

# AGENDA FOR CABINET



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**To: All Members of Cabinet**

**Councillors :** E O'Brien (Leader and Cabinet Member, Strategic Growth and Skills) (Chair), C Cummins (Cabinet Member, Housing Services), R Gold (Cabinet Member, Finance and Communities), C Morris (Cabinet Member, Culture and the Economy), A Quinn (Cabinet Member, Environment, Climate Change and Operations), T Rafiq (Cabinet Member, Corporate Affairs and HR), L Smith (Cabinet Member Children and Young People) and T Tariq (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member, Health and Wellbeing)

Dear Member/Colleague

## **Cabinet**

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

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 11 January 2023
<b>Place:</b>	Bury Town Hall
<b>Time:</b>	6.00 pm
<b>Briefing Facilities:</b>	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
<b>Notes:</b>	

## **AGENDA**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of Cabinet are asked to consider whether they have an interest in any of the matters of the Agenda and, if so, to formally declare that interest.

### **3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Questions are invited from members of the public about the work of the Cabinet.

Notice of any question must be given to Democratic Services by midday on Monday, 9 January 2023. Approximately 30 minutes will be set aside for Public Question Time, if required.

### **4 MEMBER QUESTION TIME**

Questions are invited from Elected Members about items on the Cabinet agenda. 15 minutes will be set aside for Member Question Time, if required.

Notice of any Member question must be given to the Monitoring Officer by midday Friday, 6 January 2023.

### **5 MINUTES *(Pages 5 - 8)***

Minutes from the meeting held on 14 December 2022 are attached.

### **6 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

To consider the appointment of Deputy Mayor for 2023/34.

### **7 DEVELOPMENT OF AN ONSIDE YOUTH ZONE**

This report has been withdrawn from the agenda.

### **8 PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF TOWNFIELD'S CLOSE FOR THE DELIVERY OF OLDER PERSONS AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME- PYRAMID PARK PHASE 1 *(Pages 9 - 20)***

Report of the Cabinet Member for Housing Services and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills is attached.

### **9 PROGRAMME PLAN FOR FUTURE SPECIALIST RESOURCED PROVISION - UPDATE ON PROGRESS *(Pages 21 - 28)***

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People is attached.

**10 BURY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BURY BID) - COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON THE BURY BID BOARD OF DIRECTORS** *(Pages 29 - 32)*

Report of the Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills is attached.

**11 MINUTES OF ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES / GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY** *(Pages 33 - 46)*

To consider the minutes of meetings of the AGMA Executive Board and Greater Manchester Combined Authority held on 25 November 2022.

**12 URGENT BUSINESS**

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

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**Minutes of:** CABINET

**Date of Meeting:** 14 December 2022

**Present:** Councillor E O'Brien (in the Chair)  
Councillors C Cummins, R Gold, C Morris, A Quinn, T Rafiq,  
L Smith and T Tariq

**Also in attendance:** Councillors R Bernstein, M Smith, N Boroda, D Quinn and  
J Rydeheard

**Public Attendance:** No members of the public were present at the meeting.

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**CA.97 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies received.

**CA.98 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**CA.99 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions.

**CA.100 MEMBER QUESTION TIME**

The following question was submitted in advance of the meeting by Councillor Jack Rydeheard:

Will the Council be preparing a bid for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Culture Fund, starting from 2023, or if it has already prepared one, may the Cabinet Member responsible share the details of the bid?

Responding, Councillor Morris reported that the Council had not made an application as Local Authorities were not eligible to apply for the two 'pillars' that were open, but that two of our cultural partners, the Met and Lancaster Fusiliers, had applied.

The Greater Manchester Culture fund has been refreshed over recent months, following sector-wide engagement in which Bury Council was actively involved in. The revised fund has five pillars to support delivery of the city-region's culture strategy 'Grown in Greater Manchester. Known Around the World'. The Strategic pillar is being managed through the Combined Authority and Bury has benefited from this previously as the region's inaugural Town of Culture. In November, applications for the Spirit and Sustain pillars opened, and on the 7th November these were promoted to cultural partners in the Borough. These pillars were for cultural organisations delivering as part of Greater Manchester's cultural ecosystem.

The Inspire and Collaborate strands will open in the new year. The inspire pillar is made up of one off development grants to support practitioners, freelancers and community organisations and will be promoted through the community hub network.

The Collaborate strand provides funding for organisations in the region to form consortia to deliver on the GM Strategy. The Council will review the full guidance for these pillars once they are published and determine the most appropriate opportunities to maximise the benefit of this funding for the Borough, and the Council's role within this, e.g. supporting awareness/ development of proposals where these need to be led or submitted by an organisation other than a local authority.

**CA.101 MINUTES**

**It was agreed:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**CA.102 TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY UPDATE**

Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which provided a detailed update on the implementation of the Transformation Strategy through the three programmes of work in the Let's Do It! Strategy and the parallel digital strategy, and the ways in which the work has evolved since the launch of the Strategy in July 2021. Members discussed the report, noting the challenging context and the need for everyone to work together to set achievable targets and to ensure the Council realised them.

**Decision:**

Cabinet:

1. Noted the delivery of planned activity against the three strands of the programme in 2022/23 and 2023/24;
2. Endorsed work to deliver the remaining savings for 2023/24 including staff consultation where required;
3. Recognised the savings achieved from the work to date, including the in-year mitigations;
4. Approved the request to remove Procurement as a savings target to be removed from the Transformation Strategy, recognising that the £1m gap that this will create will be added to the overall financial gap of the Council which will be addressed as part of setting a balanced budget for 2023/24 and beyond; and
5. Agreed that the programme is now re-defined into the respective workstreams of digital and estates transformation as proposed.

**Reasons for the decision:**

N/A

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

N/A

**CA.103 MILLWOOD PRIMARY SPECIAL SCHOOL: UPDATE ON REMEDIATION PROGRAMME & EXPANSION PROPOSAL**

Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which provided an update on the remediation programme and set out a proposal to expand capacity at Millwood in order to meet increasing demands for local

specialist provision. In response to Members' questions it was noted that the initial contractors were being used as this reflected the best route to achieve speed of delivery without compromising on quality. In terms of timescales, it was noted that there was an aspiration completion date in 2024, but this would depend on the views and needs of the school and its current pupils.

**Decision:**

Cabinet:

1. Noted the progress made to date in relation to the roof remediation scheme; and
2. Approved the submission of a business case to the North West Construction Hub (NWCH) requesting that a direct award be made to ISG for the Millwood expansion project.

**Reasons for the decision:**

There are extenuating circumstances applicable in this situation that support proceeding with this method. These are outlined in the body of the report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

It would not be possible to have two main contractors on site simultaneously from a health and safety perspective, site management, and the efficient running of the school during construction works. If this project were not awarded to ISG the new build accommodation works would not be commenced until 2025 and completed until 2026, this does not respond to the urgent need for the additional accommodation.

**CA.104 CHILDREN'S SERVICES EDUCATION AND EARLY HELP RESTRUCTURE PROPOSALS**

Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which sought approval in principle to progress to formal consultation with affected staff on the next phase of the transformation of Children's Services, setting out proposed changes to the Education Directorate. In response to Members questions it was noted that new posts in phase 2 should be faster to fill as there was no national recruitment issues for these posts.

