

AGENDA FOR
BURY LOCAL BEE NETWORK FORUM



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To: All Members of Bury Local Bee Network Forum

Councillors : G Staples-Jones (Chair), U Farooq, J Harris,
G Marsden and J Southworth

Dear Member/Colleague

Bury Local Bee Network Forum

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Bury Local Bee Network Forum which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Thursday, 12 th June 2025
Place:	Council Chamber, Bury Town Hall
Time:	6.00 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.

AGENDA

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING *(Pages 3 - 6)*

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the last meeting.

4 UPDATE ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS/YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

5 HEALTH & TRANSPORT ACTIVATION *(Pages 7 - 8)*

To advise Bury's Bee Network Forum on the progress of delivering Bury Public Health's – LETS Get Bury Moving Framework's ambition around integrating physical activity into everyone's daily routines, thus local Bee Network infrastructure is pivotal in achieving the Chief Medical Officers activity levels for good health across the life course.

6 TRANSPORT UPDATE FOR BURY COUNCIL LOCAL BEE NETWORK FORUM *(Pages 9 - 12)*

April - June 2025 Update.

7 BEE NETWORK QUARTERLY UPDATE *(Pages 13 - 14)*

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) will present an update on progress in delivering the Bee Network, Greater Manchester's plan for a high-quality, affordable and fully integrated public transport and active travel system for the people and businesses of Greater Manchester.

8 BURY INTERCHANGE REDEVELOPMENT-PHASE 1 *(Pages 15 - 16)*

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) will present an update on the Bury Interchange redevelopment project, Phase 1: Metrolink Access & Platform Improvement Works.

9 WORK PROGRAMME 2025-2026 *(Pages 17 - 18)*

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 6.00pm on Thursday the 25th September 2025 at Bury Town Hall.

Minutes of: BURY LOCAL BEE NETWORK FORUM

Date of Meeting: 25th February 2025

Present: Councillor G Staples-Jones (in the Chair)
Councillors U Farooq and J Southworth

Also in attendance: Lee Buggie, Public Health Specialist, Live Well/Healthy Places
Cris Logue, Assistant Director of Strategy, Planning & Development
Fran Wilkinson (TfGM)
Daniel Coles (TfGM)
Julie Gallagher, Head of Governance,
Natalie Blackston, Senior Planning Officer

Public Attendance: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: There were no apologies for absence.

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2 QUESTION TIME

It was agreed that:

Members of the Bee Network Committee would like to recommend to the Democratic Arrangements Forum that public question time be introduced at meetings of the Bee Network Forum and in addition, consider appointing a young persons representative to sit as a co-opted member on the Forum.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2024 be approved.

4 BEE NETWORK QUARTERLY UPDATE

Fran Wilkinson (TfGM) presented an update on the delivery of the Bee Network, fully integrated public transport, highlighting work undertaken to introduce of a new 'pay-as-you-go' contactless ticket system in March.

The TfGM representative presented an overview of the new system, including information on the rationale, benefits and costing of the new pay as you go system. The presentation also contained information on the methodology for the campaign plan to let people know about the changes and the representatives report that it is the first step towards an integrated network.

Members welcomed the proposals, the TfGM representative reported that children will not be able to use the system at the moment and this will only operate on buses in the Greater Manchester footprint.

The TfGM representative reported that work to develop an App as well as this process has been rigorously tested, staff supporting the process including the contact centre are based in Manchester. These staff will also deal with any appeal/complaint issues arising from the new system.

Members were updated on a new scheme with Manchester Credit Union to enable people to get financial support from the Credit Union to facilitate purchase of an Annual pass, Members were encouraged to inform their constituents of this scheme.

It was agreed that:

The Transport For Greater Manchester stakeholder newsletter produced weekly, will be shared with colleagues in Democratic Services for onward circulation to all Elected Members.

5 BURY BEE NETWORK REVIEW UPDATE

Daniel Coles representing TfGM provided Elected Members with a verbal update on the Bury Bee Network Bus Review, advising that network reviews were a mechanism for considering public needs and aspirations for the bus network across Greater Manchester. As of February 2025, Network Reviews have started in Wigan & Leigh, Bolton, Salford and Bury.

The first reviews in Wigan and Bolton have moved through the first stage of engagement and the second stage of appraisal.

