

Lynne Ridsdale
Chief Executive

Our Ref JG
Your Ref C/JG
Date 14 March 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:-

Date:	Wednesday, 22 March 2023
Place:	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
Time:	6.45 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

The Agenda for the meeting is attached.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rickdale'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping underline.

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 11 - 16)

Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2023 are attached.

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Pages 17 - 20)

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 21 - 86)

Recommendation		
Democratic Arrangements Forum – 3 rd November 2022	Meetings Timetable	That the timetable of meetings for the 2023/24 Municipal Year, as set out, be approved. (Recommended Option) To consider alternative meeting arrangements.
Employment Panel – 24 th January 2023	Amendments to Officer Employment Procedure Rules and Disciplinary Procedure for Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer	Following consideration and agreement by Employment Panel, Council is asked to agree the revised Officer Employment Procedure Rules. The Monitoring Officer be authorised to make consequential changes to the Council Constitution
Employment Panel – 1 st March 2023	Annual Pay Policy Statement	Commend the proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2023/2024 for approval

		by full Council.
Corporate Parenting Board – 8 th March 2023	Terms of Reference	Approval of the revised terms of reference.
Cabinet – 15 th March 2023	Finance restructure	That Cabinet commends approval of the costs associated with the proposed redundancy of the post of Service Development Manager, Revenues and Benefits to Council for approval.
Licensing and Safety Committee – 16 th March 2023	Common Minimum Licensing Standards	<p>It is recommended that the Licensing and Safety Committee considers and adopts the following amendments to the Minimum Licensing Standards and recommends to Full Council that the amendments are approved:</p> <p>For existing vehicle licence proprietors:</p> <p>that the transitional arrangements in relation to age and emissions standards are extended from 1 April 2024 to 1 April 2026 - This will assist hackney carriage and private hire vehicle owners to transition to the new requirements, whilst allowing them the ability to take advantage of the funding support package (Clean Air funding) once it is available. In order to achieve this compliance date, the amended policy will state that from 1 April 2025 a vehicle licence will not be renewed if the vehicle does not meet the above standards.</p> <p>the implementation date for the written-off vehicle standards is extended to 1 April 2026. The</p>

		<p>amendment of to the written off policy is to permit vehicle licence holders who are currently licensed in Bury with a previously written off vehicle prior to the implementation of the Stage 2 of Common Minimum Standards in November 2021 to continue to be able to licence the vehicle until the 1 April 2026. In order to achieve compliance, the amended policy will state that from 1 April 2025 a vehicle licence will not be renewed if the vehicle has been previously written off. There will be no change to Council Policy relating to new vehicle licence applications in relation to this standard.</p> <p>For new applications for vehicle licences</p> <p>the minimum age requirement for new vehicles coming onto fleet is removed for hackney carriages and private hire vehicles - the current policy in relation to hackney carriage and private hire vehicles has a coming on age (new to fleet) as follows:-</p> <p>PHV – under 5 years on to fleet and 10 years off</p> <p>PHV WAV – under 7 years on to fleet and 15 years off</p> <p>Purpose built HVC – under 7 on to fleet and 15 years off</p>
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7 **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER** (Pages 87 - 90)

Report attached.

8 **LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME** (Pages 91 - 114)

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)

9 **COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES** (Pages 115 - 130)

(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.

10 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

(i) ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

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

This Council are keen to do all in its power to make the Borough a first choice for people to live in, for businesses to invest in and for children and young people to be educated in. As part of this approach the Council are determined to eradicate as far as possible any form of anti-social behaviour that could impact on this strategic vision.

While the more serious criminal behaviour such as knife crime will understandably receive more financial resources and multi- agency responses some of the perceived less serious though still challenging behaviours such as flytipping, noise and antisocial behaviour related drug activity require robust responses to send a clear message that this Borough has a zero tolerance for all such behaviour that blights our neighbourhoods.

This Council resolves to;

- Identify the level of such activity within each Neighbourhood Hub
- Call for a Bury Team Event to be held as a priority to discuss this matter with all partners with a view to creating an action plan to eradicate these issues
- To include in the Community Strategic Plan definite actions by which the Council and its Partners will be measured by in their contribution to reductions in anti-social behaviour

(ii) Promotion of Council reporting system to help identify hotspots for rat infestations and production of a report identifying ways of reducing the problem.

