

**Lynne Ridsdale
Chief Executive**

Our Ref JG
Your Ref C/JG
Date 7 January 2025
Contact Julie Gallagher
Direct Line 0161 253 6640
E-mail Julie.Gallagher@bury.gov.uk
Web Site www.bury.gov.uk

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:-

Date:	Wednesday, 15 January 2025
Place:	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
Time:	7.00 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

The Agenda for the meeting is attached.

The Agenda and Reports are available on the Council's Intranet for Councillors and Officers and also on the Council's Website at www.bury.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive

(Note: Members are reminded that under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, if a Member of a Local Authority has not paid Council Tax for at least two months and, even if an arrangement has been entered into to pay arrears, then at any meeting where consideration is given to matters relating to, or which might affect the calculation of Council Tax, that Member must declare the fact that he/she is in arrears and must not vote on the matter).

AGENDA

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Council are requested to declare any interests which they have in any items or issues before the Council for determination.

3 **MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive communications from the Mayor and any announcements by the Leader of the Council or the Chief Executive on matters of interest to the Council.

4 **MINUTES** (Pages 9 - 14)

Minutes attached.

5 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

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

6 **RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES** (Pages 15 - 20)

Committee/Date	Subject	Recommendation
Audit Committee 3rd December 2024	Appointment Independent Persons	Recommend to Council the appointment of Ben Thomas and David Webster as Co-opted Independent Members of the Audit Committee for a two year term, with immediate effect.
Audit Committee 9 th January 2025	COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE STATUTORY RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER SCHEDULE 7 OF THE LOCAL AUDIT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT 2014	It was agreed: That the Audit Committee: Note the issues raised by the external auditors and progress made since 2021 to mitigate highlighted risks. Accept the auditors statutory recommendation and to deliver an organisational

		<p>improvement plan.</p> <p>Endorse the proposed action plan, with the addition of reference to the Member Assurance Group and revised implementation date for the plan of February 2026 and recommend adoption to Council. Agree inclusion on the work plan for the Audit and Overview and Scrutiny Committees respectively ensuring Member oversight of delivery of the action plan</p>
--	--	---

7 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME (Pages 21 - 66)

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 67 - 72)

- (A) A combined authority update report is attached, for information. The focus of this update will be Transport For Greater Manchester (TfGM)
- (B) The TfGM representative, Councillor Alan Quinn 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

(i) Re-introduction of township forums

Members are asked to consider a notice of motion in the names of 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

Township forums would allow local people to have a say and raise issues such as regeneration, bin collections, road maintenance, invasive weeds, crime and disorder, the environment, health and fly-tipping.

Potential benefits of township forums are:

- Residents would have the opportunity to ask direct questions of council officials.
- Residents would be able to challenge council decisions in an open forum.
- They could provide residents with the opportunity to get together and discuss issues of common interest.
- They would focus on local issues.

Up until 2017 Bury Council had township forums but they were replaced by “a new Neighbourhood Engagement Framework”. It was claimed that the new framework would offer a flexible approach to community engagement across Team Bury partners and support and facilitate the new relationship between public services and citizens, communities and businesses that is required to support wider neighbourhood working. However, despite good intentions it has been found that often residents and sometimes councillors have felt they have been in the dark about important decisions being made about their towns. Residents have often objected to decisions made by the Council stating that they believe they have not been fully consulted.

The replacement for the township forums concentrated a lot on the provision of online feedback but this can sometimes provide a barrier to residents who might struggle with written feedback or possibly the use of the technology to provide the feedback in the required format.

It has been claimed that attendance at forums was poor, but this was potentially down to the fact that there were no significant projects taking place in the townships at the time. With activity taking place with regards to regeneration plans for our towns it is likely that there will be far more information to report to residents with regards to changes in their towns and a greater opportunity for residents’ feedback to make a difference.

It has previously been claimed that grouping wards together was not always the best option since what is an issue in one ward is not necessarily an issue in another ward in the same township area. However, the counter to that is that if you take the example of Prestwich or Radcliffe just considering issues for a single ward boundary is more constricting when you consider groupings of similar area demographics cross the ward boundaries e.g. looking at Radcliffe town centre MSOA. What should be avoided is grouping non similar wards together e.g. the demography of Radcliffe is different to Bury West.

Although some parties/groups or individual councillors have good social media presence the transfer of important information or proposals relies on full and open communication and online discussion might not benefit from the challenge of direct public questioning from residents. This proposed motion would allow council officers and councillors to receive direct feedback at the same time and could avoid errors in communication chain translation.

This Council resolves to:

- Recognise the role the forums could play in providing spaces for conversation,

connection, shared purpose and debate as part of a localism agenda

- Bring back township forums on a quarterly basis for all townships in Bury MBC
- Use the township forums to introduce/obtain feedback that will contribute to consultations about local issues e.g. regeneration plans and discussions about changes to road layouts
- Include PACT meeting in township forums to ensure that crossover issues such as anti-social behaviour and parking are considered in the whole

S151 Officer Comment

Currently there is no budget provision, any proposal will need to be funded, the extent of the funding will be dependent on a number of factors including recruitment of additional staff, venue and equipment hire.

(ii) Save Prestwich Crown Post Office

Members are asked to consider 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, Tariq, Thorpe, Walmsley.

This Council notes that:

- 1) The Post Office announced in November 2024 a list of 115 post offices across the country that were being considered for closure.
- 2) On that list was the Crown Post Office in Prestwich, as well as 7 others across Greater Manchester.

This Council is concerned that a significant number of residents and businesses across the borough will be severely impacted by this potential closure. This will include:

- 1) Many elderly residents, those who are digitally excluded and a lot of small businesses.
- 2) The staff who currently work at Prestwich Crown Post Office, many of whom are local residents and may lose their jobs.

This Council welcomes:

- 1) A petition started by the Prestwich Labour Councillors, which has been signed by over 2400 people online and over 300 people in-person.
- 2) The representation by the Member of Parliament for Bury South, Christian Wakeford MP, in opposing this closure and campaigning action to save it.
- 3) The campaign by the Communication Workers Union opposing these closures across the country

This Council resolves to:

- 1) Fully support the campaign to keep Prestwich Crown Post Office open.
- 2) Write to Gareth Thomas MP, the Minister responsible for the Post Office, and Nigel Railton, the Post Office interim Chair, setting out our opposition to any closure and demanding an immediate halt to the proposals.

(iii) Consultation regarding moving Council Local Elections to a 4- year cycle

Members consider a motion in the names of Councillors S.Arif, Bernstein, Brown, Gartside, Harris, Hussain, Lancaster, McBriar, Rydeheard, Vernon

This Council Notes that:

1. A change to whole-council elections would see the Council secure significant savings over a four-year period which would contribute to its financial stability without any impact on front-line service delivery.
2. While arguments exist in favour and against such a change, better value for money is obtained from whole-council elections.
3. Currently (based on May 2024) a Local Election costs the Council £317,000. In the whole-council election held in 2022 the cost was £360,000.

This Council further notes;

1. A four- year cycle is currently estimated to cost £951,000 for three years of elections. Moving to whole-council elections would therefore produce a potential saving of circa £580, 000 over the four -year cycle, subject to the potential costs of any by-elections (circa £15k each).
2. Legislation enables the council to change its electoral cycle at certain fixed periods of time.
3. The council presently elects its councillors by thirds, meaning a third of the councillors are elected every year for three years, with no elections in the fourth year.
4. Councils that presently elect by thirds can move to whole-council elections and, if at a later date, it is considered necessary to do so, can revert back to elections by thirds. The council may not however pass another resolution until five years has passed since the resolution was made to change.
5. If the Council wishes to move from elections by thirds to whole-council elections, it must follow the process in accordance with s33 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
6. A council must comply with this section in passing a resolution for whole-council elections. The council must not pass the resolution unless it has taken reasonable steps to consult such persons as it thinks appropriate on the proposed change.
7. The resolution must be passed—At a meeting which is specially convened for the purpose of deciding the resolution with notice of the object and by a majority of at

least two thirds of the members voting on it.

8. The resolution must specify the year for the first ordinary elections of the council at which all councillors are to be elected.
9. Prior to passing the resolution to convert to whole-council elections, the Council must have taken the decision to consult with such persons as it thinks appropriate. Legislation does not specify the nature of that consultation. In order to ensure that the decision is reasonable, the Council would provide sufficient publicity and variety of engagement methods with members of the public, stakeholders and political parties for comments and representations to be made. Councillors must also be consulted in their own right.
10. A consultation process will be undertaken in line with the legislation. Specific consideration will be given to ensure the consultation engages with residents who are often harder to reach, including those with a disability, who are older and are from a black, Asian or minority ethnic heritage.
11. Consideration will also be given to consulting with younger people of voting age who are often under-represented in voting at local elections. Moving to whole-council elections may provide an opportunity for the Council to positively impact on the opportunities of these groups to participate and vote in elections.

This Council resolves to

1. That Council agrees to commence a wide reaching consultation process of a minimum 6 weeks on whether the Council should change to whole-council elections every 4 years.
2. That the Council then hold a future Extraordinary Full Council meeting to hear the outcome of the consultation and make a determination on whether to move to whole Council Elections or stay as Elections by thirds.

10 FOR INFORMATION ONLY - COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER (Pages 73 - 76)

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

11 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

None.

12 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: 13 November 2024

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Hussain, in the Chair)
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, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw, S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, J Hook, 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, 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 I Gartside and L Ryder

Public Attendance: 3 members of the public attended the meeting.

C. 23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Lancaster declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda Item Notices of Motion (i) due to her owning a restaurant in the Borough and left the meeting for the consideration of the item.

Councillor Walmsley declared a personal in interest in Notices of Motion (ii) in view of her partner being a Trustee at the Fusilier's Museum.

Councillor Vernon declared a personal in interest in Notices of Motion (ii) as a former Veteran and Policy Officer.

Councillor Staples Jones declared a personal in interest in Notices of Motion (ii) as an Army Reservist.

Councillor Simpson declared a personal in interest in Notices of Motion (ii) as an Chair of the Royal British Legion.

Councillor Grimshaw declared a personal in interest in Combined Authority and Questions to the Combined Authority representatives as an her daughter works for GMCA.

C. 24 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor updated the Full Council meeting on duties undertaken as Bury's first citizen, since the last Council meeting.

C. 25 MINUTES

The Minutes be approved subject to a minor amendment to include Councillors Hook, Southworth and Rahimov as movers of the Labour Motion. Updated version to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

C. 26 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions submitted in advance of the Meeting. Mr John Porter attended the meeting and submitted a question regarding restrictions on standing for election in the Borough.

C. 27 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(i) Employment Panel – UPDATED EMPLOYEE CODE OF CONDUCT / TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O'Brien and it was agreed that:

Council approves and authorise the Council's Monitoring Officer to make subsequent changes to the Council Constitution in relation to the Code of Conduct outlined below. (Appendix 1) Approve the terms of reference of the Employment Panel and authorise the Council's Monitoring Officer to make subsequent changes to the Council Constitution (Appendix 2).

(ii) Audit committee – CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

It was moved by Councillor Thorpe and seconded by Councillor Moss and it was agreed that

Council, approves the revised Contract Procedure Rules 2024.

(iii) Licensing and Safety Committee - GAMBLING POLICY - STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

It was moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Rizvi and it was agreed

- 1) that the proposed Statement of Principles, attached to the report at Appendix 1, be accepted without amendment. The statement had been widely consulted and any necessary amendments, as detailed in section 4 of the report, had been made.
- 2) To comply with the statute, a revised Statement of Principles must be agreed by Council on the 13th November 2024, for the proposed statement to be in place by the 31st January 2025.

(iv) Cabinet - REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S DELIVERY MODEL AND VOLUNTARY EXITS APPROVALS

It was moved by Councillor Rafiq and seconded by Councillor O'Brien and it was agree

- 1) that the Voluntary Early Retirement of the Group Engineer (Street Lighting & Operations) is approved.
- 2) that the Voluntary Early Retirement of the Head of Homelessness & Housing Options is approved.

- 3) Council thanks the Assistant Director (Operations), Joint Head of Communications, Engagement & Marketing, Group Engineer (Street Lighting & Operations) and Head of Homelessness & Housing respectively for their contribution to the Council and people of Bury over their time with the Authority.

C. 28 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(a) Written question (Notice given)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor E O'Brien, made a statement on the work undertaken by him since the date of the last Council meeting.

