



Lynne Ridsdale
Chief Executive

Our Ref JG
Your Ref C/JG
Date 11 July 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, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, K Hussain, J Lancaster, G Marsden, J Mason, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, I Rizvi, J Rydeheard, L Smith, M Smith, T Tariq, 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, 19 July 2023
Place:	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
Time:	7.00 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 horizontal stroke.

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 - 14)

Annual Council Minutes Part 1 and 2 are attached.

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

To answer questions from members of the public, notice of which has been given, on any matter relevant to the Council or its services to the community. Up to 30 minutes will be set aside for this purpose. If time permits, further questions will be invited from members of the public present.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES (Pages 15 - 76)

To receive and consider the recommendations to the Council contained in the following minutes of the Cabinet:

Committee/Date	Subject	Recommendation
Cabinet 19 th April 2023	Review of the Council's Senior Management Structure	3. Subject to consultation, commend the following proposals to Council where the required changes are decisions which directly rest with Council: a) That the role of Executive Director (Place) is regraded from Chief Officer Band G to Chief Officer Band H. b) That a new post of Executive Director (Strategy & Transformation) is established at Chief Officer Band H. c) That the role of Director of Law & Governance is regraded from Chief Officer Band E to Chief Officer Band F. d) That a Market Supplement payment of £14k is applied to the Director of Adult Social Services role.
Cabinet 12 th July 2023	Restructure of the HR Department – Approval of	<u>TBC at Cabinet 12th July 2023</u> That Cabinet commends approval the costs associated with the proposed

	redundancy cost	redundancy of the post of Strategic Lead (Human Resources) to Council for approval.
Cabinet 12 th July 2023	The Council's Financial Position – 2022/23 Outturn	TBC at Cabinet 12 th July 2023 Council approves the treasury management report as appended. (Appendix 2)

7 **LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME** (Pages 77 - 102)

To receive a report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet and to answer written questions from Members of the Council to the Leader, Cabinet Members and Chair of a Committee on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties which affect the Borough, provided the necessary written notice has been given. (30 minutes)

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

8 **COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES** (Pages 103 - 136)

(A) A combined authority update report is attached, for information

(B) Questions (if any) on the work of the Combined Authority to be asked by Members of the Council for which the necessary notice has been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rules.

9 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

A) **Community Governance Review**

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

This Council notes :-

Bury MBC has powers to conduct a Community Governance Review (CGR) for a specific area within the Borough.

The Council notes the establishment of a Town Council may promote community engagement, effective local government and the provision of local services for local people that Bury Council may be unable to sustain due to resource pressures.

In addition, Government guidance states that it is good practice for principal councils to conduct a community governance review every 10-15 years, except

in areas with very low populations.

The Council acknowledges -

In undertaking this review the Council will have regard to the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in March 2010 by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and will comply with Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ('the 2007 Act'), the relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972 and regulations issued under those acts.

The Boundary commission guidance states that terms of reference set out the aims of the review, the matters that it will

address and policies that the Council considers relevant to the review. The terms of reference will be published on the Council's website and in hard copy and will be made available at the Council offices and at other venues within the area under review.

The Council itself will agree the draft and final recommendations and make any Reorganisation of Community Governance Order.

In coming to its recommendations in the review, the Council will take account of the views of local people and stakeholders. Legislation requires the Council to consult the local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body who appears to have an interest in the review, and to take the representations that are received into account by judging them against the criteria in the 2007 Act.

The Council will promote community engagement and transparency in decision making. In relation to the review the Council will:-

- Publish these terms of reference;
- Publicise the review as widely as possible using printed and electronic means and seek to engage the local media in reporting the issues under review;
- Consult residents, business organisations, community groups, other local organisations, political parties and elected representatives for the areas under review;
- Make key documents available at the Council offices and at other venues in the

areas under review;

- Accept submissions by post or via e-mail or the Council's website;
- Take into account representations received in connection with the review; and
- Publicise the draft and final recommendations and the outcome of the review.

Publication of a terms of reference formally begins the review, which must then be completed within six months.

If the review results in any changes to community governance, at the conclusion of the review the Council will make a Reorganisation of Community Governance Order. Copies of this order, the map(s) that show the effects of the order in detail, and the document(s) which set out the reasons for the Council's decisions (including where it has decided to make no change following the review) will be deposited at the Council's offices, published on its website.

This Council therefore resolves :-

1. Bury Council ('the Council') to undertake a community governance review ('the review') of the whole of the Borough following the completion of the Electoral Review by the Boundary Commission.

The review will consider whether any changes should be made to existing community governance arrangements within the Six Towns that make up the Borough including whether a new Town Council should be created and the electoral arrangements for this Town Council.

2. That **Radcliffe** should be the Township pilot for this review which may then be extended across the other five Towns that make up the whole.

In accordance with regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2000, functions relating to Community Governance Reviews are not to be the responsibility of an authority's executive.

