

**Lynne Ridsdale**  
**Chief Executive**

*Our Ref* JG  
*Your Ref* C/JG  
*Date* 9 July 2024  
*Contact* Democratic Services  
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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, R Brown, C Cummins, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, N Frith, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, J Hook, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Marsden, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh 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 July 2024
<b>Place:</b>	Bury Art Gallery, Moss St, Bury BL9 0DR
<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 OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 11 - 16)**

**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**

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

Committee/Date	Subject	Recommendation
Cabinet 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Budget Update Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approve the increase to the fees and charges as set in section 21 and Appendix 1 totalling £444k.</li><li>• Note the updated Net Revenue Budget of £224.480m and £1.982m reduction in the use of reserves, from £15.131m to £13.149m.</li></ul>

<p>Cabinet 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024</p>	<p>Housing Revenue Account – Proposed Capital Works Programme 2024/25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledge the proposed Capital Programme to be funded within the HRA, estimated at £19,841,760 and recommends to Council that it be approved.</li> <li>• Subject to Council approval, authorises external competitive procurement to be commenced in respect of the respective schemes identified within the Capital Programme on a compliant basis in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules 2022.</li> <li>• Requests reports back on the individual schemes with recommendations as to contract awards at the conclusion of the respective procurement processes.</li> <li>• Notes that whilst the target completion date for the respective contract works is the end of the current financial year, the duration of some contracts and the associated expenditure will run into 2025/26 and that further updates will be provided to Cabinet as part of the Budget reporting process.</li> <li>• Approves payments to Green Grants Install Limited for decarbonisation works under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 1 and 2 programmes grant</li> </ul>
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		<p>funded by the GMCA and delegates to the Director of Law and Gove</p>
<p>Cabinet 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024</p>	<p>Implementation of the Children's Services Leadership Structure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the update on the Children &amp; Young People's Department Senior Management Restructure, including work to implement the new structure following conclusion of staff consultation.</li> <li>• Recommend that Council approve in principle the release of the Strategic Lead (Schools System) and disestablishment of their role following their request for Voluntary Early Retirement with Severance submitted through the consultation process. – This would attract severance costs of £37,409 (which will be met by the Department) and capital costs of £101,325 related to the early release of pension benefits (which will be met centrally by the fund held by the Greater Manchester Pension Fund on behalf of the Council for this purpose). (These costs will vary very slightly dependant on the exact leaving date).</li> <li>• Delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Children and</li> </ul>

		<p>Young People, Director of People &amp; Inclusion and the Cabinet Members for Children's Services and HR and Corporate Affairs, final approval and the specific timing of redundancy linked to the completion of a number of strategic deliverables.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend that Council approve the redesignation and revaluation of one of the two Assistant Director (Regeneration Delivery) roles (Chief Officer Band D, £83,865-£90,992) to Director of Regeneration and Project Delivery (Chief Officer Band E, £93,102 - £101,596) to reflect the transfer of responsibility for Schools' Capital Development to this role and also an expanded remit in relation to housing growth and development following the departure of the former Director of Housing.</li> </ul>
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a **Budget Update Report** (Pages 17 - 34)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation is attached.

b **Proposed Major Works Programme for the Councils housing stock 2024/25** (Pages 35 - 42)

Report of Cabinet Member for Housing Services attached.

c **Implementation of the Children's Services leadership restructure** (Pages 43 - 52)

Report of Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR attached.

7 **LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME** (Pages 53 - 70)

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 71 - 108)

- (A) A combined authority update report is attached, for information. The focus of this update is the Greater Manchester Waste Authority.
- (B) The GMWA representative will then be invited to present a verbal update on the work of the Authority (5 minutes).
- (C) Members will be allowed to ask verbal questions on the verbal update (5 minutes).
- (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. (10 minutes)

## 9 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Council considered a notice of motion received from Councillors** Carol Birchmore, Donald Berry, Andrea Booth, Des Duncafe, Glyn Marsden, Mike Smith, Mary Walsh and Ken Simpson:

### **Motion – Reducing discharges from combined storm overflows (CSOs)**

Councillors Carol Birchmore, Cllr Donald Berry, Cllr Andrea Booth, Cllr Des Duncafe, Cllr Glyn Marsden, Cllr Ken Simpson, Cllr Mike Smith and Cllr Mary Walsh.

Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) have been seen by the water sector as a necessary 'safety valve' in the sewer system to prevent sewage backing up during periods of extreme rainfall.

Experts within the water sector disagree on the level CSOs are being used within their permitted conditions, and how much they are abused as a cheap alternative to treating sewage.

CSOs combine raw sewage with other pollutants in rainfall runoff from pavements and roads, they discharge a wide range of contaminants such as faecal pathogens (including bacteria resistant to antibiotics), industrial chemicals, sanitary products, pharmaceuticals, microplastics, heavy metals, oils, and solids such as wet wipes. This cocktail, discharged into our rivers, has negative impacts including:

- Risk to public health through contact recreation in rivers and potential risk via airborne bacteria and pathogens.
- Chronic and acute effects upon aquatic wildlife.

The Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan updated: 25 September 2023, relating to the Water Industry Act 1991, presents a target that water companies will only be permitted to

discharge from a storm overflow where they can demonstrate that there is no local adverse ecological impact. It is difficult to believe that you can discharge into any body of water without an “adverse ecological impact”, and it is important that this stipulation is not seen to only apply to rural idyl sites but rather to assign ecological importance to all water bodies. The report gives a target as limiting pollution, to ensure that all storm overflows would only be used in the rare case of unusually heavy rainfall, if at all.

In December 2023 the Government reported that 100% of storm overflows across the water network in England have now been fitted with Event Duration Monitors (EDMs). As a result of the monitors being fitted, the Environment Agency is now able to provide data for each of the CSOs. They can identify number of spills (discharges) and the total number of hours the spills lasted. The map makes it easy to view the data and it provides the location of each of the CSOs. The map shows that there are around 27 frequently used CSOs within Bury MBC which includes around 8 in Radcliffe positioned along the River Irwell. The data for 2023 shows increasing discharges compared to 2022, and 2021 when monitoring of CSOs was first introduced.

The data from the EDMs shows that the number of “spills” in 2023 from CSOs at Blackford Bridge WTW and the CSOs along the River Irwell in Radcliffe is 702, for a total duration of 6,845 hours, which is equivalent to 285 days or 78% of the time. Despite the weather in 2023 being wet, this does appear to be excessive and very worrying. It almost feels as though the River Irwell is being treated as an open sewer.

Unfortunately, The Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan appears to concentrate on areas where open swimming takes place, giving them top priority status but surely it is not acceptable to ask residents in densely populated areas to endure such high levels of pollution in our rivers.

The recent actions of the councillors in Rochdale regarding the Pilsworth Landfill site show that Councils can raise awareness of environmental issues and ask large companies for action plans to address them. Through this motion we would like to achieve the same level of public consciousness of this issue and prompt the Government and other stakeholders to ask for action on this issue.

**This Council resolves to:**

- Request a meeting with United Utilities and local councillors to discuss concerns and explore local solutions to the discharging of sewage into rivers which either flow through or feed into rivers that flow through Bury MBC.
- Write to our two local MPs outlining the concerns raised about the effective regulation of United Utilities and continued spills/discharges from CSOs.
- Write to the Regulator the Environment Agency asking that priority is given to addressing the discharge into all rivers not simply those in river bathing areas.
- Write to the Regulator the Environment Agency requesting direct engagement between concerned members to establish what they are doing to improve water quality in our Borough and prevent further unnecessary spills.

**Council considered a notice of motion received from Councillors: A Arif, Bayley, Boles, Cummins, Farooq, Fitzgerald, Frith, Gold, Green, Grimshaw, Haroon, Hayes, Hook, Ibrahim, McGill, Morris, Moss, O'Brien, Pilkington, Quinn Alan, Quinn Deborah, Rafiq, Rahimov, Rizvi, Rubinstein, Ryder, Smith Lucy, Southworth, Staples-Jones**



**Gareth, Tariq, Thorpe, Walmsley.**

## **Request the mandatory conditioning of Swift Bricks into new developments in Bury**

This Council notes:

Swifts are an iconic migratory species that grace our skies each summer with their thrilling acrobatic flight displays, they have nested alongside us for centuries, thus providing opportunities for people to engage with nearby nature, which is now well recognised to be of great value to our well-being.

Swifts and House Martins are “building-dependent” species, House Sparrows and Starlings partially so. However, as the new Biodiversity Net Gain Metric does not consider buildings as habitat, provision for them is not counted within the metric. It is, however, encouraged by the Design Codes thus these species require specific inclusion within Local Planning Policies.

A further challenge in that modern housing is designed to ensure properties lack any gaps or spaces, such as would be used as for breeding sites by urban bird species and bats too.

When combined with the continued reduction of potential nest sites on existing buildings caused by refurbishment and repairs, this overall loss of breeding opportunities has resulted in a long-term dramatic decline of urban birds. Swifts, House Sparrows, House Martins and Starlings, all now red-listed, by the British Trust for Ornithology, indicating species of high conservation concern. Thus, without proactive policy we stand to lose many species, causing further deprivation of nature in urban areas.

It has been recognised that integrating nest bricks into the structure of the new buildings is a much-preferred solution over bird boxes; they are a permanent feature of the building, require zero maintenance, are aesthetically integrated within the design, less vulnerable to vandalism and have better thermal regulation with future climate change in mind.

Furthermore, analysis of breeding records from new housing estates built with integrated Swift bricks has shown that these spaces are readily used by both Swifts and other urban bird species, particularly House Sparrows; thus, Swift bricks are a universal nest brick for small bird species.

Best-practice guidance has recently been made available with the publication of British Standard BS42021:2022 Integral Nest Boxes – selection & installation for new developments

<https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/integral-nest-boxes-selection-and-installation-for-new-developments-specification-1/standard>

### **This Council resolves to:**

- 1) Request that the Council accepts that best practice, in the form of British Standard 42021:2022, should be proposed and adopted within the new Bury Local Plan.
- 2) Ensure that any plans to re-roof Bury’s Council Housing stock be seen as an opportunity to install Swift nesting boxes, especially if there is evidence of existing nests.

**Council considered a motion received in the names of Councillors Arif, Bernstein, Brown, Gartside, Harris, Hussain, Lancaster, McBriar, Rydeheard, Vernon.**

**PROMOTING AN INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT TO IMPROVE THE**

## **LIVES OF BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND VISIT BURY**

### **THIS COUNCIL NOTES THAT:**

Ensuring an inclusive and accessible environment is not just a matter of compliance but a fundamental right and a testament to our community's values some of which are embedded in the Let's Do It Strategy.

There are several actionable strategies which this Council can implement to improve the quality of life for blind and partially sighted people who both live and visit our Borough.

### **THIS COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGES THAT**

The actionable strategies include;

Accessibility to and improvements on public transportation

Enhancing the role of technology and digital accessibility

Improve community awareness and education

Improve accessibility to and inclusivity of employment opportunities

Ensure social and recreational opportunities for blind and partially sighted people are accessible

### **THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES**

To undertake a feasibility study to consider all matters that need to be considered to improve accessibility and inclusiveness for blind and partially sighted people living and visiting our Borough.

The feasibility study to include contributions from all partners and interested parties

For the Chief Executive to report back on this matter by January 2025 Council.

#### **a      LABOUR AMENDMENT TO THE RADCLIFFE FIRST NOTICE OF MOTION (Pages 109 - 112)**

Attached.

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

None.

#### **11      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).

**Minutes of:** COUNCIL

**Date of Meeting:** 22 May 2024

**Present:** The Worshipful the Mayor (in the Chair)  
Councillors A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, R Bernstein, D Berry, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, R Brown, C Cummins, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, J Hook, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Marsden, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh and Y Wright

**Apologies for Absence** D Duncalfe and N Frith

**Public Attendance:** 3 members of the public attended Part 1 of the meeting.

**C. 19 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL PART 1**  
**C. 20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**C. 21 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

**C. 22 ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS MAY 2024**

The Mayor reported the outcome of the Election of Councillors held on 2 May 2024 for each of the seventeen wards of the Metropolitan Borough:-

Besses	Miriam Rahimov	Labour
Bury East	Gavin McGill	Labour
Bury West	Dene Vernon	Conservative
Elton	Martin Hayes	Labour
Holyrood	Imran Rizvi	Labour
Moorside	Ciaron Boles	Labour
North Manor	John Southworth	Labour
Pilkington Park	Elizabeth FitzGerald	Labour
Radcliffe East	Ken Simpson	Radcliffe First

Radcliffe North & Ainsworth	Andrea Booth	Radcliffe First
Radcliffe West	Des Duncalfe	Radcliffe First
Ramsbottom	Tom Pilkington	Labour
Redvales	Tamoor Tariq	Labour
Sedgley	Alan Quinn	Labour
St Marys	Debra Green	Labour
Tottington	Luis McBriar	Conservative
Unsworth	Jodie Hook	Labour

**C. 23 ANNUAL CONSTITUTION UPDATE REPORT**

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O’Brien and Council agreed to:

1. Adopt the proposed changes regarding Schemes of Delegation and Local Choice Functions (appendix 1 a-g and appendix 2);
2. Note the selections reviewed during the 2023/24 municipal year; and
3. Note the selections proposed for review during the 2024/25 municipal year.

**C. 24 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS 2024/25**  
**C. 25 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was moved by Councillor Tariq and seconded by Councillor L Smith and it was agreed;

That Councillor Eamonn O’Brien be elected as the Leader of the Council for a four year term of office.

**C. 26 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS REPORT**

It was moved by Councillor O’Brien and seconded by Councillor Tariq and it was agreed that:

1. That the Strong Leader arrangements adopted by the Council in 2011/12, be confirmed for 2024/2025.
2. That the appointments of the Political Groups’ Leaders and Deputy Leaders as set out in Appendix A to this report be received.
3. That the appointment of the Cabinet Members and Deputy Cabinet Members for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix B to this report be noted.
4. That the appointment of the Regulatory Committees, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and other bodies covered by the Political Balance Rules, including Classification Open Item No. the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix C to this report, be approved.

5. That the appointment of other bodies not covered by or exempted from the Political Balance Rules, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix D to the report, be approved.
6. That the appointments to the Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Joint Authorities for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix E to the report, be approved.
7. That the appointments to the various other internal bodies, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year, set out in Appendix F to the report, be approved.
8. That the appointments to outside bodies for the 2024/2025 Municipal Year as set out in Appendix G to the report, be approved.
9. That the Member Allowance as agreed in May 2022 and the maternity policy appended to this report, be noted.
10. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leaders of the political groups on the Council, be authorised to determine any appointments to bodies which remain to be filled and any changes in appointments or any new appointments to be made during the 2024/2025 Municipal Year and that any such appointments be reported to the Cabinet for information.
11. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make consequential changes to the Constitution.
12. That the Council be recommended to authorise the establishment of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Northern Care Alliance.
13. The membership of the HWB will be extended to include 2 additional deputy Cabinet members and Council authorise the consequential changes to the HWB terms of reference to reflect these changes.

**C. 27 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24**

It was moved by Councillor Vernon and seconded by Councillor FitzGerald, supported by Councillor Boles and it was agreed to:

Note the contents of the report and progress made by the Council's Scrutiny Committees over the past year.

**C. 28 STATE OF THE BOROUGH DEBATE**

Councillor E O'Brien Leader of the Council, made a statement on the State of the Borough describing the main achievements of the Council during 2023/2024.

**C. 29 \*\*\*\* FOR MEMBERS INFORMATION ONLY \*\*\*\* DETAILS OF URGENT COUNCIL DECISION FORM**

**C. 30 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL PART 2**

**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR**

**(Notes: Part 1 of the meeting started at 2pm and ended at 3.10pm)**

**Minutes of:** COUNCIL

**Date of Meeting:** 24 May 2023

**Present:** The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Shaheena Haroon , in the Chair)  
Councillors A 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

**Apologies for Absence** Councillor S Arif

**Public Attendance:** 100 members of the public attended Part 2 of the meeting.

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**C. 1 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL PART 2 - MAYOR MAKING**

Councillor Elizabeth FitzGerald moved that Councillor Sandra Walmsley be elected to the office of Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2023/2024, with Mr James Bentley as Consort and Mrs Gillian Hargreaves as Mayoress. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien seconded the nomination. Councillors Charlotte Morris, Yvonne Wright, Jo Lancaster, Ummrana Farooq and Mike Smith spoke in support of the nomination. Councillor Shaheena Haroon, after calling for and not receiving any other nominations, declared the nomination carried and it was:-

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Sandra Walmsley be duly elected Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2023/2024, Mr James Bentley as Consort and Mrs Gillian Hargreaves as Mayoress.

The newly-elected Mayor then occupied the Chair, read and signed the Declaration required by the Local Government Act 1972 and thanked the Council for the honour conferred on her in electing her Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury.

**VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND CONSORT:**

It was moved by Councillor Tamoor Tariq, seconded by Councillor Russell Bernstein and it was:

**RESOLVED:**

That this Council hereby expresses its thanks to Councillor Shaheena Haroon, Mr Raja Haroon Khan and Councillor Ayesha Arif for the diligent manner in which they have undertaken the duties of Mayor, Consort and Mayoress of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury during the Municipal Year now ending and places on record its appreciation of their devotion and performance of the important duties attaching to their offices and that medallions be

presented to them as tokens of appreciation of their services as Mayor, Consort and Mayoress.

**APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2023/2024**

It was moved by Councillor Alan Quinn and seconded by Councillor Russell Bernstein and it was:-

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Khalid Hussain be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2023/2024, with Mrs Carol Bernstein as his Deputy Mayoress.

The newly-elected Deputy Mayor then occupied the Chair, read and signed the Declaration required by the Local Government Act 1972 and thanked the Council for the honour conferred on him in electing him Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury.

**THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR**

**(Notes:** Part 1 of the meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.00 pm  
Part 2 of the meeting started at 4 pm and ended at 5.40 pm)





<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Non-Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 16 July 2024
<b>Subject:</b>	Finance Update Report	
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation	

### Summary

1. To present to members the 2023/24 revenue outturn position.
2. To present to members the updated Medium-Term Financial Forecast (MTFF) position for 2024/25 to 2026/27, to include the following items:
  - Bury £1.701m share of the additional £500m added to the Social Care Grant to bolster social care budgets and £22k increase in the Services Grant, announced in the final 2024/25 Local Government Finance Settlement.
  - £444k full year effect of increasing fees and charges following a further review of our charges.
3. To present to members the updated Net Budget for 2024/25.
4. To inform members of the final reserves position as at 31 March 2024.
5. To present to members the 2023/24 capital outturn position and request approval to move the slippage into 2024/25.
6. To present an update to members on the Finance Improvement Plan
7. To set out the work plan to close the budget gap, to be reported at September Cabinet in the MTFF refresh.

### Recommendation(s)

8. Cabinet is asked to:
  - Note the 2023/24 revenue outturn position of a £6.607m overspend (3.47%) against a net budget of £190.274m.
  - Approve the updates to the Medium-Term Financial Forecast (MTFF) for the additional £1.701m Social Care Grant, £22k increase in the Services Grant and an increase to the fees and charges as set in section 21 and Appendix A totalling £444k.

- Note the updated budget gap of £27.918m, a reduction of £2.167m on the £30.085m budget gap reported at the Budget Council Meeting in February 2024.
- Note the updated Net Revenue Budget of £224.480m and £1.982m reduction in the use of reserves, from £15.131m to £13.149m.
- Note the General Fund and Earmarked Reserves balance at 31 March 2024 of £104.389m.
- Note the overall 2023/24 capital programme outturn position of £52.944m, 70% compared to the overall 2023/24 capital programme budget of £75.475m.
- Approve the in-year capital slippage of £23.419m is transferred into 2024/25.
- Note the Finance Improvement Plan update.
- Note the work plan to close the £27.918m budget gap.

9. Council is asked to:

- Approve the increase to the fees and charges as set in section 21 and Appendix 1 totalling £444k.
- Note the updated Net Revenue Budget of £224.480m and £1.982m reduction in the use of reserves, from £15.131m to £13.149m.