The Leader and the relevant Cabinet Members answered questions raised by Councillors on the following issues:

	Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
1	Cllr Hayes	Cllr Walmsley	Household Support Fund
2	Cllr E Moss	Cllr Thorpe	Fairer funding for Local Government
3	Cllr Lancaster	Leader	Nolan Principles
4	Cllr M Smith	Cllr L Smith	Star Academy
5	Cllr Farooq	Cllr Cummins	Housing Inspections
6	Cllr Staples Jones	Cllr Cummins	Rough Sleeping
7	Cllr Vernon	Cllr A Quinn	Green Waste
8	Cllr Birchmore	Cllr A Quinn	NO2 measurements
9	Cllr D Quinn	Cllr L Smith	Care Leavers
10	Cllr A Arif	Cllr A Quinn	Potholes
11	Cllr McBriar	Cllr L Smith	Private Schools
12	Cllr Grimshaw	Cllr Morris	Radcliffe Library
13	Cllr Ibrahim	Cllr Walmsley	Purple Flag

Due to the lack of time to answer questions 14 to 18 inclusive, the Leader gave an undertaking that copies of those questions and responses will be circulated to all Councillors. The Leader also gave an undertaking to make these available on the Council Web Site.

b) Verbal Questions

Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
Cllr Bernstein	Cllr O'Brien	Places for Everyone
Cllr M Smith	Cllr L Smith	Re-opening of the

		Drill Hall
Cllr Farooq	Cllr Walmsley	Domestic Violence
Cllr Rahimov	Leader	M60 underpass
Cllr Staples Jones	Leader	Restrictions on use on fireworks
Cllr Lancaster	Leader	Number of places available at Star Academy
Cllr Rydeheard	Leader	Help for Pensioners
Cllr Birchmore	Leader	National insurance payment

C. 29 **COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES**

The Council received a report on the work of the Combined Authorities and a verbal update from Cabinet Member, Councillor E FitzGerald on the work of the GM Health Scrutiny.

The following questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules:

Questioner	Combined Authority Member	Topic
Cllr E Moss	Cllr A Quinn	Second City Crossing
Cllr McBriar	Cllr A Quinn	Active Travel Scheme
Cllr S Arif	Cllr Walmsley	GMFRS response to bonfire night
Cllr Lancaster	Cllr Walmsley	Radcliffe Neighbourhood Police Team

C. 30 **NOTICES OF MOTION**

(i)Economic Growth and Excessive Interventions

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

The Motion was moved by Councillor Bernstein and seconded by Councillor Rydeheard and on being put with the majority of members voting against the Motion, the Mayor declared the motion lost.

(ii)Funding for drop in centres for Older residents

Council considered a motion in the names of Councillors Birchmore, Berry, Booth, Duncalfe, Marsden, M Smith, K Simpson and Cllr Mary Walsh.

The motion was moved by Councillor Simpson and seconded by Councillor Marsden **and on being put with all Members present including the Mayor voting in favour Council agreed to:**

- Direct Armed forces lead in healthcare, education, and housing services to promote better connectivity by working with veterans' groups to better serve their unique needs. To find how we can best use our existing Council estate or find community venues with space to serve our veterans groups to enable development of support and access to space for their activities
- Support veterans and support groups by providing mental health first aid and wellbeing training. Work with local agencies including adult education to promote these courses that benefit the mental wellbeing and care of veterans of the armed forces. This training could also benefit former police, fire, ambulance and members of the NHS as well as the wider community who have experienced traumatic events in the course of their former roles.
- Hold an annual veterans conference at the town hall attended by representatives from this council, council depts, NHS, Police, Fire & Ambulance services, veteran's groups, charities & support groups and potential employers.
- Hold an Annual Festival of Remembrance at the town hall bringing together for the first time all veterans groups, family and supporters from around the borough.
- Address the lack of communication from the Drill Hall Trust as to when Bury's historic Castle Armoury will be put back into use for the borough's armed forces community. Direct the Drill Hall Trust and RFCA to provide a roadmap of when and how it will be brought back into a usable state. To commit to writing to the Secretary of State for Defence to seek his support in securing the future of this historic building. We would also seek an assurance from the Commanding Officer, Fifth Fusiliers, as to when the building is fit for their use and their return to their former home.
- Name a part of the Radcliffe Hub after the town's only VC recipient Pte James Hutchinson and other local heros. To explore options with the local community as to the best way of celebrating local heros within the current regeneration programme
- Distribute promotional materials celebrating the borough's two VC recipients in local schools

(iii) Exploration of Health Impact Assessments in Council Policy Development

Council considered a notice of motion received in the names of 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, Rizvi, Rahimov, Rubinstein, Ryder, Smith Lucy, John Southworth, Staples-Jones Gareth, Tariq, Thorpe, Walmsley.

The Motion was moved by Councillor FitzGerald and seconded by Councillor Rahimov and on being put with the majority of Members voting in favour, Council agreed to:

1. Explore the Inclusion of Health Impact Assessments (HIA)

Consider the integration of an HIA in future council reports, papers, and policy proposals to assess potential impacts on the health and wellbeing of Bury's population. If adopted, after the review, the HIA would serve as an advisory component in decision-making, aiming for increased transparency and encouraging Councillors to reflect on health implications in their decisions.

2. Develop a Preliminary Framework for HIA Implementation

Explore and work towards a feasible and cost-effective framework for assessing health impacts that takes into account the wider determinants of health across all council activities. The aim is to create a practical, scalable framework that could eventually become an integral part of council policy and decision-making processes.

3. Look to engage Local Health Partners in Framework Design

Collaborate with key health partners—including NHS bodies, public health teams, and the voluntary sector—to design an adaptable framework that aligns with Bury's health goals. By involving health sector stakeholders, the Council seeks to develop a comprehensive and collaborative framework

4. If a framework is implemented, then work to monitor and Evaluate the Framework's Effectiveness. Commit to periodically reviewing the framework's effectiveness and its implementation, with updates reported to the Health Scrutiny Committee. This review process will ensure that the framework remains responsive and relevant to health priorities, with attention given to any instances where Council decisions diverge from the HIA's recommendations.

5. To request the Director of Public Health, and or the Monitoring Officer report back within a 6 month timeframe to the Health and Wellbeing Board with their recommendations following an exploration exercise

C. 31 FOR INFORMATION COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER
C. 32 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY
SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no scrutiny review or specific items called in by scrutiny committees.

C. 33 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

There were no questions on the work of the outside bodies.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR



DECISION OF:	The Council
DATE:	15th January 2025
SUBJECT:	Appointment of Independent Members to the Council's Audit Committee
REPORT FROM:	Cllr Elliot Moss, Chair of the Audit Committee
CONTACT OFFICER:	Phil Llewellyn, Democratic Services Manager
TYPE OF DECISION:	Non key decision
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain.
RECOMMENDED OPTION	Recommend to Council the appointment of Ben Thomas and David Webster as Co-opted Independent Members of the Audit Committee for a two year term, with immediate effect.

SUMMARY:

Members of the Audit Committee agreed in order to support them in their work that it would be beneficial to appointment independent co-opted Members to provide independent challenge and advice After several unsuccessful attempts to recruit the Chair updated Members at the special meeting on Tuesday 3rd December 2024.

Successful discussions had been held with two candidates, who were both considered as appointable, and it was therefore proposed that both candidates be appointed, subject to ratification by Council.

It is therefore proposed that Ben Thomas and David Webster be appointed for two year terms, effective from the date of this Council meeting to sit on the Audit Committee as Co-opted Independent Members.

Ben Thomas is an existing external auditor, who wants to broaden his governance experience by joining an audit committee.

David Webster is a former local government head of internal audit, with experience of serving as an Independent Member on a local government audit committee.

Both candidates can bring a vital outside perspective to the Audit Committee and provide insight and challenge, as the Committee carries out its role, focussing on the effectiveness of governance and risk management arrangements, internal systems of control, and anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements and approving the Council's Accounts.

Under the Members Allowances Scheme, a payment of £500 per annum would be available, as well as an attendance payment per meeting of £106 for over 4 hours or £53 for under 4 hours.

Suitable training will be offered with a view to both Co-opted Members attending their first meeting of the Audit Committee in February 2025.

Recommendation:

Recommend to Council the appointment of Ben Thomas and David Webster as Co-opted Independent Members of the Audit Committee for a two year term, with immediate effect.

Phil Llewellyn, Democratic Services Manager

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current service performance levels including a productivity assessment and how they compare to benchmark councils and 'best in class'. • Current service standards being operated to and the scope for changes in those standards including any elements of the service that could be stopped or reduced. • Consideration of different models of service delivery. • Opportunities from implementing different ways of working, including self-service if appropriate. • The impact of their proposals on other service areas i.e. either in requiring their input and support in delivering the change or in potentially increasing costs elsewhere. • Opportunities for additional income generation. • The impact of their proposals on the customer. 			
Finance Capacity and Transformation	Finance Restructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult on phase 1 of new Finance Structure • Begin Recruitment to phase 1 of new Finance Structure • Develop phase 2 of new Finance Structure for consultation informed by the Unit 4 upgrade transformation programme 	January 2025 March 2025 September 2025	Director of Finance Director of Finance Director of Finance Director of Finance	Cllr Thorpe Cllr Thorpe Cllr Thorpe

	<p>Unit 4 ERP System Upgrade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree detailed programme plan, capacity requirements and governance arrangements to enable delivery of the upgraded system and planned benefits in April 2026. 	February 2025	Director of Finance	Cllr Thorpe
Governance and Compliance	<p>Estate management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the remaining RAAC's surveys and any subsequent actions undertaken as may be required. • Completion of single reconciled estate asset register. • Consolidation of the council's property function within the new Place Directorate with responsibility for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Asset Management including delivery of the planned reduction in the size of the estate • Identification and delivery of planned and cyclical maintenance • Property compliance and safety • Responsive repairs 	February 2025	Executive Director Place	Cllr Quinn
		April 2025	Executive Director Place	Cllr Quinn
		April 2025	Executive Director Place	Cllr Quinn
	<p>Leadership and Governance Arrangements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of six new assurance boards with agreed terms of reference and 12 month forward plan, to ensure that there is a culture of compliance across the Council, the Boards will provide management oversight across Council activity, the work of the Boards will align to the corporate plan. 	End February 2025	Director of Law and Governance	Cllr Rafiq Leader and Cabinet Members

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance and Assurance Board will have responsibility for overseeing implementation of all outstanding recommendations from internal audit reports, which is currently the role of the corporate governance group. <p>Terms of reference (TOR) prepared for all Boards/Member Assurance group and revised TOR for ELT</p> <p>The assurance reports will be formally received by a Members Assurance Group made up of Cabinet members.</p>	February 2025	Director of Law and Governance	via the Members Assurance Board
		February 2025	Director of Law and Governance	
		March 2025	Director of Law and Governance	
	Revised PDR and Induction processes and documentation to reflect updated compliance, control and management requirements and related management development needs.	March 2025	Director of People and Inclusion	Cllr Rafiq
	Officer declarations of interest will now be held by the Director of Law & Governance, this will bring Officer declarations in line with the system currently in place for Members. This will be in addition to the existing conflict/declarations of gifts and hospitality reporting procedures.	December 2024	Director of Law and Governance	Cllr Rafiq

Meeting:	The Council
Meeting date:	13th January 2025
Title of report:	Leader's Report
Report by:	Leader of the Council
Decision type:	Non key decision
Ward(s) to which the report relates:	All
Summary:	To provide a summary of the work of the Cabinet and update on progress against the corporate plan.



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.



Welcome back I hope you all enjoyed a happy and restful Christmas break. As we reconvene following the Christmas period, it is an opportune moment to reflect on the successes of the past year, address ongoing challenges, and outline priorities for the year ahead. As Leader I will continue, throughout 2025 to work towards delivering positive outcomes for the Borough's residents, ensuring inclusive growth, community well-being, and sustainability.

Key Achievements in 2024

1. Housing and Regeneration

- Continued progress on regeneration projects across Prestwich, Radcliffe, and other areas of the borough, aimed at boosting local economies and creating vibrant community spaces.

2. Economic Development

- Investment in skills development through partnerships with local businesses and educational institutions, fostering job creation and workforce readiness.

3. Public Services and Infrastructure

- Strengthening public services, including healthcare, education, and transport networks, to meet the evolving needs of Bury's diverse population.

- Collaboration with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to address broader regional priorities, such as clean air and technical education.

