitive and was only one of Bury's attractions as an employer.
  - Rationalisation of buildings was a complex project and was progressing more slowly than expected. The balancing act of where to accommodate people and services was complicated, and it was noted that sale prices would also be affected by current utility costs and inflation.
  - Savings being made to strategic finance had been realised through the careful line-by-line review of budgets. Some savings were only achievable now that skills and capacity had been developed in a number of teams, and also through the maturation of longer term workplans and strategies.
  - Transformational changes were progressing, and the adaptability of staff demonstrated the relevance of internal transformation still to come.
  - It was agreed that fly tipping was a problem but increases to commercial waste management costs were rising to meet the rise in operating costs from inflation rather than trying to secure a profit.
  - The Council worked closely with community groups in the borough, and the Let's strategy supported more liaison with the community as they were often better placed to offer help and support to residents. This was not an attempt for local groups to pick up Council work, but a different and more efficient way of working that had been part of long-term plans since before Covid.
  - The Council was exploring options regarding the service offer from the art gallery and costs would be considered as part of this, however outcomes were currently unknown as the options appraisal was still ongoing.
  - With regards to management structures, proposals agreed with the budget papers last year agreed to move to a flatter structure, with reductions in the number of managers needed and the number of levels of management, and this was progressing.
  - It was noted that staffing impacts were across the Council, not just frontline staff, and would be subject to full consultative processes.
4. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

## **BURY PROCUREMENT STRATEGY**

5. Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities, presented the report which set out proposals for a new Procurement Strategy for Bury Council. The current Procurement Strategy 'Buying into Bury' expired in 2015 and required a comprehensive review for it to be a more strategic approach rather than operational and to bring it up to date. In response to Members' questions it was noted that although a full refresh had not been undertaken since 2015, improvements and revisions had been undertaken by degrees, and the move to STAR procurement had offered the best opportunity for a full review to ensure strategic consistency.
6. In response to further questions, it was noted that although it would not be on the scale of larger Councils, Bury did have the digital capacity to strengthen and maximise the use of the e-tendering platform and opportunities to streamline processes through digitalisation. With regards to learning from other organisations, it was noted that a wealth of national, regional and local strategies and legislation influenced procurement activity.
7. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

## **UPDATE ON THE DISPOSAL OF BROWNFIELD LAND AT SCHOOL STREET, SEEDFIELD (FORMER SCHOOL SITE) AND GREEN STREET**

8. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills, presented the report which provided an update on the disposal of three council owned sites on Brownfield land: Seedfields school site, School Street, and Green Street in Radcliffe.
9. It was noted that the proposed developments will deliver 309 new homes including 142 Affordable homes as well as recreational contributions via S.106 agreements and enable the Council to deliver the aspirations of the Radcliffe SRF and the Councils Let's Do It Housing strategy. The commercial terms for contracting with Hive Homes on the School St and Seedfield sites had been confirmed via independent Red Book valuations and the offer received from Watson Homes at Green St had also been verified by the same method. The off-market solution offered by Hive Homes and Watson Homes offered best value and accelerated housing delivery programmes, with the benefit of Brownfield Housing Funding on the School Street and Seedfield sites helping to unlock this brownfield site for the benefit of families, including those on lower incomes.
10. In response to some comments from opposition Councillors regarding availability of brownfield land, and crime and deprivation levels in the area, the Leader responded that if brownfield sites were not utilised then development would be needed on greenbelt land, which was not something the Council wanted to pursue. He advised of the high ambitions for Radcliffe, that it was a great place to live and therefore was a key site for development and regeneration. The Council were developing a new school, new housing sites (including affordable housing), new leisure facilities, and a new civic hub, as well as a People and Communities plan in addition to this physical regeneration. He acknowledged there were challenges but stated that the positives of the area should be recognised and improved, which is what the Council were doing with its current investment and development plans.
11. Other opposition Councillors voiced their support of the report, recognising that this addressed the need to regenerate the area, with the Council's plans using its own investment as well as Government funding.
12. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT HOUSING SERVICES - ADULLAM BURY BRIDGES SERVICE**

13. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health, and Wellbeing, presented the report which sought to extend contractual supported accommodation service arrangements with Adullam Bury Bridges.
14. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GM INTEGRATED CARE PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

15. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health, and Wellbeing, presented the report which sought to establish the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership (GM ICP) as a joint committee and to agree the terms of reference for the GM ICP.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES OFSTED UPDATE**

17. Geoff Little, Chief Executive of Bury Council, provided an update on the progress of the Children's Services Improvement Programme, which focused on the verbal feedback received after the 2-day monitoring visit that had taken place last week. It was noted that the verbal feedback might differ from the formal written feedback that would be included in a Cabinet report in November. The monitoring visit was effectively to a mini inspection, with the Ofsted inspection team speaking to social workers and senior leaders in the department, as well as going through records of individual cases and viewing a range of documents.
18. Scope
19. The inspection team were looking at quality and impact of plans that related to individual children and their families, in particular cases that were stepped up to Children In Need from Child Protection, and the process of how cases were stepped up and down from work preceding court proceedings. They also looked at children where risk had escalated to the point of family breakdown. In looking at those areas they triangulated improvements made in the service as a whole, including workforce, performance management, management oversight and supervision, and quality assurance.
20. Key findings
  - No cases of children at immediate risk of harm
  - Most cases were being held at the right level of threshold
  - No formal escalations of cases from the inspectors to the management team
21. Overall, the inspection team acknowledged we had now established a permanent leadership team that fully understood the issues faced and knew the improvement journey would take time. Recognition was received from the team that we are going in the right direction, that we have established foundations of support for improvement, and that leadership is visible. The inspection team saw pockets of improvement in practice, demonstrating that frontline practice is starting to improve.
22. The most important issue raised was already known: workforce. Caseloads were too high, the number of social workers that children see was changing too frequently, and there was too high a proportion of agency staff leading to drift and delay in cases being dealt with. We were able to show inspectors we have made progress in overall staffing levels, that we are recruiting more staff, working on recruitment from abroad, improvements to the level and quality of business support (so social workers could focus on cases), and how we are further increasing, in some areas, rates of pay to attract social workers. The inspection team also noted the support the wider Council was giving to the department, the investment being put in to radically change the structure of the department and increase the number of posts. It

was noted that supervision in some of our internal teams was inconsistent and variable and needed further work (which had begun).

23. Geoff outlined five areas of detail:

- Quality assurance – the framework we had adopted since the inspection was now working and enabled us to gather evidence of impact of practice. However it wasn't always being used consistently to record the views of children and families, and opportunities were still being missed to listen to children in that process. But overall a significant improvement was noted in quality assurance.
  - How Children In Need cases are stepped up into Child Protection Plans was seen as appropriate. Better practice was noted in the way we are working with our partners in strategy meetings, though not as evident in child protection meetings, and there were still issues regarding high levels of agency staff and children seeing too many different social workers.
  - Pre court proceedings stage – improvements had been made, and the number of cases in this part of the system had increased, doubling since the original inspection. This was positive progress as we were intervening when things getting worse, and cases then stepped down after action was taken was at 65%. However, there was still some drift and delay owing to access to the right specialist services (e.g. therapy or domestic abuse services)
  - Where cases were stepped down from Children In Need to Early Help, inspectors saw a clear focus on the need and the services to be delivered, and that was happening at the right level and in the right way to support changes in families. Good, shared decision making was also noted.
  - With regards to children being under the disability team, although only a small sample of cases were looked at, most were found to have good, up to date assessments of need, the worries of parents about their children were well considered, and plans for the children were up to date with good partner agency processes in forming those plans. However, the daily lived experience of children wasn't always sufficiently reflected.
24. Overall, Geoff advised that verbal feedback showed we are on the right path and that the direction of travel was good. It was noted that written feedback yet to be received might differ, but it was hoped that it would show we have the firm basis for improvement.
25. Cabinet noted the update.

#### **APPOINTMENTS UPDATE**

26. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which set out amendments to the appointments made at the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 25th May 2022.
27. Cabinet noted the appointments.