**Reasons for recommendation(s)**

10. To note the final financial position for 2023/24 subject to external audit.
11. To update members on the Councils budgetary position and set out the work plan to close the budget gap.

**Alternative options considered and rejected**

12. Not increase fees and charges.

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**Report Author and Contact Details:**

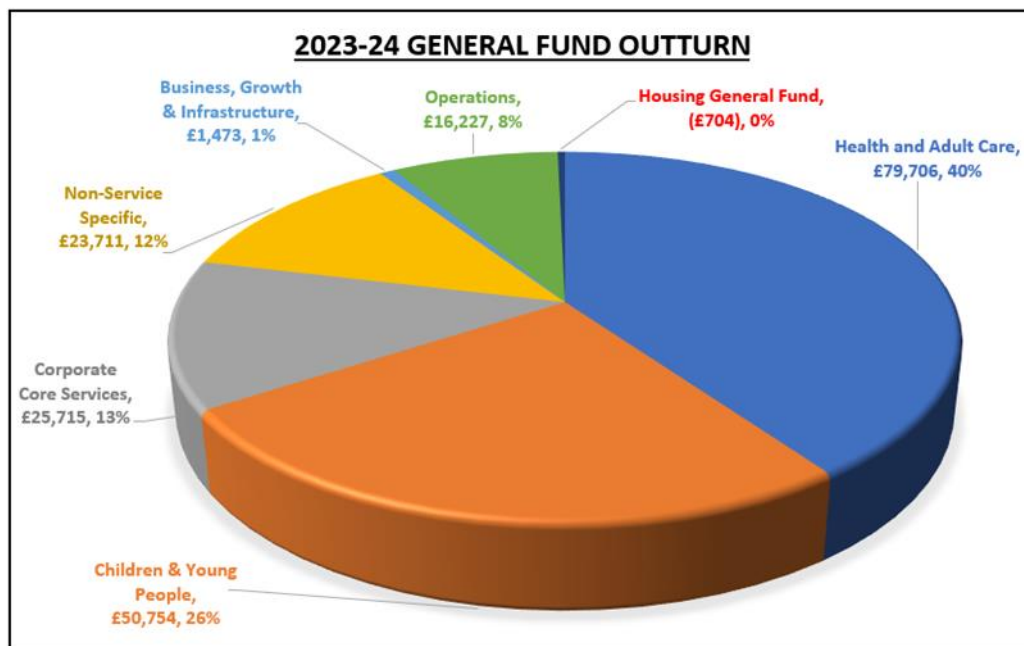
*Name:* Neil Kissock  
*Position:* Director of Finance  
*Department:* Corporate Core Department  
*E-mail:* [N.Kissock@bury.gov.uk](mailto:N.Kissock@bury.gov.uk)

**Background**

**2023/24 Revenue Outturn**

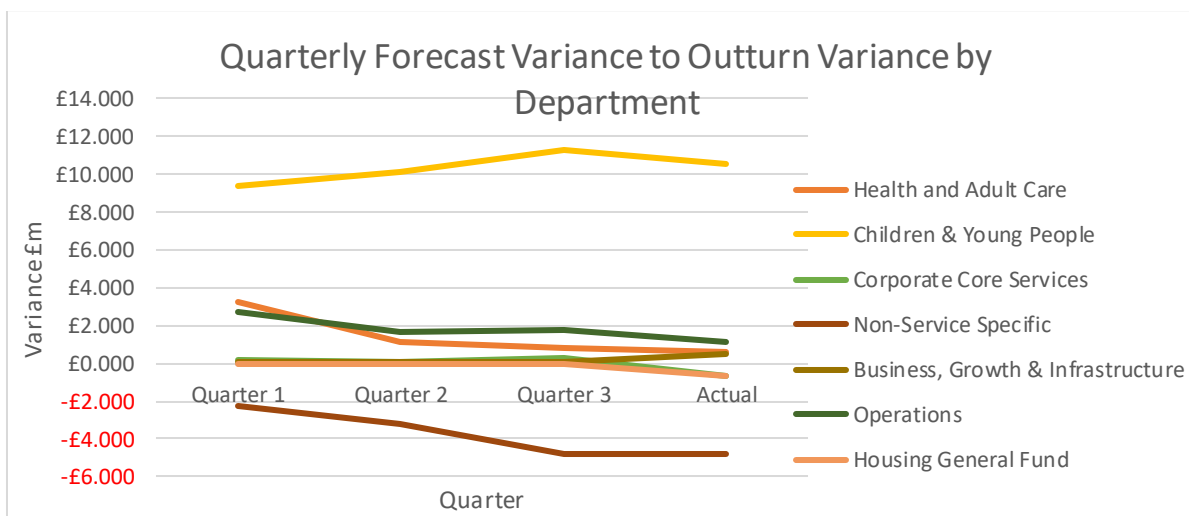
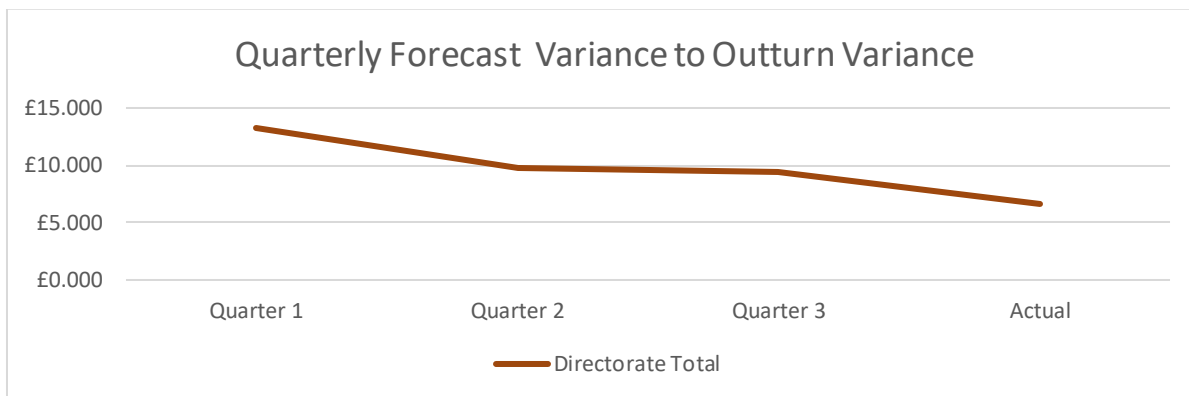
13. The 2023/24 general fund revenue outturn position was an overspend of £6.607m (subject to audit) which represents a variance of 3.47% compared to the overall revenue budget of £190.274m.

2023-24 Revenue Outturn	Revised Budget £m	Actual £m	Actual to Budget Variance £m
Health and Adult Care	£79.135	£79.706	£0.571
Children & Young People	£40.249	£50.754	£10.505
Corporate Core Services	£26.364	£25.715	(£0.649)
Non-Service Specific	£28.495	£23.711	(£4.784)
Business, Growth & Infrastructure	£1.009	£1.473	£0.464
Operations	£15.101	£16.227	£1.125
Housing General Fund	(£0.079)	(£0.704)	(£0.625)
<b>Directorate Total</b>	<b>£190.274</b>	<b>£196.881</b>	<b>£6.607</b>
<b>Funding</b>	<b>(£190.274)</b>	<b>(£190.274)</b>	<b>£0</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£6.607</b>	<b>£6.607</b>



14. The quarterly forecast positions and the actual outturn position can be seen in the table below:

2023-24 Revenue Outturn	Revised	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Actual
	Budget £m	Variance £m	Variance £m	Variance £m	Variance £m
Health and Adult Care	£79.135	£3.216	£1.145	£0.855	£0.571
Children & Young People	£40.249	£9.361	£10.085	£11.279	£10.505
Corporate Core Services	£26.364	£0.167	£0.044	£0.273	(£0.649)
Non-Service Specific	£28.495	(£2.257)	(£3.200)	(£4.797)	(£4.784)
Business, Growth & Infrastructure	£1.009	£0.040	£0.082	£0.048	£0.464
Operations	£15.101	£2.740	£1.640	£1.803	£1.125
Housing General Fund	(£0.079)	£0.000	£0.000	£0.000	(£0.625)
<b>Directorate Total</b>	<b>£190.274</b>	<b>£13.266</b>	<b>£9.796</b>	<b>£9.462</b>	<b>£6.607</b>
<b>Funding</b>	<b>(£190.274)</b>	<b>£0.000</b>	<b>£0.000</b>	<b>£0.000</b>	<b>£0.000</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>£0.000</b>	<b>£13.266</b>	<b>£9.796</b>	<b>£9.462</b>	<b>£6.607</b>



15. Details of the significant variances include:

Health and Adult Care:

- The Care in the Community budget overspent by £1.102m, due to:
  - An increase in demand for Home Care packages as a result of supporting hospital discharges into home care settings.
  - New 'in year demand' demand or increases to existing care packages.
  - Legacy demand pressures because of Covid Hospital Discharge policy
  - In year savings shortfall.
- The Commissioning & Procurement budget overspent by £371k, due to:
  - A £600k overspend on the Persona budget regarding additional Supported Living staffing costs and savings slippage.
  - A £160k underspend due to vacant posts within the Community Commissioning Team.
  - A £110k permanent contractual savings within the Neighbourhood Housing Support budgets.
  - A £68k underspend due to Carers grant account closures.
- The Adult Social Care Operations budget underspent by £315k, the main driver of the £315k underspend are staffing vacancies within the Assessment and Care Management, Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT), Reviewing Team and Community Mental Health Team staffing budgets.
- The Public Health budget underspent by £428k, due to:
  - Staffing Budget underspend - £45k.
  - NHS Health Check Contract Saving - £50k.
  - Domestic Violence Contract saving - £90k.
  - Reduction in Activity of Out of Borough Sexual health Services - £193k.
  - Reduction in Substance Misuse prescribing costs - £50k.

Children and Young People:

- Children's residential placements including Children with disabilities overspent by £5.134m, due to increasing placement costs from private providers which continues to be an issue.
- The safeguarding service overspent by £1.493m, due to high agency costs, increased costs for Non-Looked After (NLA) support packages and legal charges.
- Home to School Transport overspent by £1.664m, due to increase in demand alongside inflationary costs.
- Inclusion and Partnerships overspent by £1.387m, with The Short Breaks service being the largest contributing area to this adverse variance which in part is due to the unachieved previously approved savings target of £200k and short breaks costs of £300k previously funded through DSG. An increase in demand and costs for Personal budgets is also contributing to the overall overspend.

Corporate Core Services:

- People and Inclusion service underspent by £314k, due to staffing underspends and ringfenced funding for specific posts and reduced running costs within business support.
- Finance underspent by £241k, due to net income from the Collection Fund higher than forecast in relation to summons costs income, cost of collection. £482k. This is offset by an overspend in relation to the statutory external audit fee of £181k and an overspend for the additional resources to support the finance improvement agenda and additional work to support children's services £91k.

Non-Service Specific:

- Cost of borrowing was underspent by £3.402m due to less borrowing being undertaken through the re-phasing and slippage on the capital programme, increase in investment income due to high interest rates.
- Greater Manchester Waste Disposal levy was underspent by £1.397m due to the additional return of the waste levy rebate.

Business Growth and Infrastructure:

- The main reasons for the overspend were lower than budgeted incomes in Development Management (Planning), Building Control and the two Shopping Centres (Longfield in Prestwich and Mill Gate in Bury).

Operations:

- The main driver of the directorate overspend relates to £1.337m overspend on energy costs due to high prices/inflation that has led to overspends in the high-volume areas of Leisure and Highways within the Operations Department.

16. A significant amount of the overspend is within Children and Young People, reporting a £10.505m overspend. The budget for 2024/25 has been increased to account for these pressures however there remains a risk that this increase may be insufficient by c.£1.5m due to an increase in placement numbers from 115 to 121. This assumes placements number remain at 115 through the 2024/25 year; any increase or decrease would impact the forecast position.
17. The pressures within other directorates have also been accounted for in the 2024/25 budget however there are some risks relating to income. Work is ongoing to review the budgets built in with the outturn information now available to assess if there any areas of opportunity to reduce the budgets. This will be addressed and reported as part of the Quarter 1 suite of reports to September Cabinet.

**2024-25 to 2026-27 MTF**

18. The budget report presented to Budget Council on 21 February 2024 included the funding grants totalling £28.127m, taken from the Provisional 2024/25 Local Government Finance Settlement (LGFS) announced on 18 December 2023.
19. On 5 February 2024 the government announced the Final 2024/25 Local Government Settlement, for Bury this included an additional £1.701m of Social Care Grant allocation and an increase of £22k to the Services Grant.

<b>Funding Grants</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>FEB 2024</b>	<b>JULY 2024</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
		<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Improved Better Care Fund	£7.628	£7.628	£7.628
Social Care Grant	£12.635	£14.894	£16.595
ASC Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund	£3.155	£3.573	£3.573
ASC Discharge Fund	£1.069	£1.783	£1.783
Social Care Grants	£0	£0	£0
New Homes Bonus	£0.053	£0.020	£0.020
Services Grant	£1.456	£0.229	£0.251
Funding Guarantee	£0	£0	£0
<b>Funding Grants</b>	<b>£25.996</b>	<b>£28.127</b>	<b>£29.850</b>
<b>Year % Change</b>		<b>8.20%</b>	<b>14.83%</b>

20. As part of the continuing work to close the budget gap, a further review of fees and charges has been undertaken, subject to Council approval, it is proposed to uplift the fees and charges listed in appendix A.
21. The fees and charges increases are forecast to generate an additional £444k income, split part-year with £259k in 2024/25 and £185k in 2025/26.
22. The 2024/25 to 2026/27 MTF budget gap presented to Budget Council on 21 February 2024 was £30.085m, including the £1.723m increase in funding grants that were announced too late to incorporate in February budget papers and the proposed increase of £444k in fees and charges, reduces the budget gap by £2.167m to £27.918m as shown in the table below.

Updated MTFF Summary	JULY 2024		
	2024/25 (£000s)	2025/26 (£000s)	2026/27 (£000s)
<b>Budget Gap at February 2024</b>	<b>£15.131</b>	<b>£10.627</b>	<b>£4.327</b>
Increase in Fees and Charges	(£0.259)	(£0.185)	£0.000
Additional Social Care Grant Funding	(£1.701)	£0.000	£0.000
Increase in the Services Grant	(£0.022)	£0.000	£0.000
<b>ANNUAL INCREMENTAL BUDGET GAP</b>	<b>£13.149</b>	<b>£10.442</b>	<b>£4.327</b>
<b>CUMULATIVE BUDGET GAP</b>	<b>£13.149</b>	<b>£23.591</b>	<b>£27.918</b>

### 2024/25 Budget

23. The budget report presented to Budget Council on 21 February 2024 set out the Council's budget requirement for the 2024/25 financial year and provided details on the Council's reserves position. This process is in accordance with statutory requirements and proper accounting practices.
24. Council approved a net revenue budget of £209.608m for 2024/25, which included an approved use of reserves of £15.131m held within the Non-Service Specific Directorate, to balance the revenue budget.
25. It is proposed that the in-year use of reserves of £15.131m to balance the budget, is re-presented from Non-Service Specific to below funding. This re-presentation not only shows the overall net revenue budget position of £224.739m but each directorate's net revenue budget position, to more accurately reflect the true net revenue budget to deliver the Council services.
26. The table below shows this new re-presentation of the general fund budget that will be used to report against throughout the year.
- The Feb 2024 column shows the re-presentation of the approved budget.
  - The July 2024 updates the approved budget with the items outlined in section 22 above, of:
    - £4k additional fees and charges income in Corporate Core Services.
    - £255k additional fees and charges income in Operations.
    - £259k reduction in the net revenue budget, from £224.739m to £224.480m
    - £1.723m increase in Government Funding Grants.
    - £1.982m reduction in the use of reserves from £15.131m to £13.149m.



2024/25 Updated Budget	FEB 2024 2024/25 £m	JULY 2024 2024/25 £m
<u>Directorate:</u>		
Health and Adult Care	£87.215	£87.215
Children & Young People	£58.183	£58.183
Corporate Core Services	£28.455	£28.451
Non-Service Specific	£31.097	£31.097
Business, Growth & Infrastructure	£1.225	£1.225
Operations	£18.643	£18.388
Housing General Fund	(£0.079)	(£0.079)
<b>NET REVENUE BUDGET</b>	<b>£224.739</b>	<b>£224.480</b>
<u>Funding:</u>		
Council Tax	(£110.198)	(£110.198)
Business Rates	(£71.282)	(£71.282)
Government Funding Grants	(£28.128)	(£29.851)
<b>FUNDING</b>	<b>(£209.608)</b>	<b>(£211.331)</b>
<u>Use of Reserves</u>		
Budget Stabilisation Reserve	(£15.131)	(£13.149)
<b>USE OF RESERVES</b>	<b>(£15.131)</b>	<b>(£13.149)</b>
<b>BALANCED BUDGET</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>

## Reserves

27. In accordance with statutory regulations and CIPFA Guidance, the levels of balances and reserves are reviewed during the budget process to ensure that they are currently sufficient, and that they will remain adequate over the medium-term.
28. The table below shows the forecast year-end balance on reserves from the February 2024 budget report compared to the actual year-end balance on reserves in the unaudited 2023/24 statement of accounts.
29. Overall, the position on general fund and earmarked reserves improved by £3.878m, but when excluding the general fund balance and other statute & ring-fenced reserves, the position improved by £5.883m, significant variations include:
- Collection Fund: improvement on the budgeted collection fund position and receipts of additional government funding grants.
  - Budget Stabilisation: improvement on the 2023/24 forecast outturn position.

<b>General Fund Reserves</b>	<b>FEB 2024 Forecast Balance at 31 March 2024 £m</b>	<b>Year-End Actual Balance at 31 March 2024 £m</b>	<b>Variance  £m</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>(£10.000)</b>	<b>(£10.000)</b>	<b>£0.000</b>
Management of Financial Risk - Corporate	(£4.420)	(£4.010)	£0.410
Management of Financial Risk - Directorate	(£0.164)	(£0.054)	£0.110
Investment Funds	(£0.816)	(£1.518)	(£0.702)
COVID-19 Related Grants	(£1.955)	(£1.872)	£0.083
Earmarked External Funding	(£12.189)	(£11.761)	£0.428
Levies	£0.000	(£0.679)	(£0.679)
Collection Fund	(£4.629)	(£7.194)	(£2.565)
Budget Stabilisation	(£45.297)	(£47.432)	(£2.135)
Insurance	(£3.914)	(£4.664)	(£0.750)
DSG Deficit	(£6.000)	(£6.000)	£0.000
<b>Earmarked Balances Sub-Total</b>	<b>(£79.384)</b>	<b>(£85.184)</b>	<b>(£5.800)</b>
Schools Reserves	(£5.169)	(£3.043)	£2.126
Section 106 Commuted Sums	(£5.958)	(£6.162)	(£0.204)
<b>Total General Fund Reserves</b>	<b>(£100.511)</b>	<b>(£104.389)</b>	<b>(£3.878)</b>

<b>Projected GF Reserves Balance</b>	<b>(£100.511)</b>	<b>(£104.389)</b>	<b>(£3.878)</b>
General Fund	(£10.000)	(£10.000)	£0.000
COVID-19 Grants	(£1.955)	(£1.872)	£0.083
Schools Reserves	(£5.169)	(£3.043)	£2.126
Section 106 Commuted Sums	(£5.958)	(£6.162)	(£0.204)
<b>GF Reserves Balance excluding Statute &amp; Ring-Fenced Reserves</b>	<b>(£77.429)</b>	<b>(£83.312)</b>	<b>(£5.883)</b>

30. At February 2024 Budget Council, it was assumed £15.131m of reserves would be required in 2024/25 to enable the Council to achieve a balanced budget whilst savings are being realised, this has been updated to £13.149m as per section 26.
31. Although, the Secretary of State in his Written Ministerial Statement to parliament on 5 February 2024 in presenting the Final 2024/25 Local Government Finance Settlement,

*“asks authorities to continue to consider how they can use their reserves to maintain services over this and the next financial year, recognising that not all reserves can be reallocated, and that the ability to meet spending pressures from reserves will vary between authorities.”*

The continuing use of reserves to balance the budget presents an unsustainable position, as such the Council has developed a work plan, detailed later in the report, to reduce the reliance on the use of reserves and to stabilise the Council's finances over the medium-term.