4. Improvements in Children's services

Bury Council welcomed back inspectors from Ofsted in the Autumn, inspectors commented that services for Bury's most vulnerable young people are continuing to improve, and that Bury is making progress in ensuring that children are being helped and protected at the earliest opportunity. They looked at specific areas of practice: from early help to referrals, child protection investigations, child in need assessments, the management of allegations of abuse against adults who work with children, and how concerns are handled outside office hours.

5. Relaunch of the new lets strategy.

Lead by the Council's Cabinet, work is ongoing with partners and networks to refresh LET'S Do It. A Team Bury Partnership session held at the Fusiliers Museum in late November, recognising the achievements over the past five years, alongside familiar and new challenges, but also new opportunities.

The refresh will reaffirm the principles of LETS and restate commitment and ambition of the LETS vision which focuses on reducing inequality through focusing work in neighbourhoods, working innovatively and building from our strengths to come together as communities.

In addition, the LET'S Do It Challenge was shortlisted in the 2024 Public Sector People Managers' Awards Best Workforce Transformation and Change category recognising the innovative way that we have engaged over 1,500 staff across the Council in understanding LET'S and how they can bring it to life in their day-to-day roles.

6. And finally, thank you

As the cold weather continues I would like to thank all those hard working staff who have worked tirelessly over the last weeks dealing with flooding, ice and snow, as well as those who assisted in keeping vulnerable residents safe, thank you.

In addition, I would like to thank colleagues right across the health and care system in Bury for their hard work individually and collectively in maintain urgent care services over the festive period. There were some periods of particular challenge in Bury as there have been nationally, but overall, the Bury system coped very well. This is in part down to the quality of partnership in the health and care system – limiting unnecessary admissions to A&E, facilitating discharges more quickly, supporting primary care with the surge hub and respiratory hub, and working closely with a range of other partners including the hospice, Bardoc, Pennine Care and of course our own adults and children's services, and others. We know that there will be continuing pressure throughout the rest of winter but for now it's important we recognize the work of colleagues on the front line of the health and care system

Work of the Council's Cabinet in addressing the three key Priority areas for the Council:

I as Leader together with my Cabinet remain committed as we enter a new year to ensuring that we remain focused on the three priorities:

1.IMPROVING CHILDREN'S LIVES



Councillor Lucy Smith led the Cabinet representation at the annual Believe and Achieve awards night which celebrates the achievements of our cared for children and care experienced young people; recognising their achievements in education, sport, creativity and the support they have given their community. Commenting Councillor Smith stated: "It is always a privilege to attend the annual awards ceremony, a hugely important event in our calendar" .Some 150 children and young people were nominated across seven award categories, and there were 15 winners.



Under the Leadership of the Council's Cabinet, the fostering service is preparing to launch the second Mockingbird constellation, a key part of the Council's strategy to increase the number of foster carers looking after our children. The success of the first constellation was evident at a recent fostering event when carers in the constellation spoke to other carers about their experiences. One lady said she did not know what she would have done without the hub carer, and others spoke about being able to speak to someone outside office hours

In addition, prior to Christmas, the service arranged its first Family Hub Christmas drop in offer with a range of family help staff, early years, and partner agencies to provide support and advice to our families over the Christmas period, including accessing food parcels and Christmas presents.

At the December meeting of the Cabinet, Councillor Lucy Smith presented a reported seeking approval for the Council to sign up to the Care Leaver Covenant (CLC). CLC work with more than 500 organisations to connect young people with care experience to exclusive opportunities. By becoming a partner of the CLC, Bury Council will join 92 other unitary local authorities in demonstrating their commitment to care experienced young people.

In December, the DfE visited for their first stocktake of the progress being made by the local area following the inspection of services for children with identified SEND. The meeting was attended by senior officers from across the entire partnership of local agencies, together with the independent chair of the SEND improvement Board and representatives from Bury2Gether. The DfE welcomed the rounded self-assessment, which acknowledged areas where good progress has been made and recognised areas where progress has not been as rapid as we would have wished. The overall sense from the meeting was that the DfE felt that good progress had been made in Bury through the first six months of the improvement plan, while recognising the scale of the challenge in delivering substantially improved services and outcomes for children with SEND and their families. The session recognised the need to move from system revision, build and design to delivery and tangible impact during 2025.

In addition, NHS partners have been recognised by external regulators as playing a full part in the improvement programme for children's services in the council, and also a full part in the SEND partnership response to the CQC/Ofsted SEND inspection last year.

2. ACHIEVING INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Work on the Radcliffe regeneration continues at pace, at Stand Lane, Radcliffe Library has relocated to the upper floor, ready for construction of the new Enterprise Centre which will offer flexible working space, meeting rooms and business support services. In the town centre, the Radcliffe Hub project has come on leaps and bounds with much of the structural work already well progressed including; excavations and works continue to create the basement areas; work on the steel frame for the roof and the front of the building; works to start on the roof over the pool area.

Pouring for concrete slab has started on the Radcliffe Market and basement and the Market Chambers and the link building, preparation works have commenced to create the steel frame for the link building will begin as well as works to start on improving the staircases to the basements of the Market Chambers shop unit.

As Leader I am very proud to see our ambitious plans for Radcliffe are beginning to fall into place for all to see, evidencing the real progress being made towards bringing new services, homes and facilities into the heart of the town.

In addition, Councillor Alan Quinn welcomed the announcement of works joint funded by the Council, the national lottery and the Heritage fund for Whitehead Gardens Tottington. Plans for the site include making improvements to access and pathways, installing new seating areas, tree works, wildflower planting, wall repairs and improving drainage. A big part of the project involves also involves bringing the staged area within the gardens back into community use. The work on site will begin in Spring 2025 and is expected to be completed by Spring 2026.



The Council working with neighbouring Councils and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Community Ownership Fund awarded East Lancashire Railway just more than £1m towards the work. The three local authorities from Bury, Rochdale and Rossendale putting in a further £276,000 in match funding and supporters of the railway with members of the public and local businesses - adding a few thousand pounds more.

The Bury-based heritage railway has been awarded more than £1.3 million in grants to carry out urgent repair work to the Higher Woodhill Viaduct, on the edge of Burrs Country Park.

The stunning viaduct in the Irwell Valley goes past the site of the former Higher Woodhill Mill. Amazingly, its last repairs were carried out in 1932. The essential maintenance works are due to start on the structure in the spring.

During 2024, Bury Council invited Community Interest Company Proffitts – Investing in Communities to **help** on a project to improve Prestwich Clough and St Mary's Flower Park in Prestwich. The full improvement works, funded by both Bury Council through the Capital Programme and Veolia Environmental Trust, have included footpath and access improvements, drainage works, replacing damaged and missing fencing, and installing more seating and signage.

Lead by Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet member for the environment, climate change and operations, Councillor Quinn wanted to ensure that Prestwich Clough and St Mary's Flower Park continue to be beautiful spaces, and he is thrilled that the Council have been able to make some of the changes needed to keep the sites safe, and welcoming, to visitors. Ans commented that he wanted to make sure that “we manage the area where we can so nature can thrive in spaces like this, and we want to give the communities close by wonderful, outdoor spaces that they can reach and explore easily, and that they can spend lots of time in”.

At December Cabinet I had great delight in presenting a Cabinet report to seek approval for the Prestwich Regeneration LLP (the Joint Venture company) to appoint the main contractor for the main works for the delivery of Phase 1A Travel Hub of the Prestwich Village Regeneration Scheme. This scheme will now continue to progress at pace and I look forward to presenting further updates to the Council throughout 2025.

3.TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES

The Cabinet and the wider CSP meeting and Scrutiny members continue to work on shaping new Community Safety Strategy recognising wider determinants of keeping people safe from harm. In December, Bury welcomed a delegation of representatives from South Korea who were keen to learn on Bury's Purple Flag success in terms of a thriving, vibrant and safe evening and night time economy, testament to strong partnership working between the Council, GMP, licenced premises and cultural venues, Bury BID and organisations such as the Street Pastors.



Councillor Thorpe, Cabinet Member attended a recently held Pension Credit session in the Millgate this was one of many sessions are held across Bury to advise people on Pension Credits and helping them to apply if they qualify. Drop ins sessions have taken place at Ramsbottom library, Prestwich Library, Bury Library, Outreach Centre Radcliffe, Your Space @ Our Place (Millgate) and Green Community Café at Clarence Park .

In addition, around 450 **winter warmer packs** for those most in need have been produced and distributed across the Borough. Each year Bury Council's public health team works with a range of partners to create a Winter Well programme of work. The

programme promotes advice on self-care during the winter months and is an opportunity to

increase referrals to other services. Winter Well tackles a range of issues such as the cost of living, heating and fuel, food and nutrition, mental wellbeing, physical health, and vaccinations.



Bury Adult Learning hosted a Reverse Job Fair on 29th November, inviting employers and local businesses to connect with learners. Councillor Charlotte Morris, cabinet member for culture, economy and skills, said: “Adult Learning provide such a wonderful resource for anyone looking to increase their skills and develop themselves. In Bury, we offer a wide range of courses and support employment opportunities. This reverse job fair is one

of many amazing examples of how our adult learning team support our learners to achieve their goals.

Various employers such as Thales Ltd-a cyber security multinational company, Willmott Dixon-a Construction company, Rochdale Valley Radio, Persona, West Pennie Care, various council departments, Ingeus, and Bury VCFA will come to chat with learners described as neurodivergent about work and volunteering opportunities.



Councillor Tamoor Tariq, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, launched the Bury Works well service, commenting he stated “Bury Works is committed to supporting its residents through challenges and ensuring that individuals can thrive both in their health and in their careers. “The WorkWell service is here to provide the tools, guidance, and support you need to take that next step towards a healthier, more fulfilling life.”The WorkWell programme, launched by the Department for Work and

Pensions (DWP) and the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC), is the latest initiative from Bury Works, the single access point for all enquiries regarding employability, work, health and skills in Bury.

The health and care system continues to transform and improve outcomes for Bury patients. The locality board meeting on 6th December included a review of 2024 and very many examples excellent practice and reform ,including regional and national awards for programmes and individuals in Bury. These include the roll out of my happy mind - a programme focused on wellbeing, resilience and understanding of mental health, improvements in the operation of the urgent care system, historically good performance on health checks in primary care for learning disabilities, huge numbers of additional patients seen in primary care, and new and innovative services such as the early phases of work on implementation the England women’s health strategy.

Also together, with the Cabinet Member, Councillor Tariq, place on record my thanks for all the excellent work ongoing in Primary Care in particular the establishment of Women's Health Hub in Prestwich in October 2024 as well as the establishment of 4 Respiratory Hubs in November 2024. Other great works has included:

- ◆ 34% increase in CVD health checks in this year compared to 2023.
- ◆ Increase in staying well referrals since April 2024 which has increased from circa 90 per month to 182 in October 2024. This means that 182 patients will have proactive care planning in place to reduce the risk of needing primary care or hospital support.
- ◆ 5000 more GP appointments in the last 12 months compared to the year prior.

And finally, **LET's Value Volunteering**

LET's Value Volunteering grants, funded by Bury Council were launched in the autumn which voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations could apply for grants of up to £250, utilising a proportion of the £100k LET's Do It Community funding available in year from the Council, with the remainder to be through a neighbourhood process aligned to the LETS Refresh from January 2025. 68 groups have been successful and activities are ongoing through those groups to recognise and thank their volunteers.

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. As we enter 2025, Bury Council is well-positioned to build on the progress achieved.

**(i) Urgent Cabinet Decision – December 2024
Re. Bury Council Gas Contract**

Decision taken:

Approve the use of the YPO Framework Agreement (1187) to procure the council's natural gas supply contract for the period 01 April 2024 to 31st March 2029 with a possible extension for a further 2+2 years.

A further report will be brought back to Cabinet with the recommendation to award the contract to the identified supplier.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was: This decision will allow the Cabinet member to bring a further report with details of the main gas contract to the cabinet meeting in January 2025, whilst the new contract is not due to start until April 2025, the Council must allow sufficient time to engage with non-corporate sites to invite them to join the contract.

**(ii) Urgent Cabinet Decision – December 2024
Re. Legal Agreement with Oak Learning Partnership in support of the
Academisation**

Decision taken: The Council is therefore required to enter into a side letter/agreement with the Academy Trust to provide comfort on the plan to provide a permanent location of the PRU. This was the subject of the December Cabinet report, seeking approval to proceed with the side agreement between the Council and OLP in respect of the future school estate for the Secondary Pupil Referral Unit provision post academy conversion.

Approval is sought to enter into the appended side letter as part of the academisation process to meet the requirements of Oak Learning Partnership and the Department of Education.