**Decision:**

Cabinet:

1. Agreed in principle the commencement of consultation with affected staff in January 2023 on the proposed structural changes to the education division, as set out within the body of this report;
2. Noted that this agreement is subject to identification of sufficient recurrent funding upon receipt of the Local Government Settlement in late December; and
3. Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Children and Young People and the Cabinet Members for Children's Services and HR and Corporate Affairs, in consultation with the Director of People and Inclusion and Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer to consider responses received from the consultation and produce a final version of the structure.

**Reasons for the decision:**

The proposal sets out a plan of transformation of Children's Services, necessary to both integrate and align services to improve the delivery of our statutory education responsibilities across education and SEND.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The rationale for the proposal is driven by the requirement upon Bury Council to improve Children's Services, which includes the need to ensure compliance with statutory legislation and to align and strengthen our services around SEND and statutory duties in relation to Elective Home Education, Children Missing in Education, attendance and exclusions.

**CA.105 APPOINTMENTS UPDATE**

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. In response to Members' questions Jacqui Dennis, Director of Law and Democratic Services, advised that the costs from Counsel for their advice concerning this appointment would be shared with Members one available, and that this Panel was discharging formal functions and the appointment had been made in consideration of political proportionality across the Council.

**Decision:**

Cabinet noted the appointments and amendments to appointments made since the Annual Meeting of Council as set out in the report.

**Reasons for the decision:**

N/A

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

N/A

**CA.106 MINUTES OF ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES / GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY**

**It was agreed:**

That the minutes of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority meeting held on 28 October 2022 be noted.

**CA.107 URGENT BUSINESS**

The Leader thanked officers across the Council for their work over 2022, including Democratic Services and the Exec Team. He also thanked his fellow Cabinet Members, Opposition Members and all Councillors for their engagement with Cabinet business over the year.

**COUNCILLOR E O'BRIEN**

**Chair**

**(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.25 pm)**





<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 11 January 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Proposed Disposal of Townfield's Close for the delivery of Older Persons Affordable Housing Scheme– Pyramid Park Phase 1	
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Housing Services Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills	

## 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Townfield's Close is a disused council owned brownfield site. Located within the Bury East ward, it is less than 500 metres from Bury College. The site is located close to Six Town Housing (STH) and Irwell Valley Housing Association (IVHA) social housing properties. A council owned sheltered housing scheme is located a short walk away. The site is within the Pyramid Park site and is currently vacant. A site map is provided in section 5.3.
- 1.2 Whilst Townfield's Close is currently used informally by residents as an 'urban park', the site was transferred as a working public park to the Council's Property Services team in 2010/11 as part of the wider plans to develop Pyramid Park. The site has recently been added to the Council's Accelerated Land Disposal Programme (ALDP) and deemed surplus to requirement. In March 2020 Cabinet approved the Townfield's Close site as part of a suite of 'First Phase Housing sites'. This is the last remaining site undeveloped from the original programme. Since this time the site has remained undeveloped, is unmaintained and subject to some low level anti-social behaviour. The loss of public open space will be considered at the appropriate time and referenced in Section 12.
- 1.3 In line with the Bury Town Centre Masterplan 2021, the area is identified for mix community/intergenerational use and with this in mind, the proposed new development will take access from Townfield's Close.
- 1.4 If approved the development will see pedestrian/cycle/secondary access into the wider Pyramid Park, thus ensuring access to the proposed Interchange and tram/train plans for new and existing residents. The proposed development at Townfield's Close will be phase 1 of a wider opportunity to enhance biodiversity across the area and create a corridor of green spaces. The development is expected to complement a further phase of family housing (open market and affordable) and aspirational apartment scheme on the wider site, subject to future capital funding.

- 1.5 Bury's Housing Strategy 2021 identified a growing need for suitable housing bespoke for older people. The strategy refers to the need to cater for Bury's active older people aged 60-74 who may be looking to downsize to more manageable homes within reach of a 'sheltered village'. Similarly in the importance of meeting the needs of Bury's more frail older people (75 and over) is referenced including the need for extra care provision within a 'natural community' which the Bury Town Centre Masterplan identifies Pyramid Park as a suitable location for this.
- 1.6 In June 2022, Cabinet approved the Bury Adult Social Care for those with additional needs Vision, Strategy and Market Position Statement for sharing with stakeholders. This vision along with the Let's Do it Strategy advocates the need for people of Bury to be supported to live as independently as possible and when required receive support in the right way, at the right time, in the right place. The ASC vision also identifies this area as a suitable location to deliver the social care outcomes for this customer group.
- 1.7 Townfield's Close is allocated for development in Bury's Unitary Development Plan (UDP) for business / office use, however the proposal for residential development at Pyramid Park comes from the Bury Town Centre Masterplan – Zone H: Southern Gateway.
- 1.8 The proposed use of the site for 100% affordable housing has been directed through a review of housing need, in line with the Council's Housing Strategy, Bury Town Centre Masterplan and overall Corporate Strategy. Given this specific use type, a route to market must be chosen to ensure the Council receives best value for the asset, whilst ensuring a competent party is chosen with capacity, track record and skillset to deliver the housing effectively.
- 1.9 The Council developed a Registered Provider Framework in 2022. Participants within this framework were selected based on a wide range of detailed criteria, covering experience, financial standing, environmental and social value criteria. Use of the framework provides an efficient and statutory compliant route to market for the site, ensuring that competitive tension is maintained in the process and that only pre-approved providers bid for the site. This route to market reduces the risk that a sub-standard development will come forward and that the development will progress in line with the Council's aspirations and housing need/demand in this specific locality.
- 1.10 A RICS red book valuation will be sought at the appropriate time to benchmark bids received via the Registered Provider (RP) framework. The pressing need for older people's housing in the town centre has dictated a need to prioritise the site for 100% affordable use. The council will devise an appropriate disposal methodology to balance the specific needs of the local population against the requirement to deliver a moderate capital receipt for the site.

- 1.11 It is expected that c.35 properties can be provided on the land subject to site investigations and capacity proving. Given the proposed use as 100% affordable housing scheme, it is not expected to generate a significant capital receipt. However, the proposed procurement exercise will include a requirement to provide a satisfactory receipt to the council.

## **2.0 Overview**

- 2.1 In November 2022 the council's housing strategy identified Townfield's Close site as a location for a 100% affordable housing scheme for older people, owing to the shortage of high quality town centre provision. The approval sought takes into account the sheltered housing review, which prioritises a nearby sheltered housing scheme within the vicinity of Townfield's Close.
- 2.2 There is potential for eligible residents of the council's sheltered housing schemes to become direct beneficiaries of the proposed redevelopment, releasing existing sheltered housing sites for further development. This proposal is expected to maximise the wider master-planning opportunities in and around Market Street and the council's car parking strategy.
- 2.3 A review of the Council's sheltered housing schemes has taken place previously and a proposal will be brought back to Cabinet considering the options for these buildings / sites in due course.
- 2.4 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. The new framework has been competitively tendered and alongside the valuation this will ensure the Council achieves best value for the land, in accordance with the requirements of s123 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 2.5 Six registered providers have been appointed to the framework:
- Six Town Housing
  - Great Places Housing Group
  - Mosscafe St Vincent's
  - Onward Homes
  - Irwell Valley Homes
  - Bolton at Home
- 2.6 It is advised that an RP is procured via the above framework to ensure a variety of bids come forwards. A procurement exercise is expected to take up to 6 weeks. The incoming RP would potentially benefit from Homes England grant (subject to need/viability assessment) and this would also determine the tenure mix.
- 2.7 Prior to the sale of the land taking place, Brownfield Land Release Funding is being sourced to help remediate and unlock access to the wider Pyramid Park and will include Townfield's Close given the interdependency. If this bid is successful the funding will prepare the land for the phase 1 of housing on

Townfields and unlock the wider site for future development. The full terms and conditions of the grant will be reviewed as part of the application process during February/March 2023.