**2023/24 Capital Outturn**

32. The Capital Programme is set on a three-year rolling basis and the programme for 2023/2024 to 2025/2026 was approved by Budget Council in February 2023, as follows:

2023/24	£127.198m
2024/25	£73.500m
2025/26	£28.630m

33. At the 12 July 2023 Cabinet meeting, a further £17.390m of slippage from 2022/23 was added to the 2023/24 programme, to increase the 2023/24 Capital Programme to £144.588m.
34. Throughout the year, project managers have continued to review their respective capital schemes and have provided scheme updates and re-phased schemes into future years of the Capital Programme to match the anticipated timing of spend, as a result of more up to date information becoming available.
35. As a result of the in-year reviews, the 2023/24 Capital Programme reduced by £69.113m, from £144.588m to £75.475m, which included the inception of £18.007m in relation to grant awards (schools and highways) and the re-phasing of £87.120m into future years (£78.497m into 2024-25 and £8.623m into 2025-26).
36. The table below shows the 2023/24 Capital Programme outturn position of £52.944m (subject to audit), that equals 70% of the revised capital programme total of £75.475m. The main variances of the £22.531m underspend include:
- £6.654m Schools grant allocations.
  - £5.016m Radcliffe Regeneration Levelling-Up scheme.
  - £2.794m HRA Capital Programme.
  - £2.343m Highways Planned Maintenance Programme.
  - £2.324m Streets for All Bury Programme.
  - £967k Vehicle Replacement Strategy.
  - £555k Springwater Park scheme.
37. It is proposed that the slippage of £23.419m on schemes is carried forward into the 2024/25 Capital Programme, that will increase the 2024-25 Capital Programme from £146.928m approved at February 2024 Budget Council to £170.347m, which includes an overall borrowing requirement of £47.553m.

<b>2023/24 CAPITAL PROGRAMME</b>	<b>2023/24 Revised Programme</b>	<b>Actual Spend at Outturn</b>	<b>Actual Spend at Outturn</b>	<b>(Under) / Over spend at Outturn</b>	<b>Proposed Slippage to 2024/25</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure by Theme</b>					
Regeneration and Economic Growth	<b>£11.565</b>	£6.046	52%	£0.000	£5.260
Place Shaping/Growth	<b>£1.326</b>	£0.622	47%	£0.000	£0.950
Sports and Leisure	<b>£4.081</b>	£3.482	85%	(£0.050)	£0.573
Operational Fleet	<b>£3.935</b>	£2.936	75%	(£0.002)	£0.997
ICT and Digital	<b>£0.781</b>	£1.598	204%	£0.871	£0.055
Highways	<b>£17.388</b>	£12.201	70%	£0.000	£5.176
Children and Young People	<b>£12.011</b>	£5.357	45%	(£0.000)	£6.654
Estate Management - Investment Estate	<b>£0.070</b>	£0.000	0%	£0.000	£0.070
Estate Management - Corporate Landlord	<b>£2.642</b>	£1.766	67%	£0.070	£0.946
Older People and Disabled Facilities Grant	<b>£1.676</b>	£2.049	122%	£0.000	(£0.373)
Housing GF	<b>£0.438</b>	£0.457	104%	£0.000	£0.190
Housing HRA	<b>£19.314</b>	£16.311	84%	£0.000	£2.794
Climate Change	<b>£0.247</b>	£0.119	48%	£0.000	£0.128
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£75.475</b>	<b>£52.944</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>£0.889</b>	<b>£23.419</b>
<b>Financing the Capital Programme</b>					
Prudential Borrowing	<b>£17.623</b>	£14.912	85%	£0.889	£3.600
External Funding	<b>£36.038</b>	£22.295	62%	£0.000	£13.743
Capital Receipts	<b>£6.651</b>	£2.649	40%	£0.000	£4.002
General Fund RCCO	<b>£1.566</b>	£0.488	31%	£0.000	£1.078
Housing Revenue Account DRF/MRR	<b>£13.597</b>	£12.600	93%	£0.000	£0.997
<b>TOTAL FINANCING</b>	<b>£75.475</b>	<b>£52.944</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>£0.889</b>	<b>£23.419</b>

### Finance Improvement Plan

38. In 2023 the Council began a voluntarily commissioned finance improvement journey, independent advice was sought from CIPFA; an Improvement Board was established, and an experienced interim S151 Officer was engaged, to determine and lead a holistic programme of improvement.
39. A Peer Review by the LGA in December 2024 validated the improvement work to date and confirmed that work so far and the wider improvements proposed had the potential to stabilise the council's position.
40. The programme of ongoing work required was agreed to include systems, processes, policy/guidance and training. Specific deliverables for the next financial year include:
  - Completing the work to balance the 2024/25 budget.
  - A fundamental update of the council's ledger, via the upgrade and cloud migration of Unit 4.

- Conclusion of legacy accounting procedures in particular internal recharges.
- Strengthening the governance of the capital programme.
- Developing the skills and resources available for both finance business partners and departmental budget holders.
- Producing finance procedure rules.

41. Further detail on the finance improvement journey is provided in Appendix 2

### **2024/25 In-year Workplan**

42. Workplan for the next MTFS update report:
- Undertake Star Chamber for each Directorate to review:
    - All budget headings & identification of recurring under/overspends based on the 2023/24 outturn position.
    - Review of establishment costing, structures and pay awards assumptions.
    - Review contracts and Annual Price Increases (APIs) uplifts.
  - Rationalisation of the chart of accounts to include:
    - The identification of headings where budgets can be centralised & recharges removed.
    - To introduce a central support service recharging model.
  - Refresh of the sales, fees and charges register.
  - Updating of the Collection Fund position, to include a review of collection rates, debt recovery and taxbase assumptions.
  - Continuing the review of the Capital Programme with project managers to de-clutter/rationalise & re-phase the programme and update the cost of borrowing assumptions.
  - Develop a medium-term savings plan.
  - Sensitivity and scenarios analysis modelling.
43. As stated in section 17 above, an MTFF update will be reported as part of the Quarter 1 suite of reports to September Cabinet.

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### **Links with the Corporate Priorities:**

44. Financial management is a key part of the council's overall governance and control arrangements and the close monitoring of agreed income and expenditure; revised forecasts of future budget pressures and opportunities; and regular reporting of these issues underpin the council's three clear corporate priorities as set out in the Let's Do It Strategy that will deliver financial sustainability for the Council.

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**Equality Impact and Considerations:**

45. 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:
- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
46. 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.
47. Included within this report are proposed increases to fees and charges as identified in section 21 and Appendix 1, an Equality Impact Assessment has been produced (link below).

[EqIA - Cabinet Report MTFS Update June 2025.docx](#)

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**Environmental Impact and Considerations:**

48. This is a finance update report as such there are no environmental impacts associated with this report.

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**Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:**

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
The Council has insufficient funds to support its expenditure.	Regular reporting and tight budgetary control by budget holders support the Council in managing the overall financial risks and financial planning for the Council.

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**Legal Implications:**

49. Members are asked to make two recommendations to Council. These recommendations relate to decisions which are reserved to Council under the Councils constitution, namely amendments to the Council's financial revenue budget and capital expenditure programme. If Members are minded to agree to an increase in fees and charges, the Monitoring Officer and S151 officer will review the schedule and ensure all relevant consultations will be carried out prior to any increases being implemented.

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**Financial Implications:**

50. The financial implications are included within the Report.

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**Appendices:**

- Appendix 1: Fees and Charges  
Appendix 2: Finance Improvement Plan

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**Background papers:**

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

[The Council's Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan](#)

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

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
MFFF	Medium Term Financial Forecast
LGFS	Local Government Finance Settlement
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

## Appendix 1: Fees and Charges

Directorate	Service	Fees & Charge Description	2024-25 Budget	Uplift	Additional Income	2024-25	2025-26
Corporate Core Services	Legal Services	Administration Charges	(£93,800)	6.70%	(£6,000)	(£4,000)	(£2,000)
Operations	Arts & Museums	Museum & Tourist Information Centre Fees	(£61,900)	6.11%	(£4,000)	(£2,000)	(£2,000)
Operations	Commercial Services	Markets Fees	(£2,564,400)	4.98%	(£128,000)	(£75,000)	(£53,000)
Operations	Engineers	Traffic Management Fees	(£665,000)	3.66%	(£24,000)	(£14,000)	(£10,000)
Operations	Facilities Management	Administration Property Rents	(£370,800)	5.77%	(£21,000)	(£12,000)	(£9,000)
Operations	Health & Environmental Protection	Environmental Services (Public Protection) Fees	(£36,400)	1.40%	(£1,000)	(£1,000)	£0
Operations	Health & Environmental Protection	Licensing	(£451,600)	6.34%	(£29,000)	(£17,000)	(£12,000)
Operations	Health & Environmental Protection	Private Rental Sector Enforcement Fees	(£57,300)	11.50%	(£7,000)	(£4,000)	(£3,000)
Operations	Health & Environmental Protection	Trading Standards Fees	(£24,600)	4.80%	(£1,000)	(£1,000)	£0
Operations	Street Scene Maintenance	Pest Control Fees	(£196,100)	5.46%	(£11,000)	(£6,000)	(£5,000)
Operations	Waste, Transport & Stores	Transport Fees	(£122,200)	1.99%	(£2,000)	(£1,000)	(£1,000)
Operations	Waste, Transport & Stores	Waste Fees	(£1,107,400)	3.62%	(£40,000)	(£23,000)	(£17,000)
Operations	Wellness	Bereavement Services Fees	(£487,900)	5.79%	(£28,000)	(£16,000)	(£12,000)
Operations	Wellness	Leisure Facilities Fees	(£2,564,200)	5.40%	(£138,000)	(£81,000)	(£57,000)
Operations	Wellness	Libraries & Archives Fees	(£33,500)	6.18%	(£2,000)	(£1,000)	(£1,000)
Operations	Wellness	Parks Fees	(£28,900)	5.23%	(£2,000)	(£1,000)	(£1,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>(£8,866,000)</b>	<b>5.01%</b>	<b>(£444,000)</b>	<b>(£259,000)</b>	<b>(£185,000)</b>



## **Appendix 2: Finance Improvement Plan**

In 2023 the Council began a voluntarily commissioned finance improvement journey. The action was taken because:

- A significant investment was required in children's social services to mitigate years of under investment which had resulted in an inadequate judgement of social care services in 2021. An uplift of over 34% on the departmental budget (34%) was arranged, which threatened to destabilise the rest of the council's budget.
- A series of independent advisors highlighted the weakness of the finance function itself and budget management generally.
- An in-year overspend of over £10m was forecast due partly because of the impact of the uplift required to the children's services' budget but also delays in achieving some savings targets and the impact of inflation running at c11% during the year, which had uplifted the majority of the council's operating costs.

Independent advice was sought from CIPFA; an Improvement Board was established and an experienced interim S151 Officer was engaged, to determine and lead a holistic programme of improvement. Under the leadership of this team:

- The Treasury strategy has been updated to maximise the return on council investments including realising some immediate savings.
- Every departmental budget has been reviewed, with demand adjustments made where necessary.
- The reserves strategy has been updated and c.£70m of one-off resources identified to support the revenue budget if necessary. With the benefit of this stability a three-year MTFs was updated and the 2024/25 budget set.
- Advisors have been engaged to upgrade Unit 4 and all associated processes.
- A review of procurement processes has begun including remapping the purchase to pay process and clarifying contract procedure rules. The work will now interface with the development of finance procedure rules, as described below.
- The job of S151 has been redesigned to assimilate the finance function with the Department of Corporate Core services to ensure integrated corporate strategy through the leadership of a single Executive Director. The S151 post has been redesignated at Director level, reporting operationally to the ED for the Corporate Core and substantively to the CEO in order to significantly strengthen leadership oversight. A new substantive S151, Neil Kissock, took up post on 1 July.

A Peer Review by the LGA in December 2024 validated the improvement work to date and confirmed that work so far and the wider improvements proposed had the potential to stabilise the council's position. The programme of ongoing work required was agreed to include systems, processes, policy/guidance and training. Specific deliverables for the next financial year include:

- Completing the work to balance the 2024/25 budget.
- A fundamental update of the council's ledger, via the upgrade and cloud migration of Unit 4.
- Conclusion of legacy accounting procedures in particular internal recharges.
- Strengthening the governance of the capital programme.

- Developing the skills and resources available for both finance business partners and departmental budget holders.
- Producing finance procedure rules.

The Finance Improvement Board will be retained to oversee the ongoing work described above, with a new Chair to be identified by the new S151 who may also support their professional development as part of their induction to the council.



<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 16 July 2024
<b>Subject:</b>	Housing Revenue Account – Proposed Capital Works Programme 2024/25	
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Housing Services	

## 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 In February 2024 the Council took back direct management of its housing stock with the transfer of Six Town Housing’s principal responsibilities to it. A review of the capital works programme has been quickly undertaken to ensure compliance with regulatory standards and in recognition of the backlog of work that has been identified during the transfer process.
- 1.2 The 2024/25 housing major works budget was approved during the Annual Budget Setting at February Council in the sum of £23.1m. This report sets out a proposed major works programme with an estimated cost of £19.8m, to be funded through the Housing Review Account (HRA).
- 1.3 The proposed work will improve homes, increase energy efficiency and through the replacement of key components reduce the need for routine repairs. It supports meeting the decent homes standard and reducing associated risks with elemental failures e.g. water ingress, damp and trip hazards.
- 1.4 As noted in previous update reports to Cabinet, in recent years environmental work has been lacking and tenants have expressed dissatisfaction with communal outdoor spaces and boundary treatments. This programme makes provision for environmental work which will be shaped by tenants in their neighbourhoods. The proposed programme also addresses the backlog of adaptations for tenants.
- 1.5 Developing the 2024/25 programme has been delayed because of the transfer from Six Town Housing (STH). This report asks for Cabinet to recommend that the revised scheme is approved by Council, to be procured and delivered through Council processes, as per the Constitution.
- 1.6 While the ongoing survey of all the Councils housing stock will inform future budgets, the 2024/25 programme is based on verified information from the previous surveys undertaken by STH and feedback from tenant engagement.
- 1.7 With regards to the delivery of this Capital Programme, the involvement of tenants in the specification and contractor selection will be developed as part of the Council's broader approach to Tenant Engagement and Involvement.

## 2.0 Recommendations

## 2.1 That Cabinet:

- a. Acknowledges the proposed Capital Programme to be funded within the HRA, estimated at £19,841,760 and recommends to Council that it be approved.
- b. Subject to Council approval, authorises external competitive procurement to be commenced in respect of the respective schemes identified within the Capital Programme on a compliant basis in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Procedure Rules 2022.
- c. Requests reports back on the individual schemes with recommendations as to contract awards at the conclusion of the respective procurement processes.
- d. Notes that whilst the target completion date for the respective contract works is the end of the current financial year, the duration of some contracts and the associated expenditure will run into 2025/26 and that further updates will be provided to Cabinet as part of the Budget reporting process.
- e. Approves payments to Green Grants Install Limited for decarbonisation works under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 1 and 2 programmes grant funded by the GMCA and delegates to the Director of Law and Governance authority to facilitate the necessary contractual arrangements.

## **3. Reasons for recommendations**

- 3.1 To enable work to the Council's housing stock to be undertaken.
- 3.2 A requirement of the Regulator of Social Housing is to have "accurate, up to date and evidenced understanding of the condition of homes that reliably informs their provision of good quality, well maintained and safe homes for tenants.". The 2024/25 programme of work has been developed to address this need.

## **4. Alternative options considered and rejected**

- 4.1 This is an asset led programme, undertaking work where it is needed and not geographically based. The focus for the 2024/25 is on dealing with long standing issues, delayed projects, and backlogs to ensure compliance with regulatory standards. To ensure an improved approach to longer term planning from 2025/26 onwards, including the introduction of a cyclical painting and repairs programme, a full stock condition survey is currently being completed.

## **5. Background**

- 5.1 The 2024/25 draft programme formed part of the year three programme of work previously approved by the Council based on its Asset Management Strategy and the STH Business Plan. The level of investment approved at that time was £14.2m to ensure that the programme would meet most of the investment needs indicated at that time.
- 5.2 However previous programmes have been subject to delay creating the need for carryover from previous years. There have also been additional schemes identified through condition surveys and backlogs e.g. major adaptations which has a backlog of approved work of more than £1m.
- 5.3 Understanding the assets is essential and in 2021 Pennington Choices were instructed by STH to carry out a representative stock condition survey of the Council's housing stock to assess the condition and future maintenance budget costs.
- 5.4 Initially STH planned to survey 100% of the housing stock over a 5-year period. This programme was accelerated in 2023 to target 100% survey by April 2024. Due to issues with gaining access to all properties, the programme achieved over 80% survey coverage by the end of April; the programme will continue during 2024 to access all properties.
- 5.4 The current data is being uploaded into the asset management system cleansed and validated. This will provide reliable information for business planning and programming of investment for future years.

**6. The 2024-2025 Capital Investment Programme**

- 6.1 The majority of the budget has been allocated to identified projects. A proportion has been allocated to projects currently being scoped. As projects are finalised, they will be funded from this budget line. Procurement and approval being in accordance with the councils standing orders and delegated authority sought in this report.
- 6.2 Sources of evidence used to develop the 2024/25 investment programme include:
  - a. The STH draft 3-year programme previously provided to the council.
  - b. Initial results from the stock condition surveys.
  - c. Feedback from the repairs service.
  - d. Inspection requests from tenants and staff, including walkabouts.
  - e. The current carbon reduction programme.
  - f. Fire Risk Assessment recommendations.
  - g. Potential Compliance failures.
- 6.3 An outline of the proposed programme is set out below:

Major Project	Number of Properties	Number of leaseholders	Budget Estimate
Replacement Kitchens, Bathrooms, Heating	138	0	£1,137,211

Replacement Windows, Doors, Pointing, Lintels	565	0	£2,833,194
Replacement Roofing Incl. fascia, soffits & rainwater	386	11	£3,579,649
Communal Areas	326	45	£1,271,706
Environmental Projects	87		£850,000
Garages	46		£165,000
Carbon Reduction	314	0	£3,690,000
<b>Total Planned Programme</b>	<b>1862</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>£13,526,760</b>
<b>Minor Projects</b>			
Asbestos Removal			£30,000
Misc Elemental Renewals via (repairs, voids, condition surveys)			£1,240,000
Structural repairs			£300,000
Surveys: stock condition / EPC's /HHSRS/FRA/asbestos			£200,000
Major Adaptions (backlog)			£1,100,000
Major Adaptions (24/25 budget)			£800,000
Stairlift Renewals			£10,000
FRA remedial works and improvements			£1,500,000
Demolition Works			£75,000
Capitalised Salaries			£380,000
Other -salaries, fees, design etc			£580,000
Advanced Design (carbon reduction projects)			<b>£100,000</b>
<b>Total Miscellaneous Capital</b>			<b>£6,315,000</b>
	<b>Capital Budget Estimates</b>		<b>£19,841,760</b>
	<b>Approved HRA Capital Budget</b>		<b>£23,082,000</b>
	<b>Slippage from 2023-2024</b>		<b>£2,794,000</b>
	<b>Total Budget Available</b>		<b>£25,876,000</b>
	<b>Budget not allocated</b>		<b>£6,034,240</b>
<b>Projects being scoped</b>			
Eton Hill (Revised options appraisal)			
St Thomas (Roofing)			
Trinity Green Estate Bin Stores (Environmental work)			
Crompton Close Bin Stores (Environmental work)			
Pavilion Walk Radcliffe - Road resurfacing			
Heywood Road (Energy efficiency)			
Hunters Hill Cavity Wall properties Insulation (Energy efficiency)			
Winifred Street (Energy efficiency)			

## 7. Procurement Route

7.1 In order to provide the Council with sufficient procurement capacity the Council has renewed its contract with the local authority owned STAR organisation. For the year 2024/25. As part of those arrangements there is a separate contract

between the Council and STAR funded by the HRA to provide specialist support to Housing Operations following the in-housing of the STH housing stock management responsibilities.