The first stage of the review in Bury is the Engagement and Evidence Gathering and this took place at the end of 2024

To date, those first Network Reviews undertaken in Bolton and Wigan & Leigh have identified a set of interventions which aim primarily to:

- Improve bus services by increasing frequency and capacity, ensuring they align with local priorities and contribute to our goal of increasing bus use by 30% by 2030.
- Enhance network efficiency by reviewing underused routes and feeder services to ensure resources are allocated where they are most needed.

Through ongoing engagement with local stakeholders, we have received strong feedback that improving accessibility and expanding coverage should be a priority. This will help ensure that all communities benefit from a better-connected public transport network, making it easier for people to access jobs, education, an essential services.

In line with the Network Review process approved by GM Bee Network Committee, will:

Commence a GM-wide Coverage & Connectivity Review – this exercise will measure accessibility to and through the network, to provide a baseline and inform the network planning undertaken for all current and future reviews. It will enable us to develop a consistent set of criteria against which future recommendations can be measured and demonstrate that every district is being considered in a single review taking place at the start of the cycle.

Agree a series of Thematic Network Reviews, starting with Night Services - Outputs from these reviews will enable us to deliver service interventions across GM while the cycle of area-based reviews is progressing, in addition to on-going operational/performance improvements.

Reset Area-Based Network Review programme – fewer, broader areas to allow wider, cross-district network connectivity to be considered and alignment with GM Growth Corridors

In discussion that followed Members wanted to ensure that any Local transport strategy is aligned with this wider GM review work and that Council are kept fully informed and utilised as part of the process. In addition, Councillors wanted to ensure that specific ward issues are addressed as part of the engagement exercise and that bus services that cross-boundaries are captured to.

Members discussed safe travel in particular safety at night for young people. The TfGM representative reported that they work closely with colleagues at GMP, the TfGM app has an alert function to allow a user to notify a person where they are, GMP live chat has a similar facility on their App.

In addition, CCTV is installed on bus shelters and information screens will provide regular updated information.

TfGM representatives reported that safety is often cited as the number one reasons people from the LGTBQ, BME and people with disabilities do not use public transport.

It was agreed that:

The update be noted and representative from Transport for Greater Manchester be thanked for their attendance.

6 HEALTH & TRANSPORT

Lee Buggie, Public Health Specialist, Live Well & Healthy Place attended the meeting and provided members with a verbal update on work being undertaken in public health, with a particular focus on:

- Governance
- Early Years & action plans
- Schools & Colleges
- Maps, History, Culture, Innovation
- Businesses, new audiences
- Infrastructure, Policy and Strategy
- Showcase events

The update included information on projects including: Bury Active Schools Accreditation and Bury walking and cycling pages.

Members discussed whether it was possible to get yellow paint / signage to integrate the cycle bike sheds with the bee network branding.

It was agreed that:

Lee Buggie, Public Health Specialist, Live Well & Healthy Place will liaise with colleagues from Transport for Greater Manchester regarding signage for Bike Sheds.

COUNCILLOR G STAPLES-JONES **Chair**

(Note: The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 7.10pm)

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Classification: Open	Item No.
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Meeting:	Bury Local Bee Network Forum
Meeting date:	12 th June 2025
Title of report:	Health and Transport
Report by:	Lee Buggie
Decision Type:	Report for information.
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Summary

To advise Bury's Bee Network Forum on the progress of delivering Bury Public Health's – LETS Get Bury Moving Framework's ambition around integrating physical activity into everyone's daily routines, thus local Bee Network infrastructure is pivotal in achieving the Chief Medical Officers activity levels for good health across the life course.

Evidence and local insight indicate that some of Bury's communities experience stark inequalities and that access to traditional sports facilities just isn't feasible given cost of living priorities around food, housing and warmth.

Bury Public Health and stakeholders are working closely with Early Years around physical development levels along with schools around National Childhood Measurement Programme outcomes at reception and year 6. There is significant work locally to engage those living well and the working / training and education population's nudging those contemplating active travel into commuting, utility and recreational travel options.

Presentation / Slides will cover:

- Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) completed around the LET'S Get Bury Moving Strategy
- Schools and education accreditation
- Business activation
- Ageing Walking Audits
- Activation

Recommendation

The Bee Network Forum is requested to note and comment on Delivering the Bee Network Update around infrastructure and activation for health and wellbeing across

active travel networks and ambitions moving forward around further links to walking, wheeling and cycling options.

Reasons for recommendation

For information and discussion.