- 2.8 This report seeks approval to dispose of Townfield's Close to a registered provider on the framework, for the delivery of a low carbon, affordable housing scheme for older people (65+), subject to procurement regulations. If approved the development will help facilitate delivery of identified priorities within the Housing Strategy, Housing Vision for social care and assist in progressing a key strategic site in the Town Centre Masterplan.

### **3.0 Recommendation(s)**

That Cabinet;

- 3.1 Approve the proposals for the disposal and redevelopment of Townfield's Close as set out within this report, to expedite delivery of the priorities within the Housing Strategy, Adult Social Care vision for housing and Town Centre Masterplan.
- 3.2 Delegate the finalised terms of this disposal to the Council's Section 151 Officer, Director of Law & Democratic Services and Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Director of Housing and Cabinet Member for Housing Services.

### **Reasons for recommendation(s)**

- 3.3 Facilitate the Councils 'brownfield first' approach to housing delivery and reduce revenue costs for holding, maintaining and securing long-term disused sites.
- 3.4 To facilitate delivery of the Housing Strategy 2021, 'Let's Do It' strategy and Bury's housing vision for ASC, which puts the spotlight on making every decision about care, a decision about housing.
- 3.5 Delivery of much needed, low carbon affordable homes for older people to relieve pressures on housing waiting lists and address shortages of accommodation in the town centre for this demographic group.
- 3.6 Prioritise residents of existing sheltered housing schemes are prioritised as the first beneficiaries (following consultation) and offered the opportunity of improved housing at Townfield's Close.
- 3.7 Unlock nearby underutilised sites for wider integration within master planning activity within the Market St area for further redevelopment.
- 3.8 Support a Phase 1 of a wider Pyramid Park multi-generational living development.

- 3.9 Promote innovation and ensure that the Council meets the obligations of the best value requirements of s123 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 3.10 Create wider social, environmental and financial benefits including additional council tax revenue.

#### **4.0 Alternative options considered and rejected**

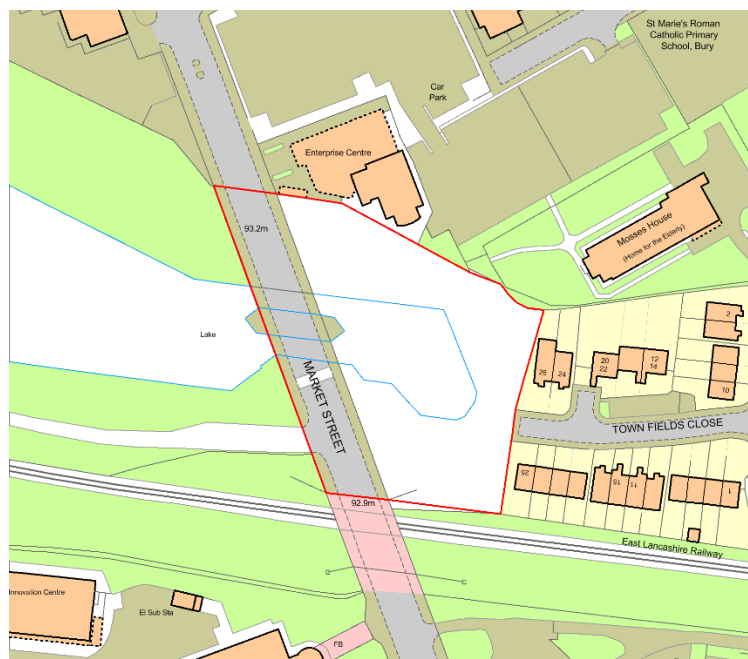
- 4.1 Do nothing: Bury has high levels of need for affordable housing in general and older people specifically and supply is required in the marketplace immediately. This is a brownfield site suitable for housing in an area of high demand, to do nothing would not be an option.
- 4.2 Market the site on the open market: This option has been discounted. Given its location and future use of Pyramid Park, the site has been identified as an appropriate location as an affordable housing scheme for older people, and this model would not be delivered by a private developer in the current housebuilding marketplace.
- 4.3 Direct development of the site in partnership with a Registered Provider (RP). This scenario would require the site to continue to be owned by the Council and managed by the RP. This option would require capital funding from the HRA and would generate revenue income back to the HRA from rents and service charges. This option has been rejected on the basis that it would require the council to contribute capital, take on ongoing maintenance liabilities for the site and provide development management resources.
- 4.4 Develop the site as part of the wider Pyramid Park development. This option was discounted, as the wider site is subject to TfGM interchange and tram/train proposal due to come forward in 2026/27. Whilst Townfield's Close and Pyramid Park can be jointly remediated (in the interim), the housing scheme on Townfields section can be brought forward sooner as the site is unaffected by the interchange and tram/train proposal.

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#### **5.0 Background**

- 5.1 Townfield's Close is a 1.013 -acre, long-term disused Council owned site within the Bury East ward. It is situated close to the college and designated Cultural Zone (Bury Masterplan Zone E) in Bury Town Centre. The scheme will form part of the initial phase of the larger Pyramid Park programme.
- 5.2 The site is situated close to existing social / affordable rented housing managed by Six Town Housing and Irwell Valley, forming a natural conduit between the two and the future development of multigenerational housing at Pyramid Park.
- 5.3 Please see Figure 1 for map of location.

Figure 1



## 6.0 Proposed Development

- 6.1 Based on previous assessments, the site has capacity for circa 35 homes depending on the mix of house types. The new development would offer a range of affordable tenures including social rent, affordable rent/shared ownership in accordance with any applicable Homes England funding which the incoming RP may/may not attract to the scheme. The percentage mix of tenure will be agreed during the procurement stage. It should be noted, the Council's preference is for social rent where possible. The proposed scheme is expected to include single level accommodation to help re-balance the housing stock. Grant subsidy would be required from Homes England to support development costs, subject to a satisfactory development appraisal.
- 6.2 The new homes would be built to 'Future Homes Standards', incorporating low carbon technologies, energy efficient heating systems to reduce fuel bills, natural sustainable drainage and nesting bricks to side elevations to encourage wildlife, offering significant benefits to residents, the Council and the environment.
- 6.3 All properties would be owned and managed by a registered provider but the Council would retain 100% nomination rights to all social/affordable rent homes in perpetuity. Generally, the Council would only be entitled to 100% nomination rights on all first lets and 50% thereafter.
- 6.4 The proposal will help to mitigate the risks associated with existing deteriorating sheltered housing stock and improve the living standards and health outcomes of existing eligible residents over the age of 65.