### **GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2022**

#### **QUARTER 2 MONITORING REPORT**

28. Councillor Gold presented the Quarter two Financial monitoring report. The report outlines the forecast financial position of the Council at the end of 2022/23 based on the information known at the end of the second quarter, 30th September 2022. The report sets out the position for both revenue and capital and provides an analysis of the variances, both under and overspending.



29. Members discussed the information and, in response to Members' questions, the following was noted:
- With regards to the progress of the Council's Capital projects; following formulation and inclusion in the budget process further work is undertaken and more detailed proposals are progressed. The detailed proposals will take account of external factors that may affect their progression including; inflation/supply chain issues.
  - The Leader gave an assurance that further information in respect of the Capital programme will be shared at a future Cabinet meeting.
  - The proposed savings in relation to the Admin buildings project; the Section 151 Officer reported that staff have now vacated Whittaker Street generating a part year saving; staff will vacate Humphrey House in next financial year, any savings in relation to this will not be realised until the next financial year.
  - Savings predicted in relation to procurement continue to be monitored but may be allocated to departments. Star Procurement have been brought in to undertake a review of the Council's current procurement arrangements.
  - There is a £2.5 billion overspend across all local authority areas.
  - Members were notified that a report on the progress of transformation will be a December Cabinet item.
30. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **TREASURY MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

31. Councillor Gold, Cabinet member for Finance and Communities presented to Members of the Cabinet a Treasury Management update. The Cabinet Member reported that it is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. During the half year ended 30th September 2022, the Council has operated within the treasury and prudential indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2022/23. The Director of Finance reports that no difficulties are envisaged for the current or future years in complying with these indicators.
32. In discussions that followed the following questions and comments were raised:
33. The Section 151 Officer reported that Manchester Airport would be charged late payment interest on their outstanding loan.
34. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **BURY CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY REPORT QUARTER ONE AND TWO 2022-23**

35. Councillor Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR presented to Members an overview of the Bury Corporate Plan Performance and Delivery Report for Quarters One and Two 2022-23. The report provides a summary of the key delivery and performance outcomes that occurred during Quarter One and Two 2022-23, aligned to the 3R priorities.
36. The Cabinet Member reported that each quarterly report, includes a spotlight on an area of delivery, performance or intelligence to supplement acknowledgement of progress towards the 2022-23 Corporate Plan objectives. This quarter the focus is on the data available to assess the cost-of-living position for Bury.
37. In discussions that followed the following questions and comments were raised:
- Councillor Bernstein asked to further understand the cost of living issues in the Borough whether more work could be undertaken to map why there has been an increase in the number of Universal Credit claimants and the reduction in the numbers claiming Council tax support.

- With regards Education Healthcare Plans, the local offer is published online, parents can self-refer however the majority are instigated and developed together with the Local Authority, Health partners, Schools and Parents.
38. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT OF FLETCHER FOLD FOR THE DELIVERY OF SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE INCLUDING THOSE WITH LONG TERM CONDITIONS**

39. Councillor Cummins, Cabinet member for Housing Services attended the meeting to update Members on the proposal to redevelop the Fletcher Fold site.
40. In March 2022, Cabinet approved in principle a proposal for Six Town Housing to redevelop this site for general needs affordable housing, a mix of affordable rent and shared ownership.
41. The proposed course has since been reviewed and presented to Cabinet is a revised proposal for this site which will meet the Council's broader aims.
42. In August 2022, the Council procured a Registered Provider Partnership Framework, to maximise the delivery of affordable housing including specialist accommodation on Council owned land. Six registered providers have been appointed to the framework. This report seeks approval to dispose of Fletcher Fold to a registered provider on the framework, for the delivery of a low carbon, specialist affordable housing scheme for older people including those with long term conditions such as a learning disability, to facilitate delivery of the Housing Strategy and generate savings to the adult social care budget.
43. In discussions that followed the following questions and comments were raised:
- Councillor Cummins confirmed that this development will be community focused and residents at Millwood Court would be consulted on the plans for the site.
  - Responding with regards to the change of direction for the site; the Chief Executive reported that the recruitment of a new Director of Housing and a detailed analysis of the health and housing need in the Borough has informed the decision to re-purpose the site.
  - Councillor Cummins confirmed that the Council's preference is for social rent properties.
44. Cabinet approved the recommendations.

#### **EAST LANCASHIRE PAPER MILL SITE UPDATE**

45. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills, provided Members of the Cabinet with an update on the proposals for the East Lancashire Paper Mill.
46. The Leader reported that the Council has been working in partnership with Homes England since 2016, the Council has now entered in to a Collaboration Agreement with Homes England which will see Bury's land transferred to Homes England for onward lease with Morris Homes.
47. This report provides an update to the March 2022 Cabinet Paper 'East Lancashire Paper Site Update' and sets out changes in the original offer approved by Cabinet, resulting from a change in market conditions and viability appraisals.
48. Members discussed the proposals and the following comments and issues were raised:
- The Leader reported the decision to change the proposal would ensure that the Council receives a greater subsidy.
  - It is proposed that the site will have a mix range tenure but this is to be determined. Proposals to be considered at the Planning Committee in December 2022.
49. Cabinet approved the recommendations.

#### **SALE OF NEW SUMMERSEAT HOUSE, RAMSBOTTOM**

50. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills, reported the results of a recent tender exercise for the sale of New Summerseat House. The site is part of the Accelerated Land Disposal Programme and has been vacant for many years. The sale will bring forward the restoration of this listed building, end problems caused to local residents by the empty building attracting anti-social behaviour and remove ongoing liabilities to the Council for security and maintenance.
51. Cabinet approved the recommendations.

#### **OFSTED MONITORING VISIT**

52. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children's Services presented an overview of the findings from the recently undertaken Ofsted visit. An accompanying Ofsted Monitoring letter had been circulated to Members ahead of the meeting. The visit took place on the 12th and 13th of October 2022.
53. The Cabinet Member reported that this is the Second monitoring visit and the first to be published on the Ofsted website following Children's Services receiving an overall judgement of inadequate on the 17th December 2021.
54. Cabinet approved the recommendations.

#### **BURY COST OF LIVING AND ANTI-POVERTY APPROACH**

55. The Cabinet Member For Finance and Communities presented to members an overview of the Council's cost of living and anti-poverty approach. and the proactive and targeted approach we are taking as part of the strategy. Given the increasing cost-of-living pressures, the paper outlines the ongoing challenge and impacts along with the approach being taken to deliver the local anti-poverty strategy.
- Councillor Smith commended the report for including support for energy bills for care leavers and that work is ongoing to support foster carers to enable them to get assistance.
  - With regards to supporting the long term unemployed in to work, Councillor Morris reported that the Cabinet are working to develop an Economic Development Strategy as well as an all age skills strategy.
56. Cabinet approved the recommendations.

#### **FREEDOM OF THE BOROUGH**

57. The Leader reported at a meeting of the Democratic Arrangements Forum held on 3rd November 2022 Group Leaders considered the following nominations for Freedom of the Borough:
- Roy Walker – Nominated by Councillor Bernstein on behalf of the Conservative Group and Councillor Yvonne Wright.
  - Trevor Holt – Nominated by the Labour Group
  - Dorothy Gunther – Nominated by Councillor Bernstein on behalf of the Conservative Group
  - Itzik Alterman – Nominated by Councillor Bernstein on behalf of the Conservative Group and Supported by Councillor Richard Gold
  - Akram Baig – Nominated by the Labour Group.
58. The Group Leaders agreed to progress these nominations and seek further information in relation to the bestowing of the title of Freedom of the Borough on the premiership footballer, Kieran Trippier.
59. Cabinet approved the recommendations for onward consideration at Council.

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<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>The Council</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>07 December 2022</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Update on Greater Manchester Joint Authorities Activity</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Non key decision</b>
<b>Ward(s) to which the report relates:</b>	All
<b>Summary:</b>	This report provides an update on the activity of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on work of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and other Greater Manchester joint authorities following an update to Council in September 2022.
- 1.2 Since the last update there has been two meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

## **2 Cost of Living and Economic Resilience in Greater Manchester**

- 2.1 At the [30<sup>th</sup> September meeting of GMCA](#), members decided:
- 2.2 That the latest assessment and emerging response, be noted.
- 2.3 That the GMCA's views on the next steps of the response, be noted.
- 2.4 That representatives of the GM Disabled People's Panel be requested to present the findings of the GM Big Disability Survey 2022 to the October 2022 meeting of the GMCA.
- 2.5 That the future iterations of the Cost-of-Living Dashboard incorporate the wider health impacts arising from the crisis.