Alternative options considered and rejected

N/A

Report Author and Contact Details:

Lee Buggie – Public Health Specialist – Live Well and Healthy Place

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Transport Update for Bury Council Local Bee Network Forum

April-June 2025

Strategic Activity

- Regional leaders went to Westminster to set out proposals for a new Liverpool-Manchester Railway that would deliver jobs, growth and regeneration across the North West, while offering a new, more effective model for building big projects: led locally, delivered faster, and designed around communities. A report published in May outlines the case for the new line, which would run from Liverpool Lime Street to Manchester Piccadilly, with stops at a new Liverpool Gateway station, Warrington Bank Quay and Manchester Airport. It estimates that construction of the railway could deliver a £15bn boost to the economy and create 22,000 jobs – and kickstart a £90bn economic transformation across the North. You can find out more and read the [full press release here](#).
- The Mayor of Greater Manchester has launched a new campaign - “Backing Our Taxis: Local. Licensed. Trusted.” - calling for new powers for Mayoral Combined Authorities to tackle ‘out of area’ licensing of taxis and private hire vehicles (PHVs). In Greater Manchester, nearly half (49%) of private hire vehicles are now licensed by authorities outside of its ten councils. Further information can be found in [the press release](#), as well as at the campaigns landing page (www.backingourtaxis.com).
- £1.3m of active travel funding has been allocated for the delivery of new and enhanced School Streets in Greater Manchester. The programme has had a strong response across the city-region so far, with all 10 Local Authorities requesting funding to deliver new schemes, with the number of schemes in operation set to increase from 37 to 60 in the next year. The full article can be [found here](#).
- In collaboration with GMCA, TfGM, the police and fire services, the UK’s three biggest food delivery companies - Deliveroo, Just Eat and Uber Eats – all signed the new Greater Manchester Food Delivery Charter to improve the safety and conditions of food deliveries in GM. The charter positively reinforces how couriers should always ride safely and legally – on roadworthy bikes – with delivery schedules that are realistic and do not incentivize them to break the law. Under the charter, couriers are also encouraged to report collisions involving injury to the police to help identify hotspots and reduce incidents. More information about the charter is available in [the press release](#).
- Greater Manchester has expanded its free bus travel initiative for care leavers, now including those aged 18 to 25, up from the previous limit of 21. This expansion aims to support care leavers in their transition to independence by offering free anytime bus travel within GM. Additionally, half-price off-peak day travel and weekend travel on Bee Network trams will be introduced later this year following feedback from care leavers. Read more in the [press release here](#).

- TfGM has published the most recent edition of our Inclusion & Equalities Annual Report, covering activity in 2023-2024. This year's report shows how we have delivered against our equality objectives, the progress we are making and what still needs to be done to ensure the Bee Network works for everyone. The link to all formats [is here](#).
- A Licence for Greater Manchester (LfGM) scheme has been launched to make becoming a Bee Network bus driver a more attractive and flexible career. This initiative, agreed upon by TfGM, bus operators, and Unite the Union, allows drivers to move between operators without starting at entry-level pay, recognising their years of experience. The scheme builds on previous efforts to improve terms and conditions, including the adoption of the Greater Manchester Good Employers Charter by operators. Read more in the [press release here](#).
- Following a ten-week consultation between November 2024 and January 2025, the Greater Manchester School Travel Strategy went to May's Bee Network Committee and GMCA meetings for endorsement and adoption. The Strategy outlines our vision of more young people choosing to walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or use public transport to get to school and access further education. To help achieve this, TfGM have proposed eight overarching activities;
 1. Create safe street around schools;
 2. Continue to deliver walking, wheeling and cycling infrastructure;
 3. Increase access to cycles and cycle storage;
 4. Support young people to become travel champions;
 5. Improve the customer experience on public transport;
 6. Make our network safe and secure;
 7. Create an integrated network; and
 8. Engage schools and community groups.

Network Updates

- Punctuality of the first buses to come under local control (Tranche 1) is now consistently above 80% (up from c.69% on the pre-franchised network). Reliability in Tranche 2 and Tranche 3 is also better than before franchising (both tranches consistently above 70% since the beginning of March), with work ongoing to improve performance across the whole network. The latest punctuality report (published weekly here) during the period 18-24 May shows the following:
 - Tranche 1 punctuality: 84.2%
 - Tranche 2 punctuality: 77.4%
- The launch of Contactless PayGo in Spring 2025 has been a huge step forward in how people can travel across our city-region, enabling contactless 'tap in' payments across buses and trams – making travel easier and guaranteeing passengers pay the lowest possible fare for their journey. Since its launch this payment method has already amassed over 5 million journeys.
- As part of the ongoing programme of proactive maintenance and renewal works across the Metrolink network there has been ongoing work on the Bury line to replace beams in the

Whitefield Tunnel. This has caused service disruption in May, but work will be completed by Monday 2 June.

