Lynne Ridsdale
Chief Executive

Our Ref	C/RE
Date	7 July 2026
Contact	Rachel Everitt
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TO: All Members of Council

Councillors : A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, A Chaudhry, P Davies, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, D Hill, J Hook, C Hunt, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Martin, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, J Roith, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman

Dear Member/Colleague

Council

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

Date:	Wednesday, 15 July 2026
Place:	Bury Town Hall
Time:	5.30 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 5 - 10)

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

There are no recommendations of Cabinet or Council Committees

7 CONSTITUTION REPORT UPDATE (Pages 11 - 28)

A report from the Monitoring Officer, Jacqui Dennis is attached.

8 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS REPORT (Pages 29 - 32)

A report from the Monitoring Officer, Jacqui Dennis is attached.

9 LEADER STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME (Pages 33 - 54)

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. (15 minutes)

10 QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES

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.

11 **NOTICES OF MOTION** (Pages 55 - 62)

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

13 **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).

Agenda Item 4

Minutes of:	**COUNCIL**
Date of Meeting:	20 May 2026
Present:	The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor N Bayley, in the Chair) Councillors A Arif, S Arif, N Bayley, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, A Chaudhry, P Davies, E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, D Hill, J Hook, C Hunt, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Martin, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, J Roith, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman
Apologies for Absence	D Duncalfe, U Farooq and A Quinn
Public attendance	3 members of the public attended Part 1 of the meeting.

C. 67 **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

All members present agreed this item should be deferred until Part 2 of the meeting.

C. 68 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Duncalfe, Farooq and A Quinn

C. 69 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

C. 70 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C. 71 **MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor as Bury’s first citizen updated Members of the Council on work undertaken since the last meeting.

C. 72 **ANNUAL CONSTITUTION UPDATE REPORT**

It was moved by Councillor E O’Brien, and seconded by Councillor L Smith and Council agreed to:

1. Approve the recommendation from the Licensing and Safety Committee dated 19th March 2026 that in the interest of public safety to delegate suspension and

revocation of licenses to the Deputy Licensing Officer (Appendix 1 – Report of Licensing and Safety Committee)
2. Approve the updated Corporate Core Scheme of Delegation
3. Approve the updated Probity in Planning guidance
4. Note the revised Member Safety guidance
5. Note the selections reviewed during the 2025/26 municipal year; and
6. Note the selections proposed for review during the 2026/27 municipal year.

C. 73 **ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT**

It was moved by Councillor D Vernon and seconded by Councillor E FitzGerald, and it was agreed, that Council:

Note the contents of the report and progress made by the Council's Scrutiny Committees over the municipal year 2025/26.

C. 74 **ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT**

It was moved by Councillor J Hook and seconded by Councillor S Thorpe, and it was agreed, that Council:

Note the contents of the report and progress made by the Council's Audit Committee over the municipal year 2025/26.

C. 75 **ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS 2026/2027**

It was moved by Councillor E O'Brien and Seconded by Councillor L Smith and Council agreed:

1. That the Strong Leader arrangements adopted by the Council in 2011/12, be confirmed for 2026/2027.
2. That the appointments of the Political Groups' Leaders and Deputy Leaders as set out in Appendix A to this report be received.
3. That the appointment of the Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members and Shadow Cabinet Members for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix B to this report be noted. Classification Open Item No.
4. That the appointment of the Regulatory Committees, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and other bodies covered by the Political Balance Rules, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix C to this report, be approved.
5. That the appointment of other bodies not covered by or exempted from the Political Balance Rules, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix D to the report, be approved.
6. That the appointments to the Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Joint Authorities for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year, as set out in Appendix E to the report, be approved.
7. That the appointments to the various other internal bodies, including the appointment of Chairs, where stated, for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year, set out in Appendix F to the report, be approved.
8. That the appointments to outside bodies for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year as set out in Appendix G to the report, be approved.
9. That the Member Allowance as agreed in 2025 be noted.
10. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leaders of the political groups on the Council, be authorised to determine any appointments to bodies which

remain to be filled and any changes in appointments or any new appointments to be made during the 2026/2027 Municipal Year and that any such appointments be reported to the Cabinet for information.

11. That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make consequential changes to the Constitution.

C. 76 **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL PART 2**

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Notes: Part 1 of the meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.00 pm

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Minutes of: **COUNCIL**

Date of Meeting: 20 May 2026

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor N Bayley, in the Chair)
Councillors A Arif, S Arif, C Birchmore, C Boles, A Booth, A Chaudhry, P Davies, E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, D Hill, J Hook, C Hunt, K Hussain, B Ibrahim, J Lancaster, G Martin, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, J Roith, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, S Shamim, J Sheppard, K Simpson, L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, D Vernon, M Walsh, Y Wright and S Zaman

Apologies for Absence D Duncalfe, U Farooq and A Quinn

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

C. 77 **PART TWO MAYOR MAKING**

Councillor Mike Smith moved that Councillor Mohammed Tahir Rafiq be elected to the office of Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2026/2027, with Mrs Manzoor Bibi and Ms Nisa Rafiq as Mayoresses.

Councillor Richard Gold seconded the nomination. Councillors Shahbaz Arif, Shaheena Haroon, and Dene Vernon spoke in support of the nomination. Councillor Noel Bayley, after calling for and not receiving any other nominations, declared the nomination carried and it was:

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Mohammed Tahir Rafiq be duly elected Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2026/2027, with Mrs Manzoor Bibi and Ms Nisa Rafiq as Mayoresses.

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

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING MAYOR AND CONSORT:

It was moved by Councillor Debra Green, seconded by Councillor Mike Smith and supported by Councillor Mike Smith and supported by Councillors Jo Lancaster and Khalid Hussain, and it was:

RESOLVED:

That this Council hereby expresses its thanks to Councillor Noel Bayley and Mrs Gill Campbell for the diligent manner in which they have undertaken the duties of Mayor and Mayoress of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury during the Municipal Year now ending and places on record its appreciation of their devotion and performance of the important duties attaching to their offices and that medallions be presented to them as tokens of appreciation of their services as Mayor and Mayoress.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR 2025/2026

It was moved by Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Carol Birchmore and supported by Councillors Dene Vernon and Ken Simpson and it was:-

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Mike Smith be appointed as Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury for the Municipal Year 2026/2027, with Mrs Gill Smith as Deputy Mayoress. The newly-elected Deputy Mayor then occupied the Chair, read and signed the Declaration required by the Local Government Act 1972 and thanked the Council for the honour conferred on him in electing him Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bury.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Notes: Part 2 of the meeting started at 4.00 pm and ended at 5.25 pm)

Agenda Item 7

Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	15th July 2026
Title of report:	Constitution Update Report
Report by:	The Monitoring Officer
Decision Type:	**Council**
Ward(s) to which report relates	**All**

Executive Summary:

The Council's constitution was reviewed and updated during the municipal year 2020/21. Members agreed that the Constitution should be reviewed annually to ensure that the changes were fit for purpose, the last annual update report was presented at the 20 May 2026 Council meeting. To ensure the constitution continues to operate as a living document Council is requested to adopt the following changes.

The report sets out the following updates and/or additions

1. Updated – Part 7 - cabinet portfolios, membership of committees and the council's management structure (Appendix A, B& C)
2. Updated – Part 3 Officer functions - Corporate Core scheme of delegation (Appendix D)

Recommendation(s)

That: Members of the Council are asked to note the updated Members appointments and accept the proposed amendments to Bury Council's Constitution as set out in the report:

Key considerations

The Constitution sets out how the Council operates; how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. The Council has a legal duty to publish an up-to-date Constitution and review regularly.

The proposal

The proposed revisions are set out in the appendices to this report.

Other alternative options considered

None, the proposal is put forward to Members to ensure the constitution is updated.

Community impact/links with Community Strategy

An up-to-date Constitution will ensure decision are taken lawfully and in an open and transparent manner.

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

> *A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -*
>
> (a) *eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
>
> (b) *advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
>
> (c) *foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Legal Implications:

Section 9P of the Local Government Act 2000 as amended sets out the duty of the Council to prepare and keep up to date its constitution as follows:

(1) A local authority must prepare and keep up to date a document (referred to in this section as its constitution) which contains a copy of the authority's standing orders for the time being, a copy of the authority's code of conduct (if any) for the time being under section 28 of the Localism Act 2011, such information as the Secretary of State may direct, and such other information (if any) as the authority considers appropriate.

A local authority must ensure that copies of their constitution are available at their principal office for inspection by members of the public at all reasonable hours.

A local authority must supply a copy of their constitution to any person who requests a copy and who pays to the authority such reasonable fee as the authority may determine. The Bury constitution is made available on our public website. It is for the Monitoring Officer to monitor and review the operation of the constitution on an ongoing basis and where necessary bring forward amendments to Council.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications arising from this report

Report Author and Contact Details:
Chloe Ashworth
Assistant Democratic Service Manager
C.Ashworth@bury.gov.uk

Background papers:

1. Membership of Committees (Appendix A)
2. Part 7, Section 41 – Cabinet Structure (Appendix B)
3. Part 7, Section 41 - Bury Council Senior Leadership Structure (Appendix C)
4. Part 3, Section 7 - Updated corporate core Scheme of Delegation (Appendix D)

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Cabinet Structure 2026 - 2027