## **7.0 Housing Need & Intelligence**

- 7.1 The Council is currently facing significant financial challenge alongside an increased demand for services. At present, around £22 million of the adult social care budget is spent on a range of services and support for older people and those with cognitive, physical or sensory care needs.
- 7.2 The Housing Needs and Demand Assessment (HN&DA) for Bury reveals that its population is increasing; from 191,841 in 2020 to 198,241 in 2030; representing a 5.6% increase.
- 7.3 There is estimated to be a marked increase in the number and proportion of older residents in the borough. The number of 65+ residents stood at 35,225 in 2020 but will increase by 5,126 by 2030 (up by 14.6%) and by 8,410 by 2037 (up by 23.9%).
- 7.4 A Housing Market Position Statement undertaken in 2021 suggests that Bury collectively needs an additional 114 units of accommodation for older people. On a more localised level the HN&DA Bury township profile identifies a need of the following types of affordable dwellings:
- one bedroom flats
  - two or three bedroom flats
  - one or two bedroom bungalows
- 7.5 Bury's Let's Do It 2030 Strategy identifies a key housing priority as "Building houses that are homes" with a focus on additional support that enables people to live a healthy / later life.
- 7.6 A key focus of the Housing Strategy is to address the shortfall in housing provision for older people and increase options for specialist groups, to drive better quality outcomes for individuals and enable more people to live independently in the Borough for as long as possible.
- 7.7 The proposed disposal at Townfield's Close to develop older peoples housing would deliver a significant element of the identified shortfall and provide a catalyst to housing within the wider Pyramid Park scheme.

## **8.0 Next Steps**

- 8.1 If approved, the council's RP framework will be used as a route to market for the development. Senior officers and key stakeholders will develop a procurement brief, setting out the Council's requirements and desired outcomes for the disposal of Townfield's Close, including future housing mix and tenure. Site investigations will also be undertaken to determine extent of remediation works and suitability of the proposed housing scheme.

- 8.2 The disposal will be managed in a way that;
- enables an increased and improved housing offer for older people (over 65).
  - unlock a further nearby Brownfield site for development as part of a wider master planning exercise in the Market Street area.
  - delivers outcomes in Bury Town Centre Masterplan.
  - Takes into account Brownfield Land Release Funding helping to remediate the land and unlock the wider Pyramid Park site.
- 8.3 Members of the Registered Provider Partnership Framework will be invited to submit bids through The Chest.
- 8.4 Applications will be assessed against a range of performance criteria and quantitative and qualitative assessments, including previous experience and expertise of developing and delivering Older Peoples accommodation. The successful provider will work with the Council to deliver the proposed scheme.
- 8.5 Brownfield Land Release funding will be pursued in tandem to lever in funding to remediate the land and that of the wider pyramid park scheme, subject to a successful funding bid in Spring. Should this be unsuccessful the remediation costs will fall to the incoming RP and thus the development is not dependent on this funding.
- 8.6 A project plan with risk register, key milestones and timelines will be established to monitor progress, enabling the Council to take control and accelerate delivery.
- 8.7 Subject to approval, it is anticipated the successful registered provider will commence delivery in 2024 (subject to planning permission being approved).
- 8.8 Consultation will be undertaken with residents at specific sheltered housing schemes, who are expected to be the first tranche of tenants.

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**9.0 Links with the Corporate Priorities:**

- 9.1 This proposal contributes towards meeting the Council's priorities across a range of policy areas including increasing the supply of affordable housing to meet the current and future housing needs of older people.
- 9.2 It sets out plans for the delivery of a housing development on brownfield land and an opportunity to create successful and inclusive neighbourhoods in conjunction with the ambitions of the Bury 2030 Let's do it Strategy.

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**10. Equality Impact and Considerations:**

- 10.1 This proposal demonstrates a positive impact on people with protected characteristics. It recognises the specific housing needs of older people



including and seeks to ensure an affordable rental tenure and house types across the site to meet the needs of residents.

- 10.2 The redevelopment of this site will result in the regeneration of a key location in the town centre, which will help improve the local environment by reducing opportunity for anti-social behaviour including fly-tipping. The development will also provide much needed affordable homes for the Borough’s older generation.

**11. Environmental Impact and Considerations:**

- 11.1 The new homes would be highly sustainable, including the installation of energy efficiency measures to reduce fuel bills and cut carbon emissions.
- 11.2 Nesting bricks to side elevations in shaded areas will encourage wildlife and provide nesting opportunities.

**Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:**

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
The scheme doesn’t attract any bids via the RP Framework.	If there is no interest from members of the framework the Council may, at its discretion, offer the land to other registered providers and house builders who are not members of the framework.
The Council fails to achieve best value for the land in accordance with s123 of the Local Government Act 1972	Disposal of the land in the manner set out in the report would ensure that best value is achieved.

**12. Legal Implications:**

- 12.1 A full site due diligence exercise is currently being undertaken, the results of which will be fed into the tender exercise.
- 12.2 A public open space notice process will need to be undertaken prior to disposal. The notice pursuant to s123 (2A) of the Local Government Act 1972 will allow Members of the public to object to the disposal of the open land. The Council will give consideration to any objection received to the proposed disposal within 28 days of the publication of the notice.
- 12.3 Approval to dispose of this land has not previously been agreed for this purpose. The Council must ensure that it meets the obligations of the best value requirements of s123 of the Local Government Act 1972 a RCIS Red book valuation will be commissioned to ensure that the Council obtains best

value for the land as set out in the body of the report. Detailed legal advice will be provided at all stages.

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### **13.0 Financial Implications:**

- 13.1 This scheme will enable the construction of affordable homes for older people. The new homes may generate some savings to the adult social care budget, a number of savings associated with housing and care are already built into the closing the financial gap work from 2023/24 financial year as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy refresh which was reported to Cabinet in October. There is also a saving from reduced revenue costs for maintaining and securing long-term disused sites.
- 13.2 The development proposals when complete would generate additional council tax revenue and contribute towards housing growth targets. On the basis of compliance with the government's programme and dependent upon the wider delivery of housing supply, the development proposals have the potential to generate New Homes Bonus payments. However, this is reliant upon the Council achieving the minimum threshold for new housing developments.
- 13.3 The disposal of the land will also generate a capital receipt for the Council. A RICS red book valuation will be sought as part of the procurement exercise to ensure bids from parties on the RP framework are compliant with best value principles.
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### **Report Author and Contact Details**

*Name: Roz Catlow – Patterson*

*Position: Major Projects Manager*

*Department: BGI*

*E-mail: R.Catlow-Patterson@bury.gov.uk*

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### **Appendices:**

*Please list any appended documents.*

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### **Background papers:**

*Please list any background documents to this report and include a hyperlink where possible.*

Progression of five Council owned sites for housing development 25/3/2020 - <https://councildecisions.bury.gov.uk/documents/s20900/First%20Phase%20Housing%20Sites%2025th%20March%202020FINALPart%20A.pdf>

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

Term	Meaning
The Chest	The Northwest e-portal for procurement where local authorities (and some other public bodies) advertise some of their tenders.
Registered Provider (RP)	Also known as a housing association.
Housing Needs and Demand Assessment (HN&DA)	Data available on Bury's townships
STH	Six Town Housing
IVHA	Irwell Valley Housing Association
UDP	Unitary Development Plan

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<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 11 January 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Programme plan for future Specialist Resourced Provision – update on progress	
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	

## 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Cabinet is requested to consider a report updating on the progress made to date in relation to the delivery of the specialist place sufficiency plan contained within Project Safety Valve, which set out ambitious plans to increase specialist resourced provision in mainstream schools, alongside the development of new Free Special Schools.
- 1.2 The report contains an overview of ongoing projects necessary to deliver the new resourced Provision Units, including indicative delivery programmes and associated capital costs, and seeks approval to financial commitments in accordance with Council financial regulations.

