AGENDA FOR

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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To: All Members of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Councillors : C Boles (Chair), P Davies, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, S Haroon, C Hunt, G Martin, J Sheppard, J Southworth and J Southworth

Dear Member/Colleague

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Thursday, 12 November 2026
Place:	Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bury, BL9 0SW
Time:	7.00 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Cabinet are asked to consider whether they have an interest in any of the matters of the Agenda and, if so, to formally declare that interest.

3 MINUTES *(Pages 3 - 10)*

Minutes from the meeting held on 15th September are attached for approval.

4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A period of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to ask questions on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

5 MEMBER QUESTIONS

A period of up to 15 minutes will be allocated for questions and supplementary questions from members of the Council who are not members of the committee. This period may be varied at the discretion of the chair.

6 YOUTH JUSTICE UPDATE *(Pages 11 - 70)*

Reports attached

7 BURY BELONGS IN SCHOOL UPDATE *(Pages 71 - 104)*

Reports Attached

8 BURY SACRE ANNUAL REPORT *(Pages 105 - 120)*

Reports Attached

9 URGENT BUSINESS

Any other business which by reason of special circumstances the Chair agrees may be considered as a matter of urgency.

Agenda Item 3

Minutes of: **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting: 15 September 2026

Present: Councillor C Boles (in the Chair)
Councillors P Davies, D Duncalfe, U Farooq, E FitzGerald, S Haroon, C Hunt, G Martin, J Sheppard, J Southworth and J Southworth

Also in attendance: Jeanette Richard Executive Director Children and Young People
Linda Evans Director of Social Care and Early Help
Ben Dunne Director of Education and Early Years
Nick Bell Secondary Inclusion Lead
Andy Bradburn Service Manager (Connexions)
Councillor Walmsley Cabinet Member Children and Young People
Josh Ashworth Democratic Services
Noah Cashmore Youth Representative

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

Apologies for Absence: Joanne Burns Union Representative

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115 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies are noted above.

116 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

117 MINUTES

It was agreed:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd July 2026 be approved as a correct and accurate record.

118 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No questions were received in advance of the meeting.

119 MEMBER QUESTIONS

There were no member questions.

120 ILACS IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Members of the committee were reminded that they were expected to have read the report in advance of the meeting.

Jeanette Richards, Executive Director for Children and Young People provided an update on the Improvement Plan for Children's Services. Jeanette provided an overview of the documents contained within the committee pack. She explained that children's services had been on an improvement journey since being judged inadequate by ofsted in 2021 and subsequently receiving a judgement of 'requires improvement'.

Following inspection and improvement plan was developed and shared with Ofsted. The plan aligns with the inspection framework and governance arrangements and is reviewed quarterly by the Local Government Improvement Adviser alongside senior leaders. Progress against key milestones is monitored through performance data, risk ratings and regular reporting arrangements, which will continue until the next full inspection. Annual engagement and self-evaluation arrangements with Ofsted remain in place.

Jeanette advised the highlight report focused on progress against key milestones and the work being led by directors and senior managers to deliver improvement.

Councillor Sheppard asked what improvements could be expected over the next 12 months.

Jeanette advised that a key area of focus was improving outcomes for looked after children, particularly the quality of children's EHCP plans. Audits had identified challenges in ensuring plans were detailed and focused on performance. Recent improvements had resulted in approximately 50% of plans being assessed as strong. Additional oversight had been introduced, including support from Warrington, t strengthen quality assurance and provide challenge to social work practice.

Jeanette added that ongoing work with team managers was focused on driving improvements in practice and the quality of plans.

Councillor FitzGerald referred to attendance figures contained within the report and asked for further detail regarding variations between year groups.

Jeanette acknowledged that attendance, particularly within secondary schools, remained a significant challenge.

Ben Dunne Director of Education confirmed attendance figures and advised that attendance remained high in the primary phase, with reception attendance at approximately 96.1%, but declined significantly throughout secondary education. Attendance data for looked after children showed a marked reduction from year 7 onwards.

Members were advised that this issue was not limited to children with SEND and reflected wider challenges across the secondary sector. Attendance would continue to be monitored through the corporate parenting board.

Ben Dunne informed members of the forthcoming 'Bury Belongs in School' strategy, which promotes the principle that the majority of children should be educated within mainstream schools where appropriate. He noted concerns that elective home education and section 19 arrangements had, in some cases, become too readily accepted alternatives, and that the strategy would seek to reinforce attendance and inclusion.

Councillor Walmsley highlighted the relationship between attendance, suspensions, inclusion and educational outcomes. She noted the importance of maintaining positive working relationships with schools to address these challenges.

Councillor FitzGerald expressed concern regarding attendance levels for looked after children and emphasised the responsibilities of elected members as corporate champions.

Councillor Walmsley advised that more detailed attendance data would be presented to the Corporate Parenting Board and subsequently circulated to Committee Members.

Councillor Farooq asked whether the improvement plan included actions to support children who had experienced domestic abuse.

Jeanette confirmed that domestic abuse remained a significant factor influencing the need for support services. She highlighted legislative changes, partnership working with third sector organisations and the use of Operation Encompass whereby schools are notified when police attend incidents of domestic abuse within a child's household. This enables schools and practitioners to provide trauma-informed support. Jeanette added that supporting families affected by domestic abuse and economic pressures remained a key priority.

Councillor Hunt asked how feedback from children and young people was informing service improvement and how the council demonstrated that their views had influenced decision-making.

Jeanette advised that children and young people were involved at a number of points across the improvement programme and that their participation was strongly supported by senior leaders.

Linda Evans Director of Social Care and Early Help emphasised the importance of capturing the lived experiences of children and young people and ensuring their voices informed assessments, planning and service development. She stated that focus was not only on listening to children but also demonstrating how their views had led to real changes.

Members were informed that children and young people regularly attend the corporate parenting board and participate in various engagement forums, Jeanette Highlighted the work of the change makers group, who had helped rewrite the children in care promise, supported recruitment, and contributed to senior management appointments. The group had also been recognised regionally for its work and was nominated for a best practice award.

Linda also referred to the services quality assurance 'Kitemark' programme, which involves young people auditing services and recognising areas of good practice.

Councillor Southworth suggested that future performance reporting should include exclusion data.

Ben Dunne explained that whilst the data existed, current management systems did not provide live information and relied on periodic updates from schools. Work was underway to improve data systems to create a more integrated approach to performance reporting.

Councillor Martin referred to delays in establishing the supported lidgings service and asked why the process had taken longer than anticipated.

Linda explained that Ofsted registration requirements were complex and required approval of a registered manager and responsible individual. In addition DBS-related requirements and administrative processes had also contributed to delays. However, the application process was now progressing and a decision was awaited.

Linda advised that Supported Lodgings would provide important additional options for young people and support a gradual transitions towards independence.

Councillor Martin asked a follow up question around interim arrangements, Linda explained that 30 young people were currently supported through supported accommodation arrangements, with access to 24-hour support where required, enabling them to develop independent living skills.

Councillor Boles enquired whether concerns regarding delays in the registration process had been raised with Ofsted.

Linda Confirmed that feedback had been provided through regional discussions with Ofsted regarding the complexity and demands of the registration process.

Councillor Boles also sought clarification regarding improvements to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) service.

Linda explained that previous inspections had identified inconsistencies in allegation management processes. In response, additional training, auditing and dip-sampling had been introduced to ensure statutory requirements were applied consistently. This area continued to be monitored.

Councillor FitzGerald requested further information regarding neglect, noting that it remained a key safeguarding partnership priority.

Jeanette advised that identifying neglect could be challenging and required professionals to recognise different forms of neglect at an early stage. A refreshed neglect strategy had been introduced approximately three years ago, supported by workforce training, it was noted that neglect could be educational, emotional and other forms of harm, and emphasised the importance of recognising continued neglect and its long-term impact on children.

Jeanette added that improving the quality of referrals into the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), strengthening assessments and ensuring effective plans remained central to improvement work. Neglect continued to be a priority for the safeguarding partnership.

Councillor FitzGerald noted that elements of neglect could be subjective and welcomed further discussion how practitioners assessed different forms of harm.

Councillor Walmsley added that the neglect strategy reflected the voices of children and focused on fundamental needs such as feeling loved, safe, cared for and having access to appropriate clothing and support.

It Was Agreed:

- The update be noted

Actions:

- Circulate the neglect strategy to the committee
- Circulate attendance information relating to looked after children be shared with the committee following consideration by the Corporate Parenting Board

121 SEND SUFFICIENCY PLAN UPDATE

Members were reminded they should have reviewed the report prior to the meeting.

Councillor Walmsley introduced the report and provided an overview of the draft SEND Sufficiency Plan. Members were reminded that the report had been circulated in advance and were expected to have read it prior to the meeting. It was noted that significant progress had been made in expanding SEND provision across the borough.

Nick Bell Secondary inclusion Lead outlined the increasing use of Education Other Than At School (EOTAS) packages, explaining that these are bespoke educational arrangements co-produced with families where appropriate. He advised that this is a complex area nationally and that the number of children accessing EOTAS provision continues to rise.

Councillor Hunt referred to the higher prevalence of EHCPs in Bury and asked about the implications of forthcoming legislative changes. Nick explained that ensuring appropriate support and health-related provision is available for children with all complex needs remains a priority and that officers continues to work closely with health partners.

Councillor Sheppard asked how the impact of recent investment in specialist provision would be measured.

Nick advised that demand for SEND provision is projected to continue increasing until around 2030 and that performance would be measured through tracking cohorts across the education system. He highlighted the positive impact of additional specialist provisions and advised that the new SEMH school, Willow Grove, operated by the Oak Learning Partnership, is planned to open in Redvales in 2028. Further work is also underway to map SEND provision and identify gaps, particularly across secondary education.

Ben highlighted the importance of balancing demand and supply through an inclusive education system. He stressed that successful outcomes for children and young people within Bury should remain a key focus of the wider inclusion agenda.

Councillor FitzGerald queried the financial implications of increasing demand, including continued reliance on out-of-borough placements.

Jeanette advised that the financial challenge is significant, particularly in relation to independent non-maintained special schools, and noted that efforts are focused on increasing in-borough provision wherever possible. Members were advised that demand pressures are projected to increase the High Needs Block deficit and that demand management projections would be circulated.

Councillor Martin asked why Bury has a comparatively high number of EHCPs.

Ben reported that there are currently just of 3,000 EHCPs, with further growth projected over the coming years. He advised that this reflects both local trends and a national picture, with SEND demand increasing across the country. The projections informing the SEND Reform Plan and SEND Sufficiency Plan were considered realistic.

Jeanette added that, historically Bury had been an outlier in relation to EHCP numbers, but projections suggest growth rates may begin to stabilise as additional capacity is developed.

Councillor Davies asked about the number of children with EHCPs educated within mainstream schools.

Ben explained that the SEND Reform Plan places a strong emphasis on inclusive mainstream provision and that improved data and forecasting now allow better planning of provision. He highlighted the importance of supporting mainstream schools, alongside string partnership working across education, health and social care.

Councillor Boles asked whether lessons could be learned from current post-16 provision. Nick acknowledged challenges in accessing appropriate post-16 opportunities and explained that work is underway to develop a wider range of pathways, including supported internships and more flexible provision to better the needs of young people with SEND.

It Was Agreed

- The report be noted

122 FAMILY FIRST PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Members of the Committee were reminded that reports should have been reviewed in advance of the meeting.

Jeanette Richards Executive Director for Children and Young People provided an overview of the Family First Partnership Programme, outlining the governments plans to strengthen support services for children and families. Members were advised that implementation in Bury remains on track for operational delivery. Reference was made to the Family First Model, including the proposed structure of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the approach to demand management. This work will support the development of the Family Help Teams and strengthen partnership working within communities.

Jeanette Highlighted ongoing work around governance arrangements, information sharing agreements and approaches to assessing unmet need. Family Group Conferencing and wider partnership engagement form key parts of the programme.

Linda Evans advised that a report on the Family First Partnership would be considered at Cabinet on the 14th October. She explained that the approach in Bury is underpinned by the principle of ensuring families receive the right help at the right time whilst reducing unnecessary hand-offs between services.

Members heard that work is underway to ensure the MASH has sufficient capacity, staffing and skills. Linda also outlined proposals for the Multi-Agency Child Safety Team, developed in response to finging from national reviews where child protection arrangements had not always achieved best outcomes for children. The team will work closely with health partners and lead on safeguarding activity.

The committee was advised that one of the most significant developments will be the creation of Family Help Teams operating within neighbourhoods. This will bring family practitioners, social workers and partner agencies closer together to provide more responsive support for children and families. The model will also enhance opportunities for non-qualified care workers and ensure continuity of support where cases require escalation to social work intervention.

Linda Confirmed that specialist services, including Looked After Children teams and support services, would remain centrally managed whilst maintaining stronger links with neighbourhood-based teams.

The principles of the programme focus on providing robust support to families, building on family strengths and wider support networks to reduce risk and improve outcomes. Members

also heard that partnership working with the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Enterprise (VCFE) sector will be a ket component of the programme.

Councillor Duncalfe asked about advocacy support for families and whether the voluntary sector could play a role in providing advocates.

Linda Evans advised that advocacy support is already available for parents and carers where required. This support helps families to engage with statutory services and contribute to plans and decision making processes. It was emphasised that parents and carers should not feel discouraged from participating.

Councillor FitzGerald welcomed the proposals and commented positively on the flexibility of the model, noting the benefits of experienced family practitioners working more closely with families.

Councillor Southworth also welcomed the proposals, describing the approach as positive and highlighting the benefits of bringing services together within neighbourhoods. Also noted the potential impact on early help services and local partnership working

It Was Agreed

- The update be noted

123 NEET (NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING) UPDATE

Member of the Committee were reminded that they were expected to have read the report in advance of the meeting.

Councillor Walmsley Cabinet member for Children and Young People presented an overview of the report, highlighting the importance of early intervention and ensuring young people can access opportunities at the earliest stage. The report provided an overview of recent national policy developments, trends relating to vulnerable groups, re-engagement activity with education, and the support available to reduce the number of young people who are not in education, employment of training (NEET).

Andy Bradburn Service Manager Department for Children and Young People advised that the definition and scope of NEET's had broadened in recent years. He explained that the report focused on both the Councils statutory duties and support available for young people aged 16 to 24, with further work being undertaken to review and refine reporting arrangements.

Councillor FitzGerald asked about employment opportunities available to young people in Bury, the effectiveness of job training programmes, and what more local businesses could do to support young people into education, employment and training.

Andy explained that monthly reporting and monitoring arrangements were in place and included information on education, employment and training outcomes. He advised that apprenticeship numbers had increased by approximately 12% during the current year, although levels remained below those seem between 2010 and 2019. He noted that further opportunities and incentives may emerge following the publication of the forthcoming Milburn Report.

Councillor Walmsley commented that additional incentives and government funding were required to ensure that the right provisions were available locally and nationally to support young people.

Andy also highlighted developments linked to Atom Valley noting the potential benefits and future opportunities for young people within the borough.

Councillor Walmsley referred to discussions about young people leaving colleges and universities work being undertaken through the neighbour hub at the Mill Gate, which support with job applications and CV writing. It was noted that some young people required greater support in developing employability and life skills.

Councillor Boles sought clarification regarding the role of Connexions and the support available for students at risk of becoming NEET.

Andy advised that commissioned provision was being delivered through Bury EST and other partners, with work underway to broaden opportunities to young people. He outlined the targeted support provided through connexions, particularly for those identified as being at risk of becoming NEET.
The Committee heard that support was focused on ensuring successful transitions from secondary education into further education, with particular attention given to young people in Year 13, where NEET risks can increase. Members were advised that officers generally had a good understanding of where young people were and what support they required. Opportunities were available through organisations including the YMCA, Bury College and other training providers, although officers acknowledged that further work remained to be undertaken.