- 7.2 STAR will be responsible for the conduct of the respective procurements required in respect of the identified schemes. Frameworks will be utilised for this purpose as this constitutes the most efficient and speedy method of proceeding as they contain panels of contractors pre-qualified as to expertise and experience.
- 7.3 Historically STH has utilised the Procure Plus framework. There are a number of other housing frameworks such as Fusion 21 and NCA and STAR will determine which is the most appropriate in consultation with the Council.

### **Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Waves 1 and 2**

- 8.1 The Council is in receipt of grant funding from the GMCA under the SHDF programme in respect of its housing stock and Grant Funding Agreements were duly entered into between the Council and the GMCA. However, due to a historic process error valid contracts were not subsequently entered into with the contractor, Green Grants Install Limited. Work has been carried out satisfactorily under STH and subsequently post-transfer Council instruction.
- 8.2 In order to facilitate payments to the contractor for work carried out prior to and post-transfer, Cabinet is requested to give its formal approval. There is no net cost to the Council as the costs are fully granted funded. The works will be completed by the end of the current financial year.

### **Next Steps**

- 9.1 Cabinet to submit the Capital Programme to Council for Approval.
- 9.2 Subject to Council approval under 9.1, to commence the external procurement process in respect of the identified schemes.
- 9.3 To develop ways of engaging tenants in the design and delivery of the schemes within the programme.
- 9.4 To link the proposed Capital Programme program to wider neighbourhood initiatives to increase the impact of improvement in areas.
- 9.5 To continue the development of unallocated projects and scope future projects for inclusion in the 2024/25 and 2025/26 programmes.

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### **10. Links with the Corporate Priorities:**

- 10.1 This proposal contributes towards meeting the Council's priorities across a range of policy areas including reporting and evidencing good quality homes, through the Asset Management Plan, the HRA Business Plan, supporting the

Council's Carbon Neutrality by 2038 as well as meeting the expectations laid out in the Social Housing Regulations.

- 10.2 It sets out plans for the delivery of a housing programme in conjunction with the ambitions of the Bury 2030 Let's Do It! Strategy.

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**11. Equality Impact and Considerations:**

- 11.1 The programme has defined the priorities for investment within the social housing stock based on pre-defined criteria relating to the dwelling.
- 11.2 Investment has been targeted to the worst properties needing investment first.
- 11.3 Service Standards are documented, which define the way the works will be delivered to ensure consistency for internal and external contractors.
- 11.4 Special needs will be determined during the pre-commencement phase of all projects, via the "Getting to Know You" proforma developed with tenants through the Customer Review Group.
- 11.5 "Getting to Know You" will be undertaken prior to works commencing and a dedicated Tenant Liaison officer appointed to support tenants and leaseholders through the process.
- 11.6 Tenant and Leaseholder consultation and choice opportunities are part of the pre-commencement activities. Ensure the section 20 process is followed to consult with Leaseholders as required.

**12. Environmental Impact and Considerations:**

- 12.1 These schemes help meet the Council's carbon reduction targets, providing healthier, warmer homes and reducing the instances of damp and condensation connected to thermal efficiency, reducing fuel poverty, and achieving EPC property targets.

**13. Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:**

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
1. Delayed approval preventing the schemes starting in a time to complete within this financial year and slip into following year.	Work is on site on those schemes slipped into this financial year and scoping has been done so that work can be procured now to continue the programme and a continued development of the programme in year.
2. The essential work is not carried out to those properties identified as potentially non decent as the elements reach expiration beyond the Decent Homes Standards set by Government.	All potentially non decent work has been identified and planned within this programme.



3. The Social Housing Regulations Standards and Customer Codes of Practice are not met.	Demonstrating an understanding of our stock and an approach to planning programmes that considers exceptions and not a blanket approach to planning.
4. Insufficient staff to deliver the programme as the new housing structure is developed.	Maximise existing resources and close monitoring of programmes.
5. Due to the compressed programme the tenants voice is not heard, and programmes do not maximise their neighbourhood impact.	Early engagement with stakeholders

**14. Legal Implications:**

- 14.1 This report updates Cabinet as regards the proposed Capital Programme to be recommended to Council for approval and as such it raises no new legal issues.
- 14.2 It authorises external procurement of the individual schemes to be undertaken in a compliant manner in accordance with the relevant Regulations and the Council Constitution.
- 14.3 Recommendations as to the award of contracts in respect of the individual schemes under the approved Capital Programme which exceed £500K in overall value or are Key Decisions within the meaning of the Council's Constitution will be the subject of further Cabinet Reports.
- 14.4 The Council is also legally obliged to meet the payment obligations to Greem Grant Installs Limited under the SHDF programme on a quantum meruit basis. Cabinet approval serves to regularise the payment basis in accordance with the Constitution. This is essentially a legal technicality as there are no issues between the parties regarding the works and the costs are fully grant funded.

**15. Financial Implications:**

- 15.1 The proposed major works programme with an estimated cost of £19.8m will be contained with the HRA Capital Programme approved at February 2024 Budget Council.

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**Appendices:**

None

**Background papers:**

None.

**Glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
HRA	Housing Revenue Account
FRA	Fire Risk Assessments
COP	Code of Practice
D&C	Damp and Condensation
EPC	Energy Performance Certificate



<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Decision Type:</b> Non-Key
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<b>Report to:</b>	Cabinet	<b>Date:</b> 16 July 2024
<b>Subject:</b>	Update of Children & Young People Senior Management Restructure	
<b>Report of</b>	Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR	

### Summary

This report provides an update in respect of the restructure of the Children & Young People's Department Senior Management Restructure.

### Recommendation(s)

1. To note the update on the Children & Young People's Department Senior Management Restructure, including work to implement the new structure following conclusion of staff consultation.
2. To recommend that Council approve in principle the release of the Strategic Lead (Schools System) and disestablishment of their role following their request for Voluntary Early Retirement with Severance submitted through the consultation process. – This would attract severance costs of £37,409 (which will be met by the Department) and capital costs of £101,325 related to the early release of pension benefits (which will be met centrally by the fund held by the Greater Manchester Pension Fund on behalf of the Council for this purpose). (These costs will vary very slightly dependant on the exact leaving date).
3. To delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Children and Young People, Director of People & Inclusion and the Cabinet Members for Children's Services and HR and Corporate Affairs, final approval and the specific timing of redundancy linked to the completion of a number of strategic deliverables.
4. To recommend that Council approve the redesignation and revaluation of one of the two Assistant Director (Regeneration Delivery) roles (Chief Officer Band D, £83,865-£90,992) to Director of Regeneration and Project Delivery (Chief Officer Band E, £93,102 - £101,596) to reflect the transfer of responsibility for Schools' Capital Development to this role and also an expanded remit in relation to housing growth and development following the departure of the former Director of Housing.

### Reasons for recommendation(s)

Following cabinet approval in January 2024, the Children & Young People's Department has undertaken consultation with employees and trade unions in relation to a revised Senior Management structure.

Following this consultation, final structural changes have now been agreed for implementation by 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, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer in line with the agreement of Cabinet in January.

Two aspects of these changes require separate and specific approval by Cabinet and, ultimately, Council in-line with the requirements of the Localism Act and the Council constitution.

The deletion of the post of Strategic Lead (School System) and the subsequent Early Retirement of the post holder will:

- Along with other measures in the restructure, result in an overall cost saving to the Council of circa £41k on an ongoing basis.
- Allow for a delayering of tiers within the Education & Skills Division, bringing the Department fully into line with agreed organisational design principals.
- Allow for a more balanced and coherent Education & Skills management team to support the Director of Education & Skills.
- Allow for an improved alignment of functions both within the Department and wider Council to support the delivery of objectives.

The transfer of responsibility for school's capital development into the current Assistant Director (Regeneration Delivery) role moves this function into the Council's centre of expertise for capital development, alongside other similar functions to ensure work can be overseen and delivered coherently as part of the Council's overarching Capital Programme.

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

The initial operating model, developed as a basis for consultation, included a structure in which the post of Strategic Lead (School System) was retained. However, feedback received during the consultation period and further consideration of options indicates that service priorities can be delivered in a more effective manner through the deletion of this role and transfer of functions to other areas of the service and wider Council.

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## **Background**

### **1. General**

- 1.1 Cabinet approval was granted in January 2024 to enter into a period of formal consultation regarding the senior management structure of the Children & Young People's Department.
- 1.2 This proposal sought to build on the significant restructuring and realignment work undertaken in October 2022 and September 2023 in support of Early Help and Social Care service improvement and the delivery of our Local Area SEND transformation plan and Project Safety Valve.
- 1.3 The restructure sought to review departmental management structures, seeking improved alignment and integration of complementary portfolios to strengthen the delivery of multi-agency support services delivered to children. It responded to the substantive vacancies within the three senior leadership posts in the Department at the time and sought to align leadership arrangements across two (as opposed to three) divisions.
- 1.4 The changes recognised the transfer of Business Support functions into the Department from the Corporate Core in November 2023 and built on this through the transfer of a number of specialist stand-alone posts and responsibilities from across the Department under the Strategy, Assurance & Reform service area, reducing the risk associated with single points of failure and providing more robust integrated management and support arrangements. Positioning these posts in the cross-cutting Strategy, Assurance & Reform service was proposed to support their operation across the entire Department more effectively than their current location within a specific division.
- 1.5 The changes also set out the proposal to transfer the Children's Commissioning function from the Health & Adult Care Department to the Children & Young People's Department. This recognised the integral nature of effective commissioning in the delivery of high-quality services for children and young people, as well as the central role the function plays in ensuring the delivery of cost efficiencies for the council.

### **2. Consultation**

- 2.1 An initial period of formal consultation with trade unions and employees was undertaken between 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- 2.2 A wide range of comments were received, most of which were broadly supportive of the proposals. A number of constructive challenges were also received which resulted in a number of changes being made to the proposals.
- 2.3 Changes made to the initial proposals include:
  - To not proceed with a transitional phase of disestablishing the Early Help & School Readiness Division and instead move to full integration straight

away with functions placed within the most sensible areas of the two new substantive divisions.

- To locate some service areas within different areas of the organisation where there were considered to be better alignment with existing service structures and portfolios (namely schools capital development).
- To reduce the number of Heads of Service in Social Care, and implement revised and enlarged portfolios, supported by a tier of Service Managers which support both visibility and practice improvement and provide a more structured career pathway.

2.4 A further short period of consultation was subsequently undertaken between 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to allow for further comment on the revised structure.

### **3. Impact on Education & Skills Division**

3.1 The revised proposals made following consultation impact particularly on the School System functions of the Education & Skills division in that they highlighted:

- An opportunity to delayer the management structures in this area, bringing the Department fully into line with agreed organisational design principles.
- A need to align the Early Years function transferring from Early Help & School Readiness Division in a logical management structure.
- A significant reduction in the role of the Department in the control of the wider school system given the increased pace of academisation and known plans for further academisation over the next twelve months.
- An opportunity to integrate the significant current and planned education capital works more effectively into the Business, Growth & Infrastructure Department, where there is significant expertise in the delivery of such projects.

3.2 Taking into consideration the above, an opportunity to deliver savings of circa £68,000 per year has been identified through:

- The deletion of the posts of Strategic Lead (School System) (Chief Officer Band A) and Service Manager (Education Services) (Grade SM1)
- The establishment of a new post of Head of Service (Education Operations) (Chief Officer Band A) reporting directly to the Director of Education & Skills.
- The reconfiguration of the post of Senior School Assurance Officer to Head of Service (School Assurance & Early Years) (Soulbury Grade EIP 23-26) reporting directly to the Director of Education & Skills and managing the Early Years service area.

3.3 In practical terms, this measure will result in the redundancy of the Strategic Lead (School System) as:

- Responsibility for School Attendance & Safeguarding will transfer from this role to the post of Head of Service (Virtual School & Vulnerable Children & Young People in Education). Capacity for this work to be undertaken by this post has been assured through measures taken as part of the wider restructure in this areas of activity.
- The School Assurance portfolio (including governor support) will transfer from this role with the line management of the Head of Service (School Assurance & Early Years) now moving directly to the Director of Education & Skills. Managerial capacity to absorb oversight of Early Years is assured through the transfer of School Attendance and Safeguarding as set out above.
- Responsibility for the major education Capital Works programme to transfer to the BGI Department, supported by an already agreed fixed term Major Projects Manager and the proposed expansion of an Assistant Director role (see below).
- Leadership of academisation processes are anticipated to diminish over the coming year as the majority of schools will have completed academisation, and established arrangements for conversion are now in operation. – A delayed leave date of the end of this calendar year is proposed for the Strategic Lead (School System). During this period they will conclude work on the Council’s strategic approach and an impact analysis of this area as a critical deliverable to ensure this can be managed effectively going forwards.

3.4 It is proposed the Service Manager (Education Services) is slotted into the new role of Head of Service (Education Operations) on the basis that:

- Their direct management portfolio remains the same as currently, encompassing responsibility for School Organisation, Pupil Place Planning, School Admissions, School & College Transport and School Crossings. These areas remain statutory functions of the Council and are unlikely to be significantly impacted by the academisation programme going forwards.
- Managerial responsibility for smaller scale capital works (generally repairs and maintenance) will remain within this portfolio.

This post will report directly to the Director of Education & Skills and play an enhanced strategic role in engagement and liaison with the school system in Bury following the departure of the Strategic Lead (School System)

#### **4. Operational Considerations & Risk Mitigation**

4.1 It is recognised that the above changes do represent a reduction of capacity within this area of activity. However, it is considered that this can be managed and mitigated as:

- The implementation of restructuring in September 2023 has significantly strengthened and ensured a sustainable model for the delivery of School Attendance and Assurance.
- Established systems and processes are in place in relation to academisation, key elements of which are already operationally led by the Service Manager (Education Services) and would continue to be undertaken in the new Head of Service role. Engagement with the school system and DfE has now set out a clear path for future academisation which can now be effectively implemented.
- A strategy is being finalised in relation to the broader impact on the Council of academisation. In terms of the impact on Council Services of Academisation, the Strategic Lead has led on the development of a strategy that can respond. This strategy will need to be agreed and have secured corporate and political support prior to the Strategic Lead's departure. Whilst Children's Services will continue to have oversight of the strategy, as the school landscape evolves and adapts, the implementation of the key deliverables in respect of redesign and associated staffing reductions will rest with individual services. That oversight, linked as it is to the scale and pace of the conversion process can be provided by the Service Lead. In respect of the impact on Children's Services, that is relatively limited, and plans are being developed to respond. These can be progressed by the Senior School Assurance Officer, under the guidance of the Director of Education & Skills.
- For Pupil Place Planning, a strategy has been developed and is now subject to discussion with key stakeholders. That strategy provides a clear framework to be followed. The next steps will be to progress school specific responses to the issues identified. This responsibility currently rests with the Service Manager who has experience in bringing forward such measures, and will continue to lead this area of activity as the Head of Service (Education Operations)
- In respect of Capital Programmes, significant programmes will be managed through BGI Department with the support of an agreed Major Projects Manager to provide necessary technical expertise and capacity. There will continue to be a strong link between the Head of Service and the Capital Programme Manager.

4.2 While formal implementation of other elements of the Management Restructure have now taken effect, it is recognised that to ensure service stability and continuity, operational implementation of this aspect of the structure will need to be phased. The current Strategic Lead (Schools System) will be required to complete a number of urgent strategic



deliverables, principal related to conclusion and agreement of the Council's academisation pupil place planning strategies as set out above, prior to their redundancy being triggered. It is envisaged that they will leave the Council between 31 October 2024 and 31 December 2024 but the recommendation is that the exact timing of their release is delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Children and Young People, Director of People & Inclusion and the Cabinet Members for Children's Services and HR and Corporate Affairs.

## **5. Costings**

- 5.1 The severance payment due to the Strategic Lead (School System) is £37,409. This one-off payment can be met from within existing departmental resources.
- 5.2 A capital cost of £101,325 is also payable, funded through Council allowances with Greater Manchester Pension Fund. (This cost is based on a 31 October 2024 release date and will reduce, marginally, if the redundancy is later).
- 5.3 The savings released through the implementation of the restructure represent a net saving of £41k. A significant saving of £83k is made against the Dedicated Schools Grant, which is offset by an additional cost of £42k to the General Fund (identified within existing departmental resources). Deletion of the post of Strategic Lead (School System) is required to ensure the restructure overall delivers savings for the Council.

## **6. Implications for the Business, Growth & Infrastructure Department**

- 6.1 As set out above, the implementation of the new structure for Children and Young People will see the transfer of responsibility for the development and delivery of major school capital programmes to the BGI Department. The programme has a current value of circa. £12m and, given this scale, it is critical that sufficient oversight and support is given to this programme. This work will operationally managed by a new Major Projects Manager who reports directly to the Assistant Director (Regeneration Delivery) to replicate the model used for other major development works with the Assistant Director providing strategic leadership and oversight and coordination as part of the overall capital programme.
- 6.1. Alongside the above, the Assistant Director (Regeneration Delivery) has recently taken on a broader role in relation to housing growth and development, as part of the dispersal of the responsibilities of the former Director of Housing as agreed by Cabinet in November 2023.
- 6.2 In recognition of the above changes the job description for the Assistant Director (Regeneration Delivery) has been revised and re-evaluated. Following this, the proposal is that this role is redesignated as Director of Regeneration Delivery and reg-graded from Chief Officer Band D (£83,865-£90,992) to Director of Regeneration and Project Delivery (Chief Officer Band E, £93,102 - £101,596). The additional cost of £14,135 (inclusive of on-costs) will be funded from capital.

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**Links with the Corporate Priorities:**

The proposals will support the delivery of a stable and sustainable management structure for the Department, positioned to deliver the Departmental Improvement Plan and support the wider development of the local education system.

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**Equality Impact and Considerations:**

All matters in relation to this decision are considered in accordance with the context of the Procedural Agreement Relating to Departmental Restructuring and Fundamental Changes to the Employment Contract (Appendix A of Local Condition of Service) and Employee Consultation Toolkit.

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**Environmental Impact and Considerations:**

There is no Environmental impact associated with this decision.

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**Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:**

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Insufficient management capacity to deliver key Education & Skills objectives	Significant planning activity to ensure responsibilities of Strategic Lead (School System) can be transferred and absorbed into other areas of the establishment when it is necessary they continue.  A delayed leave date of the end of the 2024 calendar year for the Strategic Lead (School System) to ensure strategic deliverables are completed and ensure a smooth handover

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**Legal Implications:**

Members are asked to commend two matters to council, in accordance with the Council's constitution and the Localism Act, all pay matters over £100k require Council approval.

**Financial Implications:**

The overall effect of the restructure will generate a net saving of £41k. This savings splits into £83k savings to the dedicated schools grant and a cost of £41k to the general fund. However, the £42k cost to the general fund will be met from re-arranging the budget to utilise an ongoing grant which the service receives but has not been factored into the budget.

The severance one-off payment due to the Strategic Lead (School System) of £37,409 will be met from within existing departmental resources (specifically from posts unfilled for the first quarter of the year).

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**Background papers:**

Children's Services Directorate – [Senior Management Restructure \(Cabinet Paper 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024\)](#)

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

Term	Meaning

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<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>The Council</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>17 July 2024</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Leader's Report</b>
	
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Non key decision</b>
<b>Ward(s) to which the report relates:</b>	All
<b>Summary:</b>	To provide a summary of the work of the Cabinet and update on progress against the corporate plan. The information in the report will aid the statement from the Leader of the Council.

### **Executive Summary**

To provide a summary of the work of the Cabinet and update on progress against the corporate plan.

### **Recommendations:**

Members of Council are asked to note the content of the report.



As this is my first Leaders report of this municipal year, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new and returning Members.

Following the calling of a snap general election and subsequent Labour victory, I look forward to working with the Labour Prime Minister and Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham in delivering locally, the Labour Manifesto pledges.



Since the last Council meeting, Councillors have gathered to commemorate the **80th anniversary of D-Day** with a series of poignant events. The commemorations paid tribute to the bravery and sacrifice of those who participated in the historic World War II operation. Among the honourees was Lance Corporal Fred Greenhalgh, a distinguished veteran whose contributions were highlighted during the ceremonies.