- 2.6 That the GMCA makes a commitment to reporting on the tangible work undertaken each month to improve the lives of the region's residents within the context of the cost-of-living crisis.
- 2.7 That it be noted that the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed the work undertaken on the cost of living crisis.
- 2.8 That the recommendations made by the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.
- 2.9 That it be noted that the Mayor of Greater Manchester and Councillor Amanda Chadderton intended to meet with the UK's five biggest energy suppliers to discuss the issue of pre-payment meters and the impact on residents.
- 2.10 That it be noted that a progress report would be submitted to the October 2022 meeting of the GMCA on the progress on the potential partnership with Amazon to recycle household goods, as per a model pioneered in Fife, Scotland.

### **3 Future Of GM Local Enterprise Partnership**

- 3.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 3.2 That the impacts of the proposal on equalities, carbon and sustainability as set out in the Decision Support Assessment, be noted.
- 3.3 That it be agreed that the report be used as the basis of the Integration Plan proforma to be submitted to Government.
- 3.4 That it be agreed that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Economy, Business & International and the Chair of the GM LEP, to submit the completed proforma.
- 3.5 That it be agreed that the role of 'a strong, independent and diverse business voice', as set out in para 4.21 of the report, be included in the Constitution as part of the functions of the GMCA.
- 3.6 That it be agreed that subject to the feedback received, a further report be submitted to the October 2022 meeting of the GMCA detailing any required proposed amendments to the GMCA Constitution.

### **4 Delivering The Bee Network: Bus Network Stabilisation, Bus Fares, Our Pass, Franchising And Depots**

- 4.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 4.2 That the progress made towards delivering the Bee Network be noted.

- 4.3 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, to agree the final terms of leases of bus depots to be granted to TfGM and the terms of all subleases of the depots, both in respect of interim leaseback arrangements to existing operators and the franchise depot subleases to be granted to the franchise bus operators.
- 4.4 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Monitoring Officer to complete and execute all leases of bus depots to be granted to TfGM.
- 4.5 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, to manage, maintain and insure the bus depots, on behalf of GMCA, by way of lease of the bus depots granted by GMCA to TfGM.
- 4.6 That it be noted that the Mayor of Greater Manchester had requested consideration by given to a proposal for a further amendment to the bus fare structure to introduce a weekly fare cap.
- 4.7 That the confirmed dates for the remaining tranches of the Bee Network be noted.
- 4.8 That the collaboration work between TfGM and GMP on Operation AVRO be noted.
- 4.9 That the need for consistent lobbying of Government, to secure long term funding, for bus franchising be noted.
- 4.10 That it be noted that the bus fare structure would be subject to annual review.
- 4.11 That the need for strong representation to Government, from GMCA, Transport for the North and partners across the region, on the Avanti Trains West Coast mainline contract renewal be agreed.

## **5 Bus Service Permit Scheme Consultation**

- 5.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 5.2 That the report be noted.
- 5.3 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive officer GMCA & TfGM to undertake the consultation on a service permit scheme pursuant to the Franchising Scheme (Service Permits) (England) Regulations 2018.

## **6 City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Governance And Assurance**

- 6.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 6.2 That the proposed governance arrangements for CRSTS funded schemes, which include the assurance route and the funding allocation and draw-down

approvals in relation to the Scheme List agreed by the GMCA on 24 June 2022, be approved.

- 6.3 That it be noted that progress on scheme development and delivery would be reported through regular updates to GMCA, the GM Transport Committee and the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
- 6.4 That, subject to the approval of the proposed governance arrangements, the release of up to £1.8 million of CRSTS funding to facilitate the development of the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the Rochdale-Oldham-Ashton Quality Bus Transit (QBT) scheme be approved.

## **7 Greater Manchester Active Travel Programme**

- 7.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 7.2 That the release of up to £3.37 million of MCF delivery funding for the two Wigan MBC schemes, set out in section 2 of the report, in order to secure full approval and enable scheme delivery through the signing of the necessary supporting legal agreements, be approved.
- 7.3 That the award of up to £0.08 million of revenue funding to Wigan MBC, for the development of a Mini-Holland feasibility study, following a successful Expression of Interest submission to the Department of Transport, and a subsequent GM prioritisation exercise, as set out in section 3 of the report, be approved.

## **8 Working Well Work And Health Programmes And Specialist Employment Service Contract Extensions**

- 8.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 8.2 That the proposed Working Well: Work and Health Programme contract extension be approved, in principle.
- 8.3 That the proposed Working Well: Specialist Employment Service contract extension for the continued delivery of the existing contracts be approved, in principle.
- 8.4 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to agree the final terms of the contract extensions and execute all necessary documentation.
- 8.5 That it be noted that the Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee had agreed that the report was exempt from call-in for the following two reasons:
  - 8.5.1 Working Well and Health Programme: GM is required to extend the delivery of the WHP alongside DWP from 31st October (as per the legally binding requirement of the shared MoU between DWP and GMCA).



- 8.5.2 Working Well Specialist Employment Service: the programme is due to cease referrals from 30th September 2022. The extension will need to progress for referrals to continue from 1 st October 2022.

## **9 Greater Manchester Local Area Energy Plans**

- 9.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 9.2 That the draft GM Local Area Energy Plan, its contents and the research undertaken to inform its development be noted.
- 9.3 That the GM Local Area Energy Plan for design & publication as included in Annex 1 to the report be approved.
- 9.4 That the next steps in delivering the city-regions Local Area Energy Plan(s) be approved.
- 9.5 That the GM Pension Fund Board be requested to consider further opportunities for investment in renewable energy schemes.

## **10 Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme 3b Opportunities**

- 10.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 10.2 That the opportunity to bid for circa £20m from Salix (NPBD) under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 3b be noted.
- 10.3 That the receipt and defrayment of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding, with delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to sign all necessary legal agreements (subject to successful award) be approved.

## **11 Greater Manchester Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (Wave 2)**

- 11.1 At the 30th September meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 11.2 That the forthcoming funding opportunity presented by the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) be noted.
- 11.3 That the current delivery of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund through the initial award of £10m grant from SHDF (Wave 1) be noted.
- 11.4 That the proposed application approach, with GMCA acting as the accountable body for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (Wave 2) be approved.
- 11.5 That, if successful, authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead, to:
- 11.5.1 Sign a Grant Funding agreement with BEIS to receive grant funding for a GM Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2 retrofit programme.

- 11.5.2 Expend the awarded grant funds by defraying agreements via the funding partners i.e. ~17 Registered Providers and/or Local Authorities.

## **12 Cost Of Living And Economic Resilience In Greater Manchester**

- 12.1 At the [28<sup>th</sup> October meeting of GMCA](#), members decided:
- 12.2 That the latest assessment, including the findings of the Greater Manchester Disabled People's Panel 2022 Survey be noted.
- 12.3 That the GMCA record its thanks to both Rick Burgess and Michele Scattergood for the presentation of the Disabled People's Panel survey results.
- 12.4 That the GMCA record its thanks to Councillor Amanda Chadderton for leading on the mobilisation of 306 'warm banks' across GM ahead of the winter period.
- 12.5 That the GMCA would lobby government ahead of the 'fiscal event' on 17th November on the pressing need to ensure that benefits rise in line with current rates of inflation to combat the further entrenchment of poverty, and that Council budgets be protected to ensure they were able to provide suitable levels of support.
- 12.6 That the GM Mayor invite a representative of the GM Disabled People's Panel to join him in the conversation he was seeking with the 'Big Five' energy providers on agreeing a moratorium on disconnection from energy supplies over the winter period.
- 12.7 That the GMCA continues to consider the cost-of-living crisis as a specific item each month.