Ben Dunne further explained that work was being undertaken with schools and colleges to identify young people at risk of becoming NEET at and earlier stage. Partnership working with Bury College was helping to support young people into mainstream education, with the aim of improving retention and long term educational outcomes.

It Was Agreed:

- The update be noted

124 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

COUNCILLOR C BOLES
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.00 pm)

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY REPORT

MEETING:	**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**
DATE:	**12 November 2026**
SUBJECT:	**Youth Justice Service Disaggregation Progress Update**
REPORT FROM:	**Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**
CONTACT OFFICER:	**Lisa Sowden, Head of Service – Adolescent Services**

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The report provides Scrutiny Committee with an overview of the performance, priorities and developments within the Bury Youth Justice Service (YJS), including progress following the disaggregation of the former joint Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Service, key areas of service delivery, governance arrangements, and future priorities.

1.2 Youth Justice Services have a statutory responsibility to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people, protect the public, support victims of crime and improve outcomes for children who come into contact with the criminal justice system. Services work closely with police, probation, health, education and children's social care partners to reduce reoffending, protect victims and support vulnerable children.

1.3 Historically, Bury operated within a joint Youth Justice Service arrangement with Rochdale. During 2026, work was undertaken to establish Bury as a standalone Youth Justice Service to provide greater local accountability, strengthen integration with wider Adolescent Services and improve responsiveness to local need.

1.4 The establishment of a standalone service aligns with the Council's wider ambition to strengthen local accountability, improve integration within Adolescent Services and ensure services are responsive to the specific needs of Bury children and communities.

1.5 The service continues to operate within the Child First framework, recognising that children are children first and supporting their strengths, needs and potential to achieve positive outcomes.

2 ISSUES

Overview

2.1 The establishment of Bury's standalone Youth Justice Service represents a significant milestone in strengthening local accountability and ensuring services are tailored to the needs of Bury children, victims and communities.

2.2 Members should note that much of the performance information contained within this report reflects the joint Bury and Rochdale position. Although the services formally separated on 1 September 2026, performance reporting systems and associated data arrangements did not fully separate until the beginning of November 2026. As a result, the current dataset provides a combined position and should be viewed as a baseline from which future Bury-specific performance and trend analysis will be developed.

2.3 Despite operating during a period of significant organisational change, service performance has remained positive. The combined Bury and Rochdale dataset demonstrates a binary reoffending rate of 13.2%, a reduction in Serious Youth Violence offences from 64 to 27, and 100% of children being recorded as living in suitable accommodation at the end of intervention. Whilst these figures are not yet available on a Bury-only basis, they provide assurance regarding service effectiveness throughout the transition period.

2.4 The Youth Justice Management Board has agreed that the existing joint Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Plan will remain in place until June 2027. This provides continuity of strategic

direction and service delivery during the transition period whilst a standalone Bury Youth Justice Plan is developed, informed by local need, performance and partnership priorities.

2.5 The service continues to respond to increasingly complex presentations involving exploitation, serious youth violence, contextual safeguarding concerns, trauma and adverse childhood experiences. Strong partnership working remains central to ensuring children receive timely support whilst maintaining an appropriate focus on public protection and victim needs.

2.6 Following separation from the former joint arrangements with Rochdale, substantial progress has been made in creating a fully operational service. All Bury children have successfully transitioned to Bury-managed caseloads, the case management system has been fully separated, key staffing appointments have been secured and dedicated accommodation at Milltown House is now ready for occupation.

2.7 The service is currently supporting approximately 81 children and young people across Youth Justice and Prevention Services. Throughout the transition period, statutory responsibilities and service delivery have been maintained, ensuring no disruption for children, families or victims.

2.8 The service is now entering the next phase of development, with a focus on embedding the standalone operating model, strengthening partnership contributions, addressing inequity in specialist partner provision, enhancing quality assurance arrangements and improving outcomes for children and young people.

Children and Young People Open to the Service

2.9 The transition of children from the former joint arrangements has now been completed. All Bury children have transferred to Bury Youth Justice and Prevention Services. All children are allocated to Bury practitioners. The transition has been completed without disruption to statutory service delivery, and all children are now managed through Bury-based operational and governance arrangements.

2.10 The service currently works with 81 children and young people across youth justice and prevention pathways. Many children present with complex needs associated with exploitation, serious violence, trauma, mental health needs and contextual safeguarding concerns. Despite these challenges, partnership arrangements continue to support strong outcomes for children, victims and communities.

Performance Overview

2.11 Members should note that the performance information presented reflects the combined Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Service dataset due to the disaggregation of reporting arrangements not taking effect until November 2026. This data therefore provides a baseline position whilst a standalone Bury dataset is established.

2.12 Performance remains positive across several key indicators. The binary reoffending rate stands at 13.2%, significantly below regional and national comparators, providing assurance regarding the effectiveness of intervention and supervision arrangements. During the reporting period, 83 First Time Entrants entered the youth justice system, equivalent to 173 per 100,000 children aged 10-17. Serious Youth Violence offences reduced from 64 to 27, reflecting the impact of partnership activity focused on prevention, exploitation and violence reduction. Additionally, 100% of children were recorded as living in suitable accommodation at the conclusion of intervention.

2.13 A major milestone has been achieved through the successful separation of the case management system from Rochdale from 1 November 2026. This means the service now has independent case recording arrangements, Bury-specific reporting capability, improved local oversight, greater ability to analyse demand, performance and outcomes for Bury children.

2.14 Development of a Bury-only dataset is at an early stage, limiting current trend analysis and benchmarking. Data reporting arrangements have been established following system separation and Bury-specific reporting is now being developed. Over the coming months, performance reporting will continue to develop as a standalone dataset becomes established. As Bury-specific data becomes available, the service will be able to provide more detailed analysis of local trends and outcomes, enabling Scrutiny Committee and the Youth Justice Management Board to better assess the impact of service developments and future improvement activity

Workforce

2.15 Significant progress has been made in establishing the staffing structure required to deliver a standalone service. Achievements include: recruitment of a substantive Service Manager; recruitment to practitioner vacancies; appointment of a Data Analyst; internal recruitment to a dedicated Business Support post; and appointment of a Referral Order Coordinator, who will commence within the coming weeks.

2.16 To support continuity and knowledge transfer, Rochdale colleagues will continue to provide a short period of transitional support for both business support functions and referral order processes whilst induction and training are completed.

2.17 The successful recruitment programme has significantly reduced reliance on temporary arrangements and places the service in a stable position from which to embed and further develop the standalone operating model.

Accommodation

2.18 The refurbishment programme at Milltown House has now been completed. Key developments include: completion of all planned building works., handover of keys expected within the coming week, final ICT and Wi-Fi installation arrangements underway, with planned occupation anticipated during December 2026.

2.19 The move will provide a dedicated hub for Youth Justice and Prevention Services and improve opportunities for multi-agency working and collaborative practice.

Health and Education Contributions

2.20 Children involved with the Youth Justice Service frequently present with complex health, emotional wellbeing, communication and educational needs. Some progress has been made in strengthening these specialist resources: CAMHS support has been agreed and recruitment is underway. The service continues to work with partners to address inequity in specialist provision available to Bury children open to Youth Justice, particularly in relation to Speech and Language Therapy (SALT). Interim arrangements currently provide one day per week of SALT support; however, this is not considered a long-term solution and there is currently no agreed commissioning arrangement in place. This matter has been escalated through partnership governance arrangements and will be discussed at the next Locality Board.

2.21 A dedicated Education Worker has been secured and will commence with the service shortly. These developments demonstrate progress in strengthening specialist support whilst recognising that further work is required to secure equitable and sustainable provision for Bury children and young people.

Strategic Context

2.22 The Youth Justice Management Board has agreed that the current joint Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Plan will remain in place until June 2027, ensuring continuity of delivery during the transition to a standalone Bury service.

2.23 The current plan is structured around several core objectives designed to improve outcomes for children whilst protecting victims and communities. These are:

- Prevent offending and reoffending through early intervention and diversion.
- Reduce serious violence, exploitation and contextual safeguarding risks.
- Keep children, victims and communities safe through effective risk management.
- Improve outcomes in education, training, employment, health and wellbeing.
- Embed Child First and trauma-informed practice.
- Strengthen the voice of children, families and victims.
- Drive continuous improvement through quality assurance, audit and performance management.
- Develop and maintain a skilled and resilient workforce.

Governance Arrangements

2.24 Governance of the service is provided through the Youth Justice Management Board. In recognition of the recent separation from Rochdale and the need to support the embedding of the standalone service, the Board currently meets on a bi-monthly basis to provide enhanced oversight of performance, quality assurance, risk, partnership contributions and service

development. Supporting this is a monthly Youth Justice Operational Group, which is responsible for progressing actions arising from the Management Board, monitoring delivery against agreed priorities, addressing operational barriers and escalating risks requiring strategic oversight. These arrangements provide robust governance and accountability during the transition and embedding phase of the standalone service.

Priorities

2.25 The next phase of development will focus on:

- Embedding the standalone service model.
- Establishing operations within Milltown House.
- Integrating newly appointed staff into the service.
- Implementing CAMHS and Education Worker provision.
- Developing local Referral Order Panel arrangements.
- Securing equitable and sustainable Speech and Language Therapy provision for Bury children open to Youth Justice.
- Embedding quality assurance and audit activity.
- Strengthening the voice of children, families and victims within service development.
- Developing a mature Bury-specific performance framework to support continuous improvement.

3.1 The transition to a standalone Bury Youth Justice Service has been delivered successfully, with statutory functions maintained throughout the process and no disruption to children, families or victims.

3.2 The major elements of the transition programme have now been completed, including the transfer of children, recruitment to key posts, separation of the case management system and completion of accommodation works. The focus of the service is now shifting from implementation to consolidation, quality improvement and achieving positive outcomes for children, victims and communities.

3.3 Whilst current performance data reflects the combined Bury and Rochdale position, available indicators remain positive and provide assurance regarding service effectiveness throughout the transition period. The continuation of the jointly agreed Youth Justice Plan until June 2027 provides a clear strategic framework whilst Bury develops its own future plan informed by local need and emerging performance data.

3.4 In summary, the service is in a strong position to build upon the successful transition and improve outcomes for children: reducing reoffending, strengthening victim engagement and protecting communities. Key priorities for the coming year include embedding governance arrangements, strengthening quality assurance activity and working with partners to secure equitable access to specialist services for Bury children

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List of Background Papers:-

a) Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Business Plan 2025
b) YJS Management Board Performance Report Q2 2026 - 2027

Contact Details:- Lisa Sowden, Head of Service – Adolescent Services

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Introduction, vision and strategy

Foreword from the Director of Bury Children's Services, Chair of the Youth Justice Partnership Management Board Jeanette Richards

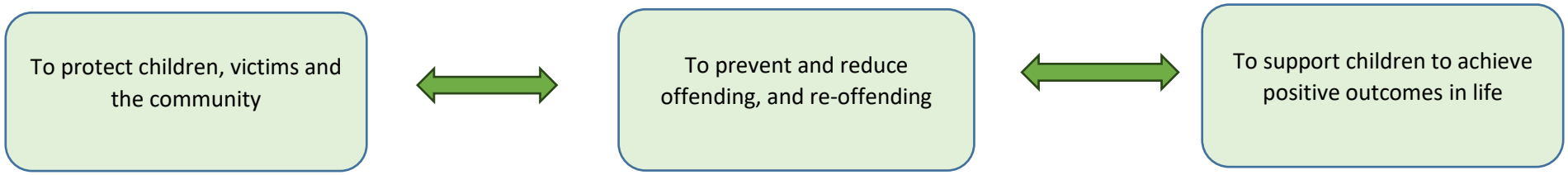
On behalf of Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Service, and as the Chair of the Youth Justice Management Partnership Board we are pleased to share our Youth Justice Business Plan 2026- 2027. We remain committed in our goal, to achieve excellence for all children and young people, and we continue to work with children, families, carers and partners to achieve our shared vision.

Our Shared Vision

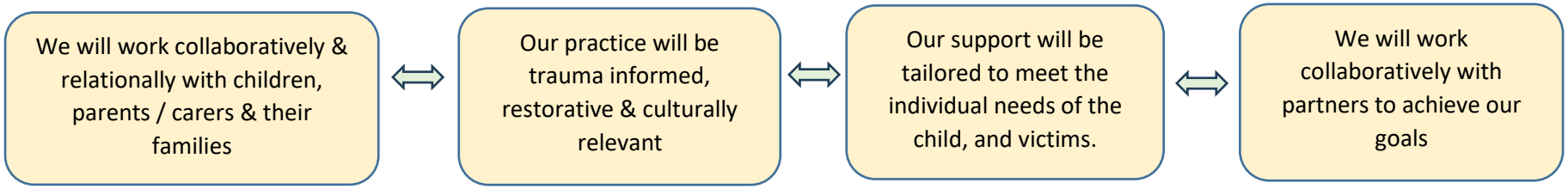
"We want Bury and Rochdale children and young people to be safe, and grow to feel happy, healthy, confident, and with ambition and surrounded by love, care, and kindness. We want children and young people to have the very best start in life and to thrive throughout their childhood and adolescence, and for families and carers to be supported to enable this.

Our vision is to see the 'child and young person first' and to provide 'the right service, at the right time, in the right way'. We want to prevent our children and young people from entering the Criminal Justice System, to reduce offending and re-offending, to reduce custody, and to improve the safety and wellbeing of all those who come to us through supporting them to achieve their ambitions' and create a safer community, with fewer victims.
Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice, is committed to working holistically and collaboratively with children and young people, parents, carers, families, partners, and communities to achieve this vision".

Our Goals



Our approach



Local and current context

Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Service amalgamated in 2014, and our partnership board is chaired by the Director of Bury Children's Services, with the Assistant Director of Rochdale Children's Services as co-chair. Strategically and operationally partners are drawn from both boroughs. A decision was made at Bury Cabinet in February 2026 to separate the shared service, so that each Local Authority can deliver their own Youth Justice service. This has the support of our respective Directors of Children's Services, Youth Justice Partnership Board, Legal and Human Resource advisors, Finance Leads, Systems Leads and Youth Justice Board representative. We are working together to manage the various elements of separation, and our aim is to separate by September 2026.

Rochdale [Census 2021]

Rochdale is known for its cultural diversity, and it offers a mix of traditional and contemporary shops, cafes and local business. Rochdale is well connected for commuters, offering direct tram services to Manchester city centre, whilst nestling in beautiful countryside. Average property prices in Rochdale are affordable, and this makes it an attractive option for first time buyers, and young families, which might be in part why the population is increasing. Rochdale continues to invest in its residents' offering projects, and a wide range of education, training and employment related activities. However, as in many local authorities we have areas of deprivation, and our unemployment rate and economically inactive population is above the national average.

Bury [Census 2021]

Bury is known as a vibrant market town, with green spaces, affordable living and excellent public transport including the metro link tram service into Manchester. Bury has a strong community feel, with a rich heritage and cultural scene, benefitting from well-rated schools and healthcare facilities it is an attractive place for young families to live. Bury's population has continued to increase. As with most areas Bury has areas of deprivation, and the

percentage of children living in Bury in recent years has fallen. Bury and Rochdale are authorities in Greater Manchester.







Bury and Rochdale demographics [online census 2021]

44,740 children are between 10 & 17 years old

78 % of the Bury and Rochdale population are White British: 22% from Black and other minority ethnic groups; 33% of the population between 10 & 17 years old are from Black and other minority ethnic groups

49% of the population are males, and 51% female

Bury and Rochdale are ranked in the top 10% most deprived areas Nationally, with 26 % of children living in low – income families.

