

**Lynne Ridsdale  
Chief Executive**

*Our Ref* JG  
*Your Ref* C/JG  
*Date* 9 January 2024  
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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, B Ibrahim, 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, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, L Smith, M Smith, G Staples-Jones, 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:-

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday, 17 January 2024
<b>Place:</b>	Council Chamber. Bury Town Hall
<b>Time:</b>	7.00 pm
<b>Briefing Facilities:</b>	If Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
<b>Notes:</b>	

## **AGENDA**

The Agenda for the meeting is attached.

The Agenda and Reports are available on the Council's Intranet for Councillors and Officers and also on the Council's Website at [www.bury.gov.uk](http://www.bury.gov.uk)

**Yours sincerely**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Widdale".

**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 9 - 18)

Minutes attached.

**5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** (Pages 19 - 22)

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

**6 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES** (Pages 23 - 78)

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

<b>Committee/Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Locality Board – 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Locality Plan – Terms of Reference	Approve the Revised Locality Board Terms of Reference.
Cabinet – 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Children and Young People’s Directorate – Senior Management Structure	Agree that the vacant post of Director of Social Care Practice (Chief Officer Band E, £93,102-£101,596) be redesignated as Director of Social Care & Early Help, evaluated as (Chief Officer Band F, £103,767-£112,636) to reflect the post’s expanded portfolio.

**7 POLLING PLACE AND POLLING DISTRICT REVIEW JANUARY 2024** (Pages 79 - 92)

Report attached.

8 **APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LOCAL RETURNING OFFICER FOR COMBINED AUTHORITY MAYORAL ELECTIONS** (Pages 93 - 94)

Report attached.

9 **COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT** (Pages 95 - 100)

Report attached.

10 **LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME** (Pages 101 - 126)

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)

11 **COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES** (Pages 127 - 150)

- (A) A combined authority update report is attached, with an additional appendix on the area of focus – GMs Trailblazer Project. Report is attached for information.
- (B) The Leader will make a 5 minute statement on the Trailblazer project
- (C) 5 minutes of Verbal Questions on the appendix and Leader's Statement.
- (D) 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 (10minutes).

12 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

**(i) Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)**

**A motion had been received 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 :-**

Houses in Multiple Occupancy (HMO) have become a significant part of the rental sector and can provide accommodation at a cheaper rate than renting a whole house or flat. This is useful for people who have limited housing choices or looking for short stay accommodation, such as migrant workers or young professionals.

Many landlords offer well maintained homes. However, there are still a number of landlords who rent sub-standard, overcrowded and potentially dangerous accommodation to vulnerable people. Many of these are not considered as 'Large' HMO's and therefore do not require a licence.

The growth of HMO's also has an impact on the local community Eg waste management, health and safety, social care, access to health services and property availability for first time buyers.

Licensing has largely been successful in helping to drive up standards in order that HMO's are safer places to live. All properties used as HMO's, housing five people or more in two or more households, sharing facilities come under legislation and will require a licence. The licence includes minimum room sizes (6.5sqm single person, 10.2sqm for 2 people, 4.6sqm child under 10years old) and requirements for landlords to provide adequate bins and waste storage.

Bury MBC is required to maintain a register of large HMO's. There are currently 105 such properties: 63 in Bury; 12 in Prestwich; 17 in Radcliffe; 0 in Ramsbottom; 3 in Tottington and 10 in Whitefield. Ten of the properties on the published register are out of their licence period.

#### **This Council therefore resolves :-**

- To update the website to state a review of the HMO register is in process and will be published when complete
- To inspect as appropriate applications to ensure a good standard of safety and maintenance and carry out appropriate enforcement of those that do not meet the standard.
- To explore the possibility of expanding the Article 4 Directive (remove permitted development rights), to other areas of the Borough, if and when such areas are identified.
- To explore Council Tax rules available to us and where possible ensure that landlords are paying appropriate tax for their business.
- To explore the potential of additional funding to be made available to the Licensing and Enforcement teams during the budget setting process.

#### **(ii) Household Support Fund**

**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, A QUINN, D QUINN, RAFIQ, RIZVI, RUBINSTEIN, RYDER, L SMITH, STAPLES-JONES, THORPE, WALMSLEY, WHITBY:**

In 2010 60,000 people were using food banks in the UK, in 2023 2.9 million people had to use foodbanks. Over 6900 children qualify for free school meals in the Bury borough alone. Many residents are struggling with recent high inflation, high mortgage interest rates and a doubling of fuel bills in the last 2 years. The government's household support fund went part of the way to enable councils to support the worst hit residents when it was introduced in 2021. Now, the Government's Household support fund is set to end on 31st March, 2024.

This council believes that everyone is entitled to the basic physical needs, to be warm, dry, clean and fed.

This council recognises that in the last 12 months the Household support fund, (HSF) administered by Labour-ran Bury council;

Provided free school meals in the holidays for those who need it

Payments to those in food and fuel poverty

Grants to our Bury food support network

Community grants to organisations tackle the cost of living crisis

Discretionary housing payments for those at risk of homelessness

funded the Citizens advice bureau

and many more projects supporting those who most needed it.

Withdrawal of this grant, at a time when council's face such financial hardship, will only leave 1000s of bury residents to struggle even more.

**This council resolves to**

- Continue to execute our Cost of living and Anti-poverty strategy.
- Work with communities and partners to make sure we help those most vulnerable in the borough
- Call for a reinstatement of the HSF in our boroughwide Let's fix it campaign
- write to our two local MPs asking them to support our calls to keep the HSF
- Write to the Prime Minister and the chancellor of Exchequer asking them to keep the fund in their budget in March.

**AMENDMENT (Pages 151 - 152)**

Conservative amendment to the Labour notice of motion is attached.

(iii) **Bury Council Twinning with a Town, Region or City in Ukraine**

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

The communities of Bury stand together with our friends in Ukraine.

From the darkest moments of the war we have supported the Ukrainian people as they fight against the illegal and unjustified invasion of Ukraine by Russia. This Council has been moved by the strength of feeling in this country to support Ukraine

Many people from Bury have given aid to Ukraine and have supported the humanitarian effort.

We have opened our doors to Ukrainian people through the Homes for Ukraine scheme and seen their wonderful culture first hand.

After the Second World War, the last time that Europe was ravaged by needless war, towns and communities across Europe twinned. It was done to share cultural

ties and further express our shared culture and values.

We now stand with the spirit of twinning and exchanging culture across Europe, which is ever more important since the Russian full scale invasion of Ukraine and aim to forge a new twinning relationship with a town, region or city in Ukraine.

Therefore, this Council resolves that:

- Bury resolves to seek to twin with a town, region or city in Ukraine to highlight the Council's strength of support for Ukraine.
- The Council resolves to work with the UK Friends of Ukraine to find a suitable town, region or city in Ukraine to twin with.
- The Council requests that officers come back to the next Full Council with a report on a formal twinning with a town in Ukraine and the next steps in a creation of a Twinning Association.

13 **FOR INFORMATION \*\*\*COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER (Pages 153 - 154)**

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

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

There have been no scrutiny reviews reports or items called in since the last Council meeting.

15 **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).