Leader Without Portfolio	**Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations**	**Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Finance and Corporate Services**			**Cabinet Member for Housing**
Councillor Eamonn O'Brien	**Councillor Lucy Smith** Deputies: Cllr Staples Jones Cllr Jodie Hook	**Councillor Sean Thorpe** Deputy: Cllr Miriam Rahimov			**Councillor Ayesha Arif** Deputy: Cllr Debra Green
Leaders Office (Alexander Burchell)	**Operations (Richard Binks)**	**Finance (Neil Kissock)**	**Corporate Core (Kate Waterhouse)**	**Place (Paul Lakin)**	**Corporate Core (Kate Waterhouse)**
• Council Political Priorities • Cabinet development and Support • PFE allocations • Major Planning Applications • Strategic GMCA relations • Northern Gateway Board Member • Strategic Transport and TfGM lead Bury and Prestwich JV Boards	• Highways Management • Potholes • Gulleys • Maintenance • Traffic Management • Highway Development • Network Management • CRSTS Programme Development and Implementation • Street Scene and Waste Services • Green Spaces Maintenance Portfolio (Parks, Cemetries, Countryside, Landscape contracts) • Car Parking (site management and charging policy) • Trees • Fleet Management • Dropped kerb service • Parks Development (new income and volunteer relationships) • Schools Catering Service • Schools Cleaning Service	• Financial Strategy and planning inc MTFS • Budget governance, saving tracker • Financial management, assurance and reporting • DSG • Accounting inc Treasury Management, Pay Services (Creditor Payments/Accounts Receivable /Payroll) • Audit • Revenues and benefits processing • Council Tax and Business Rates • Insurance • Counter Fraud	• ICT • Corporate Complaints, FOI's & LGO • Information Governance inc GDPR and Data Protection • Legal and Democratic Services inc Monitoring, Registrars, Elections • HR/OD inc HR Traded Services & TU interface • Customer Contact inc PALS • Policy and Reform	• Facilities Management • Property Asset Management • Future of the Town Hall • Land Disposal Programmes • Commercial Property portfolio development	• Social housing management & regulator interface and Tenant engagement • Estates, property and asset management • Building control • Homelessness, rough sleeping and Asylum • Housing Strategy • Operations • Private Rented Sector Enforcement Team • Empty Homes strategy

	• Build commercial income model • Climate emergency	• Procurement & social Value • Risk Management	• Occupational health & safety		
Cabinet Member for Inclusion and Communities	**Cabinet member for Regeneration and Growth**	**Cabinet member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform**	**Cabinet Member for Culture Economy and Skills**		**Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**
Councillor Richard Gold Deputy: Cllr Imran Rizvi	**Councillor Charlotte Morris**	**Councillor Tamoor Tariq** Deputies: Cllr Charlotte Hunt Cllr Tom Pilkington	**Councillor Gavin McGill** Deputy: Cllr Micheal Rubenstein		**Councillor Sandra Walmsley** Deputy: Cllr Lynn Ryder
Corporate Core (Kate Waterhouse)	**Place (Rob Summerfield)**	**Health and Adult care (Will Blandamer)**	**Place (Sarah Porru)**	**Health and Adult Care (Will Blandamer)**	**Childrens (Jeanette Richards)**

• Equality & inclusion • Community Strategy leadership – LET'S do it • Resilience and Emergency Planning • Community Safety (Strategic and Operational) • Communication and Engagement • Community cohesion & interfaith including Faith Forum • Voluntary sector co-ordination including VCFA • Military Veterans • Strategic Partnerships including Team Bury • Community Grants • Anti-Poverty Strategy	• Prestwich Town Centre Regeneration • Radcliffe Town Centre Regeneration • Bury Town Centre Regeneration • Bury Interchange • Bradley Fold and larger owned development sites • GMCA Good Growth Fund • Delivery of Elton, Walshaw and Simister infrastructure	• Adult Social Care, including Intermediate Care, Operations, Commissioning, quality and safeguarding • Public Health, including Health Inequalities Strategy implementation • Public Health Commissioning of sexual health, 0-19 health services, substance misuse services and others • Operation of the Health and Well Being Board and oversight of delivery of 4 determinants of pop health including w ider determinants, lifestyle factors,, community connectedness and public services • Wellness Services including live w ell • Council Contribution to the effective operation of the Bury Health and Care partnership, including oversight of primary care, mental health, urgent care, • Public Service reform including the neighbourhood model in health and care, w ider public service reform/ • Live Well implementation in Bury • Support to NHS contribution to w ider council priorities including e.g Childrens Improvement, SEND etc • Representing Bury on the NHS GM ICP	• Town Plans for Whitefield and Ramsbottom • Business Relationships • Bury Business Leadership Group • Inward Investment (MIDAS link) • Place Marketing (Marketing Manchester link) • Social Value in contracts • Worklessness and in Work Skills • 18-25 year old inactivity • Targeted recruitment • Town Centre vibrancy • UK shared prosperity funding • Bury BID • Visitor economy development • East Lancs Rail commercial development	• Arts and Museums • Libraries and Archives • Leisure	• Corporate Parenting • Youth and connexions • Early help • Children's social care • MASH • Children's safeguarding including Family Safeguarding • Fostering and adoption including Mockingbird model • Early years and school readiness • Emergency Duty team (EDT) • Youth offending team • Complex safeguarding • Children's Caldicott Guardian Service • Children and Young people in care • SEN team • Education welfare and Children's psychology • School academies and colleges • School crossing patrols • Supporting Families

Section 2 – Membership of Committees

Mayor of Council – Councillor Mohammed Tahir Rafiq
Deputy Mayor of Council – Councillor Mike Smith

Position	**Appointees**
Leader	Cllr Eamonn O'Brien
Deputy Leader, Environment, Climate Change and Operations	Cllr Lucy Smith
Deputy Leader, Finance and Corporate Services	Cllr Sean Thorpe
Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform	Cllr Tamoor Tariq
Communities and Inclusion	Cllr Richard Gold
Regeneration and Growth	Cllr Charlotte Morris
Culture, Economy and Skills	Cllr Gavin McGill
Housing Services	Cllr Ayesha Arif
Children and Young People	Cllr Sandra Walmsley

Deputy Cabinet Member Position	**Appointees**
Environment, Climate Change and Operations	Cllr Gareth Staples Jones Cllr Jodie Hook
Finance and Corporate Services	Cllr Miriam Rahimov
Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform	Cllr Charlotte Hunt Cllr Tom Pilkington
Communities and Inclusion	Cllr Imran Rizvi
Culture, Economy and Skills	Cllr Michael Rubinstein
Housing Services	Cllr Debra Green
Children and Young People	Cllr Lynn Ryder

Overview and Scrutiny (11)
Cllr Carol Birchmore (RF)
Cllr John Southworth (Lab)
Cllr Miriam Rahimov (Lab)
Cllr Tom Pilkington (Lab)
Cllr Lynn Ryder (Lab)
Cllr Adnan Chaudhry (Lab)
Cllr Noel Bayley (Lab)
Cllr Shaheena Haroon (Lab)
Cllr Judi Sheppard (RF)
Cllr Jack Rydeheard (Chair) (Reform)
Cllr Jerome Roith (Reform)

Health Scrutiny Committee (11)
Cllr Elizabeth Fitzgerald (Chair) (Lab)
Cllr Shaheena Haroon (Lab)
Cllr Ciaron Boles (Lab)
Cllr Lynn Ryder (Lab)
Cllr Michael Rubinstein (Lab)

Cllr Debra Green (Lab)
Cllr Julie Southworth (Lab)
Cllr Des Duncalfe (RF)
Cllr Ken Simpson (RF)
Cllr Dr Shadman Zaman (Reform)
Cllr George Martin (Reform)

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee (11)
Cllr Ciaron Boles (Chair) (Lab)
Cllr Ummrana Farooq (Lab)
Cllr Shaheena Haroon (Lab)
Cllr Elizabeth FitzGerald (Lab)
Cllr Charlotte Hunt (Lab)
Cllr John Southworth (Lab)
Cllr Julie Southworth (Lab)
Cllr Judi Sheppard (RF)
Cllr Des Duncalfe (RF)
Cllr George Martin (Reform)
Cllr Paul Davies (Reform)

Licensing and Safety Committee (11)
<u>Cllr Babar Ibrahim (Chair) (Lab)</u>
Cllr Imran Rizvi (Lab)
Cllr Debbie Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Debra Green (Lab)
Cllr Jodie Hook (Lab)
Cllr Alan Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Martin Hayes (Lab)
Cllr Mary Walsh (RF)
Cllr Ken Simpson (RF)
Cllr Jack Rydeheard (Reform)
Cllr David Hill (Reform)

Planning Control Committee (11)
<u>Cllr Gareth Staples Jones (Chair) (Lab)</u>
Cllr Martin Hayes (Lab)
Cllr Ciaron Boles (Lab)
Cllr Debbie Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Michael Rubinstein (Lab)
Cllr Ummrana Farooq (Lab)
Cllr Babar Ibrahim (Lab)
Cllr Des Duncalfe (RF)
Cllr Mary Walsh (RF)
Cllr Jerome Roith (Reform)
Cllr David Hill (Reform)

Audit Committee (9)
<u>Cllr Jodie Hook (Chair) (Lab)</u>
Cllr Michael Rubinstein (Lab)
Cllr Debra Green (Lab)

Cllr Adnan Chaudhry (Lab)
Cllr Noel Bayley (Lab)
Cllr Imran Rizvi (Lab)
Cllr Mike Smith (RF)
Cllr David Hill (Reform)
Cllr Iain Gartside (Con)

Employment Panel (9)
Cllr Sean Thorpe (Chair) (Lab)
Cllr Debra Green (Lab)
Cllr Tamoor Tariq (Lab)
Cllr Lucy Smith (Lab)
Cllr Ayesha Arif (Lab)
Cllr Alan Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Mary Walsh (RF)
Cllr David Hill (Reform)
Cllr Khalid Hussain (Con)

Standards Committee (9)
Cllr Martin Hayes (Lab)
Cllr Tahir Rafiq (Lab)
Cllr Miriam Rahimov (Lab)
Cllr Debbie Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Jodie Hook (Lab)
Cllr Sean Thorpe (Lab)
Cllr Mike Smith (RF)

Cllr David Hill (Reform)
Cllr Shahbaz Arif (Con)

Health and Wellbeing Board
Cllr Tamoor Tariq (Chair) (Lab)
Cllr Lucy Smith (Lab)
Cllr Ayesha Arif (Lab)
Cllr Tom Pilkington (Lab)
Cllr Charlotte Hunt (Lab)
Cllr Carol Birchmore (Rad First)
Cllr Ken Simpson (Rad First)
Cllr Sandra Walmsley (Lab)

Cllr Lynn Ryder (Lab)
Cllr Elizabeth Fitzgerald (Lab)

Core Voting Members:
A nominated representative from the Voluntary Sector
Executive Director of Children Young People and Culture
Executive Director (Health and Adult Care)
Director of Community Commissioning across the Council and CCG and Director of Adult Social Services
Director of Public Health

Two nominated representatives from the GP Clinical Commissioning Group
A nominated representative from the Local Healthwatch
A nominated representative from Greater Manchester Police
A nominated representative of Greater Manchester Fire Service
A nominated representative from Northern Care Alliance
A representative of the LCO
A nominated representative from Pennine Acute NHS Trust
A nominated representative from Pennine Care Foundation Trust
A nominated representative from Housing

Corporate Parenting Board (11)
Cllr Lucy Smith (Co-Chair) (Lab)
Cllr Debbie Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Sean Thorpe (Lab)
Cllr Eamonn O'Brien (Lab)
Cllr Lynn Ryder (Lab)
Cllr Julie Southworth (Lab)
Cllr Charlotte Hunt (Lab)
Cllr Sandra Walmsley (Lab)
Cllr Mike Smith (RF)
Cllr Ken Simpson (RF)
Cllr George Martin (Reform)
Cllr Jack Rydeheard (Reform)

Locality Board (3)
The voting members reflect senior clinical, political, managerial, and NHS non-executive and executive leadership from across the Bury Integrated Care 12 Partnership. The voting rights for each decision will be dependent on the budget under discussion.