Local delivery

Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Service is based in Rochdale, conveniently located near the town centre and bus station, ensuring easy access for children and young people from the Rochdale area. Prior to the amalgamation of the Youth Justice service, local young people were actively involved in designing their space at 'Fashion Corner' in Rochdale. The facility now includes several dedicated rooms, and hosts a fully equipped kitchen, a games room featuring a snooker table and gaming equipment, and a dedicated health space, providing a safe and supportive environment for children engaging with the Youth Justice Service.

Bury has struggled to identify a suitable space for children, until recently. Milltown House has now been sourced and will be a good space to see Youth Justice children. Milltown house is conveniently located in the town centre and close to public transport. This space is currently being re- designed to meet the needs of children and staff and should be ready to use this year [2026]. At present children are seen in various community settings and at home. The new space will support a child-focused, and support 'drop-in' facility for those experiencing crisis which will increase opportunities for immediate support in a safe and welcoming environment.

An understanding of our data, and the profiles of children within our service enables us to identify both strengths and areas for improvement. This insight informs strategic planning and operational delivery, ensuring that we understand where we need to target resources to be most effective, and to achieve the best possible outcomes for young people. Some of the local challenges in delivering a 'shared' Youth Justice Service across two local authorities has been the disparity in resources. The Youth Justice Partnership Board is tasked to address these inequalities and ensuring equitable support is available for Bury children. Notably an education, children adolescent and mental health worker, and speech and language therapist are being sourced for Bury Youth Justice Service.

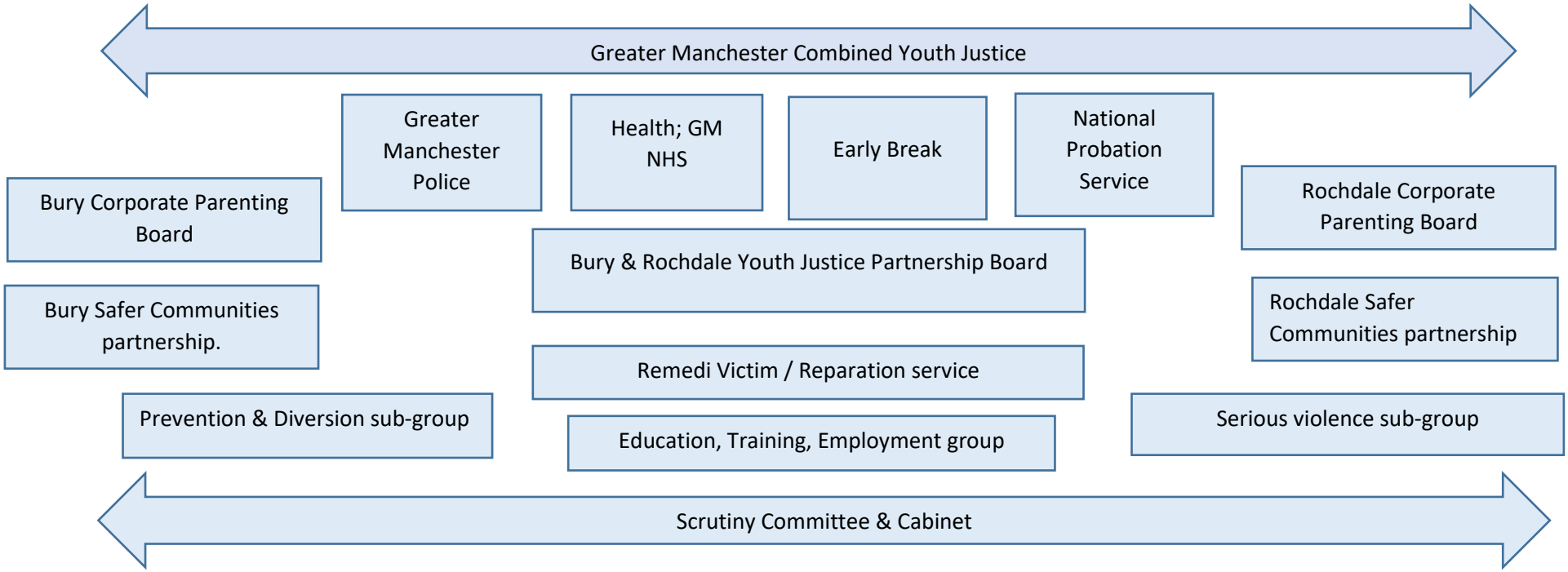
The number of Bury children/interventions open to Youth Justice remains slightly lower than Rochdale, and we expect to see comparable differential across data sets. Bury manage their own prevention offer. However, factoring in the differential, the data tells us that we tend to have more Bury children who are cared for, and with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and/or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) open. The data also shows that more Bury children have been remanded and received custodial sentences than Rochdale.

The data around ethnicity is considered in relation to each areas' demographics and both Bury and Rochdale have disproportionate numbers of Black and Mixed Heritage children in relation to the corresponding 10- 17-year-old population. We understand that this is a national and regional issue and we continue to consider the child's lived experience, including intersectionality throughout our involvement.

2 Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

Youth Justice is inspected by His Majesty Inspectorate of Prisons [HMIP], and our last inspection report rated us overall as Good [June 2020]. An inspection of youth offending services in Bury and Rochdale. Youth Justice is legislated through the Secretary of State, and our performance is monitored through the Youth Justice Board quarterly performance oversight framework. Bury and Rochdale currently sit in quadrant 3: "*Service Improvement required: Investigation and analysis of the cause or nature of concerns impacting on performance outcomes for children; identify where the service may need assistance; offering advice and guidance and broker support and/or direct delivery of intervention support".* We refer to what we have done and continue to do to move to quadrant 2 in our priorities for the forthcoming year.

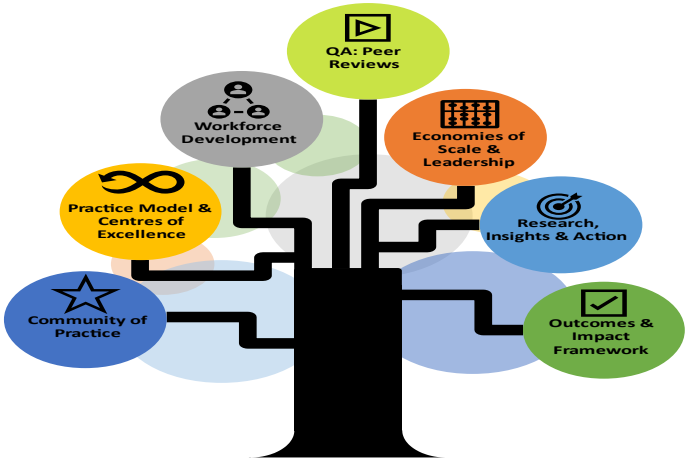
Strategic governance and partnership arrangements are overseen by the Youth Justice Partnership Board, which is chaired by the Director of Bury Children's Services, and co-chaired by the Assistance Director of Rochdale Children' Services. The Board currently meets quarterly, and our wider strategic governance arrangements are reflected in the diagram below. Planning to separate the Youth Justice Partnership Board in underway.



Our 10 Greater Manchester Youth Justice areas sit within devolved governance arrangements, and each local authority lead works together through our community of practice. Together we have developed the Greater Manchester Youth Justice Transformation Framework and plan, 2025- 2029. This reflects a shared and core set of Youth Justice Principles, Pillars and enablers, outcomes and priorities, and has been informed by children and young people, some of whom open to Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice. Through our Greater Manchester Combined Authority Coordination Youth Justice hub, we will ensure that we learn from one another, share innovative practice, and more importantly improve outcomes for children and keep victims and communities safe.

A Youth Justice Coordination Hub

Growing the capability and capacity to work smarter across services and systems in Greater Manchester.



Our Greater Manchester principles are to advocate for children, hear their voice, be trauma responsive, strengthen communities and support victims, have an innovative mindset, collaborate/ co-design, support children through early intervention and preventions, be evidence led, be professionally curious, and leave nobody behind. **Our Greater Manchester delivery pillars** of delivery focus on 1] harm and risk reduction 2] resilience and engagement 3] safety and protection 4] stability and wellbeing.

Our Local operational governance and partnership arrangements are overseen by the Youth Justice Partnership Board, and Rochdale Children's Services. Our Head of Service leads and manages Rochdale complex safeguarding service including missing from home/care and Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Service. Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice have 2 full time Team Managers, and 2 full time Advanced Practitioners that lead and manage the team *[please see appendix 1 for full staffing structure and financial contributions]*. Both Bury and Rochdale are amidst developing their individual service structure and staffing establishment in preparation for the separation.

Seconded partnership arrangements are not equitable across Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice as per the table to the left below. This has been escalated and is under review at the Youth Justice Partnership Board.

Integrated partners

Agency / Partner	Bury	Rochdale
Police	Police officer	Police officer
Health	Nurse	Nurse
	-	CAMHS
	-	SALT
Education		
Pre 16	-	EWO
Post 16	Connexions	Positive Steps
Probation Officer	Yes	
Serious Violence	Yes	
REMEDI/Victim	Yes	

Local Partnership Arrangements: *Bury and Rochdale each have their own Early Help and prevention offer [PIED & Turnaround]; Complex safeguarding teams, and Voluntary, Community / Faith sectors that children, young people and families can access.*

Rochdale Connexions Trust: *provides mentoring to YJ children across Bury & Rochdale.*

REMEDI: *delivers Bury & Rochdale YJ victim service / reparation.*

Early Break: *working with children and families affected by substance misuse across Bury & Rochdale.*

Positive Steps & Connexions *Working with Rochdale & Bury school leavers to support in ETE.*

Serious Violence*: our children have access to the virtual reality decision making programme [virtual headsets] to address knife related behaviours. Rochdale also support children in school through our preventing exclusion programme for knife / weapon related behaviours.*

Local quality assurance arrangements: We align with Rochdale Children's Services quarterly quality assurance framework.

Month 1: *Team Managers submit a case file audit each month, consisting of a reflective conversation with the practitioner, child, and their parent / carer to ascertain their view of the service. Advanced Practitioners complete a themed audit. Audits are moderated by the Head of Service*

This approach has supported us to hear the child's voice, work collaboratively with parents, and understand our practice across themed areas.

Month 1 & 2: *Team Managers each submit a monthly performance report, detailing analysis of data; learning from audits, supervisions completed, and staffing matters; areas to celebrate and areas to reflect on and develop. The Head of Service holds a quality assurance meeting each month and shares the action & activity plan to implement the learning from the audits. Learning is delivered through induvial supervision, team meetings and planned training activity. This has oversight from the Director of Children's Services through service specific quality assurance meeting.*

This ensures a clear line of governance, and promote a knowledgeable and stable workforce, understanding of data, highlighting areas of strength, and areas to improve on, which supports us to provide a consistent service for our children.

Month 3: *'Close the loop' learning from the audits is reviewed through development sessions with Team Managers & Advanced Practitioners. This promotes reflection on the impact of the learning, and the difference we are making for children and young people. Additional training and reviews are planned where appropriate.*

This approach has supported a learning culture, and our children will have the benefit of a knowledgeable and skilled workforce going forward. This enables us to understand where we are making a difference to children and young people

Update and progress on the priorities in the previous plan

Priority 1 Leadership and governance: Our aim was to strengthen the Board's understanding of its roles and responsibilities in relation to governance and partnership working. This was achieved through the delivery of a Board-wide survey, followed by targeted feedback and responses to address identified gaps and improve collective understanding. Attendance from key stakeholders has improved, and partner agencies now consistently provide data that highlights priority issues and areas of disproportionality. While the sub-groups focused on serious violence, education and first-time entrants have not been as effective as we hoped, the planned separation of the Board will enable clearer oversight of issues affecting each local authority area. This will support more targeted use of resources and improved strategic focus going forward. Through challenge and conversations at the Board we have secured a seconded Probation Officer and assured ourselves that child centred policing is reducing the number of children in police custody. We have continued to challenge the police through sharing data that demonstrates missed opportunities, and we hope to see more referrals in place of 'street' community resolutions.

Priority 2: Prevention and Diversion: Our aim has been to reduce the number of First Time Entrants (FTEs). Prevention activity continues to be delivered through the Turnaround Programme, the Knife Crime Exclusion Programme in schools, and PPIED. Established diversionary pathways remain in place and we have strengthened our multi-agency joint decision-making panel by broadening partner involvement and streamlining systems to ensure all children who come to our attention are offered access to some support. Police data quality has improved, enabling better oversight of children who are stopped and searched, released under investigation, placed on bail, or arrested and detained overnight, which has enhanced our ability to identify and challenge bias, and work proactively to support children earlier. Further work is required to reduce the gap between the number of children repeatedly dealt with by the police and not referred into Youth Justice services.

Priority 3: Remand, Custody and Resettlement: Whilst our custody rates have increased we are assured that those in custody have committed serious offences, and this was a Court decision, despite us offering robust alternatives. We continue to have a strong focus on community alternatives and resettlement. Operating standards are in place, remand and custody data is reported to the Youth Justice Partnership Board, and we are actively involved in the GM Remand Pilot. All our children in custody are discussed at multi agency risk meetings to support effective resettlement. We have recently had a Peer review [Oldham] of a child supported through custody and upon release, using the HMIP Multi agency Case Discussion framework and the outcome was good. We note that further work is required to strengthen joint working with the Social Care Front Door when recommending remand to local authority care.

Priority 4: Victims and Restorative Justice; We have commissioned Remedi, an experienced specialist provider of victim services, to deliver a consistent and high-quality victim and reparation offer. While the service has been in place for 12 months, we have identified shortcomings relating to staff expertise, low and unchallenged police consent rates, and inconsistent representation of the victim's voice across forums. A formal review of the provision is underway to ensure compliance with inspection standards. Additional training has been delivered to practitioners to clarify expectations around assessments, planning, reviews, and service delivery, resulting in some improved consistency and increased victim representation. Remedi also delivers the reparation offer, supporting a range of positive projects and producing a quarterly newsletter shared with the Board.

Priority 5: Serious Violence and Harmful Sexual Behaviour; Serious violence remains a significant and increasing feature. In response, we have undertaken a detailed data deep-dive to strengthen our understanding and now more effectively track service delivery. This has enabled a clearer focus on preventative work in schools alongside more targeted Youth Justice interventions. We continue to deliver the virtual reality knife crime decision-making programme, supporting children to make safer choices. However, we recognise the need to further develop our evaluation framework to better assess impact and identify areas for improvement. The new government knife crime guidance has been implemented and is referenced accordingly.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB); Our Harmful Sexual Behaviour Policy has been recognised as an example of good practice. The policy is also embedded within Tri.x CSC Greater Manchester, and local procedures. Children benefit from a well-structured, consistently delivered and regularly reviewed HSB intervention offer, ensuring a good standard of support and safeguarding.

Priority 6: Quality Assurance and Workforce Development; Over the past year, significant progress has been made in strengthening quality assurance and workforce development. A structured quarterly quality assurance cycle has been implemented, comprising a Month 1 audit (including case file, multi-agency or thematic audits with a conversational element involving children and parents), Month 2 focused implementation of learning, and Month 3 reflection on impact to inform next steps. This approach is embedding continuous improvement and is working well. Bespoke audit tools have been developed, and a peer multi-agency case discussion, completed by a colleague from Oldham in line with the HMIP framework, provided positive assurance. Workforce development is now more structured, with focused team meetings incorporating learning from quality assurance activity, safeguarding partnership training, policy and practice updates, and targeted training informed by staff survey outcomes.