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was: Following a Directive Academy Order issued by the Secretary of State, Bury Secondary PRU Spring Lane School is due to transfer to Oak Learning Partnership Multi Academy Trust on 1 January 2025. Despite exhaustive efforts a side letter agreement has only just been reached between Oak Learning Partnership and Bury Council which was unable to be completed in line with Cabinet reporting cycle for a decision. This agreement is in respect of the future school estate for the Secondary Pupil Referral Unit provision post academy conversion.

(iii) Urgent Cabinet Decision – December 2024

**Re: Legal Agreement with Oak Learning Partnership in support of the
Academisation of Bury Secondary PRU Spring Lane School**

Decision taken: The Council is required to enter into a side letter/agreement and amended CTA with the Academy Trust to provide assurance on the plan to provide a permanent location of the PRU. This was the subject of the December Cabinet report,

seeking approval to proceed with the side agreement between the Council and OLP in respect of the future school estate for the Secondary Pupil Referral Unit provision post academy conversion.

Approval is now sought to enter into the appended side letter and CTA as part of the academisation process to meet the requirements of Oak Learning Partnership and the Department for Education.

Members to please note:

- Recommendation to Council that the Capital programme, and Medium Term Financial Strategy includes provision for indicative cost figures for the build programme (as set out in Appendix One)
- Note that the Council will use its best endeavours to provide the school by 1 January 2030

The reason why this decision was urgent and could not be reasonably deferred was: Following a Directive Academy Order issued by the Secretary of State, Bury Secondary PRU Spring Lane School is due to transfer to Oak Learning Partnership Multi Academy Trust on 1 January 2025. Despite exhaustive efforts, a side letter agreement and a subsequent amendment to the Commercial Transfer Agreement (CTA) have now been agreed between Oak Learning Partnership and Bury Council, which was unable to be completed in line with Cabinet reporting cycle for a decision. The side letter agreement and amendment to the CTA focuses on the future school estate for the Secondary Pupil Referral Unit provision after academy conversion.

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 Eamonn 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.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2024

PRESTWICH FUNDING

53. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report which set out the Prestwich Village Regeneration Scheme that will deliver a comprehensive redevelopment of the Prestwich Village site including the Longfield Centre.
54. Cabinet approved the recommendation as set out in the report

BURY MARKET & FLEXI HALL LEVELLING UP SCHEME – ENABLING AND MAIN WORKS CONTRACT

55. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report which advised Cabinet of the Enabling Works and Main Works packages, that in line with the Bury Market & Flexi Hall project programme, will now need to be instructed through the Enabling Works and Main Works Contract. In response to a member's query regarding the Levelling-up fund members were assured that no issues are expected to arise due to national political changes. Members were informed that national changes will provide a kick-start to other projects such as the Mill Gate. The Leader assured members that it is no coincidence that two of the levelling up schemes sit in areas with the highest level of deprivation and all will be done to ensure these schemes are delivered.
56. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BUY BACK & ACQUISITIONS POLICY & PROCEDURES 2024 - 2028

57. Councillor Clare Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, presented the report which set out a summary of the Buy Back & Acquisitions Policy & Procedures, which will support the Council to purchase residential dwellings in private ownership

and convert them into social and affordable housing, to help meet housing needs in the borough and reduce homelessness. All potential acquisitions will be subject to a pre-acquisition suitability assessment and robust financial appraisal. Properties acquired under this policy will be refurbished to decent homes standards as required, added to the housing stock and allocated to eligible applicants on the Council's housing waiting lists at a social or affordable rent capped at local housing allowance rates where appropriate, to ensure affordability. The Council has recently purchased two properties applying the methods detailed within the new policy, and a further four acquisitions are currently being assessed. In response to a Member's query regarding the Council having the funds for the acquisitions of properties, Cabinet was advised that there are available funds within the HRA Budget and on occasion Section 106 monies can also be used. In addition, the Leader reminded Cabinet that any sales above £250,000 will be required to be considered through the Cabinet decision making process. When questioned regarding the feasibility of competing in a competitive market, members were assured that there is a need for the properties and new building take a considerable amount of time in comparison to a sale of a property.

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

PROPOSED MAJOR WORKS PROGRAMME FOR THE COUNCILS HOUSING STOCK 2024/25

59. Councillor Clare Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, presented the report which outlined that 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 of Six Town Housing's principal responsibilities. The programme saw a large volume of council owned properties given necessary adaptations and the housing stock has been improved. Trying to keep people well at home often means changes to the property and is a welcome part of the report. In response to a member's query regarding the reports reference to historical process errors, members were advised that these issues have not had financial issues.

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

PRU PHASE 2 WHITEFIELD CENTRE

61. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which requested Cabinet approval of the project sum for works in relation Cabinet, 16 July 2024 7 to the Pupil Referral Unit, following conclusion of the tender exercise, and specifically in relation to the PRU's Whitefield Centre building. These are phase 2 of works following the relocation of the main PRU building from Spring Lane to the New Kershaw Centre. A member requested that there is ongoing consultation with residents in the local area throughout the process and highlighted a known query in relation to the site entrance which is currently being looked into

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

SIX TOWN HOUSING BOARD GOVERNANCE

63. Councillor Clare Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, presented the report which sought approval for the necessary post transition actions and transactions to complete arrangements for Six Town Housing to continue its reduced social housing activities after it ceased to be the Council's ALMO.
64. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOWEST TENDER FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING STREET LIGHTING LANTERNS WITH LED LANTERNS (PHASE 3)

65. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations, presented the report which requested Cabinet approval to accept the lowest tender submitted for the Replacement of Existing Street Lighting Lanterns with LED Lanterns (Phase 3) by E.ON Energy Solutions Ltd. In response to a members query in relation to the increase or decrease in brightness of street lights member were informed that this is possible, however, decisions must always be based on public safety over hobbies or other matters.
66. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

TOP PARK, RAMSBOTTOM 3G FOOTBALL PITCH

67. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations, presented the report which provided Cabinet with details of a proposed floodlit 3G Football Turf Pitch (FTP) at Top Park Playing Fields in Ramsbottom together with associated improvements to the pavilion and car park. The report also outlined the details of a funding bid submitted to the Football Foundation (FF) as well as seeking approval to the overall funding package including expenditure of approved Council capital match funding.
68. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

YEAR END/QUARTER FOUR CORPORATE PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT 2023/24 AND SUBMISSION OF THE PRODUCTIVITY PLAN

69. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for, Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report on behalf of Councillor Sean Thorpe, Cabinet Member, Finance and Transformation which set out a summary of the full year performance and delivery monitoring report up for the Corporate Plan for 2023/24. In addition, the report also contained the proposed Productivity Plan for submission to central government in July for Cabinet approval. In April 2024 letters were sent to all local authorities from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) requesting that productivity plans were produced as part of a central government exercise to review productivity across public services.
70. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

STAR ACADEMY RADCLIFFE – CAPITAL COSTS

71. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which advised that the DfE has now received confirmed contract costs for the project to construct the new secondary school in Radcliffe, including the access road and junction works, the costs of which fall to the Council. Discussions took place regarding the process for the building and the Council's commitment in advance of the building being complete. In response to a member observation regarding the cyclops junction members were assured that the proposed infrastructure of the cyclops junction is welcomed and will help the local community access the building safely, whilst encouraging active travel and road safety by connecting to existing road safety infrastructure.
72. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BUDGET UPDATE REPORT

73. Councillor Sean Thorpe, Cabinet Member, Finance and Transformation, presented the report which set out the following:
- the 2023/24 revenue outturn position.
 - the updated Medium-Term Financial Forecast (MTFF) position for 2024/25 to 2026/27.
 - the updated Net Budget for 2024/25.
 - the final reserves position as at 31 March 2024.
 - 2023/24 capital outturn position
 - An update on the Finance Improvement Plan

Members were advised there is an overspend of £6.607 million with the direction of travel being downwards with the pressures being primarily in the Children and Young People budget. In response to a member query regarding dividends from Manchester Airport, members were informed that dividend is not due until 2028. Neil Kissock advised updated information on the matter will inform the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and be reported back to Cabinet in September.

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

RADCLIFFE SCHOOL FUNDING

75. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which outlined that the Cabinet has previously received a number of reports affirming the Council's commitment to the delivery of a new secondary school for Radcliffe by the Department for Education, including approval of the revenue and capital financial obligations on the Council. At Cabinet on the 15th March 2023, cabinet received a report that set out the financial arrangements that included a commitment from the Council to underwrite revenue costs in the event that the school did not recruit to its capacity in each of the first two years of operation, to be funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The school is currently planning to admit up to its admission number in September 2024, and there will not be a requirement to underwrite places in the first year. However, an unexpected financial risk has also been identified during the preparation of the complex annual return to the

Department for Education which allocates the total Dedicated Schools Grant to fund activities specified in the Regulations.

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

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES LEADERSHIP RESTRUCTURE

77. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which outlined an update in respect of the restructure of the Children & Young People's Department Senior Management Restructure.

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

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 04 SEPTEMBER 2024

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE – LAND OFF MANCHESTER ROAD/RADCLIFFE ROAD, BURY

79. Councillor O'Brien reported that the report provides details of the objections received to the proposed disposal of Public Open Space (POS) of land off Manchester Road/Radcliffe Road, Bury, details of the areas affected were in the accompanying report. Members discussed the disposal, the requirement to make land available for a new specialist educational provision, and the use of the land currently for recreational activities. Councillor Tariq, speaking as the ward Councillor, stated that he recognised the difficulties in balancing competing priorities. However he asked Officers to consider approaching the Department for Education to make them aware of the strong local opposition.

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

HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

81. Councillor Rafiq Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR presented an annual Health and Safety Report. This report set out key health and safety activity over the preceding financial year alongside a summary of reported health and safety incidents and is presented to members for their comment and approval. As part of the annual reporting process the Council's Health and Safety Policy is also reviewed and is also included for approval. Additionally, in-line with the recommendations from an external review of Health and Safety arrangements conducted in 2023, the Council has developed a new 3-year Health and Safety Strategy which proposes a set of priorities for 2024-27.

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

HOUSING ALLOCATION POLICY

83. Councillor Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, presented the an update on the recently reviewed Housing Allocations Policy. The Policy had been reviewed to reflect the changing legislation, aligned with guidance from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on Social Housing Allocations and good practice sourced from the Housing Quality Network. This work has been undertaken:

- To meet local needs for social housing.
- To maximise the use of Council Housing stock to meet increasing demands.
- To ensure that Council housing is allocated fairly and transparency to everyone with a Housing Need who meets eligibility criteria.
- To demonstrate the Council's commitment to its role as Corporate Parent when supporting the housing needs of our Children and Care Leavers.

Members discussed the establishment of a Common Housing Register. Phil Cole, Head of Service - Homelessness & Housing Options reported the establishment of the register will help to assist in allocating both Council and Housing Association properties as well as affordable homes.

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

UPDATE ON THE ALPD (ACCELERATED LAND AND PROPERTY DISPOSALS)

85. The Leader presented an update on the ALPD (Accelerated Land and Property Disposals) which has been in operation following Cabinet approval on 24th November 2020. This report provides a rationale as to why some sites are to be withdrawn, under review and to be added to the programme and outlines the Future Assets Programme (FAP) with regards to disposals. The Council Monitoring Officer reported that following discussions with Group Leaders and ward Councillors, North Block will be removed from the current report pending further consultation. With regards to the Leigh Lane site in Walshaw, the Leader reports that the Council have not moved away from potentially siting a school on this site. With regards to greater promotion of community asset transfer, the Leader reported that community asset transfer should be part of that process and consideration.

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

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICES

87. Councillor Tariq, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care reported that following the Cabinet report on the 4th April 2024, approval was given to the Community Commissioning Division to engage in a tendering exercise for supported accommodation and floating support for people that require housing related support.

Neighbourhood Support Housing Services provide short term, outcome focused interventions to vulnerable adults. These services will support individuals to build resilience and independence, improve health and wellbeing, ensure stability of accommodation, maximise income and support meaningful and economic activity. Councillor Bernstein commended the department in re-negotiating a contract with an identified 4.7% saving.

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

CORPORATE PARENTING - ANNUAL FOSTERING REPORT

89. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented to Cabinet the Annual Fostering report.

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

CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGY

91. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented to Cabinet the Corporate Parenting Strategy.