Voting Members
Leader of the Council - Councillor E O'Brien
Executive Member of the Council for Health and Wellbeing
Executive Member of the Council for Children and Young People
Executive Director NHS GMIC
Senior Clinical Leader in the Borough, Bury Locality
Senior Nurse Lead for the Borough, Bury Locality
Chief Executive & Place Based Lead, Bury Council & Bury Locality
Associate Director of Finance – Bury, Bury Locality
S151 Officer
Medical Director, NCA
Medical Director , IDCB
Chief Officer or nominated Exec, NCA
Chief Office or nominated Exec, Pennine Care
Foundation Trust
Chief Office or nominated Exec, Manchester Foundation Trust Chief Officer, Bury VCFA
Executive Director of Health and Care & Deputy Place Based Lead, Bury Council & Bury Locality
Bury Care Organisation Chief Officer, NCA

Director of Childrens Services, Bury Council
Director of Public Health, Bury Council
Director of Adult Social Services, Bury Council

Non-Voting Members
Chief Operating Officer, IDCB
Representative from Bury Hospice
Chair, Bury Healthwatch
Director of Finance, NCA
Representative from the Primary Care Network (Lead)
Opposition Leader, Radcliffe First* - Cllr Carol Birchmore
Opposition Leader, Reform* - Cllr Jack Rydeheard

*if the party holds 5 or more seats

Youth Cabinet (9)
Cllr Shaheena Haroon (Lab)
Cllr Debra Green (Lab)
Cllr Lynn Ryder (Lab)
Cllr Sandra Walmsley (Lab)
Cllr Mike Smith (RF)
Cllr Des Duncalfe (RF)
Cllr George Martin (Reform)

Joint Consultative Committee – Teachers (8)
Cllr Lucy Smith (Lab)
Cllr Lynn Ryder (Lab)
Cllr Gavin McGill (Lab)
Cllr Tamoor Tariq (Lab)
Cllr Des Duncalfe (RF)
Cllr Judi Sheppard (RF)
Cllr Dr Shadman Zaman (Reform)
Cllr Paul Davies (Reform)

Joint Consultative Committee Health and Safety
Cllr Sean Thorpe (Lab)
Cllr Martin Hayes (Lab)
Cllr Carol Birchmore (RF)
Cllr Dr Shadman Zaman (Reform)

Corporate Joint Consultative Committee
Cllr Sean Thorpe (Lab)
Cllr Alan Quinn (Lab)
Cllr Eamonn O'Brien (Lab)
Cllr Martin Hayes (Lab)
Cllr Babar Ibrahim (Lab)
Cllr Miriam Rahimov (Lab)
Cllr Carol Birchmore (RF)
Cllr Ken Simpson (RF)

Appointment of Shadow Cabinet

Position	Appointees
Leader, Regeneration and Growth	Cllr Carol Birchmore
Deputy Leader, Communities and Inclusion	Cllr Des Duncalfe
Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform	Cllr Ken Simpson
Children and Young People	Cllr Judi Sheppard
Environment, Climate Change and Operations	Cllr Des Duncalfe
Finance and Corporate Services	Cllr Mike Smith
Culture, Economy and Skills	Cllr Judi Sheppard
Housing Services	Cllr Mary Walsh

Bury Council Senior Leadership Structure

The structure chart below includes members of the Bury Council Executive Team (the Chief Executive and their direct reports) and the Council Senior Leadership Group. The data reflects the Council structure as of February 2024.

All posts can be contacted via the Council main switchboard on 0161 253 5000 and at Bury Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0SW.

Accessible organisational chart:

The following people report to Lynne Ridsdale, Chief Executive and Place Based Lead. This post posts operate jointly ac ross the Council and NHS Greater Manchester (Bury):

- **Jeanette Richards, Executive Director (Children & Young People)**
  - Ben Dunne, Director of Education & Skills
  - Linda Evans, Director of Social Care & Early Help
  - Robert Arrowsmith, Head of Strategy, Assurance & Reform
- **Will Blandamer, Executive Director (Health & Adult Care) & Deputy Place Based Lead. This post posts operate jointly across the Council and NHS Greater Manchester (Bury)**
  - Adrian Crook, Director of Community Commissioning (DASS) . This post posts operate jointly across the Council and NHS Greater Manchester (Bury) and also reports to the Chief Executive.
  - Jon Hobday, Director of Community Health & Protection. This post posts operate jointly across the Council and NHS Greater Manchester (Bury) and also reports to the Chief Executive.
- **Paul Lakin, Executive Director (Place)**

- Richard Binks, Assistant Directo Place Operations
- Robert Summerfield, Director of Regeneration & Project Delivery
- Sarah Porru, Assistant Director Regeneration & Capital Growth
- Crispian Logue, Assistant Director Strategy, Planning & Regulations

- **Kate Waterhouse, Executive Director Strategy & Transformation**
  - Joanne Hatton, Head of Adult Learning
  - Bridget Aherne, Assistant Director of Communications
  - Neil Kissock, Director of Finance
  - Sian Grant, Director of Housing Operations
  - Jacqui Dennis, Director of Law & Democratic Services
  - Tim Normanton, Interim AD People, Inclusion & Culture
  - Vacant, Digital, Data & Technology
  - Ben Thomson, Assistant Director of Public Protection & Resilience
  - Chris Woodhouse, Strategic Partnership Manager
- **Jacqui Dennis, Director of Law & Governance. This post reports directly to the Chief Executive however their services are within the Corporate Core under the Executive Director (Strategy & Transformation).**
- **Neil Kissock, Director Finance. This post reports directly to the Chief Executive however their services are within the Corporate Core under the Executive Director (Strategy & Transformation).**

Fraud, Audit, Insurance and Risk

Fraud prevention, investigation and prosecution

	What function power is	Who may carry it out	Any Constraints/comments	Decision(E/C/O)
1.	To act on behalf of the council in respect of the legislation (as amended) specified below: -Bribery Act 2010 -Computer Misuse Act 1990 -Council Tax Reduction Scheme (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement) Regulations 2013 -Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981 -Fraud Act 2006 -Identity Documents Act 2010 -Local Government Finance Act 1992 -Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013 -Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 -Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 -Social Security Administration Act 1992 -Theft Act 1968 - The Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970	• Director of Finance • Head of F.A.I.R • Counter Fraud Team Officers	-To act as necessary within statutory powers to prevent, investigate, enforce and prosecute offences under the legislation listed including but not limited to any perceived fraud against the Council. -All officers are authorised to administer cautions and appear in any proceedings before a court in relation to the legislation listed -All officers can also issue written warnings and fixed penalty notices - Director of Finance to provide the written authorisations for officers as may be required under the various pieces of legislation listed	C

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Bury Council

Classification:	Decision Type:
Open	Non-Key

Report to:	Council – 15/07/26	**Date:** 15 July 2026
Subject:	Appointments Update	
Report of	Deputy Leader, Cabinet Member Finance and Corporate Services	

Summary

This report sets out amendments to the appointments made at the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 20th May 2026. Cabinet were advised of these changes at their meting

Recommendation(s)

That: Council notes the appointments and amendments to appointments made since the Annual Meeting of Council as set out at paragraph 2.

Reasons for recommendation(s)

N/A

Alternative options considered and rejected

N/A

Report Author and Contact Details:

Name: Chloe Ashworth
Position: Assistant Democratic Services Manager
E-mail: C.Ashworth@bury.gov.uk

Background

1. At the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 20th May 2026 the Council resolved, in respect of the various appointments made at that meeting, that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leaders of the political groups on the Council, be authorised to determine any appointments to bodies which remain to be filled and any changes in appointments or any new appointments to be made during the 2026/2027 Municipal Year and that any such appointments be reported to the Cabinet for information.