Performance over the previous year

National Key Performance Indicators

Across 2025- 2026, we achieved a reduction in the number of First Time Entrants (FTEs), reducing from 103 to 75, which reflects our continued efforts in promoting alternatives. Our reoffending binary rate in January 2024 – December 2024 was also positive, outperforming regional and national comparators: Our rate: 16.7% (6 of 36 children reoffended, committing 17 offences), which compares favourably against our Northwest average: 29.8%, Greater Manchester average: 22.7%, and our Youth Justice Statistical Family average: 34.7%. While the number of children in custody has risen this last year from 4, to 8, this corelates with the increase in serious violence, and the data is caveated by our small cohort. We continue to promote alternatives to custody and are actively engaged in the Greater Manchester remand project.

Local Key Performance Indicators

KPI 1 Accommodation	The number of children in suitable accommodation at the end of their intervention has been high, and relatively consistent across each quarter in 2025- 2026, Q1 100%: Q2 97.4%: Q3 100% and Q4 100%. Our target remains at 100%.
KPI 2 ETE	On average 41.75% of children were in suitable education, training or employment at the end of their intervention, which is much lower than we would like. We continue to strive to support children to engage in education.

KPI 3 SEND/ EHCP	38 children that ended their order in 2025 - 2026 had a EHCP or SEND needs. We recognise this cohort of children are over-represented and work closely with our SEND/EHCP/SALT leads to support us to engage meaningfully.
KPI 4 Mental / Emotional Wellbeing	During 2025–2026, data indicates that 13 children were already receiving mental health or emotional wellbeing support prior to undergoing our screening process. 74 children were identified through screening as requiring support. However, actual engagement with support services was significantly lower, with attendance figures 48 children. This highlights a critical gap between identified need and service uptake. We have strengthened our health screening process.
KPI 5 Substance Use	During 2025–2026, data indicates that 23 children were already receiving existing treatment prior to undergoing our screening process. 92 children were identified through screening as requiring support. Attendance figures showed 27 children engaged in tier 2 and 3 treatments. We continue to encourage children to access our substance use services.
KPI 6 OOCD's	Our data shows we have had 80 children referred for Out of Court Resolutions in 2025- 2026. We have strengthened our Joint Decision-Making Panel membership, tracking and monitoring process and continue to work with GMP colleagues to promote referrals to our service.
KPI 7 Management Board Attendance	Throughout 2025- 2026, we have prioritised the development of our Board, with a continued focus on strengthening attendance, active participation, improved data sets, and shared accountability. Our efforts aim to build the Board's capacity to interpret data effectively, make informed decisions that promote equitable resource allocation, and provide a safe and supportive environment for children. Feedback through our YJB performance oversight indicates observed improvement.
KPI 8 Wider Services	A significant number of our Youth Justice children are also engaged with wider support services. In 2025–2026, 20 children were open to Child in Need plans, 8 were cared for children, and 6 were supported through Child Protection plans—representing approximately 39.1% of our overall cohort. This data does not factor in pre-sentence reports, or new assessments. We continue to work closely with Social Care and Early Help services to ensure that children receive timely and coordinated support at the earliest opportunity
KPI 9 Serious Violence	Between July 2024 and June 2025, 62 serious violent offences have been committed. A consistent pattern has emerged, with Robbery, Attempted Robbery, Knife Crime, and Violence Against the Person being the most prevalent offence types. Our serious violence rate currently stands at 13.3, which is above the average for our Youth Justice family [6.9] We are actively engaged with our Serious Violence and Community Safety partnerships to work together to address this.

KPI 10 Victims	Of the interventions that opened there were 79 Victims and of those 69 consented to be contacted by us in 2025-2026. We have commissioned REMEDI, victim services to provide this service through 2025-2026.

Risks and issues

We continue to face challenges around performance, which holds us in quadrant 3 of the Youth Justice Board performance oversight framework. We will remain focused on the following areas:

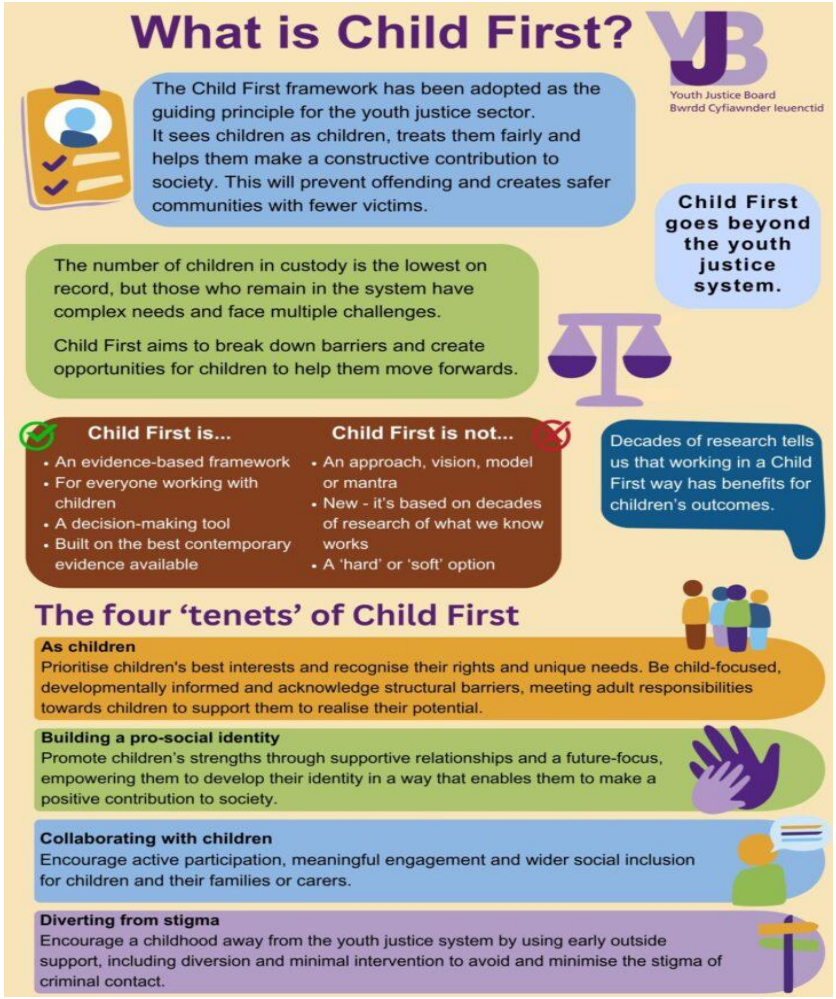
The separation of Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice Services, and the establishment of two standalone services, will require careful planning and phased implementation. This work is being progressed collaboratively with Directors and Assistant Directors of Children's Services, with advice from the Youth Justice Board, Human Resources, Legal Services, ICT system leads, and Finance colleagues are working jointly to ensure a safe, compliant and well-managed transition. We plan to have shadow Youth Justice Partnership Boards to offer assurance that appropriate governance structures are in place prior to separation.

Serious violence remains a significant risk. While we have strengthened links with community safety and serious violence partnerships, improved our use of data, and undertaken thematic audits, further work is required to strengthen evaluation. This will enable clearer understanding of what is effective, what requires improvement, and the actions needed next. We expect the landscape to present a different picture once the data has been disaggregated and Bury and Rochdale will focus on targeted interventions relevant to demographics.

The number of children not in Education, Training or Employment, and this with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and / or Education Health Care plans is a theme that is connected to serious violence, and these children are overrepresented in our service. We are working closely with colleagues in education, and our focus will be on early identification of unmet / undiagnosed needs, inclusion in a range of education or activities that support positive change, and targeted support.

PLAN FOR THE COMING YEAR

CHILD FIRST



Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice: our Child First approach

Child-centred and inclusive practice: *We will continue to work relationally, prioritising children lived experience and strengths, and responding to need and behaviour through a trauma-informed approach. Ongoing workforce development will ensure practitioners understand adverse childhood experiences and can confidently advocate for children with partners, including the courts.*

Building pro-social identity: *We will remain ambitious for our children, supporting them to build confidence, strengths and positive identities through creative and restorative approaches. We will further develop innovative offers reflecting social prescribing to broaden our reach to children.*

Collaborating with children: *Recognising the mistrust many children have of services, we are committed to improving engagement through innovative approaches, strengthening participation forums, and embedding a clear "you said, we did" approach to service development.*

Diverting from stigma: *Through early intervention models, including PPIED and Turnaround, and effective multi-agency working, we aim to prevent unnecessary criminalisation. Children are supported through coordinated access to education, health, substance misuse, CAMHS and social care services, alongside Greater Manchester transformation work to reduce custody and promote a family-first approach.*

We have developed feedback mechanisms to capture the voice of the child through QR codes, and an 'in-person' head of service engagement session. We hear that our children want to feel included, and be involved in creative activities, and we have committed to delivering creative projects to promote inclusion and support children to achieve positive outcomes.

Resources and Services



AND …



We will use our Youth Justice Board grant to support the funding of core staff, ensuring the consistent delivery of service for children across our Youth Justice Service. Alongside staff, our partners continue to be integral to our service delivery, supporting children across a spectrum of need.

We will continue to invest in staff training, through various forums including the Youth Justice Legal Centre, respective Safeguarding Partnerships, and from other organisations such as the Youth Endowment Fund to further strengthen the knowledge and skills of our workforce, enabling us to better meet the diverse needs of the children we support and improve outcomes across the partnership. We work alongside colleagues in Greater Manchester, contributing to a centralised budget, to develop a consistent training and development offer around Harmful Sexual Behaviour, and Working with Girls.

We will continue to fund a dedicated project lead to oversee serious violence, and over the next 12 months, the project lead will be delivering *Round Midnight* virtual reality knife crime decision-making programme. This innovative initiative combines creative arts with educational technology to engage young people in immersive, meaningful learning experiences that challenge perceptions and influence safer choice. Round Midnight - Creative arts and EdTech; and our school prevention / exclusion programme.

We hope to develop and expand the project lead post to target wider issues such as education, and parenting support, reflecting a think child, think family, think community approach to promote positive outcomes for children and keep others safe. We will strengthen our approach and reach through delivering more innovative programmes that are trauma informed, for example our *farm and allotment* projects. These support children to feel safe, healthy, happy, successful and heard. We remain firmly committed to investing in early intervention and prevention initiatives. Our focus will be on strengthening partnerships with family hubs and wider services to promote stronger collaboration with children and parents / carers. Our next priority needs to be implementing an evaluation framework, so that we capture the impact and outcomes of these projects, what works well, and what we need to strengthen.

Finally, the grant will support services for victims and facilitate reparation opportunities for children through our commissioned partner, REMEDI, which provides restorative justice and victim support services. What We Do: Victim Services | Remedi

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Domain one- organisational delivery Youth Justice Services – HM Inspectorate of Probation

The Youth Justice Partnership Board has strengthened significantly over the past 12 months through improved attendance, active participation and enhanced information sharing. A key development is the planned transition to separate Bury and Rochdale Boards. To support this, shadow Board arrangements are being implemented to test governance structures, clarify roles and responsibilities, and ensure both Boards are fully compliant with statutory requirements and equipped to provide strong, independent strategic leadership. We will continue to build on the progress that we have made over the past 12 months by further enhancing governance, performance oversight, and partnership collaboration in each Local Authority.

We will further develop the use of performance and outcomes data to inform decision-making, alongside strengthening partner contributions to quality assurance, particularly around areas of disproportionality. This will support a more robust understanding of service impact, enabling the Board to move beyond compliance and actively promote challenge of one another, and drive continuous improvement in practice and outcomes for children.

A priority area will be increasing the meaningful involvement of children and young people within governance. We will explore approaches to enable their participation at Board level, ensuring their lived experiences shape strategic priorities and influence service design and delivery. Young people have not wanted to attend the Board, so we will find alternative mechanisms to share their voice where necessary.

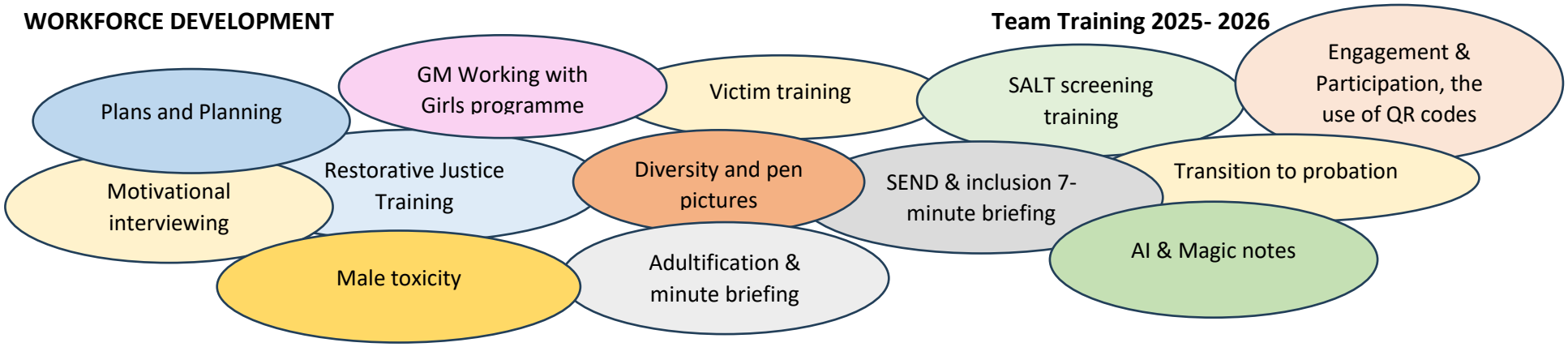
The Board will act as a platform to promote innovation and integrated service delivery, encouraging partners to bring forward joint solutions to complex and persistent issues that we are going to face as we move forward through the reforms proposed on national developments, including Youth Justice Board reforms and the Ministry of Justice “Cutting Youth Crime, Changing Young Lives” White Paper, to enable timely and effective local implementation.

Key priorities include supporting young people’s active involvement in governance and decision-making, strengthening innovation and the effective use of performance and quality data, identifying priority themes requiring additional focus and resources, and delivering targeted, outcome-focused action plans to address persistent challenges (including serious violence, education, engagement, and participation). Rather than sub-groups we plan to do this by a task and finish group approach, with actions and activity plans monitored through the Board.

Collectively, these actions will strengthen governance, accountability, and strategic leadership, and are expected to drive measurable improvements in service effectiveness, including enhanced ratings within the Youth Justice Board Performance Oversight Framework.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Team Training 2025- 2026



Above is some of the training that we have completed in 2025- 2026, and workforce development will remain a key priority in the coming year, with a focus on strengthening knowledge, skills, resilience, and staff morale during a period of change as Bury and Rochdale separate. A staff survey has been completed to identify training needs, enabling a targeted and responsive development plan aligned to both individual and service priorities. We have a 12-month training schedule aligned with what our workforce has told us, and our local team meetings and performance clinics.

We will continue to work closely with our corporate Learning and Development team and promote access to Safeguarding Partnership training, alongside strengthening links with the Youth Justice Legal Centre, Youth Endowment Fund, and other sector partners to ensure staff benefit from up-to-date, evidence informed practice. Learning from quality assurance, audits, and team discussions will continue to be embedded into a structured approach to ongoing improvement through team meetings, and induvial 1-1 learning sessions where appropriate.

Supervision and support will remain central, with personal supervision promoting wellbeing and reflective case supervision. Annual DELVE conversations will support professional development and progression. We will also prioritise staff recognition, with increased visibility from senior and corporate leaders to celebrate success and maintain morale. Our Assistant Director, and Heads of service attend a ‘breakfast’ event each month, presenting staff with certificates as recognition of good practice and commitment to providing a creative and innovate service to children.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority are developing a Youth Justice Hub, and this will further support centralised training and development across the ten Local Authorities to share best practice. The transition to separate Bury and Rochdale services during 2026–2027 will present some challenges, with staffing changes managed through TUPE arrangements. We will continue to work together to ensure that this is a period of clear communication and wellbeing support, and that staff across both Bury and Rochdale will be knowledgeable, and skilled.