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

BURY LOCAL AREA SEND RESPONSE TO LOCAL AREA INSPECTION

93. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented to Cabinet Bury Local Area SEND response to local area inspection. The Cabinet member reported between the 12th and 16th February, Bury's local area SEND services were inspected by the Care Quality Commission and Ofsted. The inspection team identified widespread, systemic failings in services and highlighted the challenge that we need to do more to improve the outcomes of children and young people with special educational needs. The inspection identifies 6 priority actions which Bury Council and NHS Greater Manchester ICB are jointly responsible for, along with 3 areas for improvement. As a result of the inspection outcome, the local authority will be issued with an Improvement Notice, and we will be subject to monitoring visits followed by a re-inspection in approximately 18 months. Members discussed the difficulties in recruitment in Childrens Services. The Cabinet member reported that she remained confident that the Department will be able to recruit as well as providing the other identified support including training and improved communication with relevant stakeholders.

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

TREASURY MANAGEMENT

95. Councillor Thorpe, Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented the Treasury Management report. Cabinet, 4 September 2024 8 The report outlines the financial position and provides an update on the following aspects of the Treasury Management function throughout 2023/24.

- An economic update for 2023/24.
- An update of the Council's current treasury management position.
- Council Borrowing.
- Treasury Investment Activity.
- Non-Treasury Investments.
- Treasury Performance for 2023/24.
- Treasury Management Prudential Indicators.

The Council is required by legislation to produce an annual Treasury Management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for the year. This report meets both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

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

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2024

CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR DISPLACED INDOOR MARKET HALL TRADERS OPERATING IN THE MILLGATE SHOPPING CENTRE

97. Councillor Morris, Cabinet Member for Culture, Economy and Skills reported that in October 2023 Bury Indoor Market was closed due to the discovery of Reinforced Aerated Autoclaved Concrete (RAAC) which posed a significant Health and Safety risk. The traders that are now operating within the Millgate Shopping Centre are receiving a continued subsidy, which is over and above their rent and service charge, which is at a continued cost to the council of £163,250 plus variable utility charges throughout the proposed occupation period to March 2025. The level of subsidy is unsustainable and is creating increased budget pressures on Bury Council.

98. The traders were advised that the subsidy would be revisited and reviewed in 12 months. As traders were not relocated together, the date when the 12 months expires varies considerably. It is proposed that traders operating within the Millgate Shopping Centre be given notice that the subsidy they are receiving ends in March 2024. This will allow traders 6 months' notice to either negotiate with the Millgate Shopping Centre for a formal lease or to consider alternatives.

99. In response to a question regarding the cross-party group to look at appraisals members were informed there will be another meeting and a further update is anticipated to take place at the next Cabinet meeting in November.

100. In response to a query regarding support given and how people were targeted Councillor Morris reflected that the Council focused on ensuring traders were offered a place to operate and continue trading.

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

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT 18 – DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS FOR STRATEGIC SITE ALLOCATIONS AT ELTON RESERVOIR AND WALSHAW

102. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth reported that this item concerns a new draft supplementary planning document that seeks to support the recently adopted Places for Everyone plan and the strategic housing sites at Elton Reservoir and Walshaw.

103. In response to a question regarding the provision of infrastructure requirements and the Council's ability to enforce the infrastructure requirements regardless of the size of plot members were advised the purpose of the Places for Everyone Masterplan is to ensure this is done all developers must work towards this.

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

HOLCROFT MOSS PLANNING OBLIGATIONS CONSULTATION DRAFT JOINT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

105. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth reported that this item concerns another new draft supplementary planning document that supports a policy in the recently adopted Places for Everyone plan. The Holcroft Moss Planning Obligations supplementary planning document applies across the whole Places for Everyone plan area and is, therefore, being prepared jointly by the nine Places for Everyone districts.
106. Holcroft Moss is situated within the borough of Warrington and is a lowland raised bog that is thought to be the only known example in Cheshire that has never been cut for peat. It is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and forms part of the Manchester Mosses Special Area of Conservation and therefore warrants strong protection.
107. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

108. Councillor Quinn, Cabinet Member Environment, Climate Change and Operations reported that this item relates to the Bury Biodiversity Strategy which embraces the first consideration of what the Council can do to meet its biodiversity duty. It outlines the current state of biodiversity in the Borough and the actions that we can take to conserve and enhance our biodiversity assets.
109. A draft version of the Strategy was approved for consultation by Cabinet in December 2023 and consultation subsequently took place between 9 January and 20 February 2024. The consultation responses received are summarised in the Consultation Report which is attached at Appendix B. Following consideration of the responses, several changes have been made to the Biodiversity Strategy and these are also set out in Appendix B.
110. Following a discussion regarding the monitoring of bio-diversity members were informed that the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit will have an ongoing role. To be qualified to monitor sites a person requires responsible body status, which anyone with this expertise can apply for. Further information on who monitors currently will be shared with Cabinet once known.
111. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

NORTHERN GATEWAY (GOVERNANCE / INVESTMENT ZONE / MDC)

112. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth reported that following the adoption of the Places for Everyone Plan in March, we are working towards delivering the Northern Gateway site and the economic growth and employment opportunities that it brings. It is proposed that governance structures are put in place to ensure robust control, management and monitoring of the various workstreams. This would provide a single statutory body and formalise joint working arrangements with Rochdale and the Combined authority.

113. The report also raises that the fact that the Northern Gateway site forms part of Greater Manchester's Investments Zone, which is designed to help the site deliver growth and innovation in the advanced manufacturing and materials sector.
114. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT - CONSULTATION DRAFT

115. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth reported that this item relates to the supplementary planning document 17, which sets out how the Council will deal with developer contributions towards education.
116. In June 2024, Cabinet members approved a draft of SPD17 for consultation purposes. Consultation was subsequently undertaken over a six-week period running from 15th July to 19th August 2024.
117. Following consideration of the consultation responses, a small number of changes have been made to the SPD and Members are now asked to note the consultation responses and to approve the revised SPD for adoption.
118. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

Delivery of a new SEMH Secondary Special School - Land proposal to Department for Education (DfE) & Oak Learning Partnership

119. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth reported that Bury Council is committed to delivering a new special school, working in collaboration with the Department for Education (DfE) and Oak Learning Partnership.
120. The scheme will be funded and delivered through the Department for Education Free School Programme with the Council being required to make a modest Capital contribution towards site remediation costs. Indicative Capital costs of £475,000 have been received by the Department for Education in relation to the Council's obligations. Following detailed assessment these will be the subject of a further report to Cabinet once confirmed. Provision has been made within the Children & Young People Capital Programme to meet these costs.
121. A member reflected on comments from the community brought up at full Council regarding access. In response Councillor O'Brien advised that he is confident that those who currently use the site regularly will be able to continue and currently, work is taking place with Bury Football Club to consider other offers also.
122. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BURY ART MUSEUM

123. Councillor Morris, Cabinet Member for Culture, Economy and Skills reported that the report relates to the Bury Art Museum roof which needs a large capital programme to repair it at a total cost of £ 655,050.04 The Council bid for a grant from the Arts Council MEND Fund and was successfully awarded £589,545 to which the Council have approved a matched amount of £65,505. The Council will need to

enter into a deed of covenant with the Arts Council guaranteeing the building will remain as an Arts Museum for a further period of 15 years.

124. Members were advised that once the building contractor is appointed, we will know more details about how long the Art Museum may need to be closed and further information will be brought to a future Cabinet meeting along with additional information about taking an Art Museum programme out into community venues.

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

CORPORATE PARENTING - ANNUAL ADOPTION REPORT

126. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the Annual Adoption Report. This is the annual report from the Regional Adoption Agency (RAA): Adoption Now. Adoption Now acts as the adoption agency on behalf of six local authorities: of Bury, Bolton, Blackburn with Darwen, Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside. Members reflected on the recent work and training delivered by young people and how beneficial it was to members.

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

PROCUREMENT OF LD2 SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATION PROGRAMME, IN RELATION TO FRA COMPLIANCE WORKS.

128. Councillor Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services reported that the report seeks formal approval of a contract to the approved bidder. The regulator requires the stock to be upgraded in line with current regulations, Pennington Choices Limited carried out a full review of general needs and sheltered blocks which identified a range of works necessary to ensure compliance, the LD2 smoke detection upgrade works are within the scope to complete.

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

2024/25 CORPORATE PLAN - SIX MONTH UPDATE

130. Councillor Thorpe Cabinet Member, Finance and Transformation reported that this report highlights progress against the 2024/25 Corporate Plan that was agreed by Cabinet in April. Whilst remaining true to the LET'S Vision for 2030 to achieve inclusive economic growth and reduce deprivation, the Plan focused the input of the Council towards delivering that vision through three strategic objectives: Sustainable growth; Improving children's lives; and Tackling inequalities. Discussions took place regarding collaborative working and all departments supporting each other to achieve better outcomes for residents.

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

Q1 FINANCE POSITION

132. Councillor Thorpe, Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation reported the 2024/25 forecast revenue outturn position as at 30 June 2024, and the 2024/25 forecast capital outturn position as at 30 June 2024. With regards to a question regarding the ISG going into administration and if any due diligence took place

before the awarding of the contract. Members were advised that a response will be provided following the meeting.

133. In response to a member question regarding commissioning contracts members were informed that some commissioning contracts can be done in a commercial and competitive way, however others are specialist. One challenge is per placement costs and as a Council we try to positively influence this, we hold North West comparative data and we are in the 'medium group' although we are beholden to the market. It was agreed that this information can be shared with the Cabinet following the meeting.
134. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

UNIT 4

135. Councillor Thorpe, Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation reported that the Council's current Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Financial Management system is supplied by Unit 4 (formerly Agresso Business World Software). The initial contract was signed back in 2004 and implemented for use by the Council from April 2006 onwards.
136. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 06 NOVEMBER 2024

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY, 2025/26 BUDGET PROPOSALS AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE

137. Councillor Sean Thorpe, Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation, reported the updated budget position over the three years 2025/26 to 2027/28. It was noted that there is a current budget deficit of £34.9 million.
138. Councillor Mike Smith highlighted there are assumptions within the budget and questioned if the report considered matters such as the national minimum wage, cost of the Phillips touch system and energy prices.
139. In response Councillor Thorpe, confirmed all are assumptions until implemented. The proposed savings highlighted; the street lighting and parking proposals are likely to draw the most attention however there are other proposals, most of which fall into the other category and more transformative, with little to no impact on residents.
140. In response to a question regarding what level of reserves is the Council prepared to use Councillor Thorpe confirmed he would be guided by officers. Neil Kissock, Director of Finance confirmed that whilst it would not be possible to get to a position where we are not supported by reserves in February 2025 officers would be seeking this to be as low as possible and ideally £10 Million and below would be a figure that is being focused on. In response to a further question by Councillor Bernstein members were advised that if the reserves figure required was higher would Officers be prepared to sign it off, Neil Kissock Director of Finance advised that it would be subject to the strategy for the following future years and officers

would need confidence that the Council would be able to achieve the budget gap over the following years.

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

NORTHERN GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (SPD) – CONSULTATION DRAFT

142. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth provided an overview of the report circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

143. The report detailed the Draft Northern Gateway Development Framework (NGDF) which sets out the masterplan and phasing strategy for the Northern Gateway site. It was noted that we have been through a lengthy process and now we have a controlled planning system. Bury and Rochdale do have an employment opportunity with up to twenty thousand jobs on the site. It also identifies high level design principles and an approach to the delivery and phasing of infrastructure. In order to give the Framework additional planning weight in decision making, it is proposed that it is adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

144. A member highlighted that with future opportunities should consider the industries of the future and providing opportunities for our graduates and apprentices to develop. In addition members noted that the report referenced sustainable drainage, carbon houses and improved sustainable transport links.

145. In response to a question regarding the legal position for Places for Everyone, the Leader, Councillor O'Brien advised he is not aware of any updates on the matter, when an update is available it will be shared with members and does not believe the matter will threaten the adoption of the plan.

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

NORTHERN GATEWAY (INVESTMENT ZONE / ATOM VALLEY STRATEGIC OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE)

147. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report which detailed an update on the status of Investment Zone funding and provided an update on the Atom Valley Mayoral Development Zone, namely the Atom Valley Strategic Case.

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

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STRATEGY 2024-28

149. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report on behalf of Councillor Walmsley. Members were provided with an overview of the proposed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2024-2028 which is a Council only strategy given the dissolution of the CCG in July 2022. The Strategy has been co-produced with community leaders, senior champions and staff groups.

150. Four years ago Members took the decision to agree a Strategy which not only set out our commitment across the nine protected characteristics recognised by law, but went further in also demonstrating our understanding of the challenges faced by

care leavers, carers, military veterans and the socio-economically disadvantaged and our commitment to giving specific focus to supporting these groups and the new Strategy maintains this commitment. Members suggested that consultation of the Strategy with Team Bury would be helpful.