In addition, Ramsbottom enthusiastically welcomed some of the world's top women cyclists for the prestigious **Tour of Britain** competition; the Borough celebrated **Bury Pride 2024** and lit up the town with a spectacular celebration of diversity and inclusion. The event, spearheaded by founding member Cllr. Walmsley, brought together thousands of attendees to honour the LGBTQ+ community.



At the July Cabinet meeting, Members of the Executive considered 14 reports covering a wide range of issues, illustrating the huge amount of progress we've made as a Council over the last 12 months, proving that we can continue to improve core services while also delivering on our long-term ambitions.

One such report is the Quarter Four Corporate Plan Performance Report which provides details of the full year performance and delivery monitoring report up for the **Corporate Plan for 2023/24**. It contains updates against the delivery of the priorities set out in the Plan and associated key performance indicators.

- **Corporate Plan for 2023/24**

The Corporate Plan for 2023/24 set out nine priorities, with three key objectives to reflect the ambition of the organisation and acknowledgement of the targeted work required to continue to deliver the Council's contribution to the LET's vision.

The three key priorities are:

- Sustainable Inclusive Growth
- Improving Children's Lives
- Tackling Inequalities

At year end it is clear, a significant amount of work has been undertaken to achieve the targets set out in the plan.

### **Progress against the Top Three Priorities:**

#### **1. TACKLING INEQUALITIES:**

A key priority for me as Leader and the Labour Cabinet has been the development of the **Bury Cost of Living and Anti-Poverty Strategy**. As part of the strategy, food and fuel support was provided to approximately 7000 residents and 400 vulnerable residents received a winter pack to help keep warm.

The provision of energy efficient measures to homes in Bury under the **Energy Company Obligation (ECO)** phase funding has delivered measures to 91 properties which is saving each household an average of £567 per year and saving an estimated 372.5 tonnes of carbon in addition.

Working with Bury Adult Learning, a **Learner Support Fund** has been established, which helps learners on qualification courses experiencing financial hardship to stay in education. The fund can be used to help with course costs, exam fees, childcare costs and travel costs.

#### **2. IMPROVING CHILDREN'S LIVES**

**Under the direction of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Councillor Lucy Smith**, activity for the year has focused on delivery the Children's Improvement Plan including increasing the recruitment of social workers, changing the model of social care to the more holistic Family Safeguarding process, further developing the Borough's Early Years and Early Help offer whilst ensuring that the Council meets the requirements of Ofsted for return review visits.



In terms of **Educational Improvement**, work on the new Radcliffe High School has commenced.

Contractors have demolished the existing structures of the former leisure centre and Pupil Referral Unit, and has prepared the site ready to receive modular accommodation that will enable the school to open on the 1st September. The modular units are now

being delivered to site and will be ready mid-August to enable Star to set out the accommodation in readiness for the pupils.

It is pleasing to note that the school is due to admit up to its admission capacity of 150 places, with some applicants being unsuccessful.

With regards to **Special Educational Needs**, activity has been focused on service improvement, preparation for the new Ofsted SEND inspection framework and the delivery of Project Safety Valve in conjunction with the Department for Education. .

A key priority for the Labour Cabinet, is the delivery of a new **SEMH Secondary Special School** in conjunction with Oak Learning Partnership. Following on from the opening of Brookhaven special school in January 2024; these are important steps in increasing sufficiency for children with special needs within the borough. The scheme will be funded and delivered through the DfE Free School Programme with the Council being required to make a modest Capital contribution towards site remediation costs.

A site has been identified at Redvales Playing Fields at the junction of Manchester Road and Radcliffe Road. The DfE has commissioned detailed feasibility studies into the potential construction of the new school on the Redvales site. These have now been concluded and the results are anticipated soon, following the general election result.

In terms of improving the **standard of schools and education in 2023/24**, the increase in the percentage of good or better schools (Primary and Secondary) in Bury has slowly risen throughout the year from 71.2% to 78.8%.

### **3. ACHIEVING INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH**

A key priority for me as Leader of the Council is the delivery of the “**levelling-up**” sites within the borough, the Town Centre Plans and the launch of the Economic Development Strategy and accelerated growth plans.





In collaboration with Councillor Charlotte Morris we have led the development of the **Economic Development Strategy** for Bury and this was published at the beginning of 2024 and set out a ten year framework to guide a collaborative approach to delivering a sustainable, competitive, inclusive and resilient local economy.

I was also delighted to attend the first **Bury Regeneration Expo** which welcomed business leaders, investors and stakeholders in Ramsbottom to discuss how Bury will be transformed over the next decade and beyond.

In February 2024, overseen by Councillor Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Bury Council completed the **in-sourcing of the Housing Services**, bring over 7,000 homes back under the direct management of the Local Authority. Work has continued at pace to improve the standard of accommodation and ensure tenant safety within the context of the new Social Housing Regulations, introduced on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.



The **Prestwich Village Regeneration Scheme** will deliver attractive public realm alongside housing, civic, retail and leisure benefits at scale. Extensive progress has been made on the development and implementation of the Prestwich Village Regeneration Scheme. The development is currently at RIBA Design Stage 3 and has completed detailed consultation with local

residents. A Hybrid Planning Application for the project will be considered at the Planning Committee of 23<sup>rd</sup> of July.

The project team is now ready to deliver Phase 1A of the scheme which will provide a Travel Hub off Fairfax Road. This will facilitate the re-development of Rectory Lane Car Park and the wider regeneration of the site.

Work continues on **Bury Market and the development of the Flexi Hall**. To achieve the development of the Flexi Hall an initial period of Enabling Works and preparatory works are required to be undertaken in sufficient time to ensure the construction site is ready for development delivery (which is the Main Works package). The initial period of Enabling Works will commence during August 2024 and continue until May 2025, and in doing so will overlap with the start of the Main Works package that is due to commence on site during October 2024.

In addition at the June Cabinet meeting, Cabinet resolved to tender for the construction works required for the conversion of **Radcliffe Library into an Enterprise Centre** as part of the GM's UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund) SME (Small and Medium Size Enterprises) Workspace Fund (E22). In addition in Radcliffe the local housing pipeline is on track and developers have started on site for the construction of 600 new homes.



To support local communities with digital reforms, recruitment of a new **Digital Inclusion** and Engagement Officer took place in February 2024. The role will aim to work on bringing together digital inclusion strategy in Bury and creating a platform for community groups, local businesses and residents to access and signpost to digital support and upskilling resources.

**In Conclusion**, Members of Council, Bury Council has achieved several notable milestones since the last Full Council meeting, these achievements reflect Bury Council's dedication to supporting its community through economic, social and infrastructure initiatives.

## **GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2024**

### **ADULT SOCIAL CARE PROVIDER FEE UPLIFTS 2024/25**

1. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care, presented the report which detailed the fee engagement process including timelines and proposed recommendations for the fee proposal to contracted providers of adult social care services for the period 2024/25. It was noted that for each provider sector the Council was proposing uplifting the staffing element of the fee by 10% in line with the increase in the Real Living Wage and National Living Wage, and proposals had been developed alongside provider partners.
2. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **ANNUAL REVIEW OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024/25**

3. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care, presented the report which detailed the proposed 2024/25 Adult Social Care fees and charges across the directorate to take effect in April 2024. It was noted that all adult social care is means tested and charges are only paid by people who have assets or income above the thresholds set by government.
4. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **ADULT SOCIAL CARE PERFORMANCE QUARTER THREE REPORT 2023/24**

5. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care, presented the report which outlined delivery of the Adult Social Care Strategic Plan, preparation for the new CQC Assessment regime for local authorities, and provided an illustration and report on the department's performance framework. In response to Member questions, Councillor Tariq provided assurance around the Council's preparedness for the CQC inspection, advising that work had been underway addressing specific issues raised at the LGA Peer Review last year including reviewing processes and increasing transparency. Thanks were extended to officers for their ongoing hard work in improving the service and getting Bury to a position of growing strength.
6. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **PROPOSED REVIEW OF THE PERSONA SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENT**

7. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care, presented the report which proposed a review of the Persona Shareholder agreement to ensure the company's ability to grow as well as adapt its care models more rapidly in response to its users preferences enabling more highly person centred care, ensuring its sustained position as a high quality care provider of choice. In response to a Member's question, it was noted that the review was anticipated to take 3-4 months.
8. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **QUARTER 3 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

12. Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities, presented the report which outlined the forecast financial position of the Council at Quarter three 2023/24 based on the information known as at 31 December 2023. This report also provided an update on the work to mitigate and reduce the overspends and how this will be managed throughout the remainder of this financial year. The report set out the position for both revenue and capital and provides an analysis of the variances, both under and overspending.
13. Members discussed the paper and in response to questions it was noted that the Project Safety Valve (PSV) had been accepted by the Government but there were still targets for the Council to meet to stay on track. Councillor Lucy Smith advised that PSV discussions had been challenging but, now agreement had been reached, the Council could push forward with transformation plans to meet need while addressing financial controls. It was noted that PSV could come to a future scrutiny meeting for consideration.
14. With regards to a query regarding crossing patrols, it was noted that the overspend were most likely caused by staffing sickness and absence but specific data would be shared with Councillor Bernstein after the meeting. In response to a question regarding "SOBC" figures in the report, it was noted that this referred to a Strategic Outline Business Case and would relate to monies drawn down for feasibility studies and design work, but specific detail regarding the £1.83m figure could be shared with Councillor Mike Smith after the meeting.
15. Finally, it was noted that the £1.8m overspend in Operations budgets was a reflection of rising energy costs being absorbed by the directorate, and budget planning for the coming year was taking place later in the month starting from a zero budget position.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT OF THE ELMS FOR THE DELIVERY OF ACCOMMODATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

17. Councillor Clare Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, presented the report which sought approval to dispose of The Elms in Whitefield for the delivery of an independent living scheme for the over 55's subject to procurement, to facilitate delivery of the Housing Strategy and generate savings to adult social care budgets. Councillor Cummins confirmed that commissioning partners had been fully involved, and thanked the Adult Social Care and Housing teams for their effective co-working. Councillors praised the scheme, welcoming the disposal of the old site and the proposed new facility.
18. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **PROCUREMENT OF WATER HYGIENE MONITORING SERVICES FOR THE PREVENTION OF LEGIONELLA AWARD RECOMMENDATION**

19. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which sought formal approval of a contract award recommendation following completion of the further competition exercise carried out to procure the Council's

water hygiene monitoring services contract via the ESPO 198\_20 Framework. The contract is for the period 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2027 with an extension option at the discretion of the Council for a further 2 years.

20. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **ADOPTION OF MILL GATE REGENERATION FRAMEWORK**

21. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report which proposed the adoption of the revised regeneration framework following a period of public and stakeholder consultation, to establish the long-term vision for the future development of the Mill Gate estate. With regards to next steps, the Leader advised that the revised framework would be adopted by the JV Board and reported to the Town Centre Advisory Panel before delivery timescales were finalised regarding mobilisation of possible interventions around other work underway in the area (e.g. flexi hall and the interchange).

22. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **GIGG LANE STADIUM**

20. Councillor Charlotte Morris, Cabinet Member for Culture, Economy and Skills, presented the report which update the Cabinet on a previous decision to approve an investment of up to £450k in the Gigg Lane Stadium at its meeting on the 13th of July 2022, and to refresh the delegations for that decision which would enable the installation of a 3G pitch.

21. Jacqui Dennis, Director of Law and Democratic Services, advised that the wording of the recommendations had changed since the report was published, and advised on the new wording which removed the condition for a lease to be in place providing sustainability and longevity was secured. This allowed for greater flexibility for the stadium and the Club and would still enable the security of the grant agreement.

22. Members discussed the report, noting the huge opportunity for community benefit and the continued support from the Council in the development of the stadium and the Club. In response to a question regarding the benefactors, it was noted that they had made significant financial contribution thus far, and financial due diligence undertaken still gave confidence in the Council's investment for the pitch. With regards to the timescales involved, these were for the Club to manage but they were aiming to have the pitch installed over summer to be in place for the next season.

23. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **APPOINTMENTS UPDATE**

24. 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 24th May 2023 and the proposal for Councillor Noel Bayley to be appointed as Deputy Mayor for the Civic year 2024/25.

25. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

## **GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2024**

### **REVIEW OF NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICES- COMPLEX NEEDS AND FLOATING SUPPORT/DISPERSED ACCOMMODATION SERVICES**

23. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care, presented the report which sought approval for the review of two lots of housing related support provision in Neighbourhood Housing Support services, namely Adullam Homes- Bury Bridges- Complex Needs Accommodation, and Calico Enterprise- Bury Gateway- Floating Support/Dispersed Accommodation.
24. There was a potential to bring both services together into more effective commissioning that provides a one service approach to housing related to support for people and households that are homeless or at risk of losing their tenancies but, as contract end dates do not align, this report proposed the extension of one service to bring them into line before a full review is carried out.
25. In response to a Member's query regarding timescales for the review, it was noted that soft market testing had begun, and co-production with both Adullam and Calico would begin upon approval tonight to ensure the review was completed early in the summer in order to meet September timescales.
26. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **HOME TO SCHOOL TRAVEL ASSISTANCE AND TRANSPORT POLICY**

27. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which sought the approval and adoption of a new policy of how the Council will meet its statutory duty to make necessary travel arrangements for all 'eligible children and young people'. This policy had been co-produced with parents and had been subject to consultation with a range of stakeholders.
28. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that the EHCP assessments would be carried out at the same time as transport assessments, therefore streamlining the process rather than creating additional appointments, and reflecting the feedback received from residents (a 'tell us once' approach'). With regards to regular reviews moving forwards, it was noted that relationships with parents had been strengthened through the co-production approach and officers would continue to build on these to ensure policies were up to date and appropriate, as part of the wider improvements to SEND governance.
29. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

### **CORPORATE PLAN 2024/25**

30. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the 2024/25 Corporate Plan, which set out the strategic delivery objectives for Bury Council, in partnership with NHS GM Bury, over the next financial year. The Plan is structured around three overarching priorities which, collectively, will also support the Council's financial sustainability. These are to deliver ongoing improvements in Children's Services, drive economic growth, and tackle inequalities.

31. Members discussed a foodbank in Radcliffe and the difficulties in finding appropriate premises for it after August. It was noted that the organisation had particular needs which meant identifying premises was complicated, but the asset plan in the Corporate Plan would assist with searches like this so all options could be reviewed. With regards to evidencing the Corporate Peer Review suggestions, it was noted that the action plan from the review was included in the wider Plan and the smaller set of priorities should enable them to be met and reduce timescale slippage.
32. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CORPORATE PEER REVIEW**

33. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which summarised the approach taken by the Local Government Association and the feedback received from the Peer Review Team from the full Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) undertaken in December 2023. This visit was intended to assess progress since the last full CPC in 2018, and in particular to validate actions taken through the Finance Improvement Plan to deliver a balanced Medium Term Financial Strategy in for Full Council in February 2024.
34. Members noted the feedback included praise for the high level of understanding of staff regarding the Let's Do It priorities and the strong relationships with health partners in the borough. Comments were received regarding improving governance and work would continue on aspects of organisational culture (including Member development). The Leader advised that it had been very useful feedback, and thanked the LGA team and all involved with the challenge.
35. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report

#### **RENEWAL OF THE COUNCIL'S HR & PAYROLL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CONTRACT**

36. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which set out proposals to join the Greater Manchester framework and extend the Council's use of iTrent, the Council's current HR and Payroll Management System, for three years with the option to extend for a further two. During this period, officers will continue to explore and pursue opportunities for improvement and efficiencies in the use of the system to support the Council, enabled by the integration of Payroll and HR services into a single Service as previously agreed by Cabinet.
37. Members discussed the idea of, in principle, sharing HR services with other Authorities and it was noted that this was not the intention at the moment but it would be the natural first step for any such arrangements. These would be complex however, as different Councils would use different versions of the iTrent system, or use them in different ways.
38. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **CONSTITUTION UPDATE**

39. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which recommended some changes to the Local Choice Functions set out in

Schedule 2 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000. These functions may be, but need not be, the responsibility of Cabinet.

40. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

#### **GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 05 JUNE 2024**

##### **CARE AT HOME REVIEW**

41. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing presented the report regarding the Care at Home review. The Care at Home service supports the vulnerable people of Bury with their assessed needs under the Care Act 2014. This includes support with personal care, moving and handling, nutrition and hydration, and medication.

42. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

##### **MILLWOOD PRIMARY SPECIAL SCHOOL - PROGRAMME UPDATE & REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO APPOINT CONTRACTOR**

43. Councillor Lucy Smith outlined that the report provided a full explanation of the latest position, details of the programme and sought approval in principle of a fully costed bid from the contractors for the construction of the new wing and authorisation to enter a Design and Build Contract with them.

44. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

##### **PRU-PHASE 2-WHITEFIELD CENTRE-REQUEST APPROVAL TO INVITE TENDERS FOR WORK IN RELATION TO THE PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT**

45. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented the report regarding the Pupil Referral Unit. In response to a member question regarding consultation with residents, Councillor O'Brien, advised that any potential site that is looked at for the PRU will be done with a full extensive consultation.

46. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

##### **DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT - CONSULTATION DRAFT**

47. Councillor Eammon O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report regarding Developer Contributions for the Education Supplementary Planning Document. Members were advised it is proposed that, following consultation, a further version of the Developer Contributions for Education SPD will be brought back to Cabinet for formal approval. Members discussed the report and in response to a member question the Cabinet were informed that this will form part of local planning guidance and sit alongside the local plan.

48. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

##### **PERMISSION TO TENDER - RADCLIFFE ENTERPRISE CENTRE**



49. Councillor Eammon O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report regarding Radcliffe Enterprise Centre. Members discussed the report, and in response to a members question regarding Radcliffe Library Cabinet was informed that the intention is to find a suitable option for temporary relocation. In response to a members question regarding another location (Bridge Community Church/Centre), user preferences and community engagement the Leader provided assurance that users and staff are being kept up to date as and when updates are available.
50. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

**AWARDING OF FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONTRACT TO A SUPPLIER ON BEHALF OF CATERING SERVICES**

51. Councillor Tahir Rafiq Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR presented the report regarding the award of a contract relating to Fresh Fruit and Vegetable.
52. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

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<b>URGENT DECISION FORM</b>
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**TO BE UPLOADED ON TO THE INTERNET BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

<b>Date:</b> 26 June 2024	<b>Ref No:</b>
<b>Type of Decision:</b>	
<b>Cabinet Decision</b>	<b>Council Decision</b>
<b>Key</b>	<b>Non-Key</b>
x	
<b>Subject matter: Millwood Primary-request for urgent approval to appoint contractor</b>	

**Reason for Urgency:**

At the June Cabinet meeting the following was approved:

- 1.To approve in principle the fully costed bid from ISG in the sum of £9,169,588.67, subject to validation by Poole Dick and any necessary modification required being made, together with the costs of the professional/consultant/client FFE costs fees for the construction of the new wing in the sum of £ 546,500. All costs are to be covered by Children’s Services capital funding.
- 2.Subject to such validation being obtained from Poole Dick to note that authorisation will be sought under the urgent Decision route under the Constitution to be followed for final approval.

**Table of Costs**

ISG Bid	£9,467,032
Pre-Construction Services Agreement Costs (PCSA). (previously approved by Cabinet)	-£297,443.33
ISG Bid minus PCSA costs	<b>£9,169,588.67</b>
ISG Bid minus PCSA	£9,169,588.67
Professional/ Consultant fees	£342,500
Loose Furniture/fittings/ Equipment (approximate costs)	£204,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£9,716,088.67</b>

On the 11 June 2024 Poole Dick submitted their Value For Money report (version 1). They were satisfied that the proposed contract sum submitted by ISG Construction is a bona fide offer, see attached report. It is within tolerances and comparable to market rates for a high specification project of this nature.

There is an urgency to gain approval now that we’ve received the validation report from Poole Dick. This will enable the construction work to begin on the new extension at Millwood Primary school during the school summer holidays. We need to ensure most of the noisy work takes place during the school summer holidays to reduce impact on the school staff/pupils. Additionally, we require the extension to be completed prior to September 2025 to enable the increased pupil intake to occupy the new building.