KNIFE POSSESSION GUIDANCE [Government guidance for child knife possession offences (accessible) - GOV.UK]

We have worked collaboratively with partners who are aware of the guidance and the following has been implemented



STAGE 1: The Knife Possession Guidance has been implemented within our practice. The Greater Manchester lead police officer notifies our seconded police officers of any possession of knife offence, and they notify us within one-day. We do not provide a Youth Justice response at this stage. Police alerts are beyond our control; however, we have developed a tracker to keep a record of these alerts. Whilst we are not expected to intervene at the police investigation stage, we will ensure risks and safeguarding matters are addressed where they are brought to our attention.

STAGE 2: Our agreement is that all decisions on knife possession offences [within scope] must be reached in consultation between our police colleagues, and us through either individual consultation with a manager, head of service, or through our joint decision-making panel. This takes into consideration the child's circumstances, including risk and safeguarding information. We have strengthened our panel, to include a wide range of colleagues and partner from health, education, social care, police, complex safeguarding, and substance use services.

STAGE 3: Our multi agency decision making panel applies the Knife Possession Guidance, ensuring that where an Out of Court Resolution is agreed and Youth Justice support is required, allocation for assessment is immediate, engagement is mandatory and enforceable. The appropriate outcomes *as per the guidance*, are based on an assessment, and the subsequent outcome and plan must be agreed at panel. Clear processes are in place to record the rational where a deferred prosecution is agreed, and / or where an escalation may be necessary. Outcome 20 will only be applied where there is no public safety risk, and another agency is providing sole support.

STAGE 4: Appropriate interventions begin as soon as the panel has agreed the outcome, and the practitioner who completed the assessment continues to work with the child which promotes continuity. Interventions within the plan are expected to start within 5 working days of the outcome decision. Our practitioners' complete strengths based, trauma informed interventions from the Youth Endowment Fund resource toolkit, research in practice, virtual reality headset, or other trauma informed approaches.

STAGE 5: Knife crime and serious violence is on our Youth Justice Partnership Board agenda, who are aware of the new guidance. Whilst we have a wider greater Manchester scrutiny panel, we will ensure that our Board has oversight of data and delivery, and we include scrutiny through our quality assurance process.

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE AND INNOVATION

OUR FARM PROJECT







We are committed to evidence-based practice and continuous innovation to improve outcomes for children and families involved in youth justice. We are actively engaged in the Greater Manchester Remand Pilot, which has demonstrated significant success in promoting alternatives to secure remand, and we continue to embed its principles into our local practice to support children to achieve positive change.

We are also actively involved in the Transforming Youth Justice Community of Practice, contributing to and learning from a Greater Manchester-wide approach that promotes consistency, fairness, and improved outcomes for children and families across the Youth Justice system. In partnership with the Youth Endowment Fund, we are working within the National Diversion Whole Area Model to strengthen the delivery of out-of-court resolutions. This work focuses on developing more consistent, effective, and proportionate diversionary approaches that are informed by evidence, focused on prevention, and responsive to the needs of children. We continue to deliver Turnaround and work alongside our police colleagues through PIED.

Innovation within our service includes the implementation of a pilot *farm project*, which provides a trauma-informed and inclusive intervention designed to help children build trusting relationships, develop self-belief, self-worth, and confidence, and experience a sense of achievement. This social prescribing model is particularly targeted at children who experience emotional distress, struggle to take part, or are at risk of, or on the fringes of, violent behaviour. Feedback from the children so far has been very positive. Complementing this approach, we have secured an allotment space, and we have worked closely with Probation colleagues to develop the site as a positive and purposeful environment. Through outdoor activity, this year we are going to encourage children to engage with nature, learn about environmental sustainability, grow food and flowers, and create eco-friendly spaces that promote wildlife. These opportunities support emotional and mental health wellbeing, skill development, and pro-social identity, while strengthening community partnerships.

As a service, we remain open and responsive to new and emerging innovative projects, ensuring our practice continues to evolve in line with evidence, learning, and the needs of our children and communities. As we move forward through 2026 – 2027 our plan is to align more closely with the Families First model, and neighbourhood family hubs, reflecting a ‘think child, think family, think community’ approach. We hope to deliver AQA’s connected with the projects we are delivering, to further promote a sense of achievement, and reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

EVALUATION



Evaluation activity 2025- 2026: *We've had a busy 12 months of regular evaluation, and assurance through*

- *'Case file' audits, conversational audits*
- *thematic audits and deep dives around serious violence, working with girls, children in custody, victims, desistance factors, assessment & plans, and first-time entrants.*
- *Mock HMIP MACD [Oldham Peer]*

During 2025–2026, we have strengthened our approach to evaluation, quality assurance and performance oversight to support continuous improvement. This includes the development of new supervision and audit tools and the introduction of a quarterly quality assurance framework so that we are better able to reflect on what is working well, and what challenges we need to overcome. Each quarter focuses on case file audits moderated by the Head of Service, incorporating a conversational element with the child and their parents, alongside reflective discussion with practitioners. The framework follows a clear cycle of audit and moderation in month one, implementation of learning in month two, and review of impact in month three. Learning outcomes are actively acted upon through team meetings, planned learning events, scheduled staff training and workforce development, and are reflected within the service plan. We have also worked alongside Greater Manchester resettlement consortium lead, who has undertaken a peer-led mock HMIP Multi-Agency Case Discussion, the findings of which were reassuring and provided additional confidence in practice quality and consistency for a child who had been released from custody. We will remain actively engaged in the Greater Manchester Remand programme, with evaluation demonstrating positive outcomes.

We know we have more to do, and we are ambitious for 2026 – 2027. We have developed QR codes to enable children and parents to share feedback about their journey with us, and we use these at pertinent points or following specific activities. This has allowed us to collate feedback thematically, and evaluate what is going well, and what we need to strengthen so that we can continue to evolve. For example, children tell us they don't want to sit with 'pieces of paper' and we responded through thinking creatively and piloting the farm project, and allotment.

We evaluate our practice through a range of quality and performance assurance measures, notably monthly supervision and service quality assurance clinics, performance clinics with the Assistant Director, and oversight from the Youth Justice Partnership Board. We will further strengthen our evaluation framework and approach to understand how successful our interventions are in relation to specific domains: serious violence, prevention, and diversion.

PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR: Standards for children

Standard 1 out of court



We will promote police referrals into our service, and work with the Youth Endowment Fund to strengthen our practice. We will implement the knife crime guidance consistently, and we will see more children being supported at an earlier opportunity through Prevention, and Out of Court Resolutions. We will align closely with our families first partnership programme and connect with family hubs to reflect a think child, think family and think community principles. Challenges will be addressed through the Youth Justice Partnership Board.

Standard 2 at court



We will continue to provide a Court service for our children and families. We will screen all children who are listed at Court, & challenge instances where an OOCR would be appropriate. All children will be supported through proceedings, and have a good quality assessment, plan and pre-sentence report completed. We will develop communication material for the Court, Young People and parents to promote stronger relationships. Challenges will be addressed through the Youth Court Bench chair, who attends our Youth Justice Partnership Board.

Standard 3 in the community



We will continue to monitor children who are sentenced in Court and engage them and their parents throughout their order. Our focus will be on ensuring that our assessments, plans and service delivery is tailored to meet individual needs to promote inclusion and participation. We will commit to innovative and creative means to engage children and support them to achieve. Our focus this year will be promoting engagement and participation hearing and acting on feedback from children and parents. We will require support from Youth Justice Management Board partners to promote the voice of the child from their service perspective

Standard 4 in secure settings



We will strengthen our constructive resettlement approach through ensuring we consider the 5 Cs in our offer, constructive, co-created, customised, coordinated, and consistent practice. We will continue to work with partners, and to support children if they are remanded or sentenced to custody, to ensure family relations, education, health and accommodation are seamless. We will support our SEND children, through providing the secure estate with their communication passport. All children will be visited regularly by their case manager during their sentence.

Standard 5 on transition and resettlement



Risk and Resettlement plans will be tailored to the needs of the child, and include involvement from partners where appliable, and promote safeguarding for the child, victim and community. Contingency plans will be robust and focus on responding swiftly to any change in circumstances. Resettlement will begin at the start of the young person's involvement with us/ sentence, and will contain focus on keeping the child safe, healthy, heard, and successful through safe accommodation, appropriate health services, constructive activities.

VICTIMS, ENGAGEMENT & PARTICIPATION, TRANSITIONAL SAFEGUARDING

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT 2026-2027

We recognise that the Youth Justice landscape is evolving, both through the separation of Bury and Rochdale services and in response to wider reform. While our previous service plan was ambitious and challenging to fully deliver, it has led to meaningful progress, including strengthened leadership and governance and reductions in first-time entrants and reoffending. However, as we remain in Quadrant 3, we will adopt a more focused and streamlined approach for 2026–2027, aligning our priorities to the eight pillars of effective practice. Our key focus will be on addressing serious violence, improving access to education, training and employment, supporting children who have experienced adversity to build confidence and resilience, and strengthening safeguarding for victims and communities. Through this approach, we aim to provide clearer direction, more manageable delivery, and improved outcomes, ensuring children receive effective, supportive, and timely interventions to help them progress positively.

Activity	Outcomes
Practice informed by Child First decision-making: we will strengthen engagement and participation approaches and embed Child First principles consistently in practice. We will listen to and act on feedback from children and their parents/carers, using a clear 'you said, we did' approach to shape service delivery. Our focus will be on diverting children from the Youth Justice system through early intervention, partnership working, and targeted support, to reduce stigma and improve life chances.	Children will feel heard, supported, and able to achieve positive, sustainable futures. Outcomes will include reduced reoffending, increased engagement, improved wellbeing, and stronger connections to education and community.
Strong leadership and governance: We will strengthen leadership through the development of our individual Youth Justice Partnership Boards, promoting shared values with partners, clear accountability, and consistent senior engagement. This will be achieved through defined roles, structured performance reporting, and focused task-and-finish groups to address stubborn and challenging areas.	This will lead to improved partnership ownership, stronger oversight, more effective decision-making, and better coordinated services, resulting in improved outcomes for children.
Skilled and motivated workforce: Our practice is grounded in a relational model that prioritises trusted relationships and strengths-based, trauma-informed approaches. Our workforce development programme is shaped by quality assurance findings, staff feedback, surveys, and safeguarding partnership learning, ensuring training is targeted and responsive to need. This is supported through regular supervision, structured case support, and ongoing professional development. Additional support is in place as we progress through service separation.	This will strengthen practitioner confidence, consistency of practice, and staff wellbeing, resulting in more effective engagement with children, improved quality of interventions, and better outcomes for those within our service.
Effective multi-agency working: We will improve outcomes by strengthening joint assessments, shared planning, and decision-making through regular joint supervision, risk and safeguarding processes with key partners. Clear information-sharing protocols and agreed goals will ensure coordinated, timely responses.	This will lead to targeted intervention, reduced risk, and more consistent safeguarding, ensuring children receive the right support at the right time, experience fewer fragmented services, and achieve improved safety, stability, and overall outcomes.

Focused on positive outcomes: We will deliver improved outcomes by supporting children to develop positive identities, strengthen family relationships, and build community connections, with a particular focus on increasing engagement with Family Hubs. This will be achieved through Child First, strengths-based approaches and the delivery of innovative, inclusive interventions that promote engagement, participation, and a sense of belonging.	This approach will increase engagement, improve family stability and community connections, reduce reoffending, and support sustained pro-social behaviour change, enabling children to achieve safer, more positive long-term outcomes.
Support victims and embed restorative justice approaches: We will strengthen outcomes for victims by ensuring they are consistently informed, supported, and offered restorative approaches where appropriate, in line with the Victims' Code. This will be achieved through close partnership working with police colleagues to secure and record victim consent, alongside embedding restorative principles across assessments, planning, and decision-making forums to ensure the victim's voice is central.	This will increase victim participation, satisfaction, and confidence in the process, while promoting accountability among children, supporting repair of harm, and contributing to reduced reoffending and safer communities.
Qualitative and quantitative measures: We will review and refine our data sets to ensure we are focused on the right priorities, using data proactively to drive improvement rather than solely for reporting purposes. This will include strengthening how performance information informs planning, Board oversight, and decision-making, with a clear emphasis on learning, accountability, and impact. We will also implement consistent processes to gather and analyse feedback from children, parents/carers, and partners, ensuring it is routinely reviewed and acted upon to shape service delivery.	This will lead to more informed decision-making, improved service responsiveness, stronger participation, and increased engagement, resulting in better targeted interventions and improved outcomes for children and families.
Shared learning and support: We will continue to invest in our workforce through locally sourced training. We will embed and sustain improvement through collaboration with colleagues and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Youth Justice Hub to share good practice and learning across services. Our collaboration will extend to Safeguarding Partnerships and organisations such as the Youth Endowment Fund to support scrutiny and structured evaluation, to further our learning.	This will increase practitioner confidence, consistency of practice, and shared accountability across partners, ensuring learning is sustained over time and resulting in improved service quality and better outcomes for children and families.

Serious Violence	Education, training, Employment	Vulnerability	Risk
We will work collaboratively to reduce & respond to knife crime; violence against girls: toxic masculine: and other violence offences through delivering VR decision making programmes. We will develop an evaluation framework to better understand what is working well, and what to strengthen.	*We will support all our children to have the right ETE for them, considering SEND & EHCP needs. We will work collaboratively to advocate for children to reduce exclusions, increase attendance and recognise small steps = big achievements. We will deliver AQA's to develop confidence in ability to achieve.*	*We will be innovative and creative & deliver a range of evidence-based interventions to reach all our children, with particular focus around those who are disproportionally represented. We will support parents to be resilient and promote stronger family relationships to increase safety and stability at home.*	*We will strengthen our response to children who as 'high ROSH / Re-offending' through focused management oversight, robust multi agency plans and contingency arrangements. The voice of victims will be heard through assessment & plans, and our response for them will be tailored during service delivery.*

NATIONAL PRIORITY AREAS

Certain groups of children continue to be disproportionately represented within the youth justice system and across wider services. While referral decisions sit outside the direct control of our service, we recognise that children from minoritised ethnic backgrounds, those with SEND or EHCPs, children in care, and those already known to other agencies are more likely to be referred and consequently over-represented. Our data tells us which groups are affected so that we continue to work so that our practice supports engagement is equitable, inclusive, culturally informed and responsive to lived experience. Bury and Rochdale have identified over-representation within the groups outlined below, which will remain a priority focus for development and improvement.

Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Total Caseload		Total Caseload%	
	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale
White	47	51	74.6%	58.6%
Asian	7	15	11.1%	17.2%
Black	3	5	4.8%	5.7%
Chinese/Other	1	2	1.6%	2.3%
Mixed	5	8	7.9%	9.2%
Unknown	0	6	0.0%	6.9%
Total	63	87	100%	100%

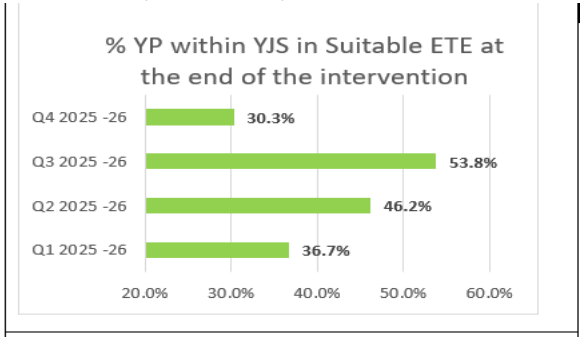
[Data is showing open interventions between Q4 2025-2026]

Caveat that this is based on small numbers and can be misleading

There remains a disproportionate overall picture across some ethnic groups with 34.7% of our children from Asian, Black or Mixed heritage groups. We have implemented our disproportionality policy and designed quality assurance process to consider diversity and equality in our practice.