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

ACQUIRING PROPERTIES FOR CHILDREN'S HOMES IN BURY

152. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People provided members with an overview of the report on acquiring properties for Children's homes in Bury. Members discussed the costs and how this decision will result in better quality outcomes for children and keeping them within their communities. A member raised the importance of consulting with communities in prospective areas so they nurture the children. Councillor O'Brien confirmed that political leadership is needed on this issue and good engagement is required.

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

SOCIAL VALUE STRATEGY

154. Councillor O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report on behalf of Councillor Walmsley, Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion. The report set out a new Social Value Strategy which has been developed with input from across the Council, the wider Team Bury Partnership and experts from the voluntary sector, business and public service partners.

155. The development of a Social Value Strategy is an objective of the Council's Corporate Plan and the Strategy proposed to Cabinet has been developed in partnership with colleagues across the Council with input from the business and voluntary sector communities as well as recognised leaders in the field. In Bury we have set a clear expectation around social value within our procurement processes and the Strategy describes a number of case studies showing the impact we are already having. All members welcomed the report and the opportunities for local people that will be presented through social value.

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

SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICE CONTRACT

157. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing presented the report which set out a plan to extend Bury Council's substance misuse contract with GMMH for a further six months.

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

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE REVIEW AND VOLUNTARY EXITS PROPOSALS

159. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for HR and Corporate Affairs presented the report regarding the organisational structure review and voluntary exits proposals.

160. Two applications were presented on the basis that the posts to be disestablished as a result of agreeing the severance requests are at Deputy Chief Officer level and so Cabinet support is required. The other two proposals would incur costs above a hundred thousand pounds and so Cabinet support is requested prior to ultimate approval by Council next week.
161. Members wished to place on record thanks to the Assistant Director of Operations for all the work done and his dedication to the Council and its residents for forty six years and note this will be acknowledge further at the appropriate time. The Leader noted that there will be time to give personal tributes to staff before leaving the authority.
162. In response to a query regarding the deletion of posts, members were assured that strategically we can be confident that following team adjustments it can be delivered. Lynne Ridsdale, Chief Executive, provided further reassurances to members that she supports entirely the caution and sensitivity to demands on the Senior Leadership Team and noted that it is key to recognise the Assistant Director of Operations for his contributions to the Council. Members were reminded of a piece of analysis that looked at the balance of resources and did indicate some efficiencies that could be considered and a further update on analysis and options will be considered at a future date.
163. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 04 DECEMBER 2024

PROCUREMENT AND APPROVAL OF VARIOUS CONTRACTS FOR THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

164. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report on behalf of Councillor Cummins, Cabinet Member for Housing Services which sought formal approval of contract award recommendations following completion of the mini competition exercises and a direct award in the case of the Moorfield roofing project.
165. All of these procurement activities have been carried out through Procure Plus frameworks, with the support of STAR and the councils procurement team. The Capital Programme was approved in July with various elements of works being identified, all approvals within this report formed part of the original programme.
166. Councillor Bernstein queried if similar projects in the past have been considered at Council or Cabinet meetings. In response Jacqui Dennis, Director of Law and Democratic Services confirmed that when the Housing stock was externalised there were different processes, this report aligns to Council governance.
167. Councillor Smith raised a query on keeping the Bury Pound within the Borough of Bury. The Leader assured members that the companies are local, in Westhoughton and Bolton but committed to picking up as a future matter arising the Business Growth and Infrastructure Team to produce an information document through a social value lens on local businesses who are on the framework.
168. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SKYLINE GMCA RESIDENTIAL CHILDREN'S HOMES

169. Councillor Lucy Smith, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented the report which outlined that project Skyline is a Greater Manchester wide proposal to create a supply of children's homes to increase availability of looked after children placements in the Greater Manchester region for some of our most vulnerable young people. This will see ten new homes that can accommodate twenty four children with complex mental health issues or Emotional Behavioural Difficulties. The Greater Manchester Combined Authority is leading the procurement on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities.
170. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

QUARTER 2 FINANCE POSITION

171. Councillor Sean Thorpe, Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented the report which set out the following:
- The 2024/25 forecast revenue outturn position as at 30 September 2024.
 - The 2024/25 forecast savings position as at 30 September 2024.
 - The 2024/25 forecast capital outturn position as at 30 September 2024, noting the revised capital programme and request approval of the further re-phasing of £4.973m of the capital programme into future years.
 - The 2024/25 forecast Collection Fund position as at 30 September 2024
 - The updated 2024/25 budget and forecast for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) position as at 30 September 2024.
172. It was noted that the 2024/25 general fund revenue month 6 forecast outturn position shows an overspend of £3.011m which represents a variance of 1.34% compared to the overall net revenue budget of £224.840m, an increase in the forecast overspend of £391k from the position at month 3 previously reported to Cabinet.
173. Councillor Bernstein, reflected on comments from the District Auditor that it is imperative we do all we can to reduce a 1.3 % overspend under better control. Councillor Thorpe agreed and reflected that the challenge is from two predominant pressures; increased demand and cost of servicing that demand. Members were given assurances that the Council is continuously looking for savings.
174. In response to a question from Councillor Mike Smith regarding the increase of Council tax past 5% members were advised that this would only be considered as a last resort and was not under consideration.

PRESTWICH REGENERATION

175. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report which sought approval for the Prestwich Regeneration LLP (the Joint Venture company [JV]) of which the Council are 50%, to appoint the main contractor for the main works for the delivery of Phase 1A of the Prestwich Village Regeneration Scheme.

176. It was noted that this report is the second stage and a follow-up to the Cabinet report 16th July 2024 where approval was given for the legal structure and procurement strategy to appoint the Developer for the Scheme, which in turn will secure the services of a contractor using a Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR) compliant procurement route.
177. Councillor Bernstein did highlight his concern regarding the report being received late. The Leader assured members that this will always try to be avoided in the future and apologised to members.
178. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

WHITEFIELD TOWN CENTRE PLAN

179. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth proposed that the plan is withdrawn and reviewed when the plan itself addresses issues raised by members and stakeholders.
180. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

APPROVAL TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR DELIVERY OF MILLTOWN STREET BRIDGE, RADCLIFFE

181. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report on behalf of the Cabinet Member for the Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations which sought approval of a contract award for the replacement of Milltown Street Bridge in Radcliffe following a tendering process.
182. It was noted that construction expected to commence in Spring 2025.
183. Councillor Mike Smith raised that Milltown Street should be considered within the future for development and improvements.
184. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CORPORATE STRUCTURE REVIEW REPORT

185. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the report which set out a series of proposed changes to the Council's leadership arrangements and senior accountabilities which seek to achieve further efficiencies whilst assuring capacity and alignment to deliver.
186. It was noted that the report proposes to shift the Council's organisational model from five to four delivery departments, integrating most of the services within the current Operations Department within the Business Growth and Infrastructure function, which will be renamed as the Place Department.
187. As part of these changes the Executive Director for Operations role will be deleted when the officer leaves the Council in April and the Leader placed on record thanks to Donna Ball for her leadership of the Department since 2020. During her time in Bury Donna has overseen the delivery of operational service throughout the Covid pandemic, including the provision of humanitarian aid, led a significant programme of modernisation of the Council's waste management services and the growth of Bury's internationally recognised Market. Donna will play a key role in

helping to embed the new proposed arrangements over the first quarter of next year.

188. Cllr Bernstein sought reassurance on the recruitment and selection for the Executive Director role. In response the Leader assured Members that the distribution of services across the Council was a strong model and will bring together core services.

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

BURY COUNCIL'S PROPOSAL TO SIGN UP TO THE CARE LEAVER COVENANT

190. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented the report which sought approval for Bury Council to sign up to the Care Leaver Covenant (CLC). The CLC work with more than 500 organisations to connect young people with care experience to exclusive opportunities. By becoming a partner of the CLC, Bury Council will join 92 other unitary local authorities in demonstrating their commitment to care experienced young people.

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

	Party	Question	Questioner
1	Radcliffe First	<p>In the latest pamphlet titled Radcliffe news it was stated that section 106 monies would be going to Cams Lane Running Track.</p> <p>Cams lane track seems to be rented and administered by The Cams Lane Community Sports Association. The only officers I could find listed for this Group are Paul Hilton and Tom West.</p> <p>Paul Hilton as we know has sadly passed away and Tom West is of advanced years and quite infirm and has such little interest in the running track. Given these parameters</p> <p>Who will be taking control of the section 106 money? The running track needs hundreds of thousands spent on it to bring it back into use. What will any section 106 money be used for in this case? and does the council think this is good value for money?</p>	Cllr Duncalfe
	Cllr Quinn	The Radcliffe Athletics Club is still active with 170 members. The Council has control of this funding and will be working in partnership with the Athletics Club and Radcliffe Sports Association to develop an improvement plan. The aim is to use the allocated Section 106 funding to develop an external funding bid to improve the track and other facilities.	
2	Labour	Can the Cabinet Member for Finance provide an update on the Local Government Finance Settlement and its impact on Bury Council's financial position?	Cllr Moss
	Cllr Thorpe	<p>The provisional 2025-26 Finance Settlement published on the 18th December contained council level allocations of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Spending Power for 2025-26 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Care funding, including Social Care Grant, Improved Better Care Fund, and Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund • New grants: the Recovery Fund and Children’s Social Care Prevention Grant • Estimated amounts of New Homes Bonus for 2025-26 <p>The headline announcement was that there would be over £2bn in additional grant for local government in 2025-26, representing a 6% cash terms increase including Council Tax. This is £700m more than was announced at the Budget and through the Local Government Finance Policy Statement. The 2 most significant elements relate to social care grants and the new recovery grant.</p> <p>The Social Care Grant has increased by £880m from 2024-25. This is £200m more than was originally set out. The 2025-26 Settlement also includes a new Children’s Social Care Prevention Grant of £250m. This is distributed through a new children’s needs-based formula which estimates need for children’s social care services.</p> <p>The Recovery Grant is a one-year grant worth £600m, targeted towards areas with greater need and demand for services and which are less able to fund their own services locally. The aim of this grant is to address the ‘inefficiency’ in the current system and get councils in the most deprived areas on a more sustainable footing. SIGOMA councils (urban mets) do exceptionally well out of the grant receiving 68% of the total grant. The introduction of the Recovery Grant is a reflection of the inequities in the local government funding system and is a positive first step in Ministers’ commitments to make local government funding fairer</p> <p>Overall the average % increase in core spending power for all councils is 6% with Bury’s increase being above the average at 7%. Our provisional allocations for 25/26 are over £4m higher than assumed within our last reported MTFs position and will directly reduce the c£19.5m forecast funding gap for 2025/26 reported at Cabinet in November.</p>	
--	--	---	--

3	Labour	With the enabling work now starting on the new Travel Hub in Prestwich, can the Leader provide an update on next steps for the regeneration of Prestwich Village?	Cllr Rizvi
	Cllr O'Brien	The Joint Venture will shortly finalise contract matters to deliver the travel hub, with work expected to begin in the Spring. Phase 1A will take up to 18 months to complete. Officers are currently developing the funding strategy for the next phase of the development which we hope can attract Public Sector grant support. A bid will shortly be submitted to acquire these monies which will enable development of the retail, market hall, public realm and community/health elements of the project. The housing elements of the scheme are expected to be the last part of the project to be delivered as this work will require the completion of the travel hub before work can begin.	
4	Conservative	In light of the proposal for the forthcoming budget of dimming lights, whilst the proposed saving is understandable, how will the Council ensure any plans are compatible with the recent Safer Roads Greater Manchester dark nights campaign, Invisible? I'm Visible?" and public safety is not put at risk?	Cllr Vernon
	Cllr A Quinn	<p>The GM 'Invisible? I'm visible...' campaign, is an educational campaign aimed at improving road safety during the darker nights. The campaign provides top tips for driving in the dark, such as watch your speed, stay alert and check your vehicle.</p> <p>Street lighting dimming trials have already been carried out, which have gone unnoticed by residents and road users alike. However, the street lighting system we use in Bury allows us to remotely adjust lighting levels if appropriate, for example at sites where safety is of a particular concern.</p>	
5	Radcliffe First	<p>A guardian article on Wednesday 27thNovember stated that the National Audit Office reported that NHs dental care is failing.</p> <p>Given this report, what is the situation in Bury, regarding dental care.</p>	Cllr M Smith