## **13 Challenge Poverty Week England And Wales - Feedback From The GM Launch Event**

- 13.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 13.2 That the feedback and suggestions made by cross-sector partners and residents who attended the third party 'Challenge Poverty Week' GM partnership event be noted.
- 13.3 That it be noted that the report was viewed with reference to and alongside the GMCA Cost of Living Resilience update, recognising that those responses were immediate, and that the report pointed to the need for GMCA to consider the medium to long term anti-poverty approach across the city-region, and that all recommendations would be addressed at the right level.
- 13.4 That the GMCA record its thanks to Revered Ian Rutherford for his presentation of the report.

- 13.5 That the work of GM Poverty Action, particularly the report being prepared at present, be fully incorporated into the range of work taking place through the Tackling Inequality Board.
- 13.6 That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the GMCA highlighting improvements in bus patronage following the introduction of the £2 single fare cap.
- 13.7 That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the GMCA setting out plans around homelessness and the expansion of 'A Bed Every Night'.
- 13.8 That a report be submitted to the next meeting of the GMCA providing further detail around the establishing of Wigan as an initial site for replicating the joint venture being rolled out in Scotland between Fife and Amazon.

### **14 GM Cultural Investment Approach 2023 Onwards**

- 14.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 14.2 That the consultation response to the proposed new approach to GMCA's cultural investment be noted.
- 14.3 That the new approach to GMCA's cultural investment be approved.
- 14.4 That an indicative investment period of three years subject to annual review and approval of the Culture Fund as part of the GMCA annual budget setting process, be approved in principle..
- 14.5 That the timeline for the GMCA Culture Fund to open for bids in preparation for the new investment approach starting from April 2023, be approved.
- 14.6 That the decision of the impact tool be noted and that it also be noted that the proposed approach will support equality inclusion, health outcomes and the economy in Greater Manchester.

### **15 Create Growth Programme**

- 15.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 15.2 That the Create Growth Programme in GM be supported.
- 15.3 That the proposal GMCA act as the accountable body with the DCMS for the Create Growth Programme in Greater Manchester funded from a £1.275million Section 31 grant over the period 2022/23 – 2024/25 be approved.
- 15.4 That the GMCA enter into a grant agreement with the Growth Company for £1.2m to deliver the programme, as set out in the bid.
- 15.5 That the decision of the impact tool be noted, and it also noted that the proposed approach will support equality inclusion, health outcomes and the economy in Greater Manchester.

**16 Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4)**

- 16.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 16.2 That the forthcoming funding opportunity presented by Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4) and specifically the Flexible Eligibility element be noted.
- 16.3 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to: a. Conduct an ECO4 Approved Application Process to produce a list of GM wide ECO4 delivery installer(s). b. Centralise the management of ECO4 Flexible Eligibility on behalf of the 10 districts. c. Receive and defray any concession received to cover internal costs over the ECO4 period.
- 16.4 That the GM Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent (Annex 1) be approved and that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM to sign the Statement of Intent on behalf of the GMCA and all 10 GM LAs be approved.
- 16.5 That the co-benefits assessment of this proposal suggests this project will directly reduce emissions from domestic buildings, in particular the worst performing properties be noted.

**17 Implementation Of Greater Manchester VCSE Accord And Creation Of GM VCSE Forum**

- 17.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 17.2 That the progress update be noted.
- 17.3 That the proposal to create a system-wide GM VCSE Forum and provide nominations to join the Forum be endorsed.
- 17.4 That local authorities and partners be encouraged to make nominations to the Forum as detailed in the terms of reference.

**18 Innovation Greater Manchester And Innovation Accelerator Pilot**

- 18.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 18.2 That the progress in developing Innovation Greater Manchester, which is supporting the Greater Manchester Strategy commitment to "Realise the opportunities from our world class growth and innovation assets" be noted.
- 18.3 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Leads and Lead Chief Executives for Economy and Work & Skills, the decision making and sign-off authority for local selection and oversight of the projects to be funded through the Innovation Accelerator pilot. Decisions will be informed by consultation with the Innovation Greater Manchester Board.
- 18.4 That it be noted that the innovation accelerator pilot was expected to have direct positive impacts on equality and inclusion, health, resilience and

adaptation, economy, and mobility and connectivity. There will be indirect positive impacts on carbon emissions.

## **19 Greater Manchester Active Travel Programme**

- 19.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 19.2 That the release of up to £745,000 of MCF delivery funding for the Oldham Chadderton Improvement scheme, set out in section 2 of this report, be approved in order to secure full approval and enable scheme delivery through the signing of the necessary supporting legal agreements be approved.
- 19.3 That the revised GM Local Authority budget allocations for the Active Travel Fund (Tranche 2), following a re-profiling exercise agreed by the Active Travel Programme Board, as set out in section 3 of the report be noted.
- 19.4 That the release of up to £225,508 of development cost funding for the 2 Active Travel Fund (Tranche 3) schemes, set out in section 4 of the report, be approved.
- 19.5 That Dame Sarah Storey be invited to the next meeting of the GMCA to provide an update on 'refreshing the mission' around active travel.

## **20 Delivering The Bee Network: Bus Franchising And Fares, Metrolink Fleet, Rail Integration And Operation Avro**

- 20.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 20.2 That the progress made towards the delivery of the Bee Network be noted.
- 20.3 That the comments raised by the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee be noted.
- 20.4 That TfGM be requested to submit an update report to the November GMCA meeting and a final report at the December GMCA meeting on the progressing of franchising arrangements
- 20.5 That the statement made by Northern City Region Mayors calling for action in the short, medium and long term to address specific issues raised in the minutes on the national rail network be noted.

## **21 Transport Capital Programme And Local Growth Deal**

- 21.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 21.2 That the progress made in relation to the Local Growth Deal Transport schemes as set out in Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the report, be noted.
- 21.3 That the progress made in relation to the Non-Transport Skills Capital and Economic Development and Regeneration (ED &R) programmes, as set out in Section 5 of the report, be noted.

- 21.4 That the funding draw-down request for the SBNI Salford Package 7 (A580 Junctions), as set out in Section 5 of the report, be approved.
- 21.5 That the use of returned Life Sciences funds to proceed with Life Sciences 2, as set out in Section 6.5 of the report, be noted.
- 21.6 That the funding draw-down request for Farnworth Streets for All, as set out in Section 7 of the report, be approved.

## **22 Greater Manchester Uk Shared Prosperity Fund - Investment Plan**

- 22.1 At the 28th October meeting of GMCA, members decided:
- 22.2 That 10GM £1,663,571 of GM's UKSPF allocation to deliver activity to support VCSE sustainability and infrastructure across GM to March 2025, as set out within the 10GM proposal, outlined at Section 3 of this report, be granted.
- 22.3 That the GM Business Growth Hub £500,000 of GM's UKSPF allocation in 2022/23 to deliver a programme of activity in 2022/23 to support GM businesses with the Cost of Doing Business challenges, as set out within the proposal, outlined at Section 5 of this report, be granted.
- 22.4 That a £15m UKSPF funded GM SME (Small and Medium Size Enterprises) Workspace Fund be established and administered by GMCA which will prioritise local authority proposals for the creation of SME workspace in city and town centres and high streets in GM to March 2025. Prioritised proposals within this programme will come to GMCA for agreement in due course.
- 22.5 That £2,744,408 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Bolton Council.
- 22.6 That £1,662,478 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Bury Council.
- 22.7 That a grant be awarded to Manchester City Council for £2,886,652 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, noting that Manchester City Council will submit a further proposal for their remaining allocation to the GM UKSPF Local Partnership Board in due course.
- 22.8 That £2,295,803 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Oldham Council.

- 22.9 That £2,163,860 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Rochdale Council.
- 22.10 That £2,243,026 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Salford Council.
- 22.11 That £2,454,134 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Stockport Council.
- 22.12 That £1,768,032 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, be granted to Trafford Council.
- 22.13 That £1,050,000 of GM's UKSPF allocation be granted to Wigan Council over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal by March 2025, as outlined at Annex A, noting that Wigan Council will submit a further proposal to the GM UKSPF Local Partnership Board for their remaining allocation in due course.
- 22.14 That Subject to GM UKSPF Local Partnership Board recommendation, delegate GMCA approval of Tameside Council's proposal for their UKSPF allocation to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Resources and Investment Portfolio Leader to grant up to £1,979,141 of GM's UKSPF allocation over 2.5 years to deliver the activity, expenditure, outcomes and outputs that will be set out in their UKSPF Communities and Place proposal.

