

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

*Our Ref* JG  
*Your Ref* C/JG  
*Date* 10 January 2023  
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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, 18 January 2023
<b>Place:</b>	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
<b>Time:</b>	6.45 pm
<b>Briefing Facilities:</b>	If Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
<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 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### 4 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 16)

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December are attached.

### 5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Pages 17 - 22)

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

Recommendation		
Cabinet – 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Appointment of deputy mayor.	TBC

### 7 COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME (Pages 23 - 28)

Report attached.

### 8 APPOINTMENT OF ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER (Pages 29 - 30)

Report attached.

### 9 ESTABLISHMENT OF GREATER MANCHESTER JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CLEAN AIR (Pages 31 - 36)

Report attached.

### 10 GREATER MANCHESTER INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL (Pages 37 - 40)

Report attached.

### 11 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME (Pages 41 - 66)

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. (15 minutes)

12 **COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES** (Pages 67 - 78)

(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.

13 **\*\*\* SHORT ADJOURNMENT\*\*\***

14 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

**(i) Scrap Voter I.D. Requirement for Local Elections 2023**

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:

- With the passage of the Elections Act last April, voters will now have to present identification when they go to vote in person.
- If an eligible voter does not have or cannot present identification, they will be turned away.
- According to government-issued research, 2% of eligible voters have no form of photo ID, and 4% of eligible voters have no form of recognisable ID. For Bury, this means thousands of eligible voters would be at risk of not being able to vote.
- The 344-page legal guidelines setting out how the system will operate were only put before parliament in November 2022 and have only just come into effect, giving election officials minimal time to respond.
- The Association of Electoral Administrators has said it is already concerned about the tightness of timescales and recruiting enough temporary staff for polling stations.
- The Electoral Commission, the official watchdog that will oversee the rollout of voter ID, has said the timetable could affect some eligible voters' ability to vote in the May 2023 local elections, saying there was a risk of confusion and of valid voters being turned away, which could damage wider confidence in

elections.

- The Local Government Association (LGA) has also shared concerns that there is insufficient time ahead of the May 2023 elections to introduce the requirement to show photo ID and are calling for a delay of the process.

This Council resolves to:

- Write to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities expressing our opposition to the new requirements and calling for a delay to the introduction of voter I.D. requirements for the local elections in May 2023.
- Write to the Members of Parliament for Bury South and Bury North requesting that they also write to the Secretary of State expressing opposition to the new requirements and call for a delay to the introduction of voter I.D. requirements for the local elections in May 2023.
- In the situation where our resolutions are ignored or rejected, to call on the Returning Officer to run a comprehensive voter registration campaign and voter I.D. awareness campaign in the run up to the local elections in May 2023. This would include, but not be limited to:
  1. Correspondence to all households about the new requirements
  2. Targeted communication to those most likely not to have accepted identification
  3. Engagement with schools and colleges encouraging younger people to register to vote

(ii) **Withdrawal of Bury Council from the Places for Everyone Plan**

A motion has 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 Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities recently made a statement in the house of commons in relation to an update on the levelling up bill.

In this statement the Secretary of State confirmed that he believes that the plan-making process for housing has to start with a number. This number the Secretary of State went on to say should be an advisory starting point, a guide from that is not mandatory.

The Secretary of State further added it will be up to Local Authorities, working with their communities, to determine how many homes can actually be built, taking into account what should be protected in each area-be that our precious green belt or national parks.

The Secretary of State further outlined how those local authorities with local plans at an advanced stage of preparation who will not benefit from these provisions can take advantage of transitional arrangements to produce plans that are compliant with the new guidance. Although this Council is part of the Places for Everyone submission we have no adopted local plan. As such the housing need calculation made within Places for Everyone is now obsolete and not in line with national guidance. As such it is clear that Bury's local plan must produced in line with the new national guidance. Bearing in mind the clarification outlined in the Secretary of State's statement in the house of commons;

**This council resolves to;**

- Withdraw Bury Council from the Places for Everyone Plan as an immediate priority.
- Develop a joint approach to calculating housing need though community

consultation and a reinforced brownfield first policy.

- Make a public commitment to protect the Borough's precious green belt by removing Simister, Walshaw and Elton reservoir sites from any future local plan

15 **COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER** (Pages 79 - 86)

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

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

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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).