		<p>Do we know the ratio of dentists to residents in Bury. What percentage of dentists are accepting NHS patients.</p> <p>How many residents in Bury do not have dentist?</p>	
	Cllr Tariq	<p>Thank you Cllr Smith for the question about Dental Access.</p> <p>There are 30 NHS Dental Practices in the Bury locality. The total number of Dentists in Bury is 123. This means the population per Dentist is about 1550.</p> <p>Out of the 30 Practices, 16 Practices are signed up to the Local Dental Access Quality Scheme. This means that at least 50% of practices are accepting new patients when capacity allows. Those Practices that have signed up to the national New Patient Premium scheme will also be accepting new patients when capacity allows.</p> <p>In terms of how many residents in Bury do not have dentist. Patients are not registered with a General Dental Practice (GDP) in the same way as they are with a GP. Any patient may access dental services from any practice in any area. However we can estimate the number of patients who have accessed a dentist in the last 2 years as an adult which is 69,883 (36.7%), and in the last year as a child which is 26,243 (13.8%).</p> <p>For information Dashboards on the NHS England federated Data Platform continue to show a higher level of access in GM in 2024 compared to 2020, There were 1,277,900 patients seen by GM primary dental care services in the 12 months prior to March 2020. In the 12 months prior to September 2024, these services saw 1,399,206 patients, an increase of over 120,000 appointments.</p> <p>Primary Dental Services in Bury are commissioned by NHS Greater Manchester corporately and we continue to work with NHS GM to monitor uptake and we also work with a range of other clinical leads to promote good dental habits particularly in children.</p>	
6	Labour	What plans are in place to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day in Bury for 2025?	Cllr Haroon

	Leader	<p>Bury Council will be hosting the annual local Holocaust memorial commemoration at the end of this month. The service brings people together to remember the devastating impact of oppression and hatred, to remind ourselves of our collective responsibility to learn from history, and to never tolerate or stand by hate.</p> <p>Civic leaders will sign the Holocaust Memorial statement of commitment to honour the survivors and reaffirm our shared goals of mutual understanding, tolerance, and a free democratic society. This year's service will be particularly poignant given 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau</p> <p>The event is led by the young people of Bury to promote intergenerational learning and will introduce a survivor's story, links to the My Voices initiative to amplify such stories by The Fed, the lighting of memorial candles and the reading of a poem specially curated for the event on the national Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'For A Better Future' - a future where people can live peacefully with tolerance, respect, mutual understanding and an absence of fear; a future where individuals, families and communities are not singled out, not othered, not systematically disadvantaged, nor targeted for harm.</p>	
7	Labour	Despite opposition from members of the Conservative Group in Bury, can the Leader provide an update on the successful investment Bury has brought in for active travel infrastructure?	Cllr Farooq
	Cllr O'Brien	<p>Bury has been successful in securing over £28m of funds into the borough as part of the drive to make Greater Manchester's the UK's most extensive walking, wheeling and cycling network. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £15m from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement; of which <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o around £9m of which is earmarked for Radcliffe, o around £4m for Bury and o £2m for Ramsbottom - In addition, we have secured around £13 million through a mixture of bids to the Mayors Challenge Fund and various rounds of Active Travel Funding. 	

		<p>These monies will be for a variety of projects including, but not exclusively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new access ramp to the east side of the Radcliffe Metrolink Stop - The new Milltown Street Bridge - A new walking and cycling bridge now open over the River Roch at Gigg Lane, which provides direct access from Fishpool and Gigg Lane to Pilsworth Industrial Estate. - Various local road safety improvements, including new pedestrian crossings and traffic calming measures. <p>These are just some of the improvements being made to make it easier and safer for people to make some of their short local journeys by walking, wheeling and cycling and to provide better access to bus and Metrolink services as part of the multi-million-pound investment in the Bee Network that will transform the way we travel across Greater Manchester, with joined up services, affordable fares, and cleaner, greener transport.</p>	
8	Conservative	<p>As there appears to be 20 HMO's in the town of Radcliffe listed on the HMO register, does the Leader believe this is excessive for a town and as such does he feel more HMO applications being approved will be beneficial to Radcliffe?</p>	Councillor Jo Lancaster
	Leader	<p>Considering there are currently 130 licensed HMOs in the Borough and 22 of these are in Radcliffe, equating to 17% of the Borough's total, this would not seem an excessive concentration within a particular township.</p> <p>The Council is bound by statutory duty to effectively process applications for HMO licenses. The Council operates a mandatory licensing scheme in Bury, with licenses granted for a maximum period of 5 years before needing to be renewed.</p> <p>Planning permission is only required for HMOs where they will be occupied by more than 6 persons.</p>	

		<p>HMOs are a necessary part of the current housing market and can offer some residents a lower cost alternative to purchasing or renting a typical property. Inevitably, their impact – positive or otherwise – will depend on a range of factors and it would be foolish to speculate in generalities about them.</p> <p>There are sometimes issues with how HMOs are managed by landlords and the Council's Private Rented Sector Enforcement Team proactively inspect them, including those smaller HMOS that do not require either licensing or planning permission, and take necessary enforcement action where deemed appropriate.</p>	
9	Labour	Can the Cabinet Member for Operations outline how much additional money Bury will get to tackle potholes, following the announcement of extra investment under the new Labour Government?	Cllr Ryder
	Cllr A Quinn	An announcement on our allocation from this additional funding is expected later this month but it is very welcome to see £500m extra being allocated for this under the new Labour Government, bringing the total up to £1.6 billion.	
10	Labour	What steps have been taken to prepare for a future inspection of our social housing stock?	Cllr A Arif
	Cllr FitzGerald	<p>What steps have been taken to prepare for a future inspection of our social housing stock?</p> <p>Since bringing Six Town Housing back in Council Management we have been working through a detailed Service Improvement Plan based on the new Social Housing Regulatory Framework which was introduced in April 2024. This has included commissioning a full Stock Condition Survey and focusing on the seven areas compliance with regards to building safety, all of which have improved significantly. We have also established a Housing Advisory Board so that the tenants voice can be at the heart of decision making. In November we commissioned a Mock Inspection to assess our readiness for inspection and the results of this</p>	

		<p>will be shared with the Housing Advisory Board and the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee in February.</p> <p>Since the transfer of Six Town Housing three rounds of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital funding have been approved via Cabinet to procure investment into the housing stock including upgrading internal communal areas of various general flats, new roofing schemes and a range of energy efficiency measures, including internal and external insulation. In total the capital programme for 2024/25 is £17.937m. In the next financial year we will review the 30 year business plan for the HRA to identify future investment.</p>	
11	Conservative	What action is being taken to increase the number of PDR's of staff who work for the Council?	Councillor Jackie Harris
	Cllr Rafiq	<p>Thank you for your question. All staff across the Council should have an annual employee review. At the end of 2024 only 54% of staff have had a recorded review in the past year. This is well below what I would expect. However, it's worth noting it's a significant improvement from the 21% completion rate when we began focusing on this in May 22.</p> <p>A range of actions are being taken to improve this position. This includes work with front line operational services, such as school catering and waste, where alternative approaches are needed given how staff work, a programme of training sessions for staff and managers across January and February focused on the importance and practicalities of the process, the roll-out of a new workforce dashboard so leaders can directly target areas of low performance, and also direct action by all Executive Directors to emphasise the critical importance of Employee Reviews and ensure they are completed by managers across their services.</p>	
12	Labour	Following the challenging weather conditions over the past few weeks, can the Cabinet Member for Operations outline what additional pressure this has put on our hard-working response teams?	Cllr Ibrahim

	Cllr A Quinn	<p>Over the past weeks, the challenging weather conditions have undoubtedly placed additional pressure on our hardworking teams across Waste Management, Highways and Streetscene. Waste and recycling bin collections have continued, maintaining a business-as-usual service for residents. However, this week due to snow and ice, we have encountered difficulties in collecting from some rural properties. Collections will be recovered as soon as temperatures rise and it is safe to do so.</p> <p>Highways and Streetscene completed 15 full gritting runs in the first week of January alone and have attended to 100s of localised flooding reports, supported by street cleansing and grounds maintenance with clean up operations after waters subsided.</p> <p>As usual our teams have risen to the challenge and I hope I speak for all elected members when I put on record our thanks to them for their hard work and dedication.</p>	
13	Labour	Can the Cabinet Member for Culture update the Council on any cultural events being organised for 2025?	Cllr Pilkington
	Cllr Morris	<p>There are a large number of events planned for 2025 and we can send the list to Members. A few of the highlights are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Going to the Match at Manchester Art Gallery. Upcoming photography event, life drawing event, visits from schools and care homes until March. • An exciting project is in development later in the year with English National Opera and Walk the Plank arts events company and local football clubs on the theme of football. • KFOR and Kosovo +25 photography exhibition at The Fusiliers Museum until June • My Voice Project presentation of the My Voice book collection to Bury Libraries and Archives in the presence of Holocaust survivors. Date tbc • Victoria Wood's statue will be reinstalled after a vehicle crash. Spring 25 • A storytelling Festival with schools in Feb and March 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events to commemorate Gallipoli in April, VE Day 80 in May, Armed Forces Day in June and VJ Day in Aug • Run for All, Bury BID 10k in September • Heritage Open days across the Borough in Sept • Bury Library Service runs over 38 cultural events a week such as book clubs, events to help with building your business, Lego and chess events, arts and crafts and storytelling. Details are available on Home Bury Libraries Catalogue • There will be events across libraries in the summer holidays to promote the national Summer Reading Challenge and events as part of the Greater Manchester Festival of Libraries in June. • Bury Market will be holding a Hong Kong Festival in May/June, Vegan Festival in Sept and a Youth Market in April as well as events for Christmas <p>In addition, community partners such as the East Lancs Railway, Bury Music Service, The MET, The Fusiliers Museum, Bury Pride, Bury BID, Prestwich Festival, will be running their own programme of events. These can be found on the Discover Bury Website.</p>	
14	Conservative	Has the number of people visiting Bury Market during 2024 increased compared to the previous year?	Councillor Jack Rydeheard
	Cllr C Morris	<p>Figures provided by the Bury BID (Business Improvement District) and Millgate Shopping Centre have confirmed that footfall has increased within the market from 2023-2024.</p> <p>The number of coaches attending on market days has also increased by 7.15% from 2023, with 1200 attending over the year.</p> <p>The best month was November with 187 coaches arriving. The best day was Wednesday 23rd Oct when 33 coaches arrived. The coaches have arrived from as far away as Aberdeen, Cambridgeshire and Cornwall.</p>	

15	Conservative	How many Local Authority Governors have resigned from Schools they were governors of during 2024?	Councillor Luis McBriar
	Cllr L Smith	In the 2024 calendar year, there were two LA Governor resignations.	
16	Conservative	When will the outcome of the Ramsbottom Town Centre consultation be known?	Councillor I Gartside
	Leader	Consultation on the Ramsbottom Streets for All proposals was open from 12 November to 20 December 2024. The project team are now reviewing the feedback and will produce a consultation report in due course. It should be noted that there have been a considerable number of responses to the consultation and it will take time to go through these so it is too early to give a definitive timeframe for the outcomes to be published. However, the responses received will be given due weight in decision making and will help to inform and shape how the Ramsbottom proposals evolve.	
17	Conservative	How many Member Code of Conduct Complaints have been received during 2024?	Councillor R Brown
	Monitoring Officer	12 complaint matters were raised (including one matter consisting of 13 separate complainants).	
18	Independent	A family at 6 Sunnybower St Tottington whose home is at constant risk of flooding from neighbouring private land , have been advised recently by a Council Officer that the Council “ Have the power to commission works to prevent surface water run-offs and groundwater flooding “ This family are desperate for the Councils help	Councillor Yvonne Wright
	Cllr A Quinn	The Council does have powers to act but is not obligated to do so and would normally only intervene where there is a significant benefit to the public rather than just one household.	

	<p>The problem Sunnybower Street is caused by run off from adjacent farm land which naturally accumulates at the low point, where a pond forms. There is no obligation on the land owner to address the issue as it is naturally occurring, and the house owners do have a duty to protect their own property, including taking steps such as property level protection (flood doors / barriers for example) to ensure that internal flooding does occur.</p> <p>To provide a more positive drainage solution at this location would likely require the construction of an outfall to a culverted watercourse which runs through the grounds of the care home opposite. However, this watercourse is already a source of flood risk to properties further downstream, including the care home itself, so we cannot put additional flows into it unless it was part of a larger scheme to address the flood risk as a whole.</p> <p>The Environment Agency has approved modelling work to assess, what, if any measures could be taken to alleviate the flooding in the area.</p>	
--	--	--

Meeting:	The Council
Meeting date:	15 January 2025
Title of report:	Update on Greater Manchester Joint Authorities Activity 
Report by:	Leader of the Council
Decision type:	Non key decision
Ward(s) to which the report relates:	All
Summary:	This report provides an update on the activity of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

1. Background

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 November 2024.