## **23 Recycle for Greater Manchester (R4GM) update**

- 23.1 **Paper and card:** We're now in the final stages of our campaign tackling contamination in the paper and card stream in Radcliffe and Whitefield. In the last few months, we've focused on direct engagement with residents who have been putting incorrect items in their paper and card bins. Our recycling officers have knocked on the doors of 230 residents in Whitefield who have continued to contaminate, despite interventions. Of these 230, around 50 answered the door to us and our team had lots of positive conversations about the importance of recycling right. We've also been able to gather data on residents' relationship with waste which should help inform services and communications going forward.
- 23.2 **#RecycleWeek:** This year's rescheduled national #RecycleWeek took place in October. Organised by WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme), this year's theme was 'Getting Real about Recycling'. Activity focused on busting common waste myths and highlighting resident's individual responsibility to recycle correctly. We provided all districts with social media toolkits to share messages

from councils owned social media channels;. We also promoted the campaign through digital billboards outside supermarkets in Bury during #RecycleWeek.

**23.3 Walking Aids Collection:** During #RecycleWeek, we partnered with the NHS to launch a new national initiative to act as a collection point for walking aids.. Residents can now take items such as zimmer frames, crutches, walking sticks and collapsible wheelchairs to the Donate containers at their local recycling centres, including sites at Every Street and Cemetery Road. From there, they'll be taken to our Renew Hub in Trafford Park where they can be cleaned, repaired and returned to the NHS.

**23.4 Recycling Centres hours changed:** Our household waste recycling centres at Every Street and Cemetery Road have reverted to their winter opening hours. Recycling centres across Greater Manchester now open from 8am to 6pm every day, only closing on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. As we prepare for the busiest time of the year at recycling centres, we've been promoting the updated opening hours as well as reminding residents that the service is free to use, accessible and beneficial to the environment.

### 23.5 Recycling Centre Rates

Site	Month (%)	Year to date
Cemetery Rd, Radcliffe	53%	54%
Every St, Fernhill	56%	52%

## 24 Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) Update

### 24.1 Get on Board Festive Activity and Travel Planning

**24.1.1** TfGM and partners will be running giveaways on social media and across the Metrolink network during the festive period as part of our #GetOnBoard campaign to promote sustainable travel.

**24.1.2** A virtual advent calendar will run from 1 December until Christmas Day, which will include tickets for events and days out, overnight hotel stays, free food and drink, and much more. Escape to Freight Island, Rudy's Pizza, and Lightopia are amongst some of the partners involved. TfGM will also be working with waste management company SUEZ to donate repurposed bikes to charities and community groups in GM.

**24.1.3** TfGM have also launched a dedicated webpage which maps Christmas events and activities and helps people work out the best way to get there, including Christmas lights switch-ons, winter festivals, family days-out, Christmas shopping, places to eat, and sporting and music venues.

**24.1.4** TfGM's major works and events hub is also being kept updated with the latest travel advice for those heading out to events, or just into town to do some shopping or attend a Christmas party.

### 24.2 New Bike Libraries



- 24.2.1 TfGM have launched a new 'Bike Libraries' scheme providing bikes to local communities across Greater Manchester. Bike libraries allow people to borrow a bike and aim to encourage people who may not own a bike to take advantage of the new cycling routes being delivered as part of the Bee Network across Greater Manchester.
- 24.2.2 15 bike libraries are currently live, in Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, and Stockport, with 13 more set to launch over the coming months. Community organisations, including primary schools and Page 3 of 6 healthcare providers, have received grants to help set up a bike library, as well as funding to access cycling training and bike maintenance.
- 24.2.3 Cycling, walking, and wheeling are central to the future of transport in the city-region and access to bikes, through schemes like bike libraries or the GM Cycle Hire scheme, is important to the delivery of the fully integrated Bee Network transport system.

### 24.3 It's Not a Game Campaign

- 24.3.1 Football fans in Greater Manchester are being urged to think before they drink and avoid getting behind the wheel after consuming alcohol or taking drugs while watching the World Cup this winter. It's Not a Game, a new campaign by Safer Roads Greater Manchester, warns of the consequences of drink and drug driving throughout the tournament and during domestic fixtures over Christmas.
- 24.3.2 Between 2017 and 2021, a total of 3,569 people were killed or seriously injured on Greater Manchester's roads, with 249 incidents involving a driver impaired by alcohol or drugs. Most of the people killed or injured – 62% – were drivers or passengers, but pedestrians are also seriously at risk, making up 15% of the casualties.
- 24.3.3 TfGM will be working with partners to bring this number down. More information about the campaign is available on TfGM's dedicated webpage and more information on road safety laws is available here: the government's THINK website.
- 24.3.4 A partner toolkit for the campaign, which includes more details and adaptable social media copy and assets, is attached with this briefing. Please feel free to use this toolkit to promote the campaign across your networks, platforms, and channels and please pass the toolkit on to other organisations or community groups whose audiences may find the information beneficial.

### 24.4 A Safer Transport Network: Engagement Workshops

- 24.4.1 The safety of women and girls is a local priority and the existing research and evidence highlight how critical the issue is on the transport network in Greater Manchester. Findings from our Destination: Bee Network (D:BN)

Public Conversation show that women feel less safe on public transport and on our streets.

- 24.4.2 To build on this conversation TfGM are hosting a series of engagement workshops to explore the practical steps TfGM can take to enable everyone – particularly men and boys – to create an environment that encourages feelings of safety among women and girls on public transport and in our streets.
- 24.4.3 The first workshop in the series is “A Safer Transport Network: Women’s Workshop”. This workshop will inform the delivery of the “A Safer Transport Network: Men’s Workshop” - which will cover similar topics from a male perspective. The final workshop - “A Safer Transport Network: Workshop for All” - aims to bring all participants together to explore similarities and differences in feedback themes and identify practical next steps to support safe travel for all.

### 24.5 Metrolink Christmas safety campaign

- 24.5.1 Passenger and staff safety, as well as the safety of pedestrians and cyclists travelling or moving around trams and stops on the network, is a critical priority for TfGM and operator KeolisAmey Metrolink (KAM). Metrolink passengers are being urged to stay safe and take extra care around trams while travelling on the network over Christmas as part of a new campaign.
- 24.5.2 With services expected to be busier over the holidays with the Christmas parties, the markets and high-profile events taking place, as well as the dark nights drawing in, the #MindTheTracks campaign will be promoting a range of safety messages aimed at encouraging safe behaviour around moving trams and Metrolink infrastructure including tram crossings.
- 24.5.3 Posters carrying the safety messaging will be appearing across the network during the Christmas period, alongside bespoke safety announcements on the network and social media activity – which partners are being encouraged to share across their own channels

### 24.6 “See the Rider not the Bike” Campaign Launches

- 24.6.1 Safer Roads Greater Manchester have recently launched a new campaign: “See the Rider not the Bike”, which uses images of people going about everyday journeys, and reminds motorists of the Highway Code requirement for them to leave at least a 1.5 metre gap when overtaking cyclists at 30mph, or a bigger gap at higher speeds.
- 24.6.2 Research shows that people see the behaviour of other road users as the biggest barrier to cycling regularly, with close passing and inattentive driving being two of the most frightening experiences for people riding their bike. Over the next four weeks, TfGM’s social media accounts will be reminding drivers of the Highway Code updates that were made earlier this

year and the role they play in driving responsibly – making Greater Manchester's roads safer for all road users, particularly cyclists.

- 24.6.3 A partner toolkit for the "See the Rider not the Bike" campaign, which includes more details and adaptable social media copy and assets, is attached with this briefing. Please feel free to use this toolkit to promote the campaign across your networks, platforms, and channels and please pass the toolkit on to other organisations or community groups whose audiences may find the information beneficial.

### 24.7 Parcel Lockers at Metrolink Park and Ride and Bus Stations

- 24.7.1 TfGM will be working with InPost, the parcel locker service, to operate parcel lockers across Metrolink Park and Ride locations and bus stations. Having lockers at these TfGM locations support wider goals relating to decarbonization and reducing congestion by reducing the need for delivery vehicles on roads, as well as providing a useful asset at locations which commuters pass through regularly when using public transport.
- 24.7.2 InPost parcel lockers have been installed at the following Metrolink stops: East Didsbury, Prestwich, Stretford, Derker, and Milnrow, as well as at bus stations at Radcliffe, Horwich Parkway, Bolton Interchange, Wythenshawe Interchange, Oldham Central bus station, Wigan bus station, Leigh bus station, and Rochdale Interchange.