Our ambition in 2026-2027 is *to support our partners through discussions at our Board to understand their own data around ethnicity, and provide an analysis of disproportionality, and actions to address that. We will continue to support our workforce to be culturally competent.*

EDUCATION, TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT

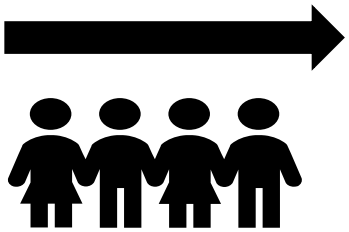


Data Quarter 4 2025- 2026

Children who are open to Youth Justice often struggle with ETE. At the end of their intervention 30.3% of children were in suitable education. 15.3% of children had a Statement of Educational Needs; and 10.47% had an Education Health Care Plan.

Our ambition in 2026-2027 is referred to on page 23. We will support children to feel a sense of achievement through delivering AQA's; and work closely with our educational colleagues to advocate for children to have access to the right education, training and employment. This will include working with school to reduce exclusions, be inclusive, and promote attendance.

Gender



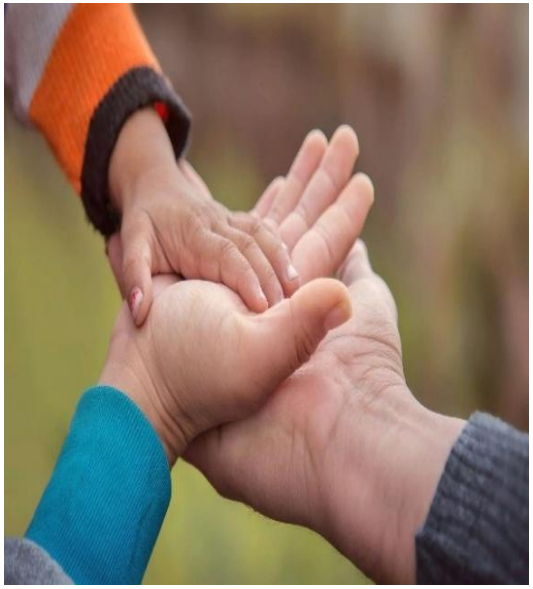
22 Girls open to our service, [14.66 %] which compares with the National average of

128 Boys open to our service, [85.33%] which compares with the National average of

The number of girls open to the Youth Justice Service has remained relatively consistent across quarters 1–4 in 2025–2026. We have worked collaboratively with the Greater Manchester Working with Girls group to identify areas requiring targeted support, resulting in the development of a Greater Manchester programme and resource toolkit to guide practice.

Our ambition is to implement this model during 2026–2027 and evaluate its effectiveness through direct feedback from girls. We will continue to work with colleagues & partners to further develop the programme, including consideration of violence against girls and the impact of toxic masculinity. Over the next 12 months, we expect to make measurable progress in strengthening outcomes for girls, including through aligned work with boys to promote healthier behaviours and relationships.

Cared for children



We understand our data, and the number of children open to wider services, including those who are cared for, and the complexity and additional vulnerabilities this brings. We acknowledge that our cared for children are among the most vulnerable, often having experienced significant trauma. By Quarter 4, one of twelve cared for children had committed offences within their care setting, and we continue to work closely with providers to promote placement stability and prevent breakdown. We deliver a child-first, trauma-informed service that considers the child's lived experience and the impact of trauma and adversity. We work collaboratively with care providers, both residential placements and foster care as well as children who cared at home with parents.

We continue to advocate for Out of Court Resolutions (OOCRs) wherever it is safe and appropriate. All cases listed for Court are screened in advance to assess opportunities for diversion from proceedings, and we maintain strong support for timely and appropriate child information disclosures to the Crown Prosecution Service.

In 2026–2027, we have strengthened our advocacy for cared for children through promoting joint supervision where appropriate, assurance oversight, and multi-agency audit arrangements. This ensures a consistent approach for our cared for children.

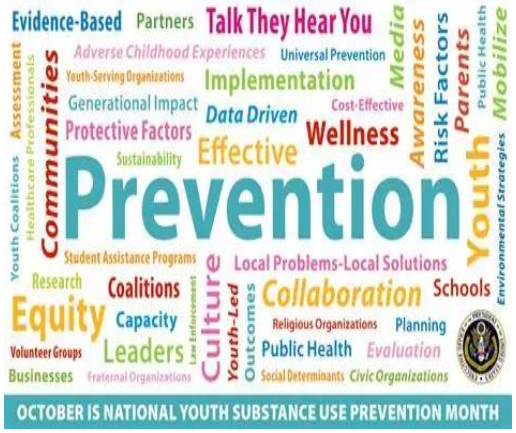
POLICING



We have a strong collaboration with police across Bury and Rochdale, supported by two seconded police officers, who regularly attend multi agency partnership meetings to share information and support us to safeguarding the child, and others, including victims. Our police officers provide monthly data sharing, sharing information about stop and search, arrests/ outcomes and areas of disproportionality. Our collaboration has supported us to reduce the number of First Time Entrants rate. However, our data highlights a gap between the police recorded disposals and Youth Justice referrals.

Going forward we need to increase police-led victim consent, so that we have an opportunity to support more victims. A further priority for 2026- 2027 is to reduce missed opportunities to support children through increasing referrals at the police stage.

PREVENTION



Bury Local Authority deliver their own Prevention & Turnaround support

Rochdale: At Quarter 4 of 2025–2026, 19 children (12.7%) were open to the Rochdale Prevention Service. Support was delivered primarily through the Turnaround programme (68.4%), alongside school-based prevention through the Knife Crime Exclusion Programme (15.8%), mentoring-based prevention interventions (10.5%), and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) prevention (5.3%). We continue to deliver both PPIED and Turnaround interventions, working closely with partners to prevent children from further entering the youth justice system through targeted support. However, we also recognise that these children have already come to the attention of the police, or other services so our ambition is to support the right children at an earlier stage.

Bury: prevention service for the same time saw 40 young people open to prevention with 18 (45%) eligible and accessing Turnaround support. Of that 40, 9 young people also received intensive direct mentoring support. Referral rationale was split with 10 (25%) referred for HSB and 30 (75%) for prevention. School based 'A knife is a Life' PHSE session and the wider 'stop the bleed' offer continued to be delivered across the partnership, offered to all secondary schools, to better inform and identify our early intervention prevention cohort.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, priorities include reviewing joint working arrangements to strengthen our connectivity with family hubs and schools so that we are more able to identify and support children at an earlier stage. We plan to strengthen our evaluation framework, using re-offending rates in this group of children, and feedback from children, parents and carers to better understand our improvement journey. Ambitiously we would like to develop an offer for children who have been stopped and searched, where the police have decided to take no further action.

DIVERSION



During 2025–2026, we supported 80 children through Out of Court Resolution pathways, including Youth Cautions Conditional (16), Youth Cautions (18), Community Resolutions (22) and Outcome 22 disposals (29).

We have strengthened the joint decision-making panel by broadening membership, implementing a more structured decision-making pathway, and introducing improved tracking systems. Partners have also been briefed on the knife crime guidance to support consistency in practice. We continue to work closely with police colleagues to ensure that all children considered for an OOCR receive a timely assessment, recommendation and support plan. Over the past year, it was agreed that children closing to panel would be reviewed to identify whether further referrals are required and/or whether they should be offered additional prevention support. The continued reduction in First Time Entrants indicates that our prevention and diversion approach is effective.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, our priorities remain unchanged and have been escalated to the Board. Key areas of focus include reducing the number of children receiving multiple Community Resolutions or Outcome 22 disposals prior to referral into Youth Justice and developing a robust evaluation framework to better understand impact, and strengths and areas for development.

EDUCATION



Child	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SEN	24	45	43	56
EHCP	18	24	23	23

The percentage of children engaged in suitable education, training or employment has fluctuated across last year, ranged from 30.3% to 53.8 %. Suitable education, training or employment, is defined as a minimum of 25 hours per week in education or 16 hours in paid work, training, college or volunteering for post-16 young people. We continue to see an increase in children presenting with complex needs, including SEND, and those with an EHCP. We continue to work closely with our Education Welfare Officer, who promotes engagement and learning opportunities with education providers. We also work closely with Bury Connexions and Rochdale Positive Steps to support children into education, training and employment.

In partnership with our Speech and Language Therapist, we have introduced communication passports for neurodiverse children, ensuring communication needs are recognised in court proceedings. All children are screened for SALT needs, and practice is adapted so that we work with children in a way that is meaningful to them.

Our aim in 2026- 2027 is to focus on inclusion, reduce exclusions, increase attendance, and introduce AQA accreditation, enabling children to gain recognised achievements through reparation activities and engagement in projects such as farm and allotment programmes, supporting motivation, confidence and progression. We have recently experienced changes to our targeted careers guidance offer but we remain committed to promoting fair access to specialist careers guidance through appropriate pathways and enhanced monitoring.

RESTORATIVE APPROACHES AND VICTIMS



[The Code of Practice for Victims of Crime in England and Wales and supporting public information materials - GOV.UK](#) *We commission Remedi to deliver an independent victim support service, ensuring victims' voices are embedded throughout Youth Justice practice. Clear processes are in place for the Remedi Victim Worker to promote victim consent at the police stage, proactively contact victims, identify and escalate any gaps in engagement, and ensure victims are offered timely support in line with the codes of practice. The Remedi worker will also explore the opportunity for victims to engage in restorative justice, either directly or indirectly.*

The Victim Worker attends all relevant forums, sharing the victim's voice in discussions relating to risk management, safeguarding and reparation activity. We have delivered briefings through team meetings to strengthen the voice of the victim, and their views so that they inform and influence assessments, plans and interventions, to promote restorative and meaningful outcomes for both victims and children. Remedi share data and victims feedback at each Board for oversight. In 2025- 2026 A total of136 victims provided consent for their information to be shared with the police. Of these, 88 agreed to be contacted by our team, & 59 engaged in discussions around restorative justice opportunities. Among those who consented to contact, 59 were consulted for their views prior to OOC & court disposals and were given the opportunity to be kept informed about the child's progress. Our aim is to continue to strengthen a tailored approach through the child's plan to respond to victims wishes

REPARATION



Over Christmas, Olivia and young people on reparation had the brilliant idea of bringing veterans together for a festive brunch! The young people were involved every step of the way. One young person helped write a successful donation application to Greggs as well as managing to get a 6ft Christmas tree donated. Multiple young people created posters and helped send out invitations. Each young person played their part individually and took real pride in seeing the event come together. One young person who attended on the day was so pleased with how everything went, he asked to be involved in the next project, even though he had already completed his reparation hours! A brilliant example of the positive impact this kind of work can have.

Remedi have fostered relationships with several organisations in the community, Trinity Community foodbank, youth club and veteran's breakfast: Radcliffe litter pickers; growing together Radcliffe; Nature Wild: Little Britain Anglers; the Rock shopping centre; Rochdale AFC; and the Canal and River trust. 100% of our victims said the restorative justice helped them feel safer, and 100% of our children said that this had increased their understanding of the impact of their behaviour.

Victims' journey: *An incident occurred between a teaching assistant and a student that led that student to become involved in Youth Justice. Our victim worker facilitated a direct meeting between them and supported an open conversation that was respectful and restorative, with both parties hearing the other. The victim fed back:* ***"I still remained vigilant but no longer feel fear about coming into school"***

Reparation: *An RJ case was completed between two brothers following an alcohol-related conflict. A direct meeting enabled both to reflect on what happened, agree how to manage future disagreements, and explore ways to rebuild their relationship. They identified shared activities, such as watching films and spending time together, to strengthen their bond. The meeting was a positive step forward, helping them reconnect and begin repairing their relationship.* The family shared that since this RJ intervention, ***"that the dynamic between the brothers has dramatically improved, even resulting in the victim (older brother) sitting down and helping him with his college application"***

SERIOUS VIOLENCE, EXPLOITTION AND CONTEXTUAL SAFEGUARDING

Data for the year ending June 2025 identified 62 recorded serious violence offences involving children, representing an increase of 42 compared to the same period in the previous year. The rate of serious violence per 10,000 of the 10–17 population increased to 13.3, a rise of 4.3. Robbery, knife-related incidents, and violence against the person continue to be key themes.

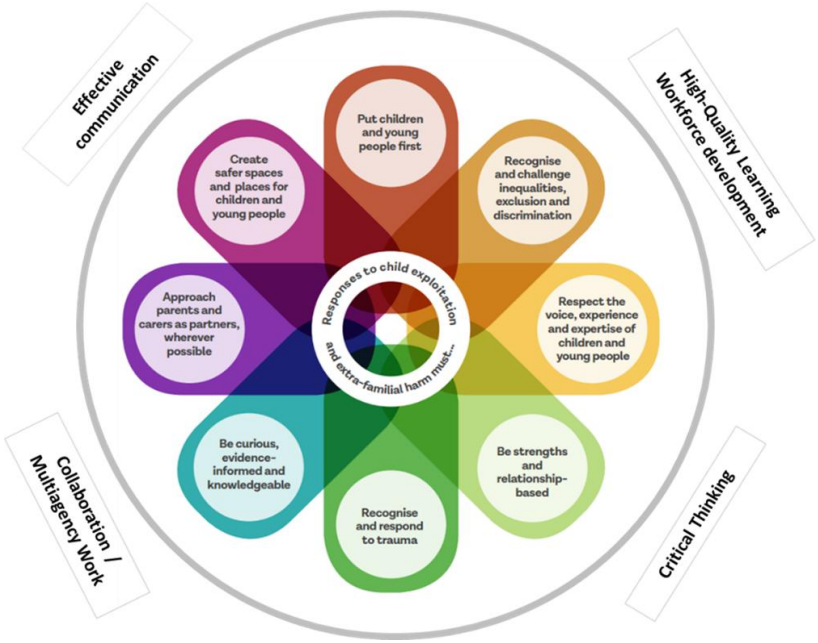
We have maintained a dedicated serious violence project lead, alongside a Youth Justice Partnership Board sub-group focused specifically on addressing serious violence. A serious violence thematic audit was completed to improve our understanding of early indicators, and we have continued to deliver targeted interventions, including the Virtual Reality Knife Crime Programme and School Exclusion Prevention initiative. In addition, health partners have recently introduced 'Stop the Bleed' sessions.

We have implemented an enhanced data set and monthly performance report to better understand trends and underlying factors and have strengthened partnership connectivity through active engagement in Community Safety and Serious Violence Partnership Boards. Despite this, there has been limited impact to date, and serious violence rates remain higher than we would want.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027 serious violence will remain a priority for the Youth Justice Partnership Board, and service delivery. There is a need to reflect on individual Local Authority data sets as our Youth Justice services separate so that our offer is targeted. We will strengthen our early help offer through improved connectivity with family hubs and schools, enabling earlier identification and intervention; enhance mechanisms for feedback from children and their parents/carers; introduce regular assurance and oversight meetings; implement the knife crime guidance referenced earlier; and continue to challenge and support partners to ensure resources are creative, evidence based, effective and targeted. We are committed to developing robust evaluation framework.

COMPLEX SAFEGUARDING

Rochdale Complex Safeguarding Service and Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice share the same Head of Service, while Bury Complex Safeguarding operates under its own leadership. Both services continue to work in close partnership with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, which brings together statutory safeguarding partners in a unified regional approach. Bury and Rochdale Youth Justice are aligned in principle with the Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) eight principles, as illustrated in the diagram below. These principles underpin our approach to complex safeguarding and reflect our commitment to child-centred, trauma-informed practice. The Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding Strategy 2024–2027 https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/2z5p0kqu/greater-manchester-complex-safeguarding-strategy-final-accessible.pdf is delivered across four strategic pillars: Prevention and Early Intervention, Intervention and Protection, Disruption, and Recovery. These pillars closely align with the core aims of Greater Manchester Youth Justice, demonstrating a shared set of values, priorities, and delivery objectives across both services.