As agreed by Council, the report also now includes an update on a specific area of work, this months focus is the work of Transport for Greater Manchester.

This month's focus – Transport for Greater Manchester

- In the 28 November Bee Network Committee Meeting, Chris Barnes, TfGM Network Director of Infrastructure, presented a report on the Transport Infrastructure Pipeline. The report provided an update on progress delivering a pipeline of transport infrastructure improvements to support the operation of the Bee Network. The committee were requested to note the report and approve the drawdown of CRSTS funding and associated scheme progression on the following schemes relevant to Bury:
 - Development of Long-Term Rapid Transit Options – Transit-Oriented Development at Bury Interchange: £1.55m
 - Bury Radcliffe Central Phase 1 MCF scheme: £0.65m.
- Through the Integrated National Transport Strategy consultation and upcoming Spending Review submissions, the Mayor is urging the new Transport Secretary to back the next phase of the Bee Network—expanding it to include eight commuter rail lines to create the

first fully-integrated transport system outside London by 2028—alongside advocating for support for the development of Northern Powerhouse Rail.

Network Updates

- The city-region secured £66.5m in bus funding from government in the last Budget, which will support GM's ambitions for delivering a low fare, high patronage public transport system.
- Metrolink saw a new record high for passenger numbers – with 1.1 million journeys made in the week from November 25 to December 1, marking its busiest ever week. Meanwhile, the use of the current Bee Network buses is up by 5% since coming under local control, with money from bus fares 9% above forecast for the year.
- On 5 January, TfGM will complete Tranche 3 of bus franchising. More than 250 bus routes in Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and parts of Manchester and Salford will join the Bee Network. This marks the historic completion of the bus franchising process in GM.
 - Also from 5 January, earlier, later and more frequent buses will run on key routes, planned specifically to create better links with tram and train timetables. Learn more about this and other major Bee Network announcements [here](#).
- Applications are open for the new annual Bee Network bus ticket available for financing with GM's credit unions, delivering a saving of up to £240 over a year. January will also bring further cuts to the cost of 7-day and 28-day tickets.
- Aimed at delivering joined-up, reliable services, a programme of local bus network reviews continue in the new year. Network Reviews will explore how buses can better serve communities, making improvements that would not have been possible before franchising. Following local engagement in 2024, Bury is scheduled for consultation on any proposed changes resulting from the reviews in Spring 2025.
- The rolling programme of engineering works to maintain and improve the Metrolink network continues across several sites, ensuring tram journeys in GM remain safe, reliable, and accessible. The Bury Line continues to be affected. Planned works and disruptions can be seen [here](#).

Publications

- A consultation for the Draft School Travel Strategy launched on November 18. The 10-week consultation will run until 26 January 2025 and can be accessed [here](#).
- GM leaders from all 10 local authorities approved the Vision Zero Strategy and Action Plan. More information on Vision Zero is available [here](#).
- TfGM are holding several drop-in events and will be available in person at Bury Interchange on 15th January 2025 between 3pm and 5.30pm to answer questions and provide support to people in completing the consultation.
 - A new £1 million [Vision Zero Innovation Fund](#) was launched to support progress towards GM's Vision Zero ambition. The funding will be available to GM Safer Roads Partners and information on the application process has been shared with local authorities.
- Findings from a state-of-the-art camera trial in GM have been published [here](#), revealing more than 3,200 people have been caught using mobile phones while driving or not wearing seat belts. Findings will be used to inform campaigns to raise awareness of the consequences of not complying with the law.
 - Members of the public have been encouraged to continue to submit footage to help catch dangerous road users via [Operation Snap](#).

Waste and Resources Team: Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications Update

Festive Campaign

The festive period is a really busy time for the waste sector, with recycling centres and kerbside collections busier than at any other time of the year. It's a useful opportunity to encourage residents to reduce their waste and maximise recycling.

This year we ran a bigger festive campaign than ever before. We created [a microsite of Christmas recycling information](#) on the Recycle for Greater Manchester (R4GM) website, tying together all of our key content and messages. We also produced lots of social media content, including videos for our TikTok and Instagram channels.

We created three radio adverts, which were advertised widely across Bury, including on Hits Radio, Greatest Hits Radio and Roch Valley Radio. The three adverts focused on sustainable and affordable gifts at our Renew shops, preventing food waste during the festive period and promoting the use of HWRCs after Christmas.

We also used two visual adverts, which you can see below. One encourages residents to recycle paper and card, whilst the other shows that residents can now recycle plastic pots, tubs and trays in their mixed recycling bin for the first time at Christmas. These adverts have been in The Bury Times newspaper, the Manchester Evening News (MEN) as well as on digital screens outside key locations such as supermarkets, gyms and within buses across the network.



Our key messages included:

- Shopping sustainably through the R4GM Renew shops and online store
- Recycling your paper and card including delivery boxes and wrapping paper
- Waste less food this festive season by shopping, storing and making new meals
- Not disposing of batteries or hidden batteries in any of your bins at home
- Recycle your plastic pots, tubs and trays in your mixed recycling bin
- Festive opening hours of your local recycling centre
- Recycle your Christmas tree: we've worked closely with JustHelping, a charitable organisation who collect Christmas trees throughout Bury

As well as Christmas messages, we also shared lots of Hanukkah content including a guide on how to ensure you don't waste food over Hanukkah, recipes from leftovers as well as sustainable Hanukkah gifts. For the first time, we've shared a specific Hanukkah toolkit with Bury Council colleagues.

Repair Week

Repair Week 2025 is taking place between 3rd – 9th March and we've recently published the event sign-up form. We're asking businesses, community group and individuals to host an event during Repair Week and empower residents to fix instead of throwing away. Events can either be existing repair activity or a bespoke event for the week.

Repair Week is a celebration of repair, reuse and upcycling. Repair plays a key role in keeping goods in circulation for longer and creating less waste.

Repair Week also helps promote amazing local businesses, giving them an opportunity to showcase their work to potential new customers. Businesses can sign-up to host a Repair Week event until 31st January. From mid-February, we'll be promoting the upcoming events to a Greater Manchester audience. To help residents connect with local repairers all year, we've created a [repair directory](#) on the R4GM website. If you know of any business who wants to host an event during Repair Week, they can [sign-up here](#).

Recycling Centre Rates

October 2024

Site	Month (%)	Year to date
Cemetery Rd, Radcliffe	61	65
Every St, Fernhill	59	64

Contact us

<https://recycleforgreatermanchester.com/>

Email: recycle4gm@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

Michelle Whitfield

Head of Communications & Behavioural Change

Michelle.whitfield@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Meeting (November)

A link to the papers are available here:

[Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Friday, 29th November, 2024 10.30 am](#)

Items considered and agreed included:

Bee Network Update	Vision Zero For Greater Manchester
Implementation Of The GM VCFSE Accord	Five Year Environment Plan 2025-2030
GM Children And Young People Programme Update	Greater Manchester Investment Zone
Greater Manchester One Network Connectivity Partner Procurement	GMCA Revenue Update Quarter 2 2024/25
GMCA Capital Update Quarter 2 2024/25	Greater Manchester Investment Framework, Conditional Project Approval

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Meeting (December)

A link to the papers are available here:

[Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Friday, 13th December, 2024 10.30 am](#)

Items considered and agreed included:

Greater Manchester's Approach to Building Safety	Breaking Down Barriers to Opportunity- A Proposal for a Stronger Education System as Part of Greater Manchester's Strategy - to Enable Young People to Participate & Thrive across Greater Manchester
Delivering the Bee Network Update (Performance)	TfGM Power Purchase
Brownfield Land New Allocations	Government Consultation - Remote Meeting Attendance and Proxy Voting

Greater Manchester Investment Framework Fund - Conditional Project Approval	
--	--

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. 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.

List of Background Papers:-

Minutes of GMCA meetings linked throughout.


Contact Details:-


Julie Gallagher

Head of Governance

Julie.Gallagher@bury.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

<p>Radcliffe First NOM</p>  <p>FINAL RF NOM.docx</p>	<p>This Council resolves to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Armed forces lead in healthcare, education, and housing services to promote better connectivity by working with veterans’ groups to better serve their unique needs. To find how we can best use our existing Council estate or find community venues with space to serve our veterans groups to enable development of support and access to space for their activities • Support veterans and support groups by providing mental health first aid and wellbeing training. Work with local agencies including adult education to promote these courses that benefit the mental wellbeing and care of veterans of the armed forces. This training could also benefit former police, fire, ambulance and members of the NHS as well as the wider community who have experienced traumatic events in the course of their former roles. • Hold an annual veterans conference at the town hall attended by representatives from this council, council depts, NHS, Police, Fire & Ambulance services, veteran’s groups, charities & support groups and potential employers. • Hold an Annual Festival of Remembrance at the town hall bringing together for the first time all veterans groups, family and supporters from around the borough. • Address the lack of communication from the Drill Hall Trust as to when Bury’s historic Castle Armoury will be put back into use for the borough’s armed forces community. Direct the Drill Hall Trust and RFCA to provide a roadmap of when and how it will be brought back into a usable state. To commit to writing to the 	<p>The motion was discussed with the local Armed Forces Community on 17 December at the Bury Armed Forces Covenant Meeting to get feedback and suggestions from local veterans representatives in relation to the various component parts of the motion. Lead officers have been allocated for each of the motions 8 specific component parts and a draft action plan is in development which we will look to finalise through a meeting of the leads next Wednesday (15 Jan). There has already been some practical activity in a number of areas including an options appraisal of mental health first aid training available to support veterans groups, a review of approaches to remembrance festivals and Veterans conferences in other LAs and a letter drafted in response to the specific ask regarding Castle Armoury.</p>
---	--	--

	<p>Secretary of State for Defence to seek his support in securing the future of this historic building. We would also seek an assurance from the Commanding Officer, Fifth Fusiliers, as to when the building is fit for their use and their return to their former home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name a part of the Radcliffe Hub after the town's only VC recipient Pte James Hutchinson and other local heroes. To explore options with the local community as to the best way of celebrating local heroes within the current regeneration programme • Distribute promotional materials celebrating the borough's two VC recipients in local schools 	
<p>Lab NOM</p>  <p>LAB NOM.docx</p>	<p>This Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore the Inclusion of Health Impact Assessments (HIA) <p>Consider the integration of an HIA in future council reports, papers, and policy proposals to assess potential impacts on the health and wellbeing of Bury's population. If adopted, after the review, the HIA would serve as an advisory component in decision-making, aiming for increased transparency and encouraging Councillors to reflect on health implications in their decisions.</p> 2. Develop a Preliminary Framework for HIA Implementation <p>Explore and work towards a feasible and cost-effective framework for assessing health impacts that takes into account the wider determinants of health across all council activities. The aim is to create a practical, scalable framework that could eventually become an integral part of council policy and decision-making processes.</p> 	<p>Officers have reviewed relevant health impact assessment guidance and definitions published by UK Public Health agencies and the World Health Organisation (WHO). We have identified examples of health impact assessment practice, both nationally and locally and identified potentially relevant training courses. We have reviewed recent council cabinet agendas to identify which items may have benefitted from a health impact assessment. We are currently using this to estimate the possible annual numbers of HIAs that could be required. We have defined a set of options for starting to use health</p>

	<p>3. Look to engage Local Health Partners in Framework Design Collaborate with key health partners—including NHS bodies, public health teams, and the voluntary sector—to design an adaptable framework that aligns with Bury’s health goals. By involving health sector stakeholders, the Council seeks to develop a comprehensive and collaborative framework.</p> <p>4. If a framework is implemented, then work to monitor and Evaluate the Framework’s Effectiveness. Commit to periodically reviewing the framework's effectiveness and its implementation, with updates reported to the Health Scrutiny Committee. This review process will ensure that the framework remains responsive and relevant to health priorities, with attention given to any instances where Council decisions diverge from the HIA’s recommendations.</p> <p>5. To request the Director of Public Health, and or the Monitoring Officer report back within a 6 month timeframe to the Health and Wellbeing Board with their recommendations following an exploration exercise.</p>	<p>impact assessment. Next steps will be to estimate possible staff time and costs for each option and to draft an options paper.</p>
--	--	---

This page is intentionally left blank