### 24.8 TravelSafe Partnership Operation AVRO outcomes

- 24.8.1 Operation AVRO is a regular operation run by GMP with a particular focus on the transport network hubs. On 27 and 28 September approx. 400 police officers and 200 TravelSafe Partnership officers were out in force, patrolling public places such as Victoria Station to make weapon searches and clamping down on traffic offences.
- 24.8.2 Alongside the TravelSafe Partnership, GMP officers made 41 arrests, carried out 69 stop searches, and recorded 406 traffic offences and 530 speed offences. Over the two-day operation around 1,500 Metrolink fines were also issued for fare evasion as part of targeted deployments across the tram network.

### 24.9 Community Rail Awards 2022 – winners announced

- 24.9.1 The Community Rail Awards, which is jointly sponsored by Northern and TfGM, took place on Thursday 06 October and was hosted in Manchester for the first time. The awards shine a light on the significant projects and initiatives delivered by community rail groups, partnerships and volunteers who work on a voluntary basis alongside train operators to help people get the most from their railways and improve stations and facilities. Many of the groups engage with schools, colleges, and other local networks to help educate and secure passengers of the future.

24.9.2 A total of four GM community rail groups were presented with awards:

24.9.2.1 South East Lancashire Community Rail Partnership received 1st place for Community Creative Projects and Station Art

24.9.2.2 Julie Levey who volunteers for South East Lancashire Community Partnership and Bolton Station Community Partnership received 1st place for her Outstanding Volunteer Contribution

24.9.2.3 Friends of Irlam Station received 1st place in the Photo Competition for the Best Image Capturing the Essence of Community Rail

24.9.2.4 Friends of Hindley Station received 3rd place for the Station Friends and Adopters at the Heart of Communities award for supporting and reaching out to a community in a crisis

## **25 Recommendation**

25.1 That Council note the updates from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Transport for Greater Manchester, and Recycle for Greater Manchester, with further updates to be presented to future Council meetings.

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### **List of Background Papers:-**

None identified

### **Contact Details:-**

**James Mulvaney**  
**Executive Policy and Research Advisor**  
[j.mulvaney@bury.gov.uk](mailto:j.mulvaney@bury.gov.uk)  
**0161 253 5105**

### (iii) Human Trafficking and Illegal Migration

A motion had been received and set in the Summons in the names of: Councillors Arif, Bernstein, Brown, Dean, Gartside, Harris, Hussain, Jones, Lancaster, McBriar, Rydeheard, Vernon

The United Kingdom has long been a safe haven for those individuals, and groups of people, who have had to flee their countries of origin due to religious, political, and social persecution. People also migrate for economic reasons due to unemployment, conflict, war, famine, and other natural disasters.

We are proud of our Country's humanitarian legacy in accepting refugees, asylum seekers through fair and legal means such as through the United Nation's Vulnerable Person's Resettlement Scheme (VPRS).

However, this motion aims to deal head on with a new and dangerous phenomena that is putting the lives of innocent men, women and children in grave danger and is leading to loss of life.

Since the beginning of 2022, more than 40,000 **REMOVE** [illegal immigrants] **INSERT** [people], many of whom are at the mercy of criminal human trafficking gangs, have crossed the English Channel in small boats. This is up from 28,526 in 2021.

**REMOVE** [It is the view of many people living within the Borough of Bury, that this is one of the most pressing issues which our country faces today.

~~The increasing number of illegal migrants are putting a great deal of pressure on local services throughout the country and the residents of Bury are rightly concerned that the situation seen elsewhere with local hotels being commandeered for large numbers of irregular migrants could happen here in Bury. This would of course put intolerable pressure on local services.]~~

We are not against lawful and controlled migration. On the contrary, we are immensely grateful to those who have made the United Kingdom their home and have shaped our nation for the better. Whether this be through working within the NHS or in other public, private and charitable fields.

Overseas workers are an integral part of our nation's fabric and diversity.

**REMOVE** [However, what we cannot condone, under any circumstances, is the arrival upon our shores of those who have deployed illegal and criminal means to enter the United Kingdom.

~~Whilst we sympathise with some of those who try to enter the UK through crossings, many are doing so in order to commit heinous crimes in the United Kingdom.]~~

We must also remember that many criminal gangs and prohibited organisations are profiting at the misfortune of those crossing in small boats and putting the lives of those who chose to cross in this manner at serious risk of danger.

It is incumbent on us all as elected officials to guarantee that the law of this country is upheld and respected.

Therefore, we must do all we can to prevent these illegal crossings and acts of illegal migration from occurring.

That is why we are asking this Council to do the following:-

**INSERT** [\* Fully support Labour's five-point plan to tackle Channel crossings, which includes:

- Redirecting spending on Rwanda to set up a new National Crime Agency cell to crack down on smuggling gangs
- Speeding up asylum decisions
- Reforming settlement schemes
- Replacing the Dublin Agreement to include safe returns and family reunion
- Working internationally to address why people flee their homes]

\* Condemn the criminal gangs and organisations that are putting the lives of men, women and children at risk by enforcing small boat crossings in the English Channel.

**REMOVE** [~~\* Fully support the UK Government's plans to reduce these illegal crossings through a strategic partnership with our European neighbours.~~]

\* Instruct the Chief Executive to write to both the Bury North and Bury South Members of Parliament to ask that they support **REMOVE** [~~the Government's plans to tackle illegal immigration and support offshore processing of illegal immigrants.~~] **INSERT** [an ethical and effective immigration policy.]

ITEM	RESPONSE / ACTION REQUIRED	OFFICER LEAD	PROGRESS/DATE COMPLETED
Anti-social driving	<p><b>This Council resolves to:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call on the Chief Executive to write to the GMP Bury Division Chief Superintendent to ask that mobile speed camera initiatives are implemented across the borough to catch offenders, crack down on dangerous drivers and to provide reassurance to the communities of the borough.</li> <li>• Call on the Chief Executive to write to the GMP Bury Division Chief Superintendent to undertake a borough wide initiative with the objective to reduce the illegal use Off-Road Bikes and e-scooters which are a cause of significant anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• To ask the Council to hold meetings with residents and community groups in known hotspots of dangerous and anti-social driving to understand their concerns and to listen to their suggestions on how to combat these issues.</li> <li>• To ask the Council to explore more options which can be implemented to reduce dangerous driving, whether this be speed humps,</li> </ul>	<p>Chief Executive Office</p> <p>Chief Executive Office</p> <p>CSP</p> <p>CSP</p>	<p>Conversations have been held between the Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive Cabinet Member for Communities and Finance, and the GMP Bury Chief Superintendent resulting in the Community Safety Partnership committing additional resource to tackling anti-social driving, in particular speeding. A dedicated speed laser gun has been purchased for the Borough, with training being undertaken by GMP colleagues ahead of the deployment of this from late November 2022. This device allows for targeted speed awareness operations, based on insight from GMP traffic and crime data; Ward Councillors and local communities, including through specific focus in neighbourhood PACT meetings. Broader community insight is also fed through via Community Hub Managers into weekly neighbourhood priority setting meetings with Greater Manchester Police to direct deployment. This also includes directing GMP force level resources through the Traffic Unit as part of a transport focused Operation Avro campaign in the autumn.</p> <p>Feedback from the deployment of the speed camera will be used to determine data-driven opportunities for further activity to reduce anti-social driving related risks.</p>