2. Following the Moorside by-election held on the 18th June 2026 the political composition of the Council is as follows:

Council (51 Seats) = 100%

Groups:

- Labour: 31 = 60.78%
- Radcliffe First: 6 = 11.76%
- Reform UK: 6 = 11.76%
- Conservative: 3 = 5.88%
- Together for Bury: 2 = 3.92%

Non Groups on the Council

- Workers Party of Britain: 1= 1.96%
- Independent AB: 1 = 1.96%
- Independent YW: 1 = 1.96%

3. Since that meeting and the by-election, the following appointments and amendments to appointments have been made:-

Appointment of the Cabinet:

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Councillor S Walmsley

Appointment of the Deputy Cabinet:

Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Councillor L Ryder

Deputy Cabinet Member for Housing Services –

The removal of Councillor E FitzGerald

The addition of Councillor D Green

Committees:

Cabinet – the addition of Councillor S Walmsley

Health and Wellbeing Board – the addition of Councillor S Walmsley and Councillor K Simpson

Locality Board – the addition of Councillor S Walmsley

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – appointment of Councillor J Rydeheard as Chair

Outside Bodies:

LGA General Assembly:

The addition of Councillor S Thorpe

The removal of Councillors J Rydeheard, D Vernon and S Arif

GM Children's Board – Councillor S Walmsley

Internal Bodies:

Corporate Parenting Board - the addition of Councillor S Walmsley

JCC with Teachers – the addition of Councillor S Walmsley

Youth Cabinet –

The removal of Councillor L Smith

The addition of Councillor S Walmsley

Links with the Corporate Priorities:

N/A

Equality Impact and Considerations:

N/A

Environmental Impact and Considerations:

N/A

Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
N/A	

Legal Implications:

Any changes in appointments subsequent to the Annual Council meeting are authorised to be determined by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leaders of the political groups on the Council. These are reported to the Cabinet for information.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications.

Appendices:

None.

Background papers:

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

Term	Meaning

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2026

HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT-CONSULTATION DRAFT

1. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the draft Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD provides assessment criteria for planning applications relating to hot food takeaways, including:
   - Restrictions on new takeaways within 400m of secondary schools;
   - Refusal of applications in LSOAs where Year 6 obesity exceeds 25% and more than 5 takeaways already exist;
   - A cap of no more than two consecutive takeaways in any frontage;
   - Requirements for Health Impact Assessments, waste management, noise, odour and amenity protection.
   - Consultation will run for 6 weeks commencing January 2026.
2. Councillor Mike Smith sought assurance what this supplementary planning document would mean for areas that already contain five or more hot food takeaways in an area would mean. The Leader confirmed the document is not retrospective but allows us to empower the Planning Committee to reject change of uses and new builds of hot food takeaways.
3. Members of Cabinet wished to publicly acknowledge a link to public health and planning and highlighted links to childhood obesity and wider health inequalities.
4. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT CHAMBERHALL BUSINESS PARK

5. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report seeking approval for the disposal of two plots of land at Chamberhall Business Park to Crown Gas & Power Ltd. The proposals would enable the development of plot 1, a 40,000 sq ft headquarters office building and plot 2, a 25,000 sq ft industrial scheme.
6. The Cabinet was advised that the development would deliver significant economic benefits, including:
   - The creation of approximately 250 new jobs;
   - £310,000 per annum in business rates;
   - An estimated £8 million GVA per year;
   - Increased town centre expenditure of around £560,000.
7. It was noted that the disposal constituted a subsidy under the Subsidy Control Act 2022, but the decision was justified given the substantial economic and social benefits.
8. Councillor M. Smith queried whether the proposed jobs represented new employment opportunities or relocations from existing sites. In response, the Leader confirmed that the majority would be additional jobs, reflecting company growth and including construction related employment. The development would offer a mix of office and industrial roles, many of which could be matched to local jobseekers, contributing positively to the borough’s employment market.

9. Councillor R. Bernstein welcomed the proposals, stating that the development represented excellent news for Bury, and confirmed his support.
10. Councillor S. Arif expressed support for the decision and thanked officers for the detailed briefing provided prior to the meeting.
11. Members recognised that the proposals were the result of months of work and represented a strategic opportunity to support the continued growth of the borough. The development was regarded as a positive step aligned with long term economic ambitions for Bury.
12. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME 2026

13. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented the updated Council Tax Support Scheme for implementation from April 2026. Members were advised that, following public consultation, the preferred model had been refined to:
    - Simplify the assessment process;
    - Enhance support for low income working households;
    - Maintain cost neutrality for the Council.
14. The Cabinet noted that the revised scheme was designed to be more accessible, reduce administrative complexity, and support residents in financial hardship more effectively.
15. Councillor R. Bernstein asked for clarification on the level of consultation undertaken, specifically what had been done differently compared to previous exercises. In response, the Deputy Leader explained that the Council had invested in improved digital engagement tools, including the ability to send targeted text messages, which significantly increased reach. This was supplemented by a comprehensive consultation methodology, incorporating online engagement, face to face sessions, and other forms of direct communication to ensure a broad range of resident input. The approach represented a substantial enhancement on previous consultation processes.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

2025-26 Q2 FINANCE POSITION

17. Cabinet considered the Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring Report presented by Councillor Thorpe, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation which provided an update on the Council's financial position for 2024/25. During the discussion, Cabinet noted a forecast revenue overspend of £5.861 million for the financial year. It was reported that 82% of planned savings had either been delivered or were on track, and plans were in place to address the remaining savings gap. Cabinet further noted that the capital programme had been reprofiled to a total of £124.561 million, reflecting updated delivery timescales. In addition, the Collection Fund was forecasting a surplus of £1.186 million.
18. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PROCUREMENT FUTURE OPERATING MODEL BUSINESS CASE

12. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented a report setting out the Business Case for the establishment of a Central Procurement Hub as part of the Council's Procurement Transformation Programme. Cabinet was informed that the Council currently manages around £200 million of annual third party spend, but existing procurement arrangements are fragmented, reactive, and expose the organisation to significant financial, legal and operational risk.
13. The Business Case identified that procurement capacity is severely under resourced, operating with fewer than 3 FTEs, compared with 10–15 WTE typically seen in comparable local authority and NHS organisations. Baseline assessments and stakeholder feedback highlighted substantial weaknesses in contract management, limited use of digital systems, compliance gaps, and the absence of a strategic approach to category planning and spend analysis.
14. To address these issues, the proposed operating model establishes a centralised procurement team aligned to the Council's four directorates, supported by modern digital systems such as Unit4 and ScanMarket. The Programme would deliver strengthened governance, improve visibility and control over expenditure, ensure compliance with the Procurement Act 2023, and increase the Council's ability to negotiate and manage contracts effectively.
15. It was forecast that the Programme would deliver gross savings increasing to £3m by Year 5, generating £10m cumulative efficiencies and an estimated £7.6m net financial benefit over five years. Additional benefits included strengthened compliance, improved organisational assurance, enhanced digital capability, cultural improvements to commercial practice, and readiness for future statutory reporting requirements.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PROCUREMENT FOR HIGHWAYS FRAMEWORK UNDER THE PROCUREMENT ACT 2023

17. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations presented a report seeking approval to proceed with the re procurement of the Council's Highways Framework in accordance with the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023.
18. Cabinet was advised that the existing Highways Framework has successfully supported the delivery of a broad range of highways services, including minor civils works and highway structures, and has enabled both planned and reactive works to be delivered efficiently using established suppliers. The new framework would expand its scope to include additional Lots covering all highways related disciplines, with multiple suppliers appointed per Lot to ensure service continuity. It would also place a stronger emphasis on social value outcomes and SME participation.
19. The framework is projected to represent an estimated £60 million of spend over its term, although actual expenditure will depend on the availability of budgets, capital investment programmes and any additional funding secured. A Planned

Procurement Notice was issued in December 2025 to alert the market in advance of the tender. The procurement process is scheduled to conclude in June–July 2026, after which a further report will be presented to Cabinet with an Award Report providing full audit assurance before contracts are let.

20. Cabinet noted that the re procurement exercise is required to ensure compliance with statutory duties under both the Procurement Act 2023 and the Highways Act 1980, and to avoid risks to service continuity. The alternative option of utilising external frameworks was rejected due to the typical application of management fees of around 1%, which would equate to an estimated £600,000 over the projected framework value.
21. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

HIGHWAY ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

22. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations presented a report seeking approval of the Highway Asset Management Plan (HAMP) as a developing policy document. Cabinet was informed that the Government has announced that 25% of the £500m UK Local Highway Maintenance Fund for 2025/26 is contingent on authorities demonstrating adoption of best practice asset management, supported by the publication of a local highway maintenance transparency report.
23. Members were advised that Bury's highway assets, valued at approximately £1.2 billion, represent the Council's most valuable infrastructure and require a structured, evidence based approach to maintenance to ensure that investment is targeted efficiently and effectively. The HAMP formalises this approach and sets out the Council's framework for preventative, planned, and reactive maintenance, drawing on national codes of practice and data driven assessment techniques.
24. The report highlighted the importance of maintaining an appropriate balance of structural, preventative, and reactive maintenance to remain eligible for incentive based funding. Cabinet noted that the Council has already submitted the required transparency information to the Department for Transport and continues to embed asset management principles into operational practice.
25. The accompanying Appendix detailed the methodology, financial context, lifecycle planning, and operational practices that underpin the HAMP, including the valuation and composition of the network, the use of UKPMS accredited surveys, SCRIM testing, footway condition surveys, and structured inspection regimes for lighting, structures, drainage and soft landscape assets.
26. It was noted that failure to approve the HAMP could jeopardise eligibility for future incentive based capital funding, while approval would strengthen compliance with statutory duties under the Highways Act 1980 and support financial sustainability.
27. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

EXTRA CARE HOUSING STRATEGY 2026 TO 2036

28. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report seeking approval of the Extra Care Housing Strategy 2026–2036, which sets

out the Council's long-term approach to expanding, improving and governing extra care housing provision across the borough.