Bury and Rochdale have established information and intelligence-sharing arrangements. At the end of Quarter 4 (2024–2025), Rochdale's Complex Safeguarding Team had 72 children open to them. Of these, 19 (26.38%) were also open to Youth Justice, with 14 (19.44%) linked to child criminal exploitation and 5 (6.9%) to child sexual exploitation. Among these children, 11 [57%] had active National Referral Mechanism (NRM) submissions: 4 [21%] with conclusive grounds, 7 [36%] with reasonable grounds, and 8 [42%] assessed as not requiring an NRM. In Quarter 1 of 2025, Greater Manchester Police made 82 child-related referrals under the Modern Slavery framework—2 from Bury and 6 from Rochdale.

We have strengthened our integration with Complex Safeguarding through joint supervision arrangements, and we attend multi-agency wider safeguarding meetings, including contextual safeguarding mapping meetings. We have developed assurance process so that our Head of Service has oversight of our most worrying children, improving alignment and shared accountability.

In 2026–2027, we will prioritise improving recording to ensure all children open to Complex Safeguarding are accurately reflected on the Youth Justice system.

Detention in Police custody



We have strengthened police data both operationally and at Board level, and we now have monthly data reports that provide the number of stop and search completed, arrests, detentions overnight, number released under investigation, bailed, charged and no further action. The police data also provides the detail of ethnicity, so we have a much clearer understanding of performance. Monthly scrutiny of children detained overnight has been implemented, and is reported in our quality and performance reports, and we can see clear evidence of child-centred policing approaches and clear rationale recorded in a few cases, and good examples have been shared at the Board.

However, the rates of no further action continue to be high following stop and search and arrest activity, and we have reflected on whether these are missed opportunities for children to receive some targeted support.

Going forward, there is a need to reduce missed opportunities for early intervention, particularly by increasing referrals from police into Youth Justice at the earliest stage.

Remand

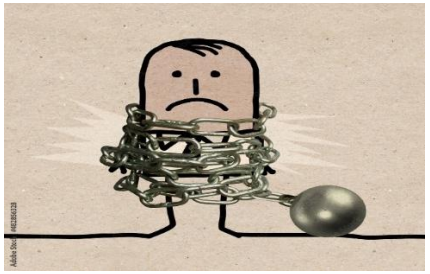
Our data in Q4 2024- 2025 shows that we have low remand rates. Notably we had 1 child in custody on remand during quarter 4 2025-2026 of Asian ethnicity. This child became cared for because of their remand.

We are aligned with the Greater Manchester Remand pilot which has improved regional oversight and consistency in decision-making for children at risk of remand. Whilst we continue to promote alternative to secure remand options such as the Intense Supervision Surveillance programme, or remand to the care of the local authority, we also have access to alternative remand provision through Greater Manchester 'Branch' dedicated accommodation.

Exec Summary - Remand Project

Going forward, we will support Greater Manchester to continue to invest in alternatives to custodial remands through community approaches such as remand fostering, where it is safe to do so.

CUSTODY



Custody rate per 1,000 per 10-17 population.	Bury & Rochdale	Greater Manchester	YJ Family	England	Northwest
Jan - Dec 2025	**0.17**	**0.10**	**0.11**	**0.09**	**0.09**
Oct - Sep 2024	0.19	0.13	0.13	0.10	0.11
Jul 24 - Jun25	0.17	0.16	0.13	0.10	0.14
Apr - Mar 2025	0.13	0.14	0.13	0.10	0.13

Between January- March 2025 our custody rate spiked to 0.17, reflection 6 children entering custody (4 sentenced, 2 remanded), placing us above comparator areas. This represents an exceptional spike rather than a sustained trend, with oversight confirming that cases involved serious offences, and that alternatives to custody were appropriately presented, although not accepted by the Court. It is noted that 3 of the 4 sentenced children were from non-white backgrounds, highlighting a need to further examine disproportionality within sentencing outcomes. In January – March 2026 we had 3 children sentenced in custody, 2 of which are of non-white heritage. Looking ahead to 2026–2027, the priority will be to strengthen the Court's confidence in community alternatives to custody, working with the Youth Bench Chair, through the Youth Justice Partnership Board and ensuring pre-sentence reports clearly articulate the risks of custody and the benefits of community-based interventions.

AND…. **CONSTRUCTIVE RESETTLEMENT:** We know that Children in custody are likely to be amongst the most complex and vulnerable children in society and we work collaboratively with partners from the pre-sentence report stage through to the end of their journey.

We gatekeep all PSR's to quality assure our recommendations	*We have a practitioner in Court to support the child & offer guidance*	*Every child in custody is discussed at our multi agency risk meeting*	*Accommodation, family, health and education are central*	*Resettlement starts at the beginning & the end*

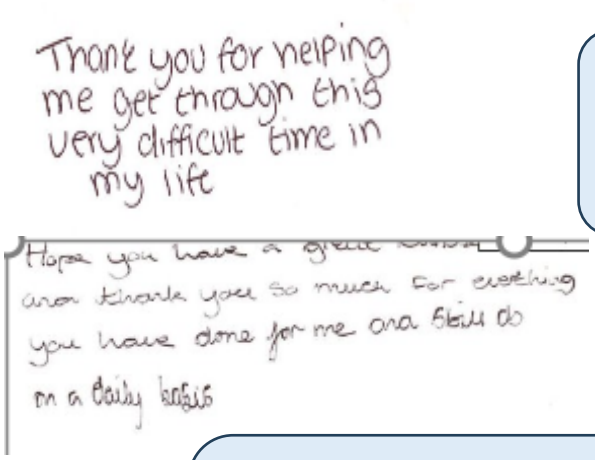
Collaboration with children, families and victims

Our aim is to always reflect on Constructive Resettlement through the (5C's) approach. We **C**ustomise our plans to each child and **C**o-create: we **C**onsistently support stable relationships before, during and after custody: we offer **C**oordination of services, so we are working together to achieve shared goals: and we **C**ollaborate with all professionals and services involved so that we work together to promote safety and stability, paying particular attention to education, training and accommodation for release. Whilst custody is sometimes necessary, this must continue to be the exception rather than the rule. We understand that children's lives are profoundly disrupted, and unravel following their removal from society, and going forward our responsibility is to ensure that we will continue to provide continuity.

WORKING WITH FAMILIES

Bury and Rochdale have their own family help offers. Both Local Authorities deliver the Turnaround programme, adopting a whole-family approach to prevent offending and re-offending. Our work recognises that strengthening relationships within the family where possible is central to achieving sustained positive outcomes for children. We support children, parents and carers to build meaningful, trusting relationships through collaboration during assessments, plans and delivering interventions that promotes safety, stability and resilience in the home environment. We understand that this can be quite difficult for children who have experienced diversity, and who are living in care placements.

We actively involve parents and carers throughout the child's journey, including in assessments, intervention planning and service delivery. We prioritise their voice through a range of feedback mechanisms, including QR codes, in-person review meetings, and conversational audits, ensuring their experiences inform both individual plans and wider service development. Feedback from children and families has been consistently positive, highlighting improved relationships, increased understanding, and stronger engagement with support.



Mum and dad said your input was particularly special. Mum got a bot tearful at one point because of the progress, XXX had made and described you as 'like a member of the family' and 'got stuck in'.

'I wanted to take a moment to share my appreciation for the incredible support my son and I have received from Andrea Llywelyn-Jones. From the very first meeting, she created a sense of safety, calm and normality. That alone made a world of difference.

Michelle has been very understanding and very patient. She has put things in place to help XXX

XXX is more thoughtful around his behaviour. Dave has done great work with him. Dave has always been very patient and kind to explaining all the work they have done together. And explaining the effects of XXX behaviour. Dave has always treated XXX with respect

Her dad told the Panel, 'Leanne has been absolutely brilliant, I can't speak more highly of her. If XXX doesn't get on with someone, they won't get anything out of her but Leanne brought it out of her. Although she was nice with XXX, she didn't take any messing about'. Dad felt XXX was lucky to have got a case manager like you and added she is 'like a different Child' and. He shared his concerns that 6mths ago, he was really worried about where XXX would end up and feels the intervention with YJS, 'WORKS!'

We recognise that building resilience within families is key to enabling children to make and sustain positive change, and we continue to embed this understanding across our practice. We have dedicated practitioners who attend our Early Help Panels which has strengthened our insight into what is required to support families through coordinated responses.

Looking ahead, our focus is to reflect on the Families First reforms, strengthen our integration with Family Hubs and adopt a neighbourhood-based model as we transition to deliver our separate Youth Justice services. Our approach will be underpinned by the principles of “think child, think family, think community”, ensuring that support is rooted in the child and families lived experience and local context. This will enable us to support children and families to access a broader, more consistent network of resources that can be sustained beyond our involvement, ultimately reducing re-offending and promoting long-term positive outcomes.

Sign off, submission and approval

Youth justice plans, in England only, must be signed off by the full council in accordance with 'Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000'.

Jeanette Richards

Director Children Services Bury

Chair Youth Justice Management Board

Signature

Date

Abu Siddique

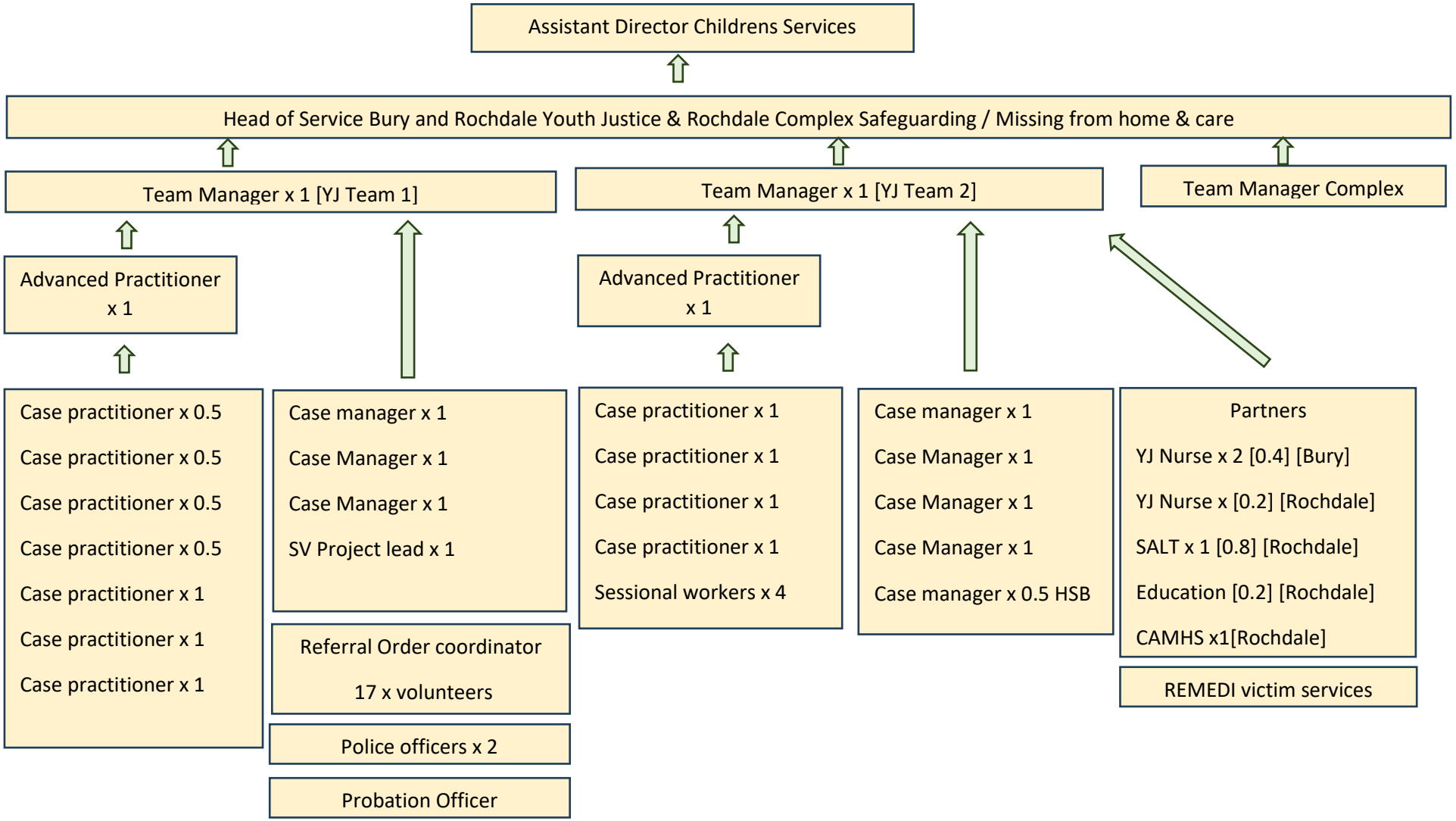
Assistant Director Children Services Rochdale

Co- Chair Youth Justice Management Board

Signature

Date

Appendix 1: Staffing Establishment



Appendix 1: Staff & social graces

Gender	Number	Ethnicity	Number	Disability	Number
Male	10	White	21	Yes	-
Female	16	Asian	3	No	19
Other	-	Black	-	No answered	7
Not answered	-	Dual Heritage	2		
		Other	-		

Appendix 2: Funding

Expenditure	Salaries	Activity cost	Overheads	Total Expenditure
YJB Grant Rochdale	638,898.00			638,898.00
Bury Contribution	450,505.00			
LA Rochdale	772,458.00	140,538.00	453,046.00	1,366,042.00
Police	35,000.000			35,000.00
Probation	3,500.00			3,500.00
Health	15,000.00			15,000.00
Total	£1,915,361.00	140,538.00	453,046.00	2,058,440.00

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Bury & Rochdale Youth Justice Partnership Board

October 2026

Performance Report

Q2 - Jul - Sep 2026

Introduction

This report focuses upon the Youth Justice Service performance and is based upon information collected locally through the case management system (IYSS) and nationally through the Ministry of Justice YJ Application Framework (YDS), Home Office and Police National Computer.

The report covers the following national measures:

- Reoffending Rates
- Serious Youth Violence
- First Time Entrants
- Custody Rates

The national figures shown are subject to various time lags. Reoffending figures in particular can seem quite dated. This is due to the process of tracking re-offences over a 12-month period which then requires a further 6 months for sentencing before the rates can be calculated. As details of young people in the national cohorts are not shared it is sometimes difficult to reconcile national outcomes with what local data is indicating. This is something that YOTs are pursuing through the YJB as a shared concern. However national measures remain a valuable indication of performance particularly due to the comparative data at a family, regional and national level which they provide.
The report covers the following local performance measures:

- Education, training and employment
- Suitable Accommodation
- Local reoffending
- Interventions Started with offences
- Cared for Children
- Diversity

Local data relates to the latest quarterly figures available. As we are able to identify cases and specific circumstances impacting upon performance it is possible to drill down in far more detail into the local data. This is reflected in the commentary which includes relevant operational details of developments and issues.