## 2.0 Background

### 2.1 Project Safety Valve and SEND Transformation

- 2.2 Working with the DfE in its Project Safety Valve programme (PSV), the Council has developed ambitious plans to transform its arrangements in respect of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- 2.3 The PSV programme considers all aspects of the Council's approach to SEND, which includes a comprehensive approach to understanding the sufficiency requirements across the local area, and an extensive programme to deliver increased capacity of high quality, local specialist provision.
- 2.4 Within the programme, the Council has developed a SEND sufficiency strategy which seeks to respond to the lack of maintained specialist provision to meet current and forecast increased demands from within the resident population.
- 2.5 From this, a programme has been developed to deliver increased capacity through the establishment of a number of new Resourced Provision units linked to mainstream schools, in addition to the establishment of three new Special Schools, together with the expansion of Millwood Special school. This will provide access to high quality local provision, whilst also reducing reliance on out of borough placements.
- 2.6 Bury currently has a significantly lower number of Resourced Provision places than nationally and regionally.

- 2.7 Current and forecast future patterns of demand have been analysed and mapped against current provision. This includes the likely pressure for specialist placements for children and young people currently in mainstream schools, which is particularly acute for those with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC), Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), especially in the primary sector.
- 2.8 The specialist place sufficiency strategy identified a number of schools capable of supporting the development of new Resourced Provision and the quantum of new places required to meet increasing demand from the local population.
- 2.9 It is planned to establish six new primary, and initially two new secondary Resourced Provisions, potentially growing the secondary capacity in future years. This is cognisant of two of the new Special Free Schools coming online in 2023/24 and 2025/26, both of which will meet secondary age demand.
- 2.10 The Council has received additional capital funding through the Safety Valve agreement to support this programme of investment.
- 2.11 Specifications and Service Level Agreements have been developed for the delivery of new provision to ensure that they are aligned to meeting the needs identified.
- 2.12 Capital schemes to support the development of the proposals have or are in the process of being developed. Capital funding has been identified within the Children's Services Capital Programme utilising the additional capital grant allocated by the DfE.
- 2.13 Indicative delivery programmes have been mapped for each scheme. All are unique in terms of their requirements and each poses its own level of associated risk. For the majority of schemes, capital funding will be passported to the school/trust concerned to deliver the project. Appropriate quality assurance and financial control mechanisms will be put in place to mitigate the risk.
- 2.14 In addition, a detailed programme plan, with associated risk assessment is in place. The PSV Delivery Board and Schools Capital Board have oversight of these.
- 2.15 Once the detail is developed for each proposal, for LA maintained schools, statutory proposals will need to be published in order to make the legal change necessary to implement the change for each of those schools. The outcome of consultation on these statutory changes will be brought back to Cabinet at a later date for Cabinet determination.
- 2.16 For Academies, the relevant Trust will need to apply directly to DfE to make the legal changes necessary to establish the resourced provisions.

2.17 The Council's standing orders require approval to expenditure in excess of £500,000 for individual projects contained within the agreed capital programme. The full capital cost of delivering the Resourced Provision programme is contained within the Children's Services capital programme. Approval is now sought in respect of the individual projects, a number of which exceed the £500,000 threshold, in order that tenders for those projects can be accepted.

2.18 A separate report will be presented to Cabinet at a later date in respect of the Free Special schools.

### 3.0 Summary of Proposals

School	Specialist Provision/ SEND need	Number of Places	Indicative Capital Expenditure	Target opening date	Comments
Chantlers Primary	SEMH	12	£420,000	Autumn 2023	Requires modest extension to existing school accommodation.
Gorsefield Primary	ASC/SLCN	12	£500,000	Autumn 2023	Requires building extension and internal remodelling.
Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary – Phase 2	ASC/SLCN	10	£400,000		Extension of the provision established Sept 22 to accommodate KS1 Requires additional accommodation which will link with wider Diocesan whole school development programme to which a capital contribution will be required.
Summers-eat Methodist Primary	SEMH (focus on anxiety)	10	£20,000	Autumn 2023	The provision can be accommodated within the existing school building, with some minor adaptation. The scheme will be progressed if the school is judged good or better at its next inspection.
Tottington Primary	SEMH	12	£400,000	Autumn 2023	Redesignation from PD. Requires extension & adaptation to existing accommodation.
Woodbank Primary	ASC/SLCN	12	£350,000	Autumn 2023	Modular solution being explored.

Hazel Wood Secondary	SEMH	12/15	£200,000	Autumn 2023	To be located in accommodation currently occupied by the secondary inclusion hub. Awaiting re-inspection.
The Derby Secondary	SEMH (focus on anxiety)	12/15	£500,000	Autumn 2023	Requires building adaptations

#### **4.0 Recommendation(s)**

That Cabinet:

- Note the progress made to date in relation to the development of specialist resourced provision in mainstream schools.
- Approve in principle the indicative capital commitments required to deliver the individual projects.

#### **4.1 Reasons for recommendation(s)**

Development of additional resourced provision in mainstream settings – as set out in the Project Safety Valve agreement between the Council and the Department for Education, is a key element of the specialist place sufficiency strategy. Taken together, the Agreement and strategy set out the business case for the development of new provision to meet increasing demand for specialist provision and reduce the reliance on placements in Independent and Non Maintained Special Schools (INMSS).

The PSV agreement between the Council and Department for Education (DfE) sets out the requirement for new specialist educational provision, including new Resourced Provision and new Free Special Schools. This includes a schedule of those mainstream schools where it is intended to establish new RP, the funding allocated to support delivery, and indicative timescales for delivery.

The agreement has been subject to consideration by Cabinet and the Children & Young People's Scrutiny Committee and is subject to governance provided by the PSV Delivery Board and Schools Capital Board.

The development of new specialist provision seeks to ensure access to a high quality continuum of provision, enabling the majority of children and young people with additional needs to access local provision, with appropriate capacity and resources to meet need.

Long-term value for money will be achieved by pupils having their needs met within appropriate mainstream provision with specialist support rather than in special school provision. This will free up special school places for pupils with the highest level of needs and provide the opportunity to place high need pupils within the borough, rather than in out of borough provision. Increased capacity for outreach will deliver support for pupils in mainstream



settings, leading to fewer pupils being transferred to specialist provisions and improving inclusion opportunities in mainstream schools.

#### **4.2 Alternative options considered and rejected**

The projects support the Council's programme of SEND transformation, in expanding in borough specialist provision, targeted at the right areas of need.

#### **5.0 The Statutory Process**

5.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty to constantly review the specialist provision available for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), whilst also ensuring that there are sufficient specialist places available to meet the needs of the growing SEND population.

5.2 The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 (*'the Prescribed Alterations Regulations'*) set out the statutory process to be followed to establish SEND provision at Community and Voluntary Aided (VA) schools. Ordinarily the LA will be the decision maker on such proposals.

5.3 There are different arrangements in place for Academy Trusts wishing to make a significant change. The Department for Education (DfE) has produced guidance "*Making significant changes to an open academy and closure by mutual agreement*" which sets out the process that Academy Trusts must follow when proposing to make significant changes. Proposals to establish SEND provision requires the submission of a business case to the DfE. Whilst the LA must be consulted, decisions on academy proposals will be made by the DfE.

5.4 The schools identified to develop proposals to establish specialist resourced provision include Community, Voluntary Aided and Academies and will therefore be subject to the different statutory processes.

#### **Financial Implications**

Projects will be funded through the Children's Services Capital programme.