3. The management of the review will be the responsibility of a project manager appointed by the Director of Law & Governance.

4. Establish a cross party Community Governance Review Working Party.

B) Support Bury Mortgage Holders Now

A MOTION HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE NAMES OF COUNCILLORS: A Arif, Bayley, Boles, Boroda, Cummins, Farooq, Fitzgerald, Frith, Gold, Green, Grimshaw, Haroon,

Hayes, Ibrahim, McGill, Morris, Moss, O'Brien, Pilkington, Quinn Alan, Quinn Deborah, Rafiq, Rizvi, Rubinstein, Ryder, Smith Lucy Staples-Jones Gareth, Tariq, Thorpe, Walmsley, Whitby.

This Council believes that:

- 1) Following the latest announcement of a hike in interest rates from the Bank of England, with the prospect of even higher interest rates to follow, there is a crisis facing mortgage holders in our borough and across the UK.
- 2) This crisis will not stop at those with mortgages, it will, and already is, hitting those in the private rented sector too.
- 3) Action must be taken now to support our residents with this mortgage cost crisis.

This Council notes that:

- 1) A report into the matter by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) concluded that 19% of households, amounting to 1.4 million UK mortgage holders, would lose a fifth of their disposable income as their fixed-rate mortgage deal ended.
- 2) For our borough, this would be approximately 28,513 people impacted by the mortgage cost crisis.
- 3) The IFS report warned that the biggest impact would be felt by those under the age of 40 with larger mortgages, and worst for those in their 30s, for whom payments will rise by £360 a month, or 11% of disposable income.
- 4) Overall, average mortgage costs will rise by £2,900 per year, with new mortgages now costing a typical household over £2,000 more per year than in comparable countries like France.

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Support the Labour Party's 5-point plan to respond to the mortgage cost crisis, which includes:
 - requiring banks to allow borrowers to switch to interest-only mortgage payments;
 - requiring banks to allow borrowers to lengthen the term of their mortgage period;
 - requiring lenders to reverse any support measures when the borrower requests;
 - requiring lenders to wait a minimum of six months before initiating repossession proceedings;
 - instructing the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) to urgently issue consumer guidance to prevent the changes from impacting credit scores.
- 2) Write to the Bury North and Bury South Members of Parliament, asking them to support the above 5-point plan in response to the mortgage cost crisis facing their constituents.
- 3) Promote further the provisions within the Bury Labour budget amendment around cost-of-living support, especially the £100k discretionary Council Tax Support Fund

for those not traditionally eligible for financial support.

C) Promoting a Safe and Drug-Free Environment in Schools

A MOTION HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE NAMES OF COUNCILLORS BERNSTEIN, BROWN, DEAN, GARTSIDE, HARRIS, HUSSAIN, LANCASTER, McBRIAR, RYDEHEARD, VERNON

This Council notes that:

- Substance abuse, including the use of drugs and alcohol, poses significant risks to the health, well-being, and educational outcomes of students.
- Since 2015, young people aged 14-17 increasingly believe it is “normal to get drunk” to where now 55% of young people believe it is normal.
- Maintaining a safe and drug-free environment is crucial for providing a conducive learning environment and ensuring our duty of care for all students in our schools.
- Schools play a critical role in educating students about the dangers of substance abuse and promoting healthy behaviours.

The Council acknowledges that:

- Our current zero-tolerance approach to drugs or illicit substances is recognised as an important deterrent and principle which sends a strong message that substance abuse in our schools will not be tolerated.
- Collaborative efforts between schools, parents, the Council, GMP; community organisations continue to be essential in addressing substance abuse issues effectively and they must be rigorously and consistently followed up and impact monitored.
- Recent studies have revealed that 37% of young people in Bury are not worried about the long-term health effects of alcohol, indicating a need for increased awareness and education on the risks associated with alcohol consumption and substance use.
- Our schools are places that every student deserves and needs to feel safe in; students should not feel unsafe and feel pressurised due to peers bringing illicit substances into schools.

This Council resolves to:

- Reiterate our zero-tolerance approach to drugs and illicit substances in our Borough's schools, emphasising the need for the strictest disciplinary action for any violations.
- Write to all school Head Teachers in the borough, highlighting the need to proactively address the weakening stance young people in Bury take on the long-term health effects of alcohol consumption.
- Provide digital resources to schools for regular awareness campaigns to engage students, parents, and the wider community in promoting a safe and drug-free environment.
- Encourage the involvement of student groups, youth organisations, and student councils to actively participate in awareness campaigns and share their perspectives on substance abuse prevention.
- Review the impact of the actions outlined by no later than the end of 31 July 2024.

Labour amendment to the Conservative notice of motion.

11 **COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER** (Pages 139 - 148)

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

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

No items for consideration.

13 **QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS**

Questions on the work of Outside Bodies or partnerships on which the Council is represented to be asked by Members of the Council (if any).