In order to enable an early start on site in July a time and cost limited Letter of Intent will be issued to the contractor, prior to the contract being entered into. This is normal practice and has no additional cost implications.

**Recommendations**

Cabinet is asked as follows:


- 1.To approve the fully costed bid from the contractor together with the costs of the professional/consultant/client FFE costs fees for the construction of the new wing. All costs are to be covered by Children’s Services capital funding.
- 2.To authorise the Director of Law and Democratic Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People to finalise the terms of the Design and Build Contract to be entered into with the contractor.

**Freedom of Information Status**

<p><b>Equality Impact Assessment</b></p> <p>[Does this decision change policy, procedure or working practice or negatively impact on a group of people? <b>If yes</b> – complete EIA and summarise issues identified and recommendations – forward EIA to Corporate HR]</p>	No	
<b>Decision taken:</b>		
<b>Decision taken by:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Chief/Senior Officer/Cabinet Chair		08/07/24
<b>After consultation with:</b>		
Cabinet Member (if a Key Decision) or Chair or Lead Member (as appropriate)		09/07/24
If it is a Key Decision, the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Agreed via email	
Opposition Leader or nominated spokesperson (Council Decision) or Leader or Majority Group Member on Overview and Scrutiny Committee (if a Key Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Agreed via email	
Leader of second largest Opposition Group (if a Key/Council Decision) to agree that the decision cannot be deferred	Agreed via email	

Report Author : Samantha Horrocks  
 Job Title : Asset Manager CYP  
 Date : 26.6.2024

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<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>The Council</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>17 July 2024</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Update on Greater Manchester Joint Authorities Activity</b> 
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Non key decision</b>
<b>Ward(s) to which the report relates:</b>	All
<b>Summary:</b>	This report provides an update on the activity of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

## 1 Background

- 1.1 This report provides an update on work of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and other Greater Manchester joint authorities following an update to Council in January 2024.
- 1.2 Since the last update there has been five meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

## Spotlight FOR JULY - GREATER MANCHESTER WASTE

### Background – GMCA Waste Partnership

GMCA Waste and Resources Team are the largest waste disposal authority in the country and are responsible for the management and disposal of municipal waste from Greater Manchester (this was formerly known as Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority) they handle around 4 per cent of the UK's municipal waste, making them the largest waste disposal authority in the country. This is approximately 1.02 million tonnes of waste and recycling each year from over a million households from the metropolitan districts of Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, and Trafford.

In 2019, SUEZ signed a contract with GMCA for the management of GM's waste facilities with an initial seven-year term with a priced optional 3-year extension. The contractual arrangement delivered @ £40m per annum in reduction costs compared to the previous PFI contract. As we are now in contract year 5, a review of options has been looked at as if the decision to run a procurement exercise of this scale would take two years. All options were reviewed and in March 2024 it was approved to extend the waste disposal contract with SUEZ for an 8 year period. This has resulted in @ £80m saving than extending for a further 3 years and then running a procurement process. The new contract should come into effect by the end of July 2024.

Working with Suez, we have added more items that can be recycled at the HWRCs including plasterboard, hard plastics & mattresses.

Suez have also set up the Renew Hub in Trafford where preloved items are donated, repaired, if necessary, and then sold to the public via a website. This initiative has extended the life of many items that might have been disposed of and shows that we are working towards a circular economy as against a linear economy.

At the Renew Hub, our waste partner Suez are giving opportunities to offenders to work at the Hub. The results show that offenders who work at the Hub are 75% less likely to offend. We plan to extend this initiative to the Materials Recovery Facility.

### The Future.

Over the next 5 years, there are a number of strategic matters that will come into effect that will influence the cost base and strategic direction of both waste collection and disposal in Greater Manchester. These are:

- Collection of plastic pots, tubs and trays in your comingled (blue) bin.
- New Materials Recycling Facility (MRF)
- Simpler Recycling
- UK Emissions Trading Scheme

### Collection of plastic pots tubs and trays



In October we will be implementing a kerbside collection of pots, tubs, and trays to be collected from the blue bin. A communication plan is currently being pulled together by GMCA in preparation for the roll out of the additional plastic waste materials.

### **New Material Recycling Facility (MRF)**

In January 2024 it was approved to progress with the construction of a new MRF at Salford Road, Over Hulton, Bolton. The new facility will be state of the art and will be able to collect, more comingled waste including pots, trays & tubs. It is projected that the MRF will come online in April 2026.

For information:

All recyclates are processed in the UK  
The grey bin residual waste is incinerated at our power station at Runcorn.

### **Simpler Recycling**

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has been consulting on the national Resources and Waste Strategy (RaWS) over the last 5 years with a series of prolonged delays in publishing consultation responses and on 9 May 2024, published its latest guidance on Simpler Recycling across England.

The current guidance advises:

- All dry recycling (glass, cans, plastics, paper, and card) can be collected in one recycling bin and collected separately from residual and organic waste.
- Collect Food and Garden waste in one waste bin from households and businesses.
- If is preferred that food liners are provided, however, there are no plans to fund local authorities to provide caddy liners to households.
- Garden waste collections are to be offered to all households for no less than 36 weeks and are offered between March and October unless it is situated at a place which in the opinion of the LA is so isolated or inaccessible that the cost of collecting it would be unreasonably high.
- Collection frequency of residual waste should be no less than fortnightly alongside a weekly collection of food waste.

Simpler Recycling strategy provides statutory guidance that waste disposal that advises:

***"To provide a residual waste collection at least fortnightly basis. The government actively encourages councils to collect residual waste more frequently than fortnightly; this minimum standard provides a backstop, not a recommendation."***

This will affect four of the nine authorities across GM, including Bury. For Bury we are therefore seeking legal advice from our team to see why we have "**very good reasons not to**" and we will also be writing to both Defra and the new Labour, Secretary of State to request the frequency of collections to be reconsidered due to the following:

- Three-weekly collections were successfully introduced in 2016.
- The current system works effectively for households that participate in recycling and has served to increase the borough's recycling rate from one of the lowest in GM to over 55%. If we were to go fortnightly, we would see the recycling rate reduce by approx. 9%.
- Increasing the frequency of collections would require extra vehicles, extra crews and more depot space, which would result in significant financial implications and put extra pressure on the council's already highly stretched finances of at least £3m per annum.
- The extra miles travelled to carry out more frequent collections would exacerbate the council's carbon footprint and negatively impact our goal to be carbon neutral by 2038.

Similarly for the brown bin, while the strategy suggests weekly collections for food waste, we can continue to collect fortnightly as we have been successful in applying for transitional arrangements and do not require to implement weekly food waste until the contract with Suez ends in 2034.

### **UK Emissions Trading Scheme**

The previous Government had gone out to consultation on the UK Emissions Trading Scheme. The latest guidance is that energy from waste will now be included in the UK's Emissions Trading Scheme (UKETS). This means that GM will be required to pay a levy for the carbon released into the atmosphere. This will be implemented 1 January 2028.

This means that for each tonne of carbon emitted comes at a price and emitters will be required to purchase enough allowances to cover their emissions and work to reduce the emissions. Based on the original costs from government to calculate the costs, this could be in the region of **£17.5m per annum**.

As Chair of the Waste Committee, the Head of Waste Management and Fleet and the GMCA are currently working together to feedback on the current consultation to the new Labour administration.

With the partnership working between GMCA, SUEZ and the LAs, we have been able to implement across GM a number of campaigns and policy changes including:

## **Fly-tipping**

In May, we launched our new fly-tipping campaign, 'Your Waste, Your Responsibility'. The campaign was promoted widely across Greater Manchester, including Bury to tackle a specific problem of residents using rogue traders to dispose of their waste, which is then often fly tipped. Outdoor adverts and a video shows that if traders illegally dump their waste, it can be traced back to residents and they could be fined. A number of advertising campaigns have been rolled out, including digital advertising specifically targeting residents in close proximity to recycling centres, reminding residents waste can be taken to the local recycling centre. However, the situation still remains that even if we do take offenders to Magistrate's Court we sometimes we do not get the costs awarded after the Magistrate's find the offender guilty.

## **Vapes**

New bins for vapes have now been added to all household waste recycling centres across Greater Manchester. This includes Cemetery Road in Radcliffe and Every Street in Bury. Residents could previously dispose of vapes on site in the small electricals bins, but it's hoped that by introducing bespoke vape bins, it will increase visibility of the problem and highlight the importance of recycling these items properly to residents, therefore reducing the number of bin and vehicle fires at our recycling facilities.

## **Household Waste Recycling Centre Access Policy and Van Permit Scheme.**

A new policy was introduced across GM, in July 2019 to address the abuse by traders seeking to dispose of their waste illegally. This has had a positive impact at the sites at the annual HWRC visits have decreased from 5,951,323 down to 4,750,000, a reduction of over 1.2 million visits per annum. The notable reductions from 2021/22 to 2022/23 include:

- Contract Waste – 17% reduction (40,595 tonnes);
- Rubble – 19% reduction (7,492 tonnes);
- Wood - 6,069t (14% reduction);
- Thermally Recovered waste - 19,555 tonnes (20% reduction); and
- Green - 2,938 tonnes (22% reduction).

More waste at the HWRC is now being segregated and the recycling rates at the HWRCs have increased from 49.61% to 58.75% an increase of 10%.

Overall, this has resulted in:

- reducing congestion on sites;
- improving the segregation of recyclable waste;
- reducing the numbers of HGV-type service vehicles having to service sites and used Greater Manchester's congested road network;
- reducing disposal costs; and
- improving the working conditions and morale of staff as conflict between suspected traders and staff has reduced.

In Bury and across other GM authorities we have seen no increase in the amount of fly tipping since the introduction of the policy change.

### **Prestwich Clough Day**

We were delighted to attend the annual Prestwich Clough Day on May 19th this year, in partnership with Bury Council's Waste team. On our stall we had information leaflets about Bury waste services as well as items to help prevent food waste like rice measuring cups and spaghetti measurers.

On the day we spoke to around 80 residents about waste and recycling issues. We had lots of positive discussions, encouraging people to waste less and recycle more. Some of the topics that came up were around recycling in flats, how residents can access replacement bins and pots, tubs and trays.

### **Recycling Centre Rates**

<b>Site</b>	<b>Month (%)</b>	<b>Year to date (%)</b>
Cemetery Rd, Radcliffe	59%	56%
Every St, Fernhill	59%	56%

### **Levy Savings**

Over the last 6 years, the Council has received refunds of £9.9m from GMCA Waste and Resources Team.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Refund £m</b>
2019/20	£2.349
2020/21	£2.120
2021/22	£-
2022/23	£0.809
2023/24	£3.007
2024/25	£1.621
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9.906</b>

## **2 Mayoral General Budget and Precept Proposals**

- 2.1 At the [26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA](#), members agreed:
- 2.2 That approval be given to the Mayor's proposal to increase the Mayoral General Precept by £5 to £112.95 (for a Band D property) comprising of:
  - 2.2.1 Functions previously covered by the Fire & Rescue Authority – Precept of £81.20 (£5 Increase).
  - 2.2.2 Other Mayoral general functions – Precept of £31.75 (no increase)
- 2.3 That the GMCA was given the opportunity to note and comment on:
  - 2.3.1 The overall budget proposed for the Fire & Rescue Service.
  - 2.3.2 The use of the reserves to support the revenue and capital budgets, and the assessment by the Treasurer that the reserves as at March 2025 are adequate.
  - 2.3.3 The proposed Fire Service capital programme and proposals for funding.
  - 2.3.4 The medium-term financial position for the Fire and Rescue Service covered by the Mayoral precept.
- 2.4 That the GMCA was given the opportunity to note and comment on the detailed budget proposals for other mayoral functions.
- 2.5 That the GMCA was given the opportunity to note and comment on the use of reserves as set out in Paragraph 3.3 of the report.
- 2.6 That the process for submitting any written comments to the Mayor in line with the legal process and timetable described in this report be noted.
- 2.7 That it be noted that at the GMCA meeting on 9 February 2024 there will be an updated budget submitted, consistent with the precept proposals, to reflect final tax base and collection fund calculations and the final baseline funding settlement.
- 2.8 That the comments raised by the Chair of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.
- 2.9 That the challenges presented by the below inflation increase in home office funding for both police and fire be noted.
- 2.10 That concerns that the current government funding package offered does not represent a long-term solution to the many issues faced within local authorities be noted.

## **3 Vision Zero Strategy**

- 3.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 3.2 That the comments on the content of the draft strategy be noted.
- 3.3 That the draft Vision Zero Strategy and the commencement of a period of engagement with stakeholders and the public be approved.
- 3.4 That it be noted that a supporting Action Plan will be developed and brought to the GMCA following the period of stakeholder and public engagement on the strategy.
- 3.5 That the comments raised by the Chair of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.

#### **4 Greater Manchester Investment Plan**

- 4.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 4.2 That the Investment Plan set out in this document and the receiving of periodic updates be approved.
- 4.3 That the Investment Milestones as set out in Annex 1 be agreed.
- 4.4 That the Investment Principles set out in Annex 2 be agreed.
- 4.5 That the boundaries proposed for the GM Investment Zones and GM Growth Zones as set out in Annex 3 be approved.

#### **5 Greater Manchester Brownfield Programme - Year 2 and 3 Methodology and Allocations**

- 5.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 5.2 That approval be given to the methodology for prioritising schemes in Year 2 and Year 3 of the Brownfield programme, as set out in Section 2 and Appendix 1.
- 5.3 That approval be given to the allocation of the remaining £115m of the overall £150m funding devolved to GMCA.
- 5.4 That approval be given to the utilisation of up to £500k from Brownfield grant overage payments to contribute to the revenue funding requirements of delivering the programme.

- 5.5 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, acting in consultation with the GMCA Monitoring Officer, to effect the necessary legal agreements for the individual grants between the GMCA and grant recipients, as set out in Appendix 2.
- 5.6 That Mayor Burnham and Councillor Cooney will write to government to update on its strength and ability to deliver on brownfield projects, and that further funding would deliver the outputs sought by government at a pace beyond the rest of the country.

## **6 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Recommendations**

- 6.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 6.2 That approval be given to GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan detailed in the table below, as detailed further in this and the accompanying Part B report;

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Britannia Victoria Ltd	Victoria Park Probation Centre	Manchester	£9.632m

- 6.3 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer acting in conjunction with the GMCA Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.

## **7 Greater Manchester Investment Framework**

- 7.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 7.2 That approval be given for a loan of up to £300,000 to HM Pasties Ltd.
- 7.3 That authority be delegated to the Combined Authority Treasurer and Combined Authority Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above loan, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the loan, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan noted above.

## **8 TfGM Senior Appointments**

- 8.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 8.2 That the disestablishment of the role of TfGM Chief Operating Officer and the creation of and recruitment to a new role of TfGM Chief Network Officer be noted and approved.

- 8.3 That authorisation be given to the commencement of a recruitment process of the TfGM Chief Network Officer.
- 8.4 That approval be given to the use of a recruitment executive search agency to provide independent support to the process.
- 8.5 That approval be given to the appointment of Steve Warrener as Interim Managing Director, in addition to his substantive role of Finance and Corporate Services Director, pending further discussions with the incoming Group CEO.
- 8.6 That approval be given to the appointment of the role of Chief Network Officer as a member of the TfGM Executive to replace the Chief Operating Officer and retain the Finance and Corporate Services Director as a member of TfGM Executive in the renamed joint role of Interim Managing Director/Finance and Corporate Services Director.
- 8.7 That it be noted that the Director General has been consulted on the content of this report.

## **9 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Recommendations**

- 9.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

## **10 Greater Manchester Investment Framework**

- 10.1 At the 26 January 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

## **11 GMCA Revenue and Capital Budgets 2024/5 Overview**

- 11.1 At the [9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA](#), members agreed that the contents of the summary report be noted.

## **12 Mayoral General Budget & Precept Proposals 2024/25**

- 12.1 At the 9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 12.2 That the Mayor's General budget for 2024/25, as set out in this report together with the calculation of the precepts and Council Tax rates set out in Appendix 2, be approved.
- 12.3 That the Mayoral General Precept to £112.95 (Band D) comprising of £81.20 for functions previously covered by the Fire and Rescue Authority precept and £31.75 for other Mayoral General functions be approved.



12.4 That the following be approved:

12.4.1 the overall budget for the Fire and Rescue Service for 2024/25 covered by the Mayoral precept.

12.4.2 the medium-term financial position for the Fire and Rescue Service.

12.5 That approval be given to the use of reserves, as set out in section 3 of the report, and the assessment by the Treasurer that the reserves as at March 2025 were adequate.

12.6 That it be noted that in accordance with legal requirements, the minutes will record the names of those Members voting for or against the Mayor's budget and precept proposals.

12.7 That the feedback from the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.

### **13 GMCA Transport Revenue Budget 2024/25**

13.1 At the 9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

13.2 That the risks and issues which were affecting the 2024/25 transport budgets, as detailed in the report, be noted.

13.3 That the GMCA budget relating to transport functions funded through the Levy, as set out in this report, for 2024/25 be approved.

13.4 That a Transport Levy on the District Councils in 2024/25 of £119.473m, apportioned on the basis of mid-year population 2022, be approved.

13.5 That a Statutory Charge of £86.7m to District Councils in 2024/25, as set out in Part 4 of the Transport Order, apportioned on the basis of mid-year population 2022, be approved.

13.6 That the proposal to increase fees and charges, as noted in the report, including the increases proposed Departure Charges and Bus stop closure charges, as set out in paragraphs 4.24 and 4.25, be endorsed.

13.7 That the use of Transport reserves in 2023/24 and 2024/25, as detailed in section, be approved.

### **14 GMCA General Revenue Budget 2024/25**

14.1 At the 9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

14.2 That the budget relating to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority functions, excluding transport and waste in 2024/25, as set out in section 2 of the report, be approved.

14.3 That District contributions of £8.5 million, as set out in section 5 of the report, be approved.

14.4 That the use of reserves, as set out in section 6 of the report, be approved.

## **15 GM Waste Budget and Resources - Budget and Levy 2024/25 and Medium Term Financial Plan to 2023/24 - 2025/26**

15.1 At the 9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

15.2 That the proposed 2025/26 Trade Waste rate of £138.93, to allow forward planning by Greater Manchester Local Authorities, be approved.

15.3 That the budget and levy for 2024/25 of £174.3m (3.1% increase) be approved.

15.4 That a one-off reduction of £20m to the levy in 2024/25, funded from reserves reducing the 2024/25 requirement to £154.3m be approved and that authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to agree the basis of distribution with Greater Manchester Local Authority Treasurers.

15.5 That the risk position set out in the Balances Strategy and Reserves be noted.

15.6 That Members welcome the work undertaken by the Finance Team that has allowed for the return of funds into local authority budgets.

## **16 GMCA Capital Programme -2023/24 - 2026/7**

16.1 At the 9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

16.2 That the current 2023/24 forecast of £579.1m compared to the 2023/24 previous forecast of £623.6m be noted and that changes to the capital programme, as set out in the report and Appendix A, be approved.

16.3 That the capital programme budget for 2024/25 of £685.2m and the forward plan for future years, as set out in the report and Appendix A, be approved.

16.4 That the addition to, and the subsequent drawdown from, the 2023/24 capital programme of £4.4m for local highways maintenance activities, as outlined in section 3.9.4 of this report, be approved.

16.5 That the inclusion of Trailblazer funding, as outlined in section 4.14 of the report, be approved.

## **17 GMCA Revenue Update - Quarter 3 2023/24**

17.1 At the 9 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

17.2 That the 2023/24 forecast outturn position for the GMCA budgets at the end of December 2023 (quarter 3) be noted.

17.3 That the return of the forecast in year underspend of £10m from the Waste & resources budget be approved.

## **18 Commemoration of the Ukrainian Holodomor**

18.1 At the [23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA](#), members agreed:

18.2 That the contents of the report be noted.

18.3 That the update on the 'Unbroken Cities' network plans to support the Mayor of Lviv on the development of a rehabilitation centre be received.

18.4 That the GMCA endorses the following statement:

The Holodomor was an act of genocide against Ukrainians in 1932-33.