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#### **Report Author and Contact Details:**

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Position: Strategic Lead

Department: Education services

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**Links with the Corporate Priorities:**

*Please summarise how this links to the Let's Do It Strategy.*

The proposed increase in specialist resourced provision has the potential to support key ambitions of the Let's do it strategy:

- A better future for the children of the borough
- A better quality of life
- A better future for the children of the borough
- A chance to feel more part of the borough
- Building a fairer society that leaves no-one behind

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**Equality Impact and Considerations:**

*Please provide an explanation of the outcome(s) of an initial or full EIA.*

The outcomes of the initial equality analysis is positive.

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

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

eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.

advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

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

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**Environmental Impact and Considerations:**

*Please provide an explanation of the carbon impact of this decision.*

The contractors would be responsible for the design and delivery of the project and be required to demonstrate their commitment to lowering the carbon footprint in all projects.

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**Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:**

<b>Risk / opportunity</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
Lack of specialist support to school	Development of specification, Memorandum of Understanding, and revenue funding mechanism
Lack of commitment from school to progress the project	Development of specification, Memorandum of Understanding, and revenue funding mechanism
Project costs – costs contained within allocated resources	Detailed costs to be provided prior to agreement to proceed and monitoring procedures in place
Statutory Process – adverse representations – impact on Cabinet determination	Consultation and engagement with all stakeholders
Project delivery – Scheme delivered on time, RP to be established by agreed date.	Detailed delivery programme prior to agreement to proceed and monitoring procedures in place

**Legal Implications:**

On each project the statutory requirements will need to be followed as set out in Part 5 of this report. Provision 5 of the 2013 regulations sets out that a prescribed alteration can be the provision for special educational needs in a mainstream school. This includes the establishment of a provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with educational needs or a change in the type, or types of special educational provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs.

Cabinet are asked to make an in-principle decision in relation to the capital funding, each project will be subject to further detailed work during the procurement process.

**Financial Implications:**

The estimated costs as they are detailed within this paper are within the Education capital programme. However, the true costs of the works will not be known until the works are tendered and there are currently rising costs within the construction industry. It is essential for the delivery of the project safety valve financial targets that children are educated within borough provision rather than in higher costing out of borough placements. This is an ambitious programme to get all of this provision available by Autumn 2023 and there are a number of conditions that need to be met in order for this to be achievable.

**Background papers:**

*Please list any background documents to this report and include a hyperlink where possible.*

Project Safety Valve – SEND Sufficiency Place Planning

[Specialist Provision Place Planning](#)

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

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
DfE	Department for Education
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
RP	Resourced Provision
EHCP	Education & Health Care Plan
SEMH	Social Emotional and Mental Health
ASC	Autistic Spectrum Conditions
SLCN	Speech Language and Communication Needs
PD	Physical Disability
INMSS	Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools



<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Non-Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 11 January 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Bury Business Improvement District (Bury BID) – Council representation on the Bury BID Board of Directors	
<b>Report of</b>	Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth and Skills	

## Summary

This matter was last considered at Cabinet on the 15 December 2021. Cabinet approved the Executive Director of Place as Bury’s representative on the Bury BID Board of Director. This report seeks Cabinet approval for Bury Council to be represented on the BID Board by the Assistant Director Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business).

## Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that:

1. Appoint the Assistant Director Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business) to represent the Council on the Bury BID Board of Directors.

## Reasons for recommendation(s)

2. The position of Bury BID Board Director fits the remit of the Assistant Director of Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business) which includes the regeneration of Bury Town Centre as a key work area.

## Alternative options considered and rejected

That the current nominee the Executive Director of Place remains on the Board as the Council nominee this was rejected for the reason set out in paragraph 2.2 of this report.

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## Report Author and Contact Details:

*Name:* Sarah Porru

*Position:* Assistant Director of Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business)

*Department:* Business Growth and Infrastructure

*E-mail:* s.porru@bury.gov.uk

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## 1. Background

- 1.1. The Bury BID Ballot took place in March 2022 and returned a ‘Yes vote’ by both number and rateable value to the creation of a BID in Bury Town Centre. On this basis a Bury BID Company (not for profit and

Limited by Guarantee) was formally established that will operate for a maximum of 5 years, when a further ballot will then be required.

- 1.2. The Bury BID model supports the Council's ambitions for the town centre and for the town centre businesses. The Bury BID creates a strong/effective partnership approach and is complimentary to the regeneration and development work of the Council, particularly linking to the implementation of the Bury Town Centre Masterplan and the emerging Economic Development Strategy that will support inclusive economic growth.
- 1.3. A BID Manager and a BID Executive have now been appointed and a BID Board of Directors has been established to guide the delivery of activity in support of Bury town centre businesses.

## **2. The Bury BID Board of Directors**

- 2.1. The Bury BID is governed by an independent BID Company (not-for-profit company, limited by guarantee). The BID Company Board has up to 15 directors from BID levy paying businesses. In addition, non-levy paying members may be co-opted onto the Board, as required. The Bury BID Board serves voluntarily (without payment) and comprises business representatives that reflect the sectoral make-up of BID area.
  - 2.2. In December 2021, Cabinet approved the intention for the Council to be represented on the Board by the Executive Director of Place. However, it has since been determined that this role is best undertaken by the Assistant Director of Regeneration (Economy and Business) as the strategic lead for the regeneration of Bury Town Centre and a focus on projects that will also help to support Bury BID activity. This includes activity that will:
    - Enhance the town centre to visitors, residents and investors;
    - Provide business support;
    - Generate and attract additional resources to support activity; and;
    - Help deliver key Council ambitions, such as those expressed through the 'Let's Do It' Strategy and the emerging Bury Town Centre Masterplan.
  - 2.3. It is therefore proposed that members therefore approve the intention for the Council to be represented on the Board by the Assistant Director of Regeneration (Economy & Business).
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### 3. Links with the Corporate Priorities:

The BID priorities are consistent with the following principles of the Bury 2030 Let's Do It Strategy:

1. **Local neighbourhoods** - Enhancement of the town centre environment resulting in improved feelings of safety.
  2. **Economic Growth and Inclusion** - Increased investment in regeneration and economic activity.
  3. **Delivering Together** - Increased participation in social and cultural activities.
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### 4. Equality Impact and Considerations:

An initial screening has been undertaken (see attached assessment) and as there were no negative impacts identified for affected groups, there is no requirement to proceed to a Full Impact Assessment.

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### 5. Environmental Impact and Considerations:

No impact in terms of this decision

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### 6. Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
The BID offers an additional resource and increased activity to help retain businesses, increase footfall and attract inward investment that may not otherwise be possible. The Council can help to support BID objectives through effective partnership working, including via the BID Boar.	That the Assistant Director Regeneration (Economy and Business) represent The Council on the BID Board of Directors.

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### 7. Legal Implications:

Cabinet is asked to approve the Assistant Director of Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business) to represent the Council on this outside body (BID Company Board).

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### 8. Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications with regards to this proposal. The role will be undertaken as part of the Assistant Director Regeneration Delivery (Economy & Business) usual duties.