National KPI's

Custody rate

During the period Jul - Sep 2026 **2** children received a custodial sentence. This compares to **2** children during the period Jul - Sep 2025. As of 15/10/2026 there is 1 child serving a custodial sentence



Reoffending Rates

COHORT 3 months Jul - Sep 2024

Binary 13.2%

Frequency per reoffender 1.60

Of the 38 young people in the cohort 5 of these had reoffended after 12 MThs

FTE Rate

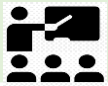
Data shows a decrease in the FTE rate for the period Jul - Jun 26 **83** (123 children per 100,000 population), compared to Jul - Jun 2025 **83** (175 children per 100,000)

Local Data



Custody

Q2 2026-26 **8% 2/25** Outcomes appeared in court for sentence were given custody compared to Q2 2025-26 **9.1% 3/33** Outcomes



ETE

Q2 2026-27 **45.8% 22/48** children were in suitable ETE when the order ended of the 26 not in suitable ETE, 7 were not receiving any form of ETE compared to Q2 2025-26 **46.2% 18/39**



Accommodation

Q2 2026-27 100**% 48/48** children were in suitable accommodation when their order ended compared to Q2 2025-26 **97.4% 38/39**



C4C

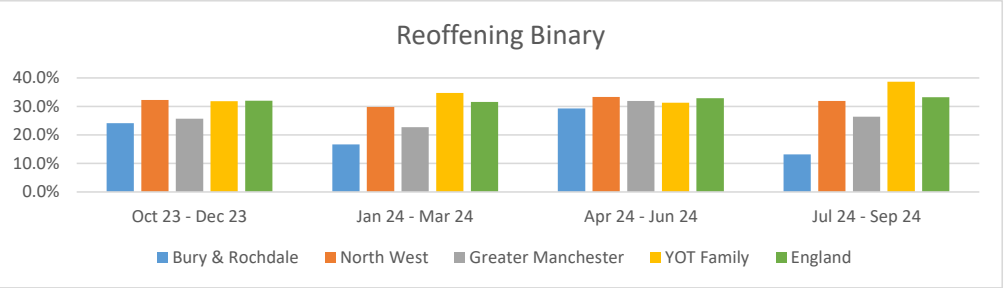
Q1 2026-27 there were 13 C4C open to YJS **8.7%** of the Bury & Rochdale YJS caseload compared to Q2 2025-26 - **21 11.6%. Of the 14 C4C 1 child was open to YJS due to offences that took place within their care setting**

Reoffending

Reoffending Binary	Bury & Rochdale	North West	Greater Manchester	YOT Family	England
Jul 24 - Sep 24	**13.2%**	**31.9%**	**26.4%**	**38.7%**	**33.2%**
Apr 24 - Jun 24	29.3%	33.3%	31.9%	31.3%	32.9%
Jan 24 - Mar 24	16.7%	29.8%	22.7%	34.7%	31.6%
Oct 23 - Dec 23	24.1%	32.3%	25.7%	31.8%	32.0%

Reoffending Frequency rate per reoffender	Bury & Rochdale	North West	Greater Manchester	YOT Family	England
Jul 24 - Sep 24	**1.60**	**4.24**	**3.83**	**3.86**	**4.8**
Apr 24 - Jun 24	4.08	4.37	3.61	4.33	4.52
Jan 24 - Mar 24	2.83	5.09	4.53	4.34	4.66
Oct 23 - Dec 23	3.07	4.55	4.23	4.17	4.52

The tables show reoffending rates for the last 4 available quarters. The data for this indicator comes from the Police National Computer and is published by the Ministry of Justice. Reoffending rates for the Jul 24 - Sep 24 cohort are the latest currently available. Each cohort consists of all young people who received a pre-court or court disposal or were released from custody during a 3-month period and were then tracked for reoffending over the following 12-months.



Latest Reoffender Numbers and rates - Greater Manchester	Jul 23 - Sep 23						Jul 23 - Sep 24					
	Number in the cohort	Number of reoffenders	Number of reoffences	Reoffences per reoffender	Reoffences per offender	% Reoffending	Number in the cohort	Number of reoffenders	Number of reoffences	Reoffences per reoffender	Reoffences per offender	% Reoffending
Bury & Rochdale	**33**	**7**	**15**	**2.14**	**0.45**	**21.2%**	**38**	**5**	**8**	**1.60**	**0.21**	**13.2%**
Bolton	26	5	10	2.00	0.38	19.2%	35	11	38	3.45	1.09	31.4%
Manchester	86	28	88	3.14	1.02	32.6%	73	21	100	4.76	1.37	28.8%
Oldham	13	1	4	4.00	0.31	7.7%	20	2	13	6.50	0.65	10.0%
Salford	26	6	21	3.50	0.81	23.1%	19	8	25	3.13	1.32	42.1%
Stockport	17	5	27	5.40	1.59	29.4%	18	5	19	3.80	1.06	27.8%
Tameside	12	2	4	2.00	0.33	16.7%	19	4	4	1.00	0.21	21.1%
Trafford	9	2	4	2.00	0.44	22.2%	8	2	3	1.50	0.38	25.0%
Wigan	32	9	28	3.11	0.88	28.1%	16	7	39	5.57	2.44	43.8%
Greater Manchester	254	65	201	3.09	0.79	25.6%	246	65	249	3.83	1.01	26.4%
England and Wales	3,675	1,170	5,145	4.40	1.40	31.8%	3,520	1,173	5,631	4.80	1.60	33.3%
YOT Family	292	99	394	3.98	1.30	33.9%	320	114	429	3.76	1.34	35.6%

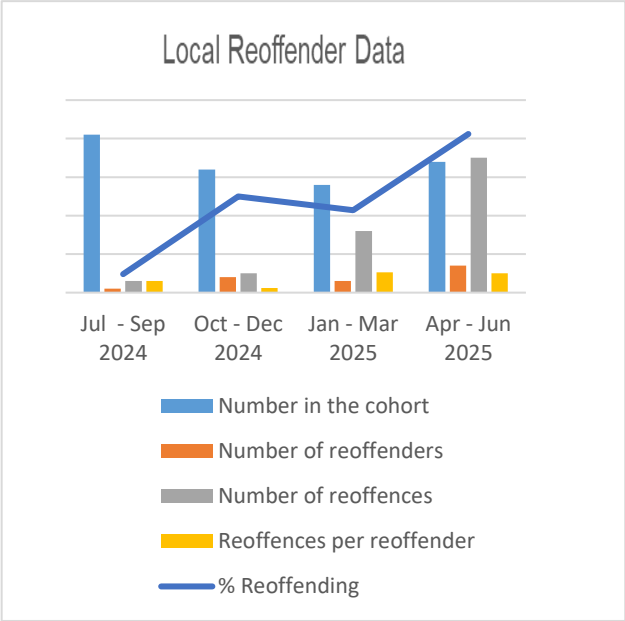
Local Reoffending Rates using the Reoffending Tool kit data

The local reoffender data has not reported on 18 year olds reoffending due to the YJS not receiving this data. The data is still historical but based on cohorts within the past 12-mths, rather than 24-mths (national data).

Apr - Jun 2025 - the local reoffending data above is a more recent snapshot per quarter than the national data. It is more prone to fluctuations and is best understood as a 12-mth average based on a larger cohort sample. The latest quarter data shows that 7 children from 34 children reoffended (20.6%) at a rate of 5 re-offences per child. 2 of the children who reoffended were cared for children at the time of the original outcome. All of the children are male. 4 of the children identify as white, 1 Asian, 1 Black and 1 mixed. The percentage of reoffending has increased from 10.7% for Jan - Mar 2025 to 20.6% in Apr - Jun 2025. This data has NOT been verified.

Offences committed are only counted until the child is 18 years old, any offences committed over that age within the COHORT are not counted locally.

Local Reoffender Data	Number in the cohort	Number of reoffenders	Number of reoffences	Reoffences per reoffender	% Reoffending
Apr - Jun 2025	34	7	35	5.0	20.6%
Jan - Mar 2025	28	3	16	5.3	10.7%
Oct - Dec 2024	32	4	5	1.2	12.5%
Jul - Sep 2024	41	1	3	3.0	2.4%



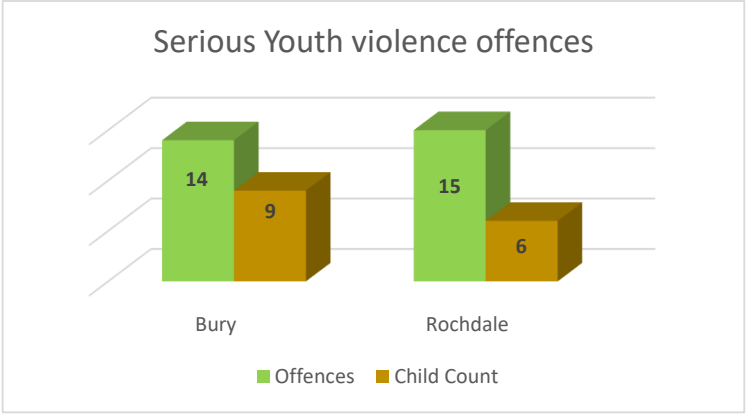
Serious Youth Violence

The Serious Youth Violence data has shown an increase in the number of SYV offences for this latest reporting period compared to the same time last year. SYV offences do make up a greater proportion of offences now committed by young people, which highlights the greater complexity of the current YJ caseload, despite overall numbers being lower. **Locally the SYV figure showed as 29.**

SYV Year ending June				
Area	2023	2024	2025	2026
Bury & Rochdale	28	20	65	27
Northwest	291	447	502	442
YJS family Average	19	25	30	23
England and Wales	2890	3430	3356	2851

Bury and Rochdale	**Year Ending June 2026 Latest 12 Months**	**Year Ending June 2025**	Change
Number of SYV offences	**27**	**64**	-37
Rate per 10,000 of the general 10-17 population	**5.6**	**13.4**	-7.8
% SYV comprise of total offences	**10%**	**21%**	-10.2pp
SV offences			
In the year ending June 2026 there were 27 Serious Violence offences committed from Bury and Rochdale			
This is a decrease of 37 compared with the previous year			
Rate of SV offences			
In the year ending June 2026 the rate of serious violence per 10,000 children aged 10-17 was 5.6 for Bury and Rochdale			
This is an decrease of 7.8 compared with the previous year			
Proportion of SV offences			
In the year ending June 2026 serious violence offences comprised 10% of all offences for Bury and Rochdale			
This is an decrease of 10.2pp compared with the previous year			

	Jul - Jun 2025		Jul - Jun 2026		Change from previous year
YJS	Number of YJS Offences	Rate of SV Offences	Number of YJS Offences	Rate of SV Offences	
Bolton	23	6.6	31	8.9	+8
Bury and Rochdale	**64**	**13.4**	**27**	**5.6**	**-37**
Manchester	102	17.3	62	10.6	-40
Oldham	24	8.2	42	14.3	+17
Salford	23	8.5	21	13	-2
Stockport	21	9	21	9	0
Tameside	18	7.4	8	3.2	-10
Trafford	22	8.0	8	2.9	-14
Wigan	12	3.7	14	4.2	+2

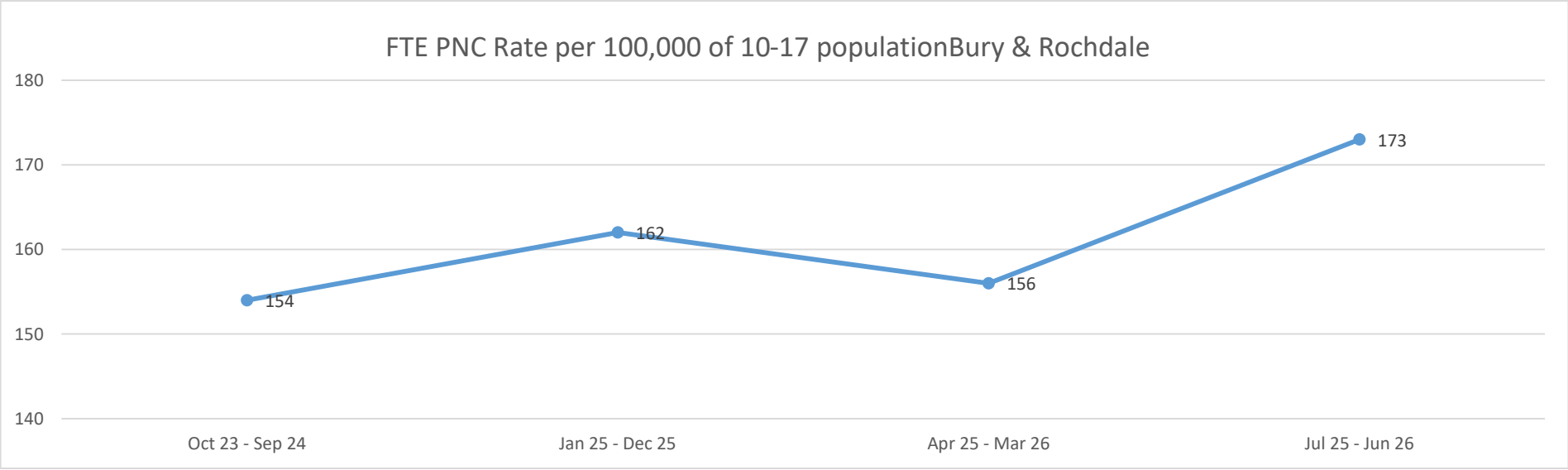


First Time Entrants (FTE)

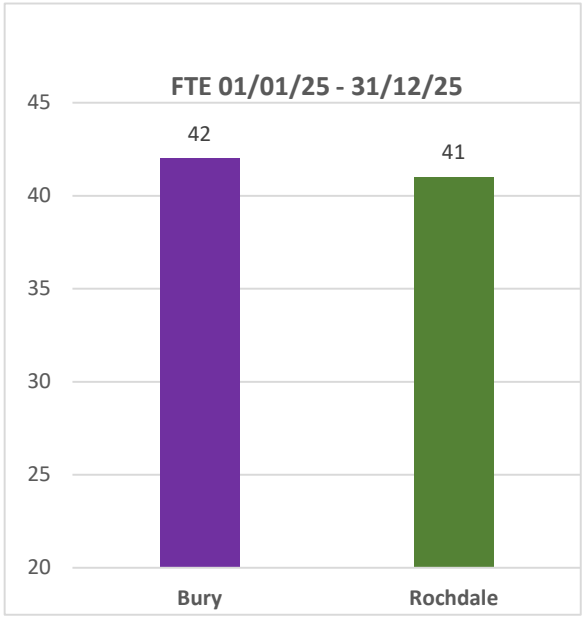
The tables show First Time Entrants (FTE) rates for the last 5 reporting periods and numbers behind the most recent figures. First Time Entrants are young people who receive a youth caution or court conviction for the first time within the period. The data for this indicator comes from the Police National Computer and is published by the MoJ. The data is shown in rolling full-years for the 12 months. Since the Multi agency audit in September 2023 a FTE Action plan has been developed to progress on the findings and ensure that action reflecting priorities and action is implemented over those next 12 months.

FTE PNC Rate per 100,000 of 10-17 population	Bury & Rochdale	North West	Greater Manchester	YOT Family	England
Jul 25 - Jun 26	**173**	**157**	**164**	**158**	**143**
Apr 25 - Mar 26	156	159	157	158	147
Jan 25 - Dec 25	162	162	160	169	152
Oct 24 - Sep 25	154	161	175	163	155

Between Jul 25 - Jun 26, the rate of FTEs per 100,000 10-17 years population across Bury and Rochdale was 173, this is higher than Apr - Mar 25 figure of 156 per 100,000. Our current figure is higher than the national average rate of 143. The Bury and Rochdale rate is lower than the North West average at 157. Our lowest figure of 145 was in 2022-23 and our current rate of 173 is lower than the pre-pandemic rate of 224. Not becoming a first time entrant means a child not having a criminal record that can hamper their future life chances.



	Jul 24 - Jun 25		Jul 25 - Jun 26	
FTE	**Number**	**Rate per 100,000**	**Number**	**Rate per 100,000**
Bury	**38**		**42**	