- Work on the Metrolink network in Manchester City Centre will also mean that no services will be running between Bury and Picadilly or Piccadilly Gardens, services from Bury to Altrincham will continue to run via Market Street. These works will be taking place from Tuesday 3 June to Sunday 10 August.
- Aimed at delivering joined-up, reliable services, a programme of local bus network reviews continues. Network Reviews will explore how buses can better serve communities, making improvements that would not have been possible before franchising. Work on the Bury network progressed through initial engagement in late 2024, and we have now undertaken a detailed GM-wide connectivity assessment, identifying gaps and opportunities in the current provision. An overview of the assessment as well as a revised process for taking forward changes is due to be considered by the GM Bee Network Committee in June. Subject to approval, further engagement will follow later in 2025.

Wider local updates

- **Bury Interchange** – Ministerial approval for the OBC was received in March 2025, together with confirmation that the scheme has been de-retained. The planning application for the Phase 1 early enabling works package to create a new southern access to Metrolink was submitted to Bury Council on 2 April 2025 and has been validated. TfGM are continuing to develop the design for the main interchange in partnership with Bury Council and other stakeholders. The opportunity to include residential development alongside the interchange is in development in partnership with GMCA, with a RIBA 2 design and OBC shift statement ongoing. TfGM anticipate that a decision will be made in summer 2025.
- **Elton Reservoir New Stop** – TfGM are continuing development work on proposals for a new Metrolink stop, Travel Hub and Park & Ride, to be delivered as part of the strategic allocation for around 3500 homes and supporting infrastructure, identified in Places for Everyone. TfGM will continue to work with Bury Council, the site developers and other stakeholders to develop these proposals as part of the wider masterplan for the site.
- **Metrolink Stop Improvements Programme** – Heaton Park Phase 1 has now received “Programme Entry”, and the team will begin preparing a combined OBC/FBC and engagement with contractors. Additional work is required to refine the prioritisation for the wider stop improvements programme and secure funding.

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Classification: Open	Item No.
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Meeting:	Bury Local Bee Network Forum
Meeting date:	Thursday 12 th June 2025
Title of report:	Bee Network Quarterly Update
Report by:	Joanne Betts
Decision Type:	Report for information
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Summary

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) will present an update on progress in delivering the Bee Network, Greater Manchester's plan for a high-quality, affordable and fully integrated public transport and active travel system for the people and businesses of Greater Manchester.

Recommendation

The Local Bee Network Forum is requested to note and comment on the Bee Network quarterly update.

Reasons for recommendation

For information and discussion.

Alternative options considered and rejected

N/A

Report Author and Contact Details:

Joanne Betts j.betts@bury.gov.uk

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Classification: Open	Item No.
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Meeting:	Bury Local Bee Network Forum
Meeting date:	Thursday 12 th June 2025
Title of report:	Bury Interchange Redevelopment Phase 1
Report by:	Joanne Betts
Decision Type:	Report for information
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Summary

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) will present an update on the Bury Interchange redevelopment project, Phase 1: Metrolink Access & Platform Improvement Works.

The project will deliver a modern, integrated transport hub joining up bus, tram and active travel as part of the Bee Network with significantly improved passenger facilities.

The new interchange will form a key part of the Bee Network - Greater Manchester's joined-up transport network – with buses, trams and better walking, wheeling and cycling links all in one place.

It will also be a key component in Bury's Town Centre Masterplan, acting as a catalyst for regeneration in the area and providing an improved gateway to the town centre.

The focus of the presentation will be the Phase 1 proposals which include a new town centre footbridge that will span the Metrolink lines from Union Square to Pyramid Park, the bridge will serve as a second, new access to the tram platforms. Phase 1 also includes platform and canopy improvements.

Recommendation

The Bee Network Forum is requested to note the update on the Bury Interchange Phase 1 project.

Reasons for recommendation

For information.

Alternative options considered and rejected

N/A

Report Author and Contact Details:

Joanne Betts j.betts@bury.gov.uk

WORK PROGRAMME 2025-2026

25 TH SEPTEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UPDATED TOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE CO-OPT• GM2040 TRANSPORT STRATEGY CONSULTATION
4 TH DECEMBER
17 TH MARCH 2026

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAMME
- METROLINK STOPS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME
- PRESTWICH TRAVEL HUB
- SCHOOL TRAVEL

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