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**9. Appendices:**

*Please list any appended documents.*

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**10. Background papers:**

Cabinet Report 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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

Term	Meaning
BID	Business Improvement District



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED  
AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 2022 AT SALFORD COUNCIL,  
SALFORD CIVIC CENTRE, CHORLEY ROAD, SWINTON, SALFORD.**

**PRESENT:**

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Baroness Beverley Hughes
Bolton	Councillor Martyn Cox
Bury	Councillor Charlotte Morris
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Amanda Chadderton
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Gerald Cooney
Trafford	Councillor Andrew Western
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Geoff Little
Manchester	Neil Fairlamb
Oldham	Harry Catherall
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Tom Stannard
Stockport	Caroline Simpson
Tameside	Sandra Stewart
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan

Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale
TfGM	Anne Marie Purcell

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny	Cllr John Walsh
Chair of the GM Youth Task Force	Diane Modhal
GM Civic Leadership Programme	Professor Erinma Bell
GM Active Travel Commissioner	Dame Sarah Storey
The Growth Company	Mark Hughes

**GMCA 208/22      APOLOGIES**

**RESOLVED/-**

That apologies be received and noted from Councillor Eamonn O'Brien (Bury), Sara Todd (Trafford) and Joanne Roney (Manchester)

**GMCA 209/22      CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

GM Mayor, Andy Burnham highlighted the continuing issues faced with rail services in the region. Transpennine Express was seeing widespread cancellations, including during the vital morning peak times, and Avanti West Coast continued to make any unacceptably low number of services available. The December timetable changes were due to be implemented soon, and indications were that problems would continue following these changes, with no guarantees to a return of what would be considered an acceptable level of performance. It was important that the GMCA made its position clear on this matter, that being, if the widespread cancellation of train services by Transpennine Express was not resolved, and the return of three trains per hour between Manchester and London was not reintroduced by Avanti

West Coast, then the GMCA would urge the Government to strip the franchise from both companies upon the expiration of their current contracts in the new year.

It was highlighted to all that November 25<sup>th</sup> marked 'White Ribbon Day' – focussed upon addressing and ending male violence against women and girls. The Deputy Mayor was then invited to provide the GMCA with an update on the related 'IsThisOK?' campaign being led locally.

The GM Mayor reminded members of the news that the Deputy Mayor Baroness Beverley Hughes would be standing down from the role, with the proposed nominee, Kate Green, to take up the role in the new year, subject to the confirmation of the GM Police, Fire & Crime Panel. Baroness Hughes' 36 years of service to the residents of Greater Manchester was commended by those present.

It was advised that a request had been received from Greater Manchester's LGBTQ+ Panel to endorse the Conversional Therapy pledge that would commit the GMCA to helping to end the practice of Conversion Therapy within the region. Those present supported and endorsed the pledge.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the GMCA endorses a request received from the LGBTQ+ Panel to commit to the ending of Conversion Therapy in Greater Manchester.
2. That the GMCA notes the decision of Deputy Mayor Baroness Beverley Hughes to step down from the role, and the proposal for Kate Green to be nominated by the GM Mayor as her successor in the role subject to the confirmation of the GM Police, Fire & Crime Panel on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022.
3. That the GMCA agrees to adopt the position that, if the widespread cancellation of train services by Transpennine Express is not resolved, and the return of three trains per hour between Manchester and London is not reintroduced by Avanti, the Government will be urged to strip the franchise from both companies upon the expiration of the contracts in the new year.
4. That it be noted that today was 'White Ribbon Day' and that the update on the on the progress of the GMCA 'IsThisOk?' campaign be received

**GMCA 210/22      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**RESOLVED/-**

There were no declarations received in relation to any item on the agenda.

**GMCA 211/22      MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 28 OCTOBER  
2022**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 28 October 2022 be approved as a correct record.

**GMCA 212/22      MINUTES OF THE GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 OCTOBER 2022**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 26 October 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 213/22      COST OF LIVING AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN  
GREATER MANCHESTER**

Councillor Amanda Chadderton, Portfolio Lead for Equalities, Inclusion & Cohesion, was invited to provide an update on the cost-of-living pressures on residents and

businesses in Greater Manchester, and some of the measures being put in place by the GMCA and partners to respond.

A number of areas of good practice were highlighted through the report, these included Oldham's comprehensive £3m support package put in place to support residents, and a similar £8m package arranged by Manchester City Council.

An update was provided on the warm spaces being made available throughout region. 306 warm spaces were in place across the region, including every library. It was expected that this number would grow over the coming months. A GM Warm Spaces Network had also been established, with an inaugural meeting having taken place on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

The latest residents survey taken had drawn out that 82% of respondents had indicated that their personal cost of living had increased since the last survey, 81% were worried about further increases, and this was further exacerbated for residents who had children under 5, disabled residents and those who were 25-34 years old. Homeowners across GM were also finding it increasingly difficult to pay their mortgages.

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Holder for Economy & Business, provided an update on business impacts. Anxiety was now clearly increasing, with cash reserves dropping month by month and the effects of rampant inflation beginning to take hold. An area of particular concern for GM businesses at present was the impact of the continuing train problems. Significant work had gone into preparing for the busiest time of the year for many businesses, only for their plans to be significantly hampered by these external factors. This also impacted upon efforts by economic leads to bring extra business into the region, due to a lack of confidence around the reliability of the network.

Notwithstanding that, there were some good news stories, with 530 GM businesses now accredited as paying staff the Real Living Wage, also, despite all the external

pressures being faced, another tranche of businesses had signed up to GM's Good Employment Charter.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That the latest assessment and emerging response be noted.
2. That the intention to launch the Greater Manchester project with the National Family Centre and Amazon be noted, and that it be agreed that appropriate support would be provided to contribute to the success of the project.
3. That it be noted that the GMCA was committed to working with Government in partnership to address the cost-of-living crisis and to drive the economy.
4. That the GMCA continues to consider the cost-of-living crisis as a specific item each month.

**GMCA 214/22      DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK: ACTIVE TRAVEL  
UPDATE**

Dame Sarah Storey, GM Active Travel Commissioner, was invited to provide an update on the Greater Manchester (GM) Active Travel programme, and its key activities.

Dame Storey had been travelling around the region to meet each of the GM Leaders to fully understand the active travel priorities within the context of their locality. So far discussions had been very helpful and had been drawn upon to support the refresh of the Mission.

A series of recommendations had arisen from the refresh and these were highlighted for comment and consideration. Mayor Burnham advised that a substantive response would be prepared to acknowledge how the region would answer all the main recommendations highlighted.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the update on the Active Travel Programme be noted and agreed that the GMCA will prepare a substantive response to the recommendations of Dame Sarah Storey, GM Active Travel Commissioner, highlighted in report.

**GMCA 215/22            GREATER MANCHESTER CIVIC LEADERSHIP  
PROGRAMME**

*It was agreed by the GMCA that Item 11 (Greater Manchester Civic Leadership Programme) would be taken ahead of the closed session that would allow Item 14 (Part B) (Greater Manchester Franchising Scheme for Buses – Procurement Update) to be taken in advance of the public facing part at Item 8.*

Mayor Burnham invited Diane Modhal, Chair of the GM Youth Task Force, and Professor Erinma Bell, GM Civic Leadership Programme, to present a report updating on the inaugural Greater Manchester Civic Leadership Programme, commissioned by the GMCA and delivered by Operation Black Vote. The report also highlighted how the programme would be strengthened in year two, and the role of GMCA Leaders and organisations in supporting delivery to maximise impact.

The GMCA was advised that the Year one of the Programme had been a success, with an overarching message from the programme for GM to address racial inequalities. There would be a need to seriously address the lack of racial diversity within the leadership positions of the organisations that had the power to act in the region.

The Young Persons Guarantee had been welcomed, and there was encouragement that this had been strongly supported in every region of GM. This allowed not only

for the consideration of ingrained inequalities, but also to look at opportunities going forward.

28 Leaders have been recruited during year one of the programme and support had been received from a number of partners in education; policing; criminal justice; health; the voluntary sector and local government.