29. Members were advised that extra care housing provides self-contained accommodation with onsite support and care services designed to promote independence, wellbeing and ageing in place. The strategy responds to increasing demand linked to Bury's ageing population and the consistent preference of older residents to remain in their own homes or in more appropriate housing rather than enter residential care.
30. The Cabinet was informed that the Strategy has been developed following extensive research and consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including older people's groups, housing providers, health and care partners, the voluntary sector, local councillors and the public. A four-week consultation was undertaken between 27 October and 21 November 2025. The Strategy aligns with key corporate and strategic documents including the Let's Do It 2030 Strategy, the Housing Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Market Position Statement.
31. The Strategy identifies ten commissioning priorities for the next decade, including: improving engagement with communities; ensuring inclusive and accessible services; strengthening the quality of existing schemes; aligning allocations with wider housing policy; establishing an extra care waiting list; raising public awareness; undertaking cost-benefit analysis; co-producing Extra Care Housing Standards; developing up to five new extra care schemes by 2035; and ensuring future sheltered housing review aligns with extra care development.
32. Current supply includes 169 units across three Council-owned schemes (Falcon & Griffin, Redbank and Peachment Place). Analysis of the housing register, JSNA data and market intelligence demonstrates that demand significantly exceeds current provision, with projected need for up to 330 units by 2035. The Council expects to work closely with registered housing providers to bring forward new schemes, ensuring provision is developed across at least two of Prestwich, Whitefield, Tottington and Ramsbottom, and that design meets HAPPI standards, digital infrastructure requirements and supports future care needs.
33. Cabinet noted that implementation will be overseen by the Extra Care Housing Delivery Group, with bi-annual highlight reporting to key governance groups including Adult Social Care SLT, Housing SLT, Housing Growth Group and the Ageing Well Partnership Board. No immediate legal or financial implications arise directly from approval of the Strategy, though specific projects will require further assessments.
34. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SIX TOWN HOUSING LTD AND BURY HOUSING SERVICES SLA

20. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report outlining the requirement to extend the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between Bury Council and Six Town Housing Ltd (STH) for a further 12 months, covering the period 1 February 2026 to 31 January 2027. Members were reminded that following the cessation of STH's role as the Council's ALMO in February 2024, STH continued as a wholly owned subsidiary and Private Registered Provider of Social Housing, responsible for its remaining housing stock. STH now owns and leases 115 social housing homes, reduced from 149 following the end of the Mosscare St Vincent lease and hand back of 34 properties.

21. The Cabinet was advised that STH no longer employs staff and is managed solely by its Board. It is therefore wholly reliant on the Council for operational support. The existing SLA, agreed in July 2024, enables Bury Housing Services to deliver all landlord functions on STH's behalf, ensuring compliance with statutory and regulatory duties. The SLA expires on 31 January 2026, and an extension is required to ensure stability and continuity of services for tenants while the longer term dissolution of STH is progressed—an 18 month process initiated following Cabinet approval in September 2025.
22. Members noted that the extension includes updated charging arrangements reflecting the reduced stock numbers and the 3.4% corporate salary uplift applied to Council staff delivering the services. The annual block charge for 2025/26 was £100,850, with additional spot charges approved by the STH Chair as needed. The charging formula will be reviewed to ensure ongoing accuracy and proportionality.
23. The report also emphasised that the SLA forms part of the required regulatory assurance framework, with the Operational Plans and SLA potentially subject to review by the Regulator of Social Housing. The arrangement supports the Council's priorities by ensuring safe, compliant homes for local residents and facilitating continuity in housing management during organisational transition.
24. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

YOUTH JUSTICE BUSINESS PLAN 2025 - 2026

25. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented the Youth Justice Business Plan for 2025–2026, highlighting that the requirement for an annual plan is set out in Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which places a statutory duty on local authorities to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan in consultation with key partners. The Business Plan has been approved by the Youth Justice Partnership Management Board and the Youth Justice Board, and must be formally approved by Full Council under Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000.
26. Cabinet noted the context of Bury and Rochdale's joint Youth Justice Service, which was amalgamated in 2014 and is overseen by a shared partnership board. The plan sets out the service's vision, priorities, governance arrangements, performance, risks and operational developments for the coming year. Key issues for Cabinet to note include the need for a dedicated Bury town centre base, higher numbers of children in care and those with SEND/EHCPs in the Bury cohort, and continuing concerns about disproportionality among some ethnic groups.
27. Performance information within the plan highlights positive trends in first time entrants, which have reduced from 113 to 102, and reoffending and custody rates which remain below regional and Greater Manchester averages. However, the plan also identifies emerging challenges relating to serious youth violence, rising complexity of children's needs, differential access to specialist resources between Bury and Rochdale, and inconsistent attendance at the Partnership Board. Sub groups focusing on Prevention and Diversion, Education, Training and Employment, and Serious Violence have been established to strengthen governance and oversight.

28. The Plan sets out six priority areas for 2025/26, aligned with inspection expectations:
    - Governance & Leadership
    - Prevention and Diversion
    - Remand, Custody and Resettlement
    - Victims and Restorative Justice
    - Serious Violence and Harmful Sexual Behaviour
    - Quality Assurance and Workforce Development
29. Cabinet was informed that the Youth Justice Plan also links strongly with Bury's corporate priorities, including early intervention, improving life chances, reducing offending, and strengthening neighbourhood-level delivery. A comprehensive Equality Impact Analysis accompanies the plan and identifies mitigations to support inclusive delivery.
30. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2026

ANNUAL HRA BUDGET 2026/27 & RENT SETTING

35. The Cabinet member for Finance and Transformation presented the report to members. The report highlights the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Investment Plan Programme for 2026-27, including the proposed increases in rents, garage rents, service charges and any other relevant charges within the HRA for 2026/27 Councillor Vernon advised members that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee did scrutinise the budget at their meeting on 10 February 2026, and thanked the Director of Finance and staff for the work they had undertaken.
36. Councillor Mike Smith queried rent convergence and whether there is an aim to close the gap between affordable and social rent?
37. Neil Kissock, Director of Finance advised that there has been a consultation around it however there has been a delay in being able to implement it.
38. Councillor Mike Smith also sought assurance around the debt peaking on HRA, and whether this was a doomsday scenario.
39. Neil Kissock, Director of Finance responded that this is worst case scenario and work will be completed over the next few years around this.
40. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

THE COUNCIL'S 2026/27 REVENUE BUDGET AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) FOR 2027/28 THROUGH TO 2028/29

41. The Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report that sets out key elements of budget proposals. It makes available the latest financial information that will underpin the budget and MTFS and

- Proposes a legal budget that demonstrates we are making strides to reduce funding gaps and reliance on reserves
- Enables us to continue to deliver key strategic objectives
- Continues the work to support our continuing financial sustainability

42. Councillor Bernstein thanked the Finance Director and Councillor Thorpe for the briefings over the last few months around the budget. He sought reassurance whether Q3 was likely to increase the need to go into reserves and how challenging it would be to some of the political issues. He questioned whether there would be an argument that if we had chosen to do something about the real living wage, the call on reserves would be significantly less.
43. Councillor Thorpe responded that participating in real living wage is the morally right thing to do. Whilst these are some of the least paid people in our economy, we rely on them heavily for some important work. If we lost these staff wouldn't be able to look after some of the most vulnerable residents in the Borough. Councillor Thorpe assured Councillor Bernstein that nothing is off the table, and we will consider all the options.
44. Councillor Mike Smith queried whether the efficiencies being looked at were a short term fix. Is it more realistic that a whole rethink needs to be had about how councils are financed?
45. Councillor Thorpe responded that around 70% of the council's budget goes on statutory services in adult and children's social care. Demand is not abating and unlikely to do so at any point in the future. Plan over next few years is to review services to ensure they are more efficient. There is a case for reforming the system and the government have already reviewed the settlement provided for councils. Government yesterday announced additional funding for SEND for all Local Authorities.
46. Councillor Mike Smith queried the increase in income around EV cross pavement charges and what they are?
47. Councillor Thorpe advised that this was essentially setting a channel in pavements. It is being trialled in councils across both Manchester and nationally.
48. Councillor O'Brien confirmed that options are being explored and we will wait to see the outcomes of these trials.
49. Councillor Bernstein questioned the overspend in Q2 and whether this was likely to increase or reduce?
50. Councillor Thorpe confirmed that pressures aren't abating. Neil Kissock, Director of Finance confirmed we are not in a position to discuss Q3 at the present time. An update will be provided to the March cabinet meeting.
51. Councillor Bernstein observed that there had been lots of debate about housing developments and when we look at council tax income, it is significantly less than all other Local Authorities. Additional properties will help to increase the income to the council
52. Councillor Thorpe confirmed this was a good point. There will be challenges in next 2-3 years. Need to maintain sustainability.

53. Councillor O'Brien remarked that if the council had developed homes at the level to meet the demand over the last decade, it would have had the benefit of supporting council tax income and local economies.
54. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES - YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE PROPOSAL

55. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People introduced the report to bring youth justice service back into Bury whilst achieving better outcomes for children and young people.
56. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

WALSHAW DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - CONSULTATION DRAFT

57. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth recommended the Members take questions of all three reports together, Member agreed with this approach.
58. Councillor O'Brien introduced the reports and explained that as we have heard tonight, these big decisions do cause questions and concerns.
59. The papers for the meeting are the detailed development frameworks that start to fill in some of the gaps around infrastructure that is required and what safeguards and assurances we can give to the public to ensure we get the right things in at the right time.
60. Councillor Vernon advised that members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee had a long discussion about the framework at their meeting on 10 February 2026. Queries and concerns raised at the committee covered biodiversity, infrastructure, housing and housing density. Members considered the format of publication.
61. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee thanked officers for their work and Councillor Vernon confirmed that a further scrutiny meeting will be held to discuss the plans again as well as the Bury West Transport Framework and the Local Plan.
62. Councillor O'Brien agreed that the frequently asked question accompanying the consultation document would be amended and confirmed this has been completed.
63. Councillor Mike Smith queried the living wage and that many properties are unaffordable for residents.
64. Councillor O'Brien advised that the technical definition of 'affordable housing' is subjective. For some people it is affordable for others it isn't. The Council have to use planning language and terminology.
65. Councillor Mike Smith queried what protections were in place to prevent land banking?
66. Councillor O'Brien confirmed that the legal powers to the Council are limited. Developers leading on the sites have spent a lot of time, money and effort to get to this stage. Council would work to ensure these risks are limited as far as possible.
67. Councillor Quinn highlighted there will be a problem with a shortage of skilled individuals to undertake the building work.
68. Councillor O'Brien confirmed that work is being carried out in Greater Manchester to ensure skills supply is there to meet the demand alongside a £10m pot from government to focus on construction skills.

