

Lynne Ridsdale
Chief Executive

Our Ref JG
Your Ref C/JG
Date 11 February 2025
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TO: All Members of Council

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

Dear Member/Colleague

Council

You are invited to attend a meeting of Council which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Wednesday, 19 February 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Widdell', is centered below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

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 - 46)

2 nd February 2025 – Employment Panel	Pay Policy Statement	<p>That the Employment Panel commend the proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2025-26 for approval by full Council.</p> <p>That the Employment Panel agree the Council's proposed pay structure for 2025-26 as set out within the statement and inclusive of revised non-consolidated pay supplements to retain compliance with the Real Living Wage rate of pay.</p>
12 th February 2025 – Cabinet	Annual HRA Budget 2025/26 & Rent Setting	<p>Cabinet approved the following and commend to the Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve the 2025/26 budget for the Housing Revenue Account• Agree rents to be increased for 2025/26 by 2.7% which is the Government's maximum allowable increase being September CPI (Consumer Price Index) 1.7% plus 1% with effect from 7th April 2025.• Shared ownership rents to be increased by 2.7% in line with the provision which is set out within

		<p>shared ownership agreements with effect from 7th April 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve an increase in Garage rents by CPI as at September 2023 CPI + 1% 2.7%. • Approve an increase in Sheltered Management and Support Charges by CPI + 1% 2.7%. • Approve an increase in Service and Amenity Charges by CPI + 1% 2.7% • Approve an increase in Support and Heating charges by CPI + 1% 2.7% • Approve an increase in Furnished Tenancy charges by CPI+ 1% 2.7% • Note that where a social rent property is re-let to a new or transferring tenant the rent level will be increased to the formula rent (target rent) for that property. In accordance with the Rent Standard, where an affordable rent property is re-let to a new or transferring tenant the rent level be set by reference to 80% of the market rent (including service charges where applicable) for a similar property at the time of letting or the formula rent for the property, whichever is the greater.
<p>12th February 2025 – Cabinet</p>	<p>The Council's 2025/26 Revenue Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2026/27 through to 2027/28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2027/28 and the assumptions regarding resources and spending requirements. • Approve the Council Tax base for Bury Council for 2025/26 of 58,697.86 Band D equivalent dwellings, this is the basis on which the Council Tax funding has been calculated (Appendix 1). • Approve the net revenue budget of £238.256m for 2025/26. Page 32 • Approve the Council Tax requirement of £118.296m and the increase in Council Tax in 2025/26 of 2.99% in terms of General Council Tax and a further 2% for the Adult Social Care precept for 2025/26 (Appendix 1). • Approve the budget assumptions

		<p>of £23.210m in 2025/26. Approve the new revenue budget proposal relating to residents parking permits pricing structure for consultation and referred to Council for their consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the remaining budget gap of £11.571m over the medium-term to 2027/28. • Approve the use of £5.858m of reserves from the budget stabilisation reserve for 2025/26. • Note the forecast position on reserves over the medium-term to 2027/28. • Approve the recommendations set out in the Treasury Management Strategy (Appendix 2) • To approve the Treasury Management Strategy including the associated Prudential Indicators and Annual Investment Strategy. • To approve the Treasury Management Policy Statement. • To approve the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement. • Approve the Capital Strategy and the Programme for 2025/26 – 2027/28 (Appendix 3). • Approve the Dedicated Schools Grant budget for 2025/26 at £253.097m and approve the allocations between the four funding blocks as set out in Appendix 4 of this report. • The Schools and Academies 20205/26 funding unit values as recommended by Schools Forum and detailed at Annex 1 to appendix 4. • Approve the 2025/26 hourly rates for all early year’s providers as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. £5.48 per hour for 3- and 4-year-olds. ii. £7.88 per hour for 2-year olds. iii. £10.50 per hour for under 2’s. • Note the Equality Impact Assessment for the budget report (Appendix 5). • Note the Chief Finance Officer
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		(Director of Finance) statement on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of financial reserves in setting the budget (Appendix 6).
12 th February 2025 – Cabinet	Council Tax Support	Cabinet endorsed to Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the scheme continues in its current form for the year 2025/26 • Note the current disregard of all War Widow's/Widower's Pension or War Disablement Pension is continued • Note the performance of the scheme continues to be closely monitored and will be reviewed and amended as appropriate on an annual basis.
12 th February 2025 – Cabinet	Revenue and Benefits Restructure – approval of redundancy costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports payment of the redundancy and capital costs associated with the aforementioned staff and commends this proposal to Council for their agreement. The wider, post consultation, proposal for implementation of the restructure have been subjected to approval by the Cabinet Member for HR and Corporate Affairs under their delegation.

a **Annual HRA Budget 2025/26 & Rent Setting** (Pages 47 - 64)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation

b **The Council's 2025/26 Revenue Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2026/27 through to 2027/28** (Pages 65 - 192)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.

c **Council Tax Support Scheme** (Pages 193 - 198)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities attached.

d **Amendments** (Pages 199 - 202)

Conservative Amendment
Radcliffe First Amendment

e **Restructure of the Revenues and Benefits Department –Approval of**

redundancy cost (Pages 203 - 208)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR.

7 DELEGATED DECISION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES (Pages 209 - 242)

Minutes of
Corporate JCC
Teachers JCC
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Budget Cabinet