	<p>permanent traffic cameras or traffic islands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ask the Council to consider if measures already agreed such as crossing points can be implemented earlier than announced.</li> </ul>	<p>CSP in conjunction with Cllr Quinn Cabinet Member</p>	<p>Anti-social driving is referenced within Bury's Community Safety Plan under the priority of Creating and Maintaining Safe spaces, which meets monthly as a sub-group of the CSP. This has included the promotion of Safe Drive Stay Alive sessions during late October and early November. The sessions are aimed at young drivers and goes through the reality of being involved in a fatal collision from the perspective of the emergency services and parents/family of the victim. The Council's Head of Engineering is a member of the Safe Spaces CSP subgroup to review insight on hotspot activity and to inform both awareness raising and traffic management measures.</p>
<p><b>Work towards improving and safeguarding the Bury MBC stretch of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal</b></p>	<p><b>The Council resolves to</b></p> <p>Commit to the following:</p> <p><del>REMOVE [• Carry out a feasibility study into renovation of the canal with the possibility of including it in the Radcliffe Regeneration plans. This should consider the ambition to use the canal as a facility for fishing and water sports and working with the Canal and Rivers Trust to improve the tow paths to give better access for walking and cycling.]</del></p>	<p>Operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The fly tipping removal team have been trained to look for evidence when collecting fly tips.</li> <li>Additional litter bins have been implemented across the borough over the last 12 months.</li> <li>12 community days of action have been set up across Bury to work in the community to reduce fly tipping</li> <li>2 Fly Tipping officers (fixed term) in post to respond to reports of fly tipping and assess tips for evidence</li> <li>Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) schemes for Fly tipping and Householder Duty of Care now in place. This is now preferred enforcement option where</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at ways of preventing fly-tipping and littering from Council owned land such as car parks and bridges crossing the canal</li> <li>• Work to ensure visibility in currently obscured areas of access to the canal to prevent risk of crime, anti-social behaviour, and damage to property such as graffiti</li> <li>• Working with the police to address the safety concerns of residents accessing and using the tow path</li> <li>• Call on the Canal and Rivers Trust to adopt a strategy to stop the water in the canal dropping to a level hazardous to wildlife</li> </ul> <p>INSERT [</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain our commitment to the full restoration of the canal through Bury and Radcliffe as expressed in the 2020 Restoration Feasibility Study.</li> <li>• Write to the relevant Minister making the case for funding for the restoration, which our study estimates would bring £1 million per annum in socio-economic benefits to Bury and Radcliffe.</li> <li>• Continue as an active partner in the maintenance and restoration of the canal through the participation of our</li> </ul>	<p>Operations</p> <p>CSP</p> <p>Letter from Chief Executives office</p> <p>Update to be provided at Radcliffe Sub Cttee</p> <p>Chief Executive Office</p> <p>Dem Services – review appointments share information with Members</p>	<p>perpetrators can be identified and linked evidentially to an offence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosecution of offenders following non payment of FPN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 successful prosecutions between July and September including the execution of 2 warrants</li> <li>• 1 prosecution court date pending</li> <li>• 6 prosecutions prepared and sent to Legal Services</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New CCTV being resourced which will be used and deployed to target fly tipping hot spots.</li> <li>• Expedited reviewing of CCTV footage following fly tipping enforcement officers training to view and download footage from CCTV camera's which</li> <li>• New facility to pay environmental crime FPN's online.</li> </ul> <p>Completed</p>
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	officer and member representatives on the MBBC steering group.]		
<b>Freeze Energy Prices With A Windfall Tax On Oil And Gas Companies</b>	<p>Write to the new Prime Minister urging them to adopt Labour's plans to save households in Bury £1,000 this winter through a windfall tax, start insulating millions of homes to save households money in future years and address our long-term energy needs through investment in sustainable, renewable energy.</p> <p>Include in the letter our concerns about the rising cost of energy for public services, including schools, hospitals and local authorities – as well as local businesses – who are not subject to a cap.</p> <p>Continue to do all we can as a local authority, through our new Anti-Poverty Strategy, to support those residents most in need through the cost-of-living crisis, with £2.5 million targeted support this year for households in Bury.</p>	<p>Chief Executive Office</p> <p>Cllr Gold/Lynne Ridsdale</p>	<p>Delivery has been taking place across all priorities within Bury's Cost of Living and Anti Poverty Strategy, which was approved in July, with oversight through the Council led multi-agency steering group. An update on delivery of the strategy was presented to Cabinet in November 2022 and in recent months there have been two Cost of Living summits held in Bury, in September at the Town Hall and November at the Mosses Centre. Advice and information on local and national support measures has been collated and shared through a dedicated webpage available through the Homepage of the Council's website (<a href="http://www.bury.gov.uk/hardshiphelp">www.bury.gov.uk/hardshiphelp</a>) and a dedicated phone number (0161 253 5400) promoted through an extensive</p>

			<p>communication campaign including bus stops and billboards, especially in those areas highlighted at greatest risk through the antipoverty strategy.</p> <p>Delivery of the Household Support Fund locally saw holiday voucher provision for those eligible for Free School Meals in October half term and will continue through to (and including) Easter 2023, with direct allocations to Foster Carers, Care Leavers and provision to be made to those who rely on electrically powered health care devices. Targeted support has also been provided through sessions at Veterans Breakfast Club; leads of the Carers Hub and promotion of new neighbourhood provision through Citizens Advice Bureau. .</p>

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11 October 2022



Department for Corporate Core Services

GMP Bury Division Chief Supt Chris Hill

Letter sent via email to: [Chris.Hill@gmp.police.uk](mailto:Chris.Hill@gmp.police.uk)

Dear Chief Supt,

**Reference: Anti-Social Driving**

Bury Council at its Full Council meeting on 21 September 2022 debated a notice of motion in relation to tackling anti-social driving.

**The Council recognised and noted that:**

1. This Council is determined to take further steps to combat the scourge of dangerous and anti-social driving which has been reported over many years and months, and which continues to be a major issue for communities across the borough.
2. Speeding, reckless and dangerous driving in Bury, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Tottington, Prestwich and Whitefield is utterly abhorrent and poses significant and unnecessary risks to both road users and pedestrians alike.
3. In recent reports in the Bury Times and on social media (from community groups) it is clear the situation is becoming worse.
4. As a Council we have a duty and responsibility to protect all our residents living in the borough and those people who are visiting or passing through our towns and villages.

**The Council resolved to:**

1. Call on the Chief Executive to write to the GMP Bury Division Chief Superintendent to ask that mobile speed camera initiatives are implemented across the borough to catch offenders, crack down on dangerous drivers and to provide reassurance to the communities of the borough.
2. Call on the Chief Executive to write to the GMP Bury Division Chief Superintendent to undertake a borough wide initiative with the objective to reduce the illegal use Off-Road Bikes and e-scooters which are a cause of significant anti-social behaviour.
3. To ask the Council to hold meetings with residents and community groups in known hotspots of dangerous and anti-social driving to understand their concerns and to listen to their suggestions on how to combat these issues.
4. To ask the Council to explore more options which can be implemented to reduce dangerous driving, whether this be speed humps, permanent traffic cameras or traffic islands.
5. To ask the Council to consider if measures already agreed such as crossing points can be implemented earlier than announced.

Accordingly, I am writing to you in relation to this matter. I look forward to your response so that an update can be provided to Members of Bury Council.

Yours sincerely

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

**Geoff Little OBE**  
**Chief Executive**

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11 October 2022



Department for Corporate Core Services

Canal and Rivers Trust

Letter sent via email to: [customer.services@canalrivertrust.org.uk](mailto:customer.services@canalrivertrust.org.uk)

Dear Canal and Rivers Trust,

**Reference: Work towards improving and safeguarding the Bury MBC stretch of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal**

Bury Council at its Full Council meeting on 21 September 2022 debated a notice of motion in relation to improving the stretch of the canal.