69. We have also had confirmation that a technical excellence college in Wigan and Leigh is being set up. The Leader is also convening a meeting with Councillor Craig and Councillor Dennett to develop this work.
70. Councillor O'Brien confirmed a range of property types, tenures and densities were needed to support rented and supported housing.
71. Councillor Morris commented that a case was made that this development wasn't needed in Walshaw, which the council agreed with. This was overruled by the planning inspectorate. Councillor Morris is pleased to see the framework come forward and will be encouraging residents to engage with the consultation.
72. Councillor Lucy Smith commented that this is not just talking about houses, it's talking about how we create homes and communities.
73. Councillor Arif expressed concerns that green belt land is not just waiting to be built on. These areas cannot be replaced once destroyed and the council must use brownfield land first.
74. Councillor O'Brien commented that this isn't a repeat debate about Places for Everyone as the principles have been agreed and reminded Members that over half of the Borough would remain as green belt.
75. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ELTON RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - CONSULTATION DRAFT

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

SIMISTER BOWLEE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CONSULTATION DRAFT

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

BURY WEST TRANSPORT FRAMEWORK

12. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth introduced the report advising that on top of the development frameworks this transport framework has been produced to identify and set out the types of infrastructure we need to support the plans.
13. Significant challenges come with development and this report shows how we can deliver better public transport solutions across this part of the borough.
14. Councillor Bernstein welcomed the paper and commented that it gives reassurance that we have listened to residents and have sought to mitigate the challenges.
15. Councillor Walmsley welcomed the report. Area where there is piecemeal development sites that are having an impact on local residents. Shows forward planning that is needed.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BURY FLEXI HALL - OPERATOR CONTRACT AWARD

17. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth introduced the report. Following public consultation, a name has been agreed for the flexi hall, 'Casewell's'.
18. Councillor O'Brien thanked everyone who has been part of the project up until now.
19.

20. Councillor Mike Smith asked a question regarding Radcliffe Market Councillor Morris confirmed she would contact Cllr Smith to update on the matter.
21. Councillor Tariq highlighted that this is a significant step forward for the borough and will benefit the local community.
22. Councillor Walmsley welcomed the development and is assured it will improve the town centre.
23. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

IN-HOUSE DELIVERY OF BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ON COUNCIL-OWNED LAND

12. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations introduced the report which sets out how these receptor sites can be brought forward through in-house delivery now that the options available to the Council have evolved following Defra's grant of Responsible Body status to Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA).
13. Councillor Mike Smith queried the Defra calculations Councillors Quinn and O'Brien confirmed that these were specialist calculations carried out by the GM ecology unit.
14. Councillor Mike Smith queried whether planning applications would be legally restricted.
15. Councillor Quinn confirmed no development would be allowed.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR BURY'S LEISURE CENTRES

17. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Services thanked everyone involved in this piece of work. The report presents a proposed strategic approach for the Council's leisure services in the context of the wider 2026/27 budget-setting process.
18. Councillor Quinn congratulated the team on the work completed.
19. Councillor Bernstein welcomed the Local Authority leisure provision but queried whether closure was an option.
20. Councillor Tariq responded that investment was required and there were benefits from retaining leisure facilities.
21. Councillor Cummins confirmed her delight in still have leisure offer in Ramsbottom and across the Borough.
22. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2026

PRESTWICH VILLAGE REGENERATION PROJECT: DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO APPOINT THE THIRD-PARTY OPERATOR FOR PHASE 1A (TRAVEL HUB)

24. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding a delegation to scrutinise and approve the procurement process once complete and approve the awarding of the contract to the preferred third-party operator for the Prestwich Village Regeneration Project Travel Hub to avoid unnecessary delay.

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

PRESTWICH VILLAGE REGENERATION PROJECT: PHASE 1B & 2 APPOINTMENT OF DEMOLITION CONTRACTOR

26. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding the appointment of DSM Demolition Limited to carry out the required demolition of the Longfield Shopping Centre as part of the Prestwich Village Regeneration Project, and to note the likelihood of a minor adjustment to the contract sum regarding the investigations for the Prestwich Library site. Members noted and apologised for the disruption for residents, which was a necessary part of redevelopment.
27. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BUSINESS RATES AND COUNCIL TAX DISCRETIONARY POLICY

28. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented a report regarding an updated Discretionary Rate Relief (DRR) Policy; it was noted this needed full Council approval. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that the figures concerned were in-line with other Councils, but also reflected the specific situation for Bury.
29. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

WRITE OFF POLICY 2026

30. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented a report regarding the new Write Off policy covering all council-related income streams.
31. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CORPORATE PLAN QUARTER THREE 2025-26 PERFORMANCE & DELIVERY

32. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented the summary report for the Corporate Plan. This described the progress made in the third quarter of the financial year (October – December 2025). In response to Members' questions, it was noted that ground investigations had been carried out on the alternative site for the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), the results of which were expected by the end of March 2026. With regards to Unit 4, a delivery date of 1 October 2026 was anticipated. Mapping existing processes had proved more complex than initial estimates, but a slower methodical pace was required to get things right as this was integral to securing a position of financial security.
33. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

2025-26 Q3 FINANCE POSITION

34. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation presented a report regarding the 2025/26 forecast positions as at 31 December 2025. There was a forecast overspend of £7.932m, an increase of £2m since quarter 2, owing to an increase in demand in both children's and adult's social care. These were national issues and have been flagged as risks throughout the year. The analysis and

mitigations in those areas were not apparent yet but were expected to have an impact in the next financial year.

35. In response to Councillor questions, it was noted that rising inflation, energy costs, fuel prices, etc, would be unlikely to be felt by the Council until the next financial year. Estimates had been made against rising costs, but effect was never linear and was therefore difficult to account for. The ongoing impact on Council budgets was beyond anyone's control and would continue to be monitored and picked up against the in-year position as we move forward.
36. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PROVIDER FEES

37. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report regarding the engagement process and outcomes for the standard fee proposal to contracted providers of adult social care services for the period 2026/27. For each provider sector, the Council has uplifted the staffing element of the fee by 5% in line with the increase in the Real Living Wage and 6.73% for those paying the National Living Wage. The percentage impact of the changes to National Insurance contributions for Employers has also been included in the uplift, and uplifts are also included on non-staffing costs to support providers with other cost pressures advised by providers in the engagement process.
38. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/27

39. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report regarding the proposed 2026/27 Adult Social Care fees and charges across the Health and Adult Care directorate to take effect in April 2026.
40. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PERFORMANCE QUARTER THREE REPORT 2025/26

41. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report regarding the Adult Social Care Quarter 3 Performance Report for 2025-26. The report 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. It was noted that a Good rating was received in all domains for the Falcon and Griffin Extra Care Housing Service, and an Outstanding result for Killelea House; thanks and congratulations were extended to all staff in those areas.
42. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

STEP FORWARD FOSTER CARERS

43. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented a report regarding the recruitment of a specialist foster carer group of Step Forward Carers who can care for children with more complex needs. The cohort of children

who would be cared for by Step Forward carers are those who would be otherwise cared for in residential care or likely to need a residential care placement.

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

HOUSING IT AND SYSTEMS - QL IMPROVEMENTS AND UPGRADE

45. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report which sought approval for an additional £1.2m of Housing Revenue Account monies to be used to fund necessary improvements to the Housing IT software infrastructure used to enable the Council to provide its housing management service.
46. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH BURY'S INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK (ITB) MINOR WORKS ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMME OF WORKS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/27

12. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations presented a report which sought approval to proceed with the Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Minor Works Road Safety programme of works for financial year 2026/27. These schemes support Bury's Road Safety strategy and Transport for Greater Manchester's (TfGM) Vision Zero strategy of improving road safety and reducing road danger on the roads of Bury. Members supported the proposed works in their wards and, in response to Members' questions, it was noted that traffic calming measures were distributed across known areas of concern. Members supported the safety measures and the reduction of incidents caused by poor driving.
13. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SUPPORTING BURY'S VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY, FAITH AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SECTOR THROUGH THE GM VCFSE ACCORD AND INVESTMENT IN LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE ORGANISATION PROVISION

14. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion presented a report regarding Bury's commitment to the Greater Manchester VCFSE Accord and recognition that the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector is integral to the fabric of the Borough of Bury. Our LET'S Do It! strategy sets out the vital importance of the sector as a core component in delivering improved outcomes for local people.
15. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BURY TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)- REVIEW

16. The Cabinet Member for Communities & Inclusion presented a report regarding the findings of the statutory review of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) currently in force within Bury Town Centre. It was noted that the review concluded that, whilst the general public were not in favour of an extension, the responses submitted by affected businesses in Bury supported retaining the conditions prohibiting the use of amplified equipment and the consumption of alcohol in a public place. Both elements of the PSPO continue to deliver clear community safety benefits and were therefore proposed for a further three-year extension. Members

noted the low response rate to the consultation, although key partners were consulted and gave their feedback so the results were satisfactory. It was also noted that performance arts and music was still welcomed in the Town Centre, but permission was needed.

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

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

12. Cabinet recommended that Council appoint Councillor Mike Smith as Deputy Mayor for the Civic year 2026/27.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2026

PRESTWICH VILLAGE REGENERATION PROJECT: PHASES 1B & 2 APPOINTMENT OF PRE-CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AGREEMENT CONTRACTOR

12. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding the Prestwich Village Regeneration Project which will deliver a comprehensive redevelopment of the Prestwich Village site including the Longfield Centre.
13. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 APRIL 2026

CORPORATE PLAN 2026/27

12. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented the Corporate Plan 2026/27 on behalf of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation.
13. In 2020 the ambitious LET'S do it! Community Strategy for Bury was launched, setting out a vision for the borough through to 2030: to stand out as a place that is achieving faster economic growth than the national average, with lower than national average levels of deprivation.
14. Since then, both Bury Council and the wider Team Bury Partnership have worked together to transform their collective response to public service reform and to increase focus on the seven high level outcomes committed to within the Strategy. There is now a much stronger "golden thread" that binds the collective endeavour across the partnership.
15. The 2026/27 Corporate Plan sets out the Council's strategic priorities and delivery objectives for the financial year and our role in delivering the overarching vision of the borough's LET'S do it! Community Strategy.
16. The Corporate Plan has been designed to continue to reflect three central priorities and key enabling functions with a streamlined set of objectives. The three priorities: Improving Childrens Lives, Driving Inclusive Growth and Tackling Inequalities overlay the "business as usual" departmental functions which are described separately in service planning documents. In addition, key enabler objectives are described which

support the significant transformation agenda that the organisation has planned over the next 12 months alongside the continuing improvement work to be monitored through the Governance and Assurance Board.