There were concerns however that would need to be addressed during year two of the programme. One of these was ensuring the continued investment from leaders to ensure that the vital pathways were opened up. For example, an approach been made to Magistrates to open up their doors for programme members to view how the court system worked, but unfortunately this approach had not been responded to.

The GM Mayor welcomed the update on the first year of the Programme and provided assurance that ahead of the first Civic Leadership Programme Graduation event, the GMCA would prepare a report on activity to support the programme by bringing through opportunities post-graduation. The GMCA would also look at the feasibility of Civic Leadership becoming a 'Programme of the 11' going forward. Each GM district would also be asked to nominate an individual as lead contact for the Programme going forwards, and also ask that other key partner bodies within GM, including GMP and the Magistrates Court, should also be encouraged to nominate individuals to act as lead contacts for their organisations and support the Programme. Finally, each of the nominated individual contact leads would be requested to assist in developing and shaping clear key targets for the programme going forward.

### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the programme's first year outputs, outcomes and case studies be noted.
2. That the commissioning of a year two programme, funded from the Mayoral Budget, and the areas of focus and delivery, be endorsed.



3. That the GMCA consider practical ways to support this year's participants, and next year's programme delivery and participants.
4. That, ahead of the first Civic Leadership Programme Graduation event, the GMCA will prepare a report on the activity to support the programme by bringing through opportunities post-graduation.
5. That the GMCA will look at the feasibility of Civic Leadership becoming a 'Programme of the 11' going forward.
6. That each GM local authority be requested to nominate an individual as lead contact for the Programme going forwards.
7. That other key partner bodies within GM, including GMP and the Magistrates Court, should also be encouraged to nominate individuals to act as lead contacts for their organisations and support the Programme.
8. That the nominated individual contact leads be requested to assist in developing and shaping clear key targets for the programme going forward

**GMCA 216/22      EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED/-**

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items on business on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

**GMCA 217/22      GREATER MANCHESTER FRANCHISING SCHEME FOR BUSES: PROCUREMENT UPDATE (PART B)**

The item was heard in closed session.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the recommendations contained within the Item 14 report be agreed in full.

**GMCA 218/22      TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME: CITY REGIONAL  
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT DRAWDOWN  
(PART B)**

The item was heard in closed session.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the report be noted.

The GMCA moved back in to open session for the following items:

**GMCA 219/22      GREATER MANCHESTER FRANCHISING SCHEME FOR  
BUSES: PROCUREMENT UPDATE (PART A)**

Mayor Andy Burnham provided an update and made a number of recommendations in relation to the procurement process for the Greater Manchester Franchising Scheme for Buses 2021 (the Scheme), in particular, seeking that the GMCA note and agree the process to procure service providers to operate the Bolton Large Bus Franchise and the Wigan Large Bus Franchise.

The Mayor stated that it would only be by taking control of the fare box throughout the region that a more convenient and more affordable network for the residents of GM could be realised.

With this decision GM had taken an important step towards becoming the first region in the nation to re-regulate its bus services in 36 years. This would only benefit residents in terms of accountability.

The procurement process had been subject to the highest standards of rigour, transparency and independence, with no undue pressure placed upon the teams undertaken the process for TfGM. It was important that the process was subject to scrutiny, and Cllr John Walsh (Chair of the GMCA O&S Committee) confirmed that

the Committee had undertaken a rigorous examination of the process ahead of the decision being brought to the GMCA.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That outcome of the process to procure a preferred service provider to operate the Bolton Large Local Service Contract and the Wigan Large Local Service Contract in Sub-Area A of the Scheme be noted and agreed.
2. That the proposed key contractual arrangements of the Bolton Large Local Service Contract and the Wigan Large Local Service Contract be noted.
3. That in relation to the Local Service Contracts required for the implementation and operation and Sub-Areas B and C of the Scheme:
  - a) That the commencement and procurement process be agreed
  - b) That authority be delegated to TfGM to undertake and manage the procurement process on behalf of the GMCA subject to the following condition:
    - i. TfGM will recommend a preferred bidder in relation to each Local Service Contract; in relation to large Local Service Contracts the decision to award will be taken by the GMCA and in relation to small Local Service Contracts and contracts for schools, the decision to award will be taken in accordance with the contract award delegations as set out in the GMCA Constitution.
4. That in relation to Sub Area A, it be agreed that TfGM will manage the implementation and operation of the Scheme and the Local Service Contracts awarded in relation to Sub Area A following their award on behalf of the GMCA, subject to the following conditions:
  - a) TfGM will manage the above contracts in accordance with the provisions of an agreed Protocol with the GMCA.

- b) That authority to agree the final terms of the above Protocol and any other associated necessary legal agreements on behalf of the GMCA be delegated to the Monitoring Officer.
  - c) That authority to complete and execute the Protocol and any other necessary legal agreements be delegated to the Monitoring Officer.
5. That TfGM be authorised to enter into the agreements referred to in section 4 of this report for the purposes of establishing and implementing the Residual Value Mechanism on behalf of the GMCA.
6. That the comments of the Scrutiny Committee as reported, be noted.

**GMCA 220/22      TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME: CITY REGIONAL  
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT DRAWDOWN  
(PART A)**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, presented a report requesting approval to draw-down funding for the development and delivery of schemes being funded, either in whole or in part, from Greater Manchester's City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

**RESOLVED/-**

- 1. That the funding draw-down requests for the schemes, as set out in Section 2 of the report, be approved.
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester, to procure a further 50 Zero Emission Buses for deployment within Tranche 2 of bus franchising using the Crown Commercial Services national framework RM6060, to be funded from GMCA's City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement.

**GMCA 221/22      TfGM EXECUTIVE BOARD – APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, presented a report requesting the GMCA to consider the extension of the appointments of Tracey Matthews and Jo Kaye as Non-Executive Directors of Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) for a further three-year term until 31 January 2026.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That extensions to the appointments of Tracey Matthews and Jo Kaye as Non-Executive Directors of TfGM until 31 January 2026 be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM to formalise the terms of the extended appointments.

**GMCA 222/22      HOMELESSNESS UPDATE**

Mayor Paul Dennett, GMCA Deputy Mayor and Portfolio Lead for Homelessness, Healthy Lives & Quality Care, was invited to provide an update on the plans to support people at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping this winter.

Members were reminded that tackling homelessness in GM remained the number one priority policy in the region. However, homelessness continued to rise at present due to external pressures such as the cost-of-living and housing crises.

Work was continuing across local authorities and partnerships to ensure all were meeting their commitments, signed up to as part of the GM Homelessness Prevention Strategy.

The current crises were having a disproportionate impact upon already disadvantaged groups. Research work undertaken by Dataloft had shown that only 4% of all tenancies advertised in GM over the past six months had been at a rate below local housing allowance rates. This was a real concern as people who were currently in receipt of housing benefits were unable to access over 95% of the properties being advertised in the region.

Commitment remained to the Place for Everyone programme and the commitment to build 30,000 Net Zero Homes by 2037; this remained a long-term goal and there was a desperate need as the winter approached to address the here and now. The inflationary uplift proposed by the Government for March 2023 was also too late as people were being pushed into poverty right now.

Currently 732 residents in region were involved in the Bed Every Night Scheme, with an expectation that this would increase during the current winter, a stalling in the programme for the first time in five years. This additional non-recurrent investment would help to fund the additional Bed Every Night places required during this period.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the £460,000 investment into A Bed Every Night being made by the Greater Manchester Mayor from within current resources be noted.