**The Council recognised and noted that:**

1. The canal suffers from being overgrown by several species including:
  - Duckweed, which as well as being unsightly and in hot weather is smelly, if left to thrive, the weed can cause problems for other aquatic plants and wildlife by starving it of oxygen and sunlight.
  - Himalayan Balsam, growing along the banks and in reed beds is outgrowing native species and reducing biodiversity by restricting native plant growth
  - Giant hogweed growing on the upper reaches near the Elton Reservoir end, is a very dangerous plant for which the sap can cause serious skin burns. It contains furocoumarin, which makes skin extremely sensitive to sunlight (phytophotodermatitis).
  - Trees growing into the structure of the canal and can cause damage to the sides and will eventually impact on the structural integrity.
2. The ongoing challenges of litter and fly-tipping and maintenance of trees and other growth along the canal and the responsibilities of all partners involved to keep the canal well maintained and prevent further deterioration.
3. The ambitious and exciting Restoration Feasibility Study commissioned in 2020 jointly by Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Society, the Canal & Rivers Trust, Bury Council and Bolton Council for the full restoration of the 5-mile stretch of canal through Bury to Bolton

**The Council resolved to:**

1. Look at ways of preventing fly-tipping and littering from Council owned land such as car parks and bridges crossing the canal
2. Work to ensure visibility in currently obscured areas of access to the canal to prevent risk of crime, anti-social behaviour, and damage to property such as graffiti
3. Working with the police to address the safety concerns of residents accessing and using the tow path
4. Call on the Canal and Rivers Trust to adopt a strategy to stop the water in the canal dropping to a level hazardous to wildlife
5. Maintain our commitment to the full restoration of the canal through Bury and Radcliffe as expressed in the 2020 Restoration Feasibility Study.
6. Write to the relevant Minister making the case for funding for the restoration, which our study estimates would bring £1 million per annum in socio-economic benefits to Bury and Radcliffe.
7. Continue as an active partner in the maintenance and restoration of the canal through the participation of our officer and member representatives on the MBBC steering group.

Accordingly, I am writing to you in relation to this matter. I look forward to your response so that an update can be provided to Members of Bury Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Little'.

**Geoff Little OBE**  
**Chief Executive**



11 October 2022



Department for Corporate Core Services

The Rt Hon Ranil Jayawardena MP  
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Letter sent via email to: [secretary.state@defra.gov.uk](mailto:secretary.state@defra.gov.uk)

Dear Rt Hon Ranil Jayawardena MP,

**Reference: Work towards improving and safeguarding the Bury MBC stretch of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal**

Bury Council at its Full Council meeting on 21 September 2022 debated a notice of motion in relation to improving the stretch of the canal.

**The Council recognised and noted that:**

1. The canal suffers from being overgrown by several species including:
  - Duckweed, which as well as being unsightly and in hot weather is smelly, if left to thrive, the weed can cause problems for other aquatic plants and wildlife by starving it of oxygen and sunlight.
  - Himalayan Balsam, growing along the banks and in reed beds is outgrowing native species and reducing biodiversity by restricting native plant growth.
  - Giant hogweed growing on the upper reaches near the Elton Reservoir end, is a very dangerous plant for which the sap can cause serious skin burns. It contains furocoumarin, which makes skin extremely sensitive to sunlight (phytophotodermatitis).
  - Trees growing into the structure of the canal and can cause damage to the sides and will eventually impact on the structural integrity.
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3. The ambitious and exciting Restoration Feasibility Study commissioned in 2020 jointly by Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal Society, the Canal & Rivers Trust, Bury Council and Bolton Council for the full restoration of the 5-mile stretch of canal through Bury to Bolton.

**The Council resolved to:**

1. Look at ways of preventing fly-tipping and littering from Council owned land such as car parks and bridges crossing the canal
2. Work to ensure visibility in currently obscured areas of access to the canal to prevent risk of crime, anti-social behaviour, and damage to property such as graffiti
3. Working with the police to address the safety concerns of residents accessing and using the tow path
4. Call on the Canal and Rivers Trust to adopt a strategy to stop the water in the canal dropping to a level hazardous to wildlife
5. Maintain our commitment to the full restoration of the canal through Bury and Radcliffe as expressed in the 2020 Restoration Feasibility Study.
6. Write to the relevant Minister making the case for funding for the restoration, which our study estimates would bring £1 million per annum in socio-economic benefits to Bury and Radcliffe.
7. Continue as an active partner in the maintenance and restoration of the canal through the participation of our officer and member representatives on the MBBC steering group.

Accordingly, I am writing to you in relation to this matter. I look forward to your response so that an update can be provided to Members of Bury Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Little'.

**Geoff Little OBE**  
**Chief Executive**

11 October 2022



Department for Corporate Core Services

The Rt Hon Liz Truss MP  
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Letter sent via email to:

Dear Prime Minister,

**Reference: Freeze Energy Prices With A Windfall Tax On Oil And Gas Companies**

Bury Council at its Full Council meeting on 21 September 2022 debated a notice of motion in relation to freezing energy prices by implementing a windfall tax on oil and gas companies.

**The Council recognised and noted that:**

1. The announcement that the Government will now cap energy bills for typical a household to £2500, nearly £1500 higher than two years ago.
2. That this cap will still leave households facing significantly higher bills and steep financial pressures.
3. That this change of policy will not be funded by a windfall tax on excessive profits within the oil and gas industries
4. That extortionate price hikes will still hit businesses, schools, local Councils, and hospitals which are excluded from the price cap and there are still reports that many vital local small businesses like small retailers, pubs and fish and chip shops may be forced to close.
5. That all of this come at a time when oil and gas companies are making enormous profits off the back of this crisis, giving out billions of pounds to shareholders.

This Council welcomes:

1. The Labour Party's plan to freeze the household energy price cap, halting a massive hike in energy bills and saving every household in Bury £1,000 this winter, and that this will be paid for by a windfall tax on excess profits from oil and gas companies.
2. The Labour Party's package of support to help businesses facing spiralling energy costs, including an increase in the Business Rates threshold for small businesses saving high street businesses up to £5,000.
3. The Labour Party's broader plan for energy sustainability and security as part of a £28 billion Climate Investment Pledge which includes proposals to upgrade energy efficiency in 19 million homes - saving families in Bury an average of over £1,000 a year off their energy bills - double our onshore and offshore wind capacity, triple our solar power production and end the delay on nuclear power.

**The Council resolved to:**

1. Write to the new Prime Minister urging them to adopt Labour's plans to save households in Bury £1,000 this winter through a windfall tax, start insulating millions of homes to save households money in future years and address our long-term energy needs through investment in sustainable, renewable energy.
2. Include in the letter our concerns about the rising cost of energy for public services, including schools, hospitals and local authorities – as well as local businesses – who are not subject to a cap.

3. Continue to do all we can as a local authority, through our new Anti-Poverty Strategy, to support those residents most in need through the cost-of-living crisis, with £2.5 million targeted support this year for households in Bury.

Accordingly, I am writing to you in relation to this matter. I look forward to your response so that an update can be provided to Members of Bury Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G P Little'.

**Geoff Little OBE**  
**Chief Executive**

THE RT HON ALEC SHEL BROOKE MP  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PROCUREMENT

4/6/21/ap

5 October 2022

Dear Cllr Eamonn,

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 September 2022, regarding the lack of maintenance and repairs to Castle Armoury in Bury, which I understand has recently resulted in the closure of the building on safety grounds.

Whilst I recognise the importance of Castle Armoury to the identity and history of Bury, the safety of the Service personnel who use the site is of the utmost priority to the Ministry of Defence (MOD). The degree of repairs required to the building is extensive and includes the complete replacement of both the existing roof covering and the gas heating system, in addition to a complete electrical rewire. I'm sure you will appreciate this level of work will require considerable funding.

Regrettably, the Reserve Forces and Cadets' Association (RFCA) is only funded by MOD to undertake Mandatory Inspections and Tests and very limited reactive maintenance of the Estate, and, it was for this reason, that the Head of Establishment made the difficult decision to close the building and re-locate the reserve and cadet units which are housed there.

Over the next few months, further work will be undertaken by the MOD, and the RFCA, to determine the level of works required at the site. Pending this work being undertaken, I regret to inform you that there are no plans to reopen the site.

I was pleased to hear that the Council is working with its voluntary and community sector, the Armed Forces Champion and the Chair of Bury Council Armoury Trust to explore any external funding which may be available. The RFCA is also engaging with the Trust and will continue to participate in meetings with local stakeholders.

I trust my response explains the Department's position on this matter.



**THE RT HON ALEC SHEL BROOKE MP**

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien  
Leader  
Bury Council  
Department for Corporate Core Services

**Copy to:**

Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities Armed Forces Champion

Cllr Russell Bernstein, Leader of Bury Conservatives

Cllr Mike Smith, Leader of Radcliffe First

Christian Wakeford, Member of Parliament for Bury South

James Daly, Member of Parliament for Bury North