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

SHORT BREAKS REVIEW – CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

18. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented a report seeking approval to progress the recommissioning of Bury's Short Breaks Service. The proposed model aims to strengthen early intervention, increase flexibility, and deliver a more responsive, outcomes-focused service aligned to the changing SEND demand in Bury. Early provider market engagement will inform a sustainable, inclusive, and high-quality model underpinned by a fair pricing framework.
19. Social Emotional Mental Health difficulties (SEMH), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Moderate Learning Disability, and Specific Learning Disability account for over 80% of current SEND need. Parent and carer feedback is broadly positive but consistently highlights the need for more flexible, needs-led provision and improved community-based access. The current offer faces capacity pressures and does not fully reflect the diversity of presenting need.
20. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PROCUREMENT FOR REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE FRAMEWORK

21. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report seeking approval to proceed with a full procurement to establish the Council's own Framework for Repairs and Maintenance services ("Repairs and Maintenance Framework"), in compliance with the Procurement Act 2023. The Repairs and Maintenance Framework will be structured into two broad Repairs and Maintenance Lots. This package is designed to have less lots with 1 to 2 main repairs and maintenance contractors delivering a wider range of services under a 'General Building' Lot. The second lot is for 'Specialist Services' and is broken down into 7 individual sub lots covering electrical repairs, aids & adaptations, drainage, glazing, painting, pest control and scaffolding.
22. The Repairs and Maintenance Framework is projected to have an estimated spend of circa £4-5 million over the life of the framework which is 4 years. The framework will have a greater emphasis on social value outcomes and SME participation. The procurement is scheduled to be concluded in July 2026. Following this, a subsequent Cabinet report accompanied by an Award Report providing a full audit on the tender process will be presented to seek approval for awarding the Repairs and Maintenance Framework.
23. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 JUNE 2026

URGENT BUSINESS

14. The Leader advised that Councillor Sandra Walmsley had been appointed as Cabinet Member for Children and Young People under Executive powers and welcomed her back to the Cabinet.
15. Jacqui Dennis, Monitoring Officer, detailed the subsequent Committee appointments that were associated with this appointment, which would be outlined in a report coming to Council in July along with other Committee changes since May.
16. Cabinet noted the update and welcomed Councillor Walmsley.

BURY LOCAL PLAN (REGULATION 19)

17. The Leader presented a report regarding the Bury Local Plan, a long-term framework to manage future growth and development in the Borough from 2022 to 2043, setting out locally specific planning policies used to determine and shape future planning applications and development proposals. Members noted this had been updated as a result of representations received during the public consultation period and would go out for further consultation before a final version would seek Council approval.
18. It was noted that this report was discussed in detail at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting the previous evening, and recommendations had been noted.
19. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SIMISTER BOWLEE, WALSHAW, AND ELTON RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS

20. The Leader presented three reports regarding the results of the consultations on Development Framework Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) for Simister Bowlee, Walshaw, and Elton Reservoir, and seeking approval for the final SPDs to be adopted. It was noted that these reports were discussed in detail at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting the previous evening, and recommendations had been noted.
21. In response to Members’ questions, it was noted that:
    - Any planning application would wait until a site-wide ecology strategy for Walshaw was in place; this, as for all evidence, would need to be in place either before or alongside applications.
    - The Infrastructure, Phasing and Delivery Strategy for Elton Reservoir was a live document primarily used by Planning Department but could be shared with Members when significant updates and changes are made.
    - Phasing of developments was ensured through close working with developers so milestones were met and community infrastructure projects delivered alongside. The SPDs would ensure comprehensive evidence and strategies were in place before planning applications came in to ensure the Council could attach relevant and specific conditions and permissions to ensure delivery of the whole site was achieved.
    - It was noted that these decisions tonight were not about allocating land or the principle of whether development could take place, as those decisions had been

taken in previous years; these decisions were about governing applications when they came forward.

- It was noted that these plans would enable other land to be protected and allowed the Council the strongest democratic power to push back on undesirable developments and ensure that the best possible suite of infrastructure was delivered alongside developments.
- The Conservative Group noted their concerns about the principle of plans.
- A comprehensive discussion was held at Overview and Scrutiny regarding the Elton Metrolink station, and it was noted further discussions would take place with TfGM.

22. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the three reports.

ADOPTION OF SPD13 - HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

23. The Leader presented a report which detailed the outcomes of the draft Houses in Multiple Occupation Supplementary Planning Document (SPD13) consultation and sought approval for the final SPD to be formally adopted. It was noted that this had received cross-party support through a motion at Cabinet. Members discussed the difficulty in registering smaller HMOs built through permitted development rights, noting the Council's small team, and requesting public to let officers or Councillors know of any HMOs in their area.
24. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ADOPTION OF SPD19 - HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY

25. The Leader presented a report regarding the outcome of the draft Hot Food Takeaway Supplementary Planning Document (SPD19) consultation and seeking approval for the final SPD to be formally adopted. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform noted his particular thanks to the Public Health team for their contribution, and the meaningful contribution impact this would have on residents.
26. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BURY ART MUSEUM APPOINTMENT OF CONTRACTOR

27. The Cabinet Member for Culture, Economy and Skills presented a report which sought approval to appoint a contractor for work to the Bury Art Museum roof. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that there were no restrictions on the number of tenders that could be received, but the specialist nature of the work resulted in a small number of companies submitting a bid. Funding for the work was made up through grant funding and Bury Council funding allocations from the previous year. Full assurance was given through the Council's internal processes regarding the costs of borrowing.
28. Questions were raised about the named contractor being recommended for appointment, and it was agreed that this report be deferred until clarification could be made.
29. Cabinet deferred the decision to the next meeting.

APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON A DRAFT HOUSING STRATEGY FOR BURY

30. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report regarding the development of a new Housing Strategy, which will replace the existing 2021 – 2025 version. This report sought Cabinet approval to commence a 12-week public consultation on the draft strategy, after which the final version would come back to Cabinet for approval.
31. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that feedback on the management of previous consultations would be welcomed. Members were advised that arc4, the organisation responsible for collating the evidence used to inform the strategy, had been operating for many years. It was further noted that representations received during the consultation process would be taken into account in the final version of the strategy, which would be presented to Cabinet for approval. Prior to this, the strategy could be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should it wish to do so.
32. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

OPTIONS FOR CLOSURE OF SIX TOWN HOUSING LTD

33. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report regarding the next stage of activities to achieve the orderly closing down of the Six Town Housing Limited (STH LTD) business operation to progress to the final closure of STH as an entity owned by Bury Council, a process begun in September 2025. The Cabinet Member gave assurances to tenants that they would be able to stay in their homes and any decision would be made with their best interests as priority.
34. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that, if properties were transferred to another provider, they would be governed by the same regulator and held to the same standards. Any repairs would be carried out by the Council up to the day of transfer, with Bury continuing to provide support to ensure a smooth transition. It was also noted that staff members affected was small, with no staff requiring TUPE arrangements.
35. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CONTRACT AWARDS IN RESPECT OF THE HRA CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2026/27 AND CARBON REDUCTION - SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENT MEASURES

36. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report seeking approval of contract awards for Carbon reduction schemes as part of the approved Housing Revenue Account ("HRA") Capital Works Programme for 2026/27. The measures aim to provide improved thermal comfort and ventilation, while reducing carbon emissions, energy consumption and bills for Bury residents. In response to Members' questions it was agreed that detail regarding any pro rata cost increase from the extension and a breakdown of social value cost-benefit would be provided to Members outside the meeting.
37. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PROCUREMENT FOR GAS COMPLIANCE, REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE FRAMEWORK

38. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report regarding the re-procurement of the Council's Gas Compliance, Repairs and Maintenance service to ensure the continued safe servicing, repair and maintenance of heating and hot water systems within the Council's housing stock. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that performance would be monitored through monthly meetings with the provider to review Key Performance Indicators, and that tenants should raise any issues over the phone; as these were gas repairs, the Council response was normally within 24 hours. It was noted that detail regarding the costs of the three-month extension of the existing contract would be provided to Members outside the meeting.
39. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

COMMUNITY ACCOMMODATION SERVICE TIER 3

40. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report regarding the re-procurement of the Community Accommodation Service Tier 3 (CAS3), a service supporting individuals leaving prison custody, providing supported accommodation and independent living skills, helping to break cycles of homelessness and reoffending.
41. In response to Members' questions it was noted that the Council worked with Prevention to carry out a full risk assessment for individuals coming out of prison to identify the best placements and ensure they had the safest place based on their individual circumstances. Members were advised that homeless properties wouldn't normally be advertised owing to safeguarding concerns, but any properties requiring a planning class change would have the appropriate planning records and permissions. It was noted that a proportional breakdown of contributing factors in the rise in homelessness would be provided to Members outside the meeting.
42. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND ROUND 4 (LAFH R4)

24. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report regarding delivery of the Local Authority Housing Fund Round 4 (LAHF R4), which provides capital funding to increase the supply of high-quality temporary accommodation to reduce reliance on Bed and Breakfast (B&B) placements for homeless families, and support accommodation for households under the Afghan Resettlement Programme providing long-term affordable assets for the Council. Members voiced their support in the invest-to-save approach, reducing pressures on Council budgets while providing benefits to residents. In response to Members' questions it was noted that a breakdown of waiting lists would be provided to Members outside the meeting.
25. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RENTERS RIGHTS ACT 2025

12. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report regarding the implementation of the Renters' Rights Act 2025 legislation, bringing in changes to the private rented sector and strengthening the role of local authorities as regulators while offering greater protection for renters. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that implementation commenced in May 2026, with subsequent phases continuing beyond 2026. The timescales presented challenges for all authorities, particularly in the context of workforce capacity shortages. However, measures had been put in place to strengthen resilience, including the development of apprenticeship programmes.
13. Members discussed the Phase 2 rollout of the national private rented sector landlord database and agreed that it had the potential to deliver benefits for both landlords and tenants. It was noted that arrangements for sharing the database had yet to be confirmed; however, further information would be circulated once details became available.
14. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

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Notice of Motion July 2026: Zero Tolerance on Dodgy Shops

In the names of A Arif, N Bayley, C Boles, A Chaudhry, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, R Gold, D Green, S Haroon, M Hayes, J Hook, C Hunt, B Ibrahim, G McGill, C Morris, E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov, I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, L Ryder, L Smith, J A Southworth, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq, S Thorpe, S Walmsley

This Council Notes

1. This Labour Council is investing in every town centre across the borough, putting nearly £100m into regeneration projects to support our highstreets and local businesses. However, residents are concerned by the continued national proliferation of so called 'dodgy shops'.