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

Councillors Carol Birchmore, Cllr Donald Berry, Cllr Andrea Booth, Cllr Des Duncalfe, Cllr Glyn Marsden, Cllr James Mason, Cllr Mike Smith and Cllr Mary Walsh

A recent Manchester Evening News article identified Bury MBC as being ranked sixth out of the 10 local authorities in Greater Manchester in terms of rat problems. This article however misses important facts that may lead to a misrepresentation of the true picture. Further research shows that the two local authorities at the top of the list have some of the lowest pest control call out rates and probably more significantly Tameside, ranked at the bottom has the highest rates. As councillors many of us hear anecdotal reports of rat sightings from residents. In part, due to call out costs, many residents, especially in poorer areas will opt to treat the problem themselves and so these incidents will go unreported through official channels. It is thought that rat infestations are more likely to occur in areas of high-density housing and in older terraced properties it is true that travel from property to property is often easier. The Council does offer a pest reporting system for public places, but many residents are not aware of it. The best way to get a true picture of the problem in Bury is to gather information on sightings and produce a map identifying report hotspots. To do this, we need to get more residents using the reporting system.

This Council resolves to:

- Promote the reporting system by running a “report a rat” campaign using notices on lampposts and posters in public places to make residents aware of the reporting system
- Officers to review fee levels in relation to pest control call out costs to encourage more reporting of issues in private properties
- Officers to work with private landlords and housing associations to look at ways of reducing the incidents of overflowing communal bins for apartments and HMOs to reduce available food sources for the rats
- Officers to review how the Council can work with commercial food outlets to reduce discarded waste and overflowing waste bins.

(iii) No Bury Child Should Go Hungry

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 believes that the best way of stopping children going hungry is to lift them and their families out of poverty.

This Council notes that according to research from the Food Foundation thinktank:

- 1) The number of UK children in food poverty has nearly doubled in the last year to almost 4 million.
- 2) More than one in five (22%) of households reported skipping meals, going hungry or not eating for a whole day in January, up from 12% at the equivalent point in 2022.
- 3) Polling showed increased backing for expanding free school meals in England. Eight out of 10 people (80%) polled said they favoured extending free school meal eligibility to all children in households receiving universal credit, up from 72% in October.

It further notes that:

- 1) Bury's current Healthy Start voucher uptake is only 64%, with only 1228 out of 1922 eligible beneficiaries currently accessing this scheme.
- 2) Between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022, food banks in the Trussell Trust's UK wide network distributed over 2.1 million emergency food parcels to people in crisis. This is an increase of 14% compared to the same period in 2019/20. 832,000 of these parcels went to children.
- 3) The Trussell Trust have stated that "hunger in the UK isn't about food, it's about a lack of income." They identified the main drivers of food bank use in their network as:
 - a) Problems with the benefits system (delays, inadequacy and reductions)
 - b) Challenging life experiences or ill-health
 - c) Lack of informal or formal support

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Work with families and partners to alleviate children going hungry.
- 2) Support the continued free school meals offer in school holidays for those who need it and lobby the Government to extend free school meal eligibility to all children in households receiving universal credit.
- 3) Endorse the Feeding Britain campaign to introduce automatic registration for the Healthy Start voucher scheme for all eligible families and do more to promote the scheme locally.
- 4) Support the Labour Party's pledge to introduce fully funded breakfast clubs for every primary school in England.
- 5) Write to both Bury MPs requesting they support the changes in 2), 3) and 4) and lobby Ministers on our behalf in favour of them.
- 6) Continue to support maximising income for families through Money Advice Referral Tools (MARTs), widen awareness for those "just about managing" families of local

initiatives and make all Bury residents aware of all support that they would be eligible for and benefit from.

- 7) Engage with food businesses across the borough to improve access to healthy affordable food.
- 8) Make sure children and young people's voices are heard more in the decision-making processes of the Council.
- 9) Encourage "grow your own" initiatives where community groups, schools and volunteers can help promote sustainable food production.
- 10) For all Elected Members to take on the responsibility of enabling all children to thrive in Bury and ensure no child goes hungry.

11 **AMENDMENTS TO NOTICES OF MOTION** (Pages 131 - 136)

Amendments attached

12 **COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER** (Pages 137 - 140)

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

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

14 **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).