The GMCA recognises the 4th Saturday of November as a day of remembrance for the innocent victims of the Holodomor.

## **19 Homelessness from the Asylum System - Update and Response**

19.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

19.2 That the unprecedented levels of homelessness and rough sleeping among new refugees in Greater Manchester, the linked service pressures and the opportunities for improvements to our service offer to this cohort, now and in the longer-term be noted.

19.3 That support be given to efforts to secure additional funds to boost Voluntary Community Faith Social Enterprise (VCFSE) provision for this cohort, with a focus on prevention and Private Rented Sector (PRS) access, and ensure that Housing Options and homelessness teams support delivery of GMCA-commissioned services.

- 19.4 That the continued or additional investment in capacity for specialist frontline support for people in or leaving the asylum system, especially across homelessness, social services, education teams, using current and future (potential) Asylum Dispersal Grant funding be considered.
- 19.5 That support be given for continued engagement with national Government and efforts to evidence and communicate impacts on people, services and communities are visible more widely.
- 19.6 That support be given to shared key policy asks in order to:
- 19.6.1 give GM's local systems time to recover;
  - 19.6.2 fund GM's systems to enable effective response now and in the longer term;
  - 19.6.3 improve transitions from the asylum system and;
  - 19.6.4 address wider policy issues that are preventing access to affordable housing.
- 19.7 That the update received on the ongoing significant pressures placed upon local authorities in meeting homelessness need as a result of failures in national migration and asylum policy be noted.

## **20 Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) Switchover Update**

- 20.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 20.2 That the significant issues in telecare arising from the PSTN switchover rollout be noted.
- 20.3 That support be given to further action including correspondence with Government to urge action in response to the current risk to adults, and to develop a funded National Action Plan that includes telecare switchover working with telecommunications providers, the telecare industry and the LGA.
- 20.4 That the establishment of the GM PSTN Working Group as a forum to assess the readiness of GM for the switch over, share best practice and bring forward significant issues as they arise be noted.
- 20.5 That it be noted that there has been an exchange of letters between the Mayor and DSIT Secretary of State in December 2023 and January 2024 regarding increasing concerns of the PSTN switchover.
- 20.6 That it be noted that a further paper would be brought back to the GMCA asking the government for an extension to the switchover deadline.

## **21 Greater Manchester Age-Friendly Strategy**

- 21.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 21.2 That the refreshed Greater Manchester Age-Friendly Strategy be approved.
- 21.3 That the comments received from Nakib Narat, the Chair of the GM Older People's Equality Panel, be noted.
- 21.4 That thanks be expressed to all political and officer leads for their considerable work on developing the refreshed Strategy.

## **22 Net Zero Accelerator Funding**

- 22.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 22.2 That the update on Innovate UK funding and the opportunity to deliver a Net Zero Accelerator be noted.
- 22.3 That approval be given to GMCA submitting a business case and acting as the accountable body for a circa £6-7m award from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) potentially via Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority, with delegated authority to the Lead Portfolio holder, Chief Executive and Treasurer to finalise the business case, receive and defray funding if successful.

## **23 Greater Manchester Investment Zone**

- 23.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 23.2 That That authority be delegated to the GMCA Chief Executive Officer and Treasurer, in consultation with the Economy Portfolio Chief Executive and Leader, to negotiate with Government project allocations in 2024-25.
- 23.3 That a further update will be provided to the GMCA, following Ministerial approval, confirming the project allocations in 2024-25, and overall indicative allocations across the programme as a whole be noted.
- 23.4 That the further detail sought by members on the GM Investment Zone Package be made available at the appropriate time.

## **24 Greater Manchester Investment Framework**

- 24.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 24.2 That an equity investment of up to £500k to Advanced Therapeutic Materials Ltd be approved.
- 24.3 That a convertible loan of up to £400k to Financielle Ltd be approved.
- 24.4 That a loan of up to £300k to Home Global Holdings Ltd be approved.
- 24.5 That authority be delegated to the Combined Authority Treasurer and Combined Authority Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above investments, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the investments, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the investments noted above.

## **25 Delivering the Bee Network: Bus Franchising Implementation Update**

- 25.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 25.2 That the progress towards the implementation of Tranche 2 of bus franchising be noted.
- 25.3 That the update received on the Bee Network Night Bus Pilot be noted.

## **26 The Greater Manchester Franchising Scheme for Buses 2021 - Procurement Update**

- 26.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 26.2 That the outcome of the process to procure a preferred service provider to operate the Hyde Road, Sharston, Stockport, Tameside and Wythenshawe Large Local Service Contracts in Sub-Area C of the Scheme be noted and agreed.
- 26.3 That the proposed key contractual arrangements of the Hyde Road, Sharston, Stockport, Tameside and Wythenshawe Large Local Service Contracts be noted.
- 26.4 That the comments of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.
- 26.5 That the update received on the proposal for a contactless rail pilot scheme to take place within Greater Manchester in 2025 be noted.
- 26.6 That it be noted that the new Stockport Interchange will officially be opened on 17th March.

26.7 That it be noted that a new fleet of electric buses will operate out of South Manchester from November 2024, ahead of Tranche 3 going live in early 2025.

## **27 Greater Manchester Investment Framework**

27.1 At the 23 February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

## **28 Bus Franchising Tranche 3 - Large Local Service Contract: Hyde Road, Stockport, Sharston, Tameside, and Wythenshawe**

28.1 At the 23rd February 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed that the recommendations within the report be approved.

## **29 Appointment of Group Chief executive GMCA, Fire & TFGM**

33.1 At the [22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA](#), members agreed:

33.2 That the recruitment process undertaken be noted.

33.3 That the appointment of Caroline Simpson to the role of Group Chief Executive Officer for the GMCA, Fire & TfGM at a salary of £240k per annum, based on the role description attached to this report be approved.

33.4 That Caroline Simpson (as the Chief Executive Officer of the GMCA) be designated as the statutory Head of Paid Service for the GMCA in accordance with s4 Local Government & Housing Act 1989.

33.5 That Caroline Simpson (as the Chief Executive Officer of the GMCA) be appointed as the Combined Authority Returning Officer for any Combined Authority election taking place after the commencement of her appointment.

33.6 That Caroline Simpson be appointed as the Group Chief Executive Officer of TfGM (the Transport Executive) and GMCA (the Transport Authority) as the Director General of TfGM in accordance with the provisions of the Transport Act 1968.

33.7 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Deputy Chief Executive & GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to finalise the terms of the contract and the start date.

## **30 A bed every night budget and update 2024/25**

34.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

34.2 That the A Bed Every Night budget for 2024/25 (£5,600,000) be approved.

34.3 That the intended direction of travel for the ABEN budget for 2025/26 be noted.

- 34.4 That following the last year of the programme there be a review of the year, considering how the activity could be continually built upon.
- 34.5 That the Mayor will raise the importance of changing funding mechanisms to ensure a fair flow to districts with additional burdens when he meets with the Home Secretary.

### **31 Greater Manchester Children & Young People's programme update**

- 35.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 35.2 That the positive early signs in relation to compliance with the 'Greater Manchester Pledge' as part of an ambition to tackle the issue of high costs and reliance on agency social workers be noted.
- 35.3 That the positive progress towards the establishment of the Greater Manchester Fostering Hub, to be hosted by Rochdale Council, as part of the national Fostering pathfinder, supported by the announcement of a further allocation of funding from DfE to support communications activity over the next 12 months, be noted.
- 35.4 That funding of up to £5m be allocated to acquire properties to be used for Project Skyline. The selection of properties will be determined by the Skyline Board and recommended to the GMCA for acquisition.
- 35.5 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to review and agree the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the acquisitions, to sign off any conditions, issue final approvals and complete any documentation in respect of the property acquisitions on behalf of the GMCA, as recommended by the Skyline Board.
- 35.6 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to review, agree the content, and sign the Partnership Agreement on behalf of GMCA, noting that GMCA's role is one of convener, funder, owner and landlord of the properties acquired.
- 35.7 That approval be given for the GMCA to take the lead role in procuring the contract on behalf of the 10 districts but that one of the 10 LAs is named in the contract as the lead Authority and is provided as part of the partnership arrangements with resources to manage the contract on an ongoing basis on behalf of the 10. That it be noted that contract management will have resource implications which will need to be shared across Local Authorities.
- 35.8 That the current consultation process underway with Locality Boards across Greater Manchester in relation to the development of the 'Giving every child and young person the best start in life' part of the GM Integrated Care Partnership Joint Forward Plan, be noted.



### **32 #Beewell Survey Headlines**

- 36.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 36.2 That the key findings of the 2023 #BeeWell survey results be noted.
- 36.3 That approval be given for members to act on what the data was telling and support the #BeeWell mission to make young people's wellbeing everybody's business and that those examples provided in the report to suggest connections to local priorities, ensuring young people's voices were leading the response be utilised.
- 36.4 That the examples shared where #BeeWell, and the voices of young people, has had impact, locally be received.
- 36.5 That the GMCA record its thanks to Councillor Mark Hunter and the Childrens Board for their work in bringing the survey together.
- 36.6 That approval be given for the valuable ward breakdown data to be made available to individual districts.

### **33 Cost Of Living & Economic Resilience Update**

- 37.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 37.2 That the latest assessment and emerging response and views on the next steps in that response be noted.
- 37.3 That the GMCA record its continued concerns around the uncertainty of ongoing Household Support Funding.
- 37.4 That the Deputy Mayors campaign in collaboration with the Co-Operative Group to make violence against retail workers a specific offence be noted.
- 37.5 That Transport for Greater Manchester be requested to remind residents through communications channels of the significant savings that could be made through combined travel mode ticket offers.

### **34 Greater Manchester Faith, Belief and Interfaith Covenant**

- 38.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 38.2 That the Covenant and the commitments within it be endorsed.
- 38.3 That the GMCA record its thanks to Rabbi Warren Elf for his continued contribution.
- 38.4 That the GMCA record its thanks to Sara Todd as the Chief Executive Lead for the work undertaken on the Covenant.

### **35 Greater Manchester Devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) And Free Courses For Jobs (FCFJ) Update**

- 39.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 39.2 That the achievements and performance of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2022/2023 academic year, set out in Section 2 be noted.
- 39.3 That the developments and progress of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2023/2024 academic year, set out in Section 3, be noted.
- 39.4 That the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations and 'Level 3 Single Pot' for grant funded and indicative devolved AEB allocations for procured providers for skills provision be approved and that authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA.
- 39.5 That the Level 3 Single Pot commissioning approach be noted and that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital to take forward this commissioning, to contract award.
- 39.6 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to make decisions relating to the procurement of skills & work delivery utilising any devolved AEB underspend.
- 39.7 That approval be given for support to be continued for the administration and management costs for the 2024/2025 academic year.
- 39.8 That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations, 'Level 3 Single Pot' and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded local authorities, and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to approve any minor changes that arise in the course of discussions between each local authority and GMCA.
- 39.9 That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the continuation of the AEB LA Grant Programme to each of the ten local authorities, including varying where necessary levels of funding per local authority.
- 39.10 That the GMCA record its thanks the GMCA Education, Work & Skills Team.

### **36 Greater Manchester Smart Decarbonisation Network**

- 40.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

- 40.2 That the development of the Greater Manchester Smart Decarbonisation Network (GM-SDN) in line with the Memorandum of Agreement between GMCA and DSIT be endorsed.
- 40.3 That support be given to work between local authorities to share learning and where possible identify opportunities to scale the Smart Decarbonisation Network (SDN) and associated outcomes.
- 40.4 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Digital City Region, to approve the allocation of funding for partner organisations and any required variations to funding allocations subsequently required to meet the overall project objectives within the defined parameters of the project.

### **37 Retained Business Rates Update**

- 41.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 41.2 That the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.
- 41.3 That the GMCA record its thanks to the GMCA Finance Team.
- 41.4 That the forecast, as at the end of quarter 3, for 2023/24 business rates income be noted.
- 41.5 That the planned income for 2024/25 be noted.
- 41.6 That the proposed 2024/25 Greater Manchester use of the 2023/24 business rates income be approved.
- 41.7 That the position in respect of the future developments in relation to retained business rates be noted, including
  - 41.8 Trailblazer Devolution (TDD) 10-year business rates retention scheme.
  - 41.9 TDD Growth Zones enhanced business rates areas.
  - 41.10 Investment Zone enhanced business rates areas.
  - 41.11 GM partial reset
  - 41.12 Future approach to GM investment

### **38 Treasury Management Strategy**

- 42.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 42.2 That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy be approved.

### **39 2024/25 GMCA Capital Strategy**

43.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

43.2 That the Capital Strategy for 2024/25 be approved.

### **40 Progress in Tackling the Biodiversity Emergency in Greater Manchester**

44.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

44.2 That the publication of a State of Nature Report be noted.

44.3 That the progress in developing the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy be noted.

44.4 That the delivery of the Green Spaces Fund be noted.

44.5 That the compliance with the Biodiversity Duty be noted.

### **41 Biowaste Management Strategy and Procurement**

45.1 That the commencement of the procurement process for biowaste treatment contracts for the period June 2026 to March 2034 be approved.

45.2 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Head of Paid Service in consultation with the GMCA Treasurer and the Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, to approve the award of contracts under the biowaste framework.

45.3 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to complete all necessary legal agreements for the Biowaste treatment contracts.

45.4 That approval be given to the market testing exercise as set out in the biowaste strategy at section 4.0.

### **42 Future Waste Service Provision**

46.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

46.2 That the extension of the WRMS and HWRCMS contracts for waste disposal between the parties set out in section 1 of the report from 2026 to 2034 be approved.

46.3 That the completion of contract documentation be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, in consultation with to the Executive Director, Waste and Resources.

46.4 That the concerns raised about the landfill site at Pilsworth South be noted and that the resolution of the issue be considered a highest level priority due to ongoing health concerns raised by residents.

#### **43 GMCA Tootal Buildings Lease Renewal**

- 47.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 47.2 That the Lease renewal for accommodation within the Tootal Buildings to be occupied by the GMCA on a 10-year term with 5-year break option as per the terms set out in the corresponding Part B report be approved.
- 47.3 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer and GMCA Treasurer to finalise the terms and complete the lease and any related documents required to give effect to this decision.

#### **44 Greater Manchester Land Commission - Update**

- 48.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 48.2 That the report be noted.

#### **45 Greater Manchester Housing Delivery Plan**

- 49.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 49.2 That the Greater Manchester Housing Delivery Plan, as set out in this document and the Implementation Plan as set out in Annex 1, be approved.

#### **46 Long Term Investment into Housing Delivery**

- 50.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 50.2 That approval be given for a £5m loan into a newly created Greater Manchester Key Worker Fund, to be managed by Places for People's investment arm – Thriving Investments Limited.
- 50.3 That the use of £2m to refinance the Greater Manchester Housing Investment Fund investment from Hive Homes (Greater Manchester) LLP be approved.
- 50.4 That the proposed £0.5m equity investment to Step Places for the third phase of the Bolton Moor Lane development be approved.
- 50.5 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.

#### **47 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund and Brownfield Housing Fund**

- 51.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

- 51.2 That the GMHILF loans, detailed in the table below, be approved, as detailed further in this and the accompanying Part B report. The recommendation is to approve as a cap on lending, with the Combined Authority committing to provide £120m across the two schemes and having the option to provide a further £20m if there was surplus funding available.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Trinity Developments (Manchester) Ltd	Tower D1, Trinity Island	Manchester	£70.8m
New Jackson (Contour) Investments Ltd	Contour	Manchester	£69.2m

- 51.3 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to change the funding source of GMHILF loans into the Brownfield Housing Fund in advance of 31 March 2024.
- 51.4 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, to approve funding and urgent variations to existing funding for GMHILF, City Deal Receipts and/or the Brownfield Housing Fund funding in the period 22 March 2024 to 31 May 2024.
- 51.5 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
- 51.6 That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

#### **48 Greater Manchester Investment Framework, Conditional Project Approval**

- 52.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 52.2 That the proposed follow-on equity investment of up to £300k to The Modular Analytics Company Limited be approved.
- 52.3 That the capital loan of up to £2.6m to Glenbrook Industrial Limited be approved.
- 52.4 That amendments to the £650k loan in place with FM Outsource Limited be approved.
- 52.5 That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above investments, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the investments, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the investments noted above.

52.6 That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding in the period 22 March 2024 to 30 May 2024.

52.7 That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

#### **49 Future Waste Service Provision**

53.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

53.2 That the report be noted.

#### **50 GMCA Tootal Buildings Lease Renewal**

54.1 At the 22 March 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

54.2 That the report be noted.

#### **51 Appointment of Chair 2024/25**

55.1 At the [14 June 2024 meeting of GMCA](#), members agreed:

55.2 That it be noted that Andy Burnham, as the Mayor of Greater Manchester, under Part 5A, section 4 of the Constitution, is the Chair of the GMCA (ex- officio).

#### **52 Appointment of Vice-Chairs 2024/25**

56.1 At the 14 June 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

56.2 That it be noted that City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Deputy Mayor, is automatically appointed as a Vice Chair of the GMCA, under Part 5 section 4, of the Constitution.

56.3 That it be noted that that Councillor Mark Hunter is automatically appointed as a Vice Chair of the GMCA, under Part 5A, section 4, of the Constitution.

56.4 That the appointment of Councillor Bev Craig as a Vice Chair of the GMCA, under Part 5A, section 4, of the Constitution be approved.

#### **53 Appointments to Greater Manchester Bodies**

57.1 At the 14 June 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:

57.2 That appointments by Greater Manchester Local Authorities of members and substitute members to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority for 2024/25 be noted, and that it also be noted that all substitute members will be invited to attend meetings of the

GMCA, to be able to speak but not vote (unless acting in the absence of their member) as provided for in the constitution.

- 57.3 That the appointment of Julie Connor, Director of Governance & Scrutiny, as the Secretary of the GMCA be approved.
- 57.4 That Councillors Nick Peel (Lab) (Bolton), Bev Craig (Lab) (Manchester), Arooj Shah (Lab) (Oldham), Gerald Cooney (Lab) (Tameside), and Mark Hunter (Lib Dem) (Stockport) be appointed to the GMCA Standards Committee for 2024/25.
- 57.5 That Members Andy Burnham (Lab), Bev Craig (Lab), (Manchester), Paul Dennett (Lab) (Salford), Eamonn O'Brien (Lab), (Bury), Tom Ross (Labour) (Trafford), David Molyneux (Lab) (Wigan) and Mark Hunter (Lib Dem) (Stockport) be appointed to the GMCA Resources Committee for 2024/25.
- 57.6 That Councillors Elliot Moss (Lab) (Bury), Andrew Simcock (Lab) (Manchester), Colin McLaren (Lab) (Oldham) and Dylan Butt (Con) (Trafford) be appointed as the member and Councillors Emily Mort (Lab) (Bolton) and Jack Youd (Lab) (Salford) be appointed as the substitute members to the GMCA Audit Committee for 2024/25.
- 57.7 That the following 15 members and substitute members be appointed to the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee for 2024/25 as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Richard Silvester (Lab)	Robert Morrissey (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Alan Quinn (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
	Gareth Staples-Jones (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Lee-Ann Igbon (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
	Shaukat Ali (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Ken Rustidge (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
	Pam Byrne (Con)	David Arnott (Con)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Aasim Rashid (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	David Lancaster (Lab)	Barbara Bentham (Lab)
		Arnold Saunders (Con)
<b>Stockport</b>	Dena Ryness (Lab)	Davd Meller (Lab)
	Mark Roberts (Lib Dem)	Grace Baynham (Lib D)
<b>Tameside</b>	Denise Ward (Lab)	Hugh Roderick (Lab)



<b>Trafford</b>	Stephen Adshead (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
	Dylan Butt (Con)	
	To be confirmed (Lib Dem)	To be confirmed (Lib Dem)
<b>Wigan</b>	NA	

- 57.8 That it be noted that the appointment of the Chair of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee will be made by the GMCA, on the recommendation of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee.
- 57.9 That the appointment of the Mayor of Greater Manchester to the Bee Network Committee for 2024/25 be noted.
- 57.10 That Tom Ross (Lab) (Trafford) be appointed, to act as the substitute member for the Mayor of Greater Manchester, to the Bee Network Committee for 2024/5.
- 57.11 That Eamonn O'Brien (Lab) (Bury) be appointed to act as the GMCA member on the Bee Network Committee member for 2024/25, and that Neil Emmott (Lab) (Rochdale) be appointed to act as GMCA substitute member on the Bee Network Committee for 2024/25.
- 57.12 That the appointments to the Bee Network Committee by the 10 GM Local Authorities for 2024/25, be noted, as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Hamdi Khurram (Lab)	Sean Fielding (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Alan Quinn (Lab)	Gareth Staples-Jones (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Tracey Rawlins (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Joshua Charters (Lab)	Chris Goodwin (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Phil Burke (Lab)	Aasim Rashid (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	Paul Dennett (Lab)	Mike McCusker (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	Grace Baynham (Lib Dem)	Mark Roberts (Lib Dem)
<b>Tameside</b>	Laura Boyle (Lab)	Andrew McClaren (Lab)

<b>Trafford</b>	Aidan Williams (Lab)	Stephen Adshead (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Paul Prescott (Lab)	John Vickers (Lab)

57.13 That it be noted that the Mayor will appoint up to 4 additional members to the GMCA Bee Network Committee.

57.14 That the Bee Network Committee be requested to appoint 5 members from the Committee (4 Labour and 1 Conservative) to the GMATL Board for 2024/25.