2. Shops like these are widely reported to be fronts for money laundering, often failing to comply with regulations, and blighting our high street by crowding out genuine shops and small businesses.

3. Such businesses are often associated with criminality that may include anti-social behaviour, theft and violent crime, drug supply and modern slavery.

4. Recent studies from the Charted Institute for Trading Standards shows that up to ½ of mini-marts and vape retailers, along with a third of 'American candy stores' are involved in illicit activities.

5. This council recognises the strong working relationship between the council, Trading Standards, Greater Manchester Police and other enforcement agencies - which has successfully closed a number of illicit stores around the borough, including seizing goods worth around £40,000 from a property in Bury earlier this year.

6. However, more needs to be done to crack down on illicit stores and improve our highstreets.

7. This council notes additional powers and changes brought forward by the Labour Government, recruiting 75 new officers across forces including GMP, an additional £20m to fund a specialist cell in the National Crime Agency, additional funding for trading standards, as well as extending temporary closure powers.

This council believes

1. Thriving town centres depend on legitimate businesses operating on a level playing field.

2. So called "Dodgy shops" engaged in criminality, money laundering, the sale of illicit goods or other unlawful practices damage public confidence, harm local economies and contribute to the decline of high streets.

3. Additional powers from central government, as well as a focused council response, should be utilised to close businesses that are operating unlawfully.

This council resolves to

1. **Continue working closely with Greater Manchester Police, Trading Standards, HMRC and other relevant agencies** to identify and act against businesses engaged in unlawful activity, utilising new powers to increase the rate of successful interventions, closures and prosecutions.

2. **Convene a borough-wide summit**, bringing together Council Officers, Trading Standards, Greater Manchester Police, Local Members, business leaders and other enforcement agencies to develop a borough-wide coordinated strategy to tackle illicit stores.

3. **Adopt and publish a "Zero Tolerance" approach to illicit trading**, ensuring where businesses are found to be operating unlawfully, the Council will work with partner agencies to purse swift enforcement and seek the strongest sanctions available under the law.

4. **Request a briefing to all members within six months** setting out the scale of the issue across the borough, actions taken to date, outcomes achieved and any further measures required to protect local high streets and legitimate businesses.

5. **Reaffirm this Council's commitment to supporting genuine local business** and publicly support and utilise the enhanced enforcement powers granted to Bury, ensuring Bury's town centres remain safe, vibrant and welcoming places for residents, visitors and investors.

Motion to Council: Endometriosis Friendly Employer Status

In the names of Councillors Carol Birchmore, Des Duncalfe, Judi Sheppard, Ken Simpson, Mike Smith and Mary Walsh

This Council notes:

- It is estimated that endometriosis impacts approximately 10% of women and those assigned female at birth of reproductive age in the UK suffer from endometriosis.
- The intensity of the physical symptoms can vary significantly and is rated stage 1 to 4. Stage 4 is the most severe, advanced classification of the disease, characterized by widespread deep implants, large ovarian cysts (endometriomas), and dense, severe adhesions (scar tissue). Mental health and personal relationships may also be impacted negatively too.
- Overall endometriosis is associated with a 30–50% infertility rate, women with Stage 4 (severe) endometriosis face significantly higher challenges, often resulting in infertility rates much higher than this average, with natural conception being rare.
- Endometriosis is caused by fragments of tissue similar to the lining of the womb (endometrium). These endometriotic deposits grow outside the womb at sites such as the bowel, bladder and ovaries. These endometriotic deposits thicken, breakdown and bleed with each menstrual cycle, causing pain and many other symptoms. This can result in significant complications depending on the site of the deposit.
- It can take many years for the diagnosis of endometriosis to be made. Diagnosis can involve multiple tests including invasive surgery.
- The workplace impact of endometriosis is significant. People with endometriosis lose on average between 1.9 and 15.8 work hours per week depending on the severity of their condition and the treatment to help manage the condition.
- Becoming an Endometriosis Friendly Employer demonstrates a commitment to raising awareness of the condition, supporting staff, and promoting a positive and inclusive working environment.

This Council believes:

- That Bury Council should lead by example in tackling stigma and supporting employees struggling with the impact of this potentially debilitating condition.
- That signing up to the Endometriosis Friendly Employer scheme will strengthen existing health and wellbeing commitments.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Formally apply to become an Endometriosis Friendly Employer through Endometriosis UK.
- Commit to meeting the standards required, including awareness-raising, training for managers, and support for staff.
- Publicise this status once achieved, to encourage other employers and councils to do the same.

Endometriosis Friendly Employer Scheme - https://www.endometriosis-uk.org/endometriosis-friendly-employer-scheme

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This Council notes that:

Bury has a rich military history, with the Lancashire Fusiliers at its heart. To commemorate this, Bury is home to vital cultural assets including the Fusilier Museum, made up of two main galleries (The Lancashire Fusiliers (LF) and The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (RRF)) and Bury Castle Armoury.

Bury Castle Armoury is a Grade II Listed building which is situated on top of the original Bury Castle site and which was built in the 1800s. It represents a fundamental part of what it means to be from Bury and is a strong part of Bury's cultural identity.

For generations, Bury Castle Armoury has stood as a reminder of Bury's proud connection to the Lancashire Fusiliers and sacrifices made by local people in service to their country. It stands as a window into the story which our community and our town can tell, and make sure that future generations are privy to that history.

We express profound sadness at the decline and mismanagement of the asset over many years, which has resulted in the present circumstances and believe that the people of Bury are owed an explanation for how this came about.

As a town, we all benefit richly from cultural assets such as Bury Castle Armoury. It was and can be once again a valuable educational resource for schools, colleges and community groups who can engage directly with history, military heritage and the concept of civic responsibility, helping to strengthen community pride amongst all ages. By committing to re-open the armoury as a cultural asset, the Trustees can help to give it prominence and see it flourish and it is therefore important that the site is re-opened to the public and remains operational as a cultural asset.

Since 2022, the Council has taken a range of actions to support the repair and reopening of Castle Armoury, including:

- While still open, after a visit to a Veterans breakfast where concerns were raised about the lack of maintenance and repairs, the Council Leader, the Armed Forces Champion and Christian Wakeford MP wrote to the Armed Forces Minister, highlighting concerns regarding the lack of maintenance at Castle Armoury and the risk this posed to its continued use.
- Passing an unanimously approved motion at Full Council calling for Castle Armoury to be repaired and reopened.
- Arranging for a letter signed by several hundred residents to be sent to the Armed Forces Minister, urging that the building be made safe and that the necessary repairs be carried out without delay.
- Organising a public online meeting with the Chair of the Trustees and Head of the RFCA NW, providing local residents and interested parties with the opportunity to hear directly from those responsible and to express their views.

- Convening a range of meetings between the Chair of the Trustees, Council officers, the Armed Forces Champion and the Head of the RFCA to press for urgent repairs to enable the building to reopen.
- Working with the VFCA to support the Chair of the Trustees and provide information on potential grant funding opportunities that could assist in financing the required works.
- Requesting enforcement action to be taken by the Trust against the RFCA to secure the necessary repairs where appropriate.

This Council further notes that:

According to Historic England, historic attractions in England reported a 3.1% increase in total visits from 2023 to 2024 – slightly more than the 1.4% increase reported by the wider England attractions market. England's historic attractions benefitted from the continued recovery in inbound tourism in 2024, reporting a 15% increase in Overseas visits compared with 2023.

Overall, again according to Historic England, there was a 10% increase in the number of school visits to historic attractions. This is higher than observed in the wider attractions sector and is a continued increase.

Other garrison towns have succeeded in converting former military facilities into educational and tourism hubs. By doing this, the Trustees can reopen Castle Armoury as a community museum or cultural centre, an approach which would honour our past while creating new opportunities for education and inspiring pride among residents.

The reopening of Bury Castle Armoury under present ownership could also provide a valuable source of income to ensure the sustainable running and upkeep of the building for future generations.

This Council resolves to:

Reaffirm its cross-party, long-standing commitment to Bury's culture and history, long-standing cultural assets and its rich military history.

Request that all Group Leaders write a joint letter to Bury and Heywood Drill Halls Trust to demand that Bury Castle Armoury is taken off the market immediately and request that the Trustees bring forward a comprehensive paper detailing a full range of available options for both preventing any repurposing of Bury Castle Armoury and its re-opening, to include but not be limited to full repair and reopening, cost appraisals, details of possible avenues of investment to achieve the same, identification of key local and national stakeholders with whom the Trustees can work and outline a process for engagement of interested parties who may be able to assist in rectifying the current situation.

Request that all Group Leaders write a joint letter to Bury's two Members of Parliament, James Frith MP (Bury North) and Christian Wakeford MP (Bury South) expressing the Council's support for this motion, seeking their backing to request allocation of part of the Government's £1.5bn fund to repair and reopen the Armoury and requesting that they support and actively seek the implementation of the other resolutions detailed herein.

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