57.15 That 20 members and 20 substitute members be appointed to the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2024/25 as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Nadim Muslim (Con)	Mohammed Iqbal (Lab)
	Peter Wright (Independent)	Robert Morrissey (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Russell Bernstein (Con)	Gavin McGill (Lab)
	Imran Rizvi (Lab)	To be confirmed (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	John Leech (Lib Dem)	
	Basil Curley (Lab)	John Hughes (Lab)
	Mandie Shilton Godwin (Lab)	Anthony McCaul (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Colin McLaren (Lab)	Louie Hamblett (Lib Dem)
		Junaid Hussain (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Dylan Williams (Lab)	Ashley Dearnley (Con)
	Terry Smith (Lab)	Sameena Zaheer (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	Lewis Nelson (Lab)	Neil Reynolds (Lab)
	Joshua Brooks (Lab)	Maria Brabiner (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	Rachel Wise (Lab)	Steve Gribbon (Lib Dem)
		Helen Hibbert (Lab)
<b>Tameside</b>	Nalia Sharif (Lab)	Liam Billington (Con)
	Claire Reid (Lab)	Theresa Smith (Lab)
<b>Trafford</b>	Sean Ennis (Lib Dem)	George Delvin (Lab)
	Ged Carter (Lab)	Keleigh Glenton (Lab)
	Jill Axford (Lab)	
<b>Wigan</b>	Joanne Marshall (Lab)	Mary Callahan (Lab)

	Fred Walker (Lab)	Debra Wailes (Lab)
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57.16 That the appointments made by the GM Local Authorities to the GM Culture & Social Impact Fund Committee for 2024/25 be approved as follows:

District	Member	Substitute Member
<b>GMCA Portfolio Lead</b>	Neil Emmott	
<b>Bolton</b>	Nadeem Ayub (Lab)	Karen Hon (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Charlotte Morris (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Manchester</b>	Tim Whiston (Lab)	Leslie Bell (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Peter Dean (Lab)	Aftab Hussain (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Janet Emsley (Lab)	Kathryn Bromfield (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	Hannah Robinson-Smith (Lab)	Jack Youd (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Vimal Choksi (Lab)	Sangita Patel (Lab)
<b>Trafford</b>	Catherine Hynes (Lab)	Rose Thompson (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Chris Ready (Lab)	Keith Cunliffe (Lab)

57.17 That the appointments to the Green City Region Board as nominated by the 10 GM Local Authorities for 2024/25 be approved as follows:

District	Member
<b>GMCA Portfolio Lead</b>	Tom Ross (Lab)
<b>Bolton</b>	Richard Silvester (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Gareth Staple-Jones (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Tracey Rawlins (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Abdul Jabbar (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Tricia Ayrton (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	Mike McCusker (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed

<b>Tameside</b>	Jack Naylor (Lab)
<b>Trafford</b>	Aidan Williams (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Paul Prescott (Lab)

57.18 That the GMCA Green-City Region Portfolio Leader be appointed to the Greater Manchester Green City Region Partnership Board for 2024/25.

57.19 That the appointments to the Greater Manchester Homelessness Programme Board as nominated by the 10 GM Local Authorities for 2024/25 be approved as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>GMCA Portfolio Lead</b>	Paul Dennett (Lab)	
<b>Bolton</b>	Hamid Khurram (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Bury</b>	Clare Cummins (Lab)	Elizabeth Fitzgerald (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Joanna Midgely (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Oldham</b>	Elaine Taylor (Lab)	Chris Goodwin (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Daniel Meredith (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Salford</b>	Tracy Kelly (Lab)	Wilson Nkurunziza (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Andrew McLaren (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Trafford</b>	James Wright (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Wigan</b>	Susan Gambles (Lab)	Paula Wakefield (Lab)

57.20 That the appointments to the Greater Manchester Children's Board as nominated by the 10 GM Local Authorities for 2024/25 be approved as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>GMCA Portfolio Lead</b>	Mark Hunter (Lib Dem)
<b>Bolton</b>	Martin Donaghy (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Tamoor Tariq (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	To be confirmed
<b>Oldham</b>	Shaid Mushtaq (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Rachel Massey (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	Jim Cammell (Lab)

<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Bill Fairfoull (Lab)
<b>Trafford</b>	Karina Cater (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Jenny Bullen (Lab)

57.21 That the appointments from the GM Local Authorities to the Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee for 2024/25 be noted as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Richard Silvester (Lab)	Hamid Khurram (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Alan Quinn (Lab)	Gary Staples-Jones (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Tracey Rawlins (Lab)	Linda Foley (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Abdul Jabbar (Lab)	Joshua Charters (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Trisha Ayrton (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Salford</b>	Mike McCusker (Lab)	Jane Hamilton (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Denise Ward (Lab)	Gerald Cooney (Lab)
<b>Trafford</b>	Aidan Williams (Lab)	Stephen Adshead (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Paul Prescott (Lab)	Joanne Marshall (Lab)

57.22 That the appointments from the GM Local Authorities to the Air Quality Administration Committee for 2024/25 be noted as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>GMCA</b>	Eamonn O'Brien	
<b>Bolton</b>	<b>Richard Silvester (Lab)</b>	<b>Hamid Khurram (Lab)</b>
<b>Bury</b>	<b>Alan Quinn (Lab)</b>	<b>Gary Staples-Jones (Lab)</b>
<b>Manchester</b>	<b>Tracey Rawlins (Lab)</b>	<b>Linda Foley (Lab)</b>
<b>Oldham</b>	<b>Abdul Jabbar (Lab)</b>	<b>Joshua Charters (Lab)</b>
<b>Rochdale</b>	<b>Tricia Ayrton (Lab)</b>	<b>To be confirmed</b>
<b>Salford</b>	<b>Mike McCusker (Lab)</b>	<b>Jane Hamilton (Lab)</b>
<b>Stockport</b>	<b>To be confirmed</b>	<b>To be confirmed</b>

<b>Tameside</b>	<b>Jacqueline North (Lab)</b>	<b>Andrew McLaren (Lab)</b>
<b>Trafford</b>	<b>Aidan Williams (Lab)</b>	<b>Stephen Adshead (Lab)</b>
<b>Wigan</b>	<b>Paul Prescott (Lab)</b>	<b>Joanne Marshall (Lab)</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>

57.23 That the Portfolio Leader for Clean Air be appointed to the Air Quality Administration Committee.

57.24 That the appointments from the GM Local Authorities to the GM Clean Air Scrutiny Committee for 2024/25 be noted as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Martin Donaghy (Lab)	Shafaqat Shaikh (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Elliot Moss (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Manchester</b>	Mandie Shilton Godwin (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Oldham</b>	Graham Shuttleworth (Lab)	Junaid Hussain (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Tom Besford (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Salford</b>	John Mullen (Lab)	Stuart Dickman (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Claire Reid (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Trafford</b>	Jill Axford (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Wigan</b>	Christine Roberts (Lab)	Samantha Brown (Lab)

57.25 That the appointments from the GM Local Authorities to the Police Fire and Crime Panel for 2024/25 be noted as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Rabiya Jiva (Lab)	David Chadwick (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Sandra Walmsley (Lab)	Richard Gold (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Garry Bridges (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Oldham</b>	Peter Dean (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Rochdale</b>	Janet Emsley (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Salford</b>	David Lancaster (Lab)	Barbara Bentham (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	Councillor Tom Morrison (Lib Dem)	Steve Gribbon (Lib Dem)
<b>Tameside</b>	Vimal Choksi (Lab)	Barrie Holland (Lab)
<b>Trafford</b>	Rose Thompson (Lab)	Simon Thomas (Lab)

<b>Wigan</b>	Dane Anderton (Lab)	Paula Wakefield (Lab)
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57.26 That the appointments from the GM Local Authorities to the Police Fire and Crime Steering Group for 2024/25 as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Rabiya Jiva (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Bury</b>	Sandra Walmsley (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Manchester</b>	Garry Bridges (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Oldham</b>	Peter Dean (Lab)	Aftab Hussain (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Janet Emsley (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Salford</b>	David Lancaster (Lab)	Barbara Bentham (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	Councillor Tom Morrison (Lib Dem)	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Vimal Choksi (Lab)	To be confirmed
<b>Trafford</b>	Rose Thompson (Lab)	Simon Thomas (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Dane Anderton (Lab)	Paula Wakefield (Lab)

57.27 That the appointments from GM Local Authorities to the GM Integrated Care Partnership Board be noted as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Sean Fielding (Lab)	Jackie Schofield (Lab)
<b>Bury</b>	Tamoor Tariq (Lab)	Eamonn O'Brien (Lab)
<b>Manchester</b>	Bev Craig (Lab)	Thomas Robinson (Lab)
<b>Oldham</b>	Barbara Brownridge (Lab)	Marie Bashforth (Lab)
<b>Rochdale</b>	Daalat Ali (Lab)	Faisal Rana (Lab)
<b>Salford</b>	John Merry (Lab)	Mishal Saeed (Lab)
<b>Stockport</b>	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
<b>Tameside</b>	Gerald Cooney (Lab)	Eleanor Wills (Lab)



<b>Trafford</b>	Jane Slater (Lab)	Tom Ross (Lab)
<b>Wigan</b>	Keith Cunliffe (Lab)	David Molyneux (Lab)

- 57.28 That the Mayor of Greater Manchester be appointed to the GM Integrated Care Partnership Board.
- 57.29 That Andy Burnham (Lab), Arooj Shah (Lab) (Oldham), Bev Craig (Lab) (Manchester) and Eamonn O'Brien (Lab) (Bury) be appointed to the Greater Manchester Business Board (formerly Local Enterprise Partnership) for 2024/25.
- 57.30 That the Mayor of Greater Manchester be appointed to the Transport for the North Board and Rail North Committee.
- 57.31 That Eamonn O'Brien (Lab) (Bury) be appointed as the substitute member to the Transport for the North Board and as the substitute member to the Rail North Committee.
- 57.32 That Colin McLaren (Lab) (Oldham) be appointed, and Steve Adshead (Lab) (Trafford) be appointed as the substitute member to act as the GMCA's appointment to the Transport for the North Audit & Governance Committee.
- 57.33 That Mike McCusker (Lab) (Salford) be appointed, and Josh Charters (Lab) (Oldham) be appointed as the substitute member to act as the GMCA's appointment to the Transport for the North General Purposes Committee.
- 57.34 That Paul Prescott (Lab) (Wigan) be appointed, and Bev Place (Lab) (Rochdale) be appointed as the substitute member to act as the GMCA's appointment to the Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee.
- 57.35 That the Portfolio Leaders for Technical Education & Skills, Resource & Investment, Economy, Business & Inclusive Growth, Green City Region and Equalities & Communities be appointed to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Board for 2024/25.
- 57.36 That Gerald Cooney (GMCA), Bev Craig (GMCA), Nazia Rehman (Wigan), Arooj Shah (GMCA) and Liz Patel (Trafford) be appointed to the Growth Company Board for 2024/25.
- 57.37 That subject to any further changes the GMCA may wish to make, all appointments are made up to the GMCA Annual Meeting in June 2025.

#### **54 Review of GMCA Constitution**

- 58.1 At the 14 June 2024 meeting of GMCA, members agreed:
- 58.2 That the GMCA constitution be noted.

## **55 Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) Update**

### **59.1 Metrolink Bury Line Cycle Parking - Completed**

59.2 High quality cycle parking facilities on the Bury Metrolink line including covered Sheffield stands with lighting and CCTV in highly visible and accessible locations at nine stops along the Bury Metrolink Line. This will make it easier for people to complete part of their journey by bike before they join the Metrolink network.

### **56 Bury Interchange Cycle Hub - Completed**

60.1 This cycle hub, 39 spaces, is a safe and secure place to lock your bike under cover, away from potential thieves. It is protected by CCTV and a swipe-card entry system. To use it, you will need to register and purchase a cycle hub membership, which will allow you access to other regional cycle hubs too.

### **57 Metrolink milestone in May 2024 with busiest month on record**

61.1 In May Metrolink recorded the busiest ever month in its 32-year history with 4.1 million people using it to travel across Greater Manchester. This sets the new record for monthly patronage with the previous highest figure being 4 million in November 2019. High profile events such as the Great Manchester Run, concerts at the Co-Op Live, football fixtures, and Manchester City's Premier League parade helped contribute to the record figure.

### **58 Streets for All Summer Walkabout**

62.1 TfGM Strategy colleagues are hosting a "Streets for All" guided walk in Salford from 11:00am until 12:30pm on Tuesday 2 July. The guided walk will involve people sharing their lived experience of how street design affects them and will have time for observation and discussion. It is open to anyone who works for a GM local authority and may be of particular interest to those who are involved, or have an interest, in street design.

62.2 The meeting point is outside The Lowry, Pier 8, The Quays, Salford, M50 3AZ, and can be found on the following Google maps link [HERE](#). The "Whatthreewords" mapping system co-ordinates are "///duty.logs.radar". 25 places are available and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, please email [gmstreetdesignguide@tfgm.com](mailto:gmstreetdesignguide@tfgm.com) to book your place.

### **59 Network Reviews**

63.1 TfGM are carrying out a series of Network Reviews to better understand bus services across the city-region so that we can better plan our bus network. We're asking local Bee Network Committees, communities, businesses, and elected members to help us understand the transport needs of their area. If you would like to complete the survey, please contact [network.reviews@tfgm.com](mailto:network.reviews@tfgm.com).

## **60 Reminder: Business Travel Survey**

64.1 This short survey is to help us understand how businesses feel about the public transport and active travel network in Greater Manchester. It's also a chance for us to learn more about what would encourage businesses to take up sustainable ways of travelling for their employees and business operations. Businesses must operate in Greater Manchester and participants need to be able to answer on behalf of their business. The survey will close at the end of August 2024 and businesses can take part by following this [link](#).

## **61 Recommendation**

65.1 That Council note the updates from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Transport for Greater Manchester, and Recycle for Greater Manchester, with further updates to be presented to future Council meetings.

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### **List of Background Papers:-**

Minutes of GMCA meetings linked throughout.

### **Contact Details:-**

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## Motion – Reducing discharges from combined storm overflows (CSOs)

Councillors Carol Birchmore, Cllr Donald Berry, Cllr Andrea Booth, Cllr Des Duncalfe, Cllr Glyn Marsden, Cllr Ken Simpson, Cllr Mike Smith and Cllr Mary Walsh.

Combined sewer overflows (CSOs) have been seen by the water sector as a necessary 'safety valve' in the sewer system to prevent sewage backing up during periods of extreme rainfall.

Experts within the water sector disagree on the level CSOs are being used within their permitted conditions, and how much they are abused as a cheap alternative to treating sewage.

CSOs combine raw sewage with other pollutants in rainfall runoff from pavements and roads, they discharge a wide range of contaminants such as faecal pathogens (including bacteria resistant to antibiotics), industrial chemicals, sanitary products, pharmaceuticals, microplastics, heavy metals, oils, and solids such as wet wipes. This cocktail, discharged into our rivers, has negative impacts including:

- Risk to public health through contact recreation in rivers and potential risk via airborne bacteria and pathogens.
- Chronic and acute effects upon aquatic wildlife.

The Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan updated: 25 September 2023, relating to the Water Industry Act 1991, presents a target that water companies will only be permitted to discharge from a storm overflow where they can demonstrate that there is no local adverse ecological impact. It is difficult to believe that you can discharge into any body of water without an "adverse ecological impact", and it is important that this stipulation is not seen to only apply to rural idyl sites but rather to assign ecological importance to all water bodies. The report gives a target as limiting pollution, to ensure that all storm overflows would only be used in the rare case of unusually heavy rainfall, if at all.

In December 2023 the Government reported that 100% of storm overflows across the water network in England have now been fitted with Event Duration Monitors (EDMs). As a result of the monitors being fitted, the Environment Agency is now able to provide data for each of the CSOs. They can identify number of spills (discharges) and the total number of hours the spills lasted. The map makes it easy to view the data and it provides the location of each of the CSOs. The map shows that there are around 27 frequently used CSOs within Bury MBC which includes around 8 in Radcliffe positioned along the River Irwell. The data for 2023 shows increasing discharges compared to 2022, and 2021 when monitoring of CSOs was first introduced.

The data from the EDMs shows that the number of "spills" in 2023 from CSOs at Blackford Bridge WTW and the CSOs along the River Irwell in Radcliffe is 702, for a total duration of 6,845 hours, which is equivalent to 285 days or 78% of the time. Despite the weather in 2023 being wet, this does appear to be excessive and very worrying. It almost feels as though the River Irwell is being treated as an open sewer.

Unfortunately, The Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan appears to concentrate on areas where open swimming takes place, giving them top priority status but surely it is not

acceptable to ask residents in densely populated areas to endure such high levels of pollution in our rivers.

The recent actions of the [Labour Councillors in Bury and Rochdale, and Labour Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham, regarding the Pilsworth Landfill site](#)...~~The recent actions of the councillors in Rochdale regarding the Pilsworth Landfill site~~ show that Councils can raise awareness of environmental issues and ask large companies for action plans to address them. Through this motion we would like to achieve the same level of public consciousness of this issue and prompt the Government and other stakeholders to ask for action on this issue.

This Council welcomes the new Labour Government's proposals to take speedy action on this issue too. Including:

- Requesting Ofwat make sure funding for vital infrastructure is ringfenced and can only be spent on upgrades benefitting customers and the environment. In addition, that any money not spent is refunded to customers and not given as bonuses for bosses, dividends or salary increases.
- An expectation that companies to change their 'Articles of Association' – the rules governing each company – to make the interests of customers and the environment a primary objective.
- Proposing that customers gain new powers to hold water company bosses to account with new customer panels that will allow water users to summon board members and executives.
- Proposing, subject to consultation, that the amount of compensation customers are legally entitled to when key standards are not met will more than double.

This Council resolves to:

- ~~Request a meeting with United Utilities and local councillors to discuss concerns and explore local solutions to the discharging of sewage into rivers which either flow through or feed into rivers that flow through Bury MBC.~~
- ~~Write to our two local MPs outlining the concerns raised about the effective regulation of United Utilities and continued spills/discharges from CSOs.~~
- ~~Write to the Regulator the Environment Agency asking that priority is given to addressing the discharge into all rivers not simply those in river bathing areas.~~

~~Write to the Regulator the Environment Agency requesting direct engagement between concerned members to establish what they are doing to improve water quality in our Borough and prevent further unnecessary spills~~

1. Invite United Utilities to address members before a full council meeting to discuss concerns and explore local solutions to the discharging of sewage into local rivers.
2. Write to our two MPs to congratulate the new Environment Secretary for taking urgent action to address these concerns and request that water companies must stop discharges from CSOs by 2035.
3. Continue the exemplar relationship with the Environment Agency that we have and work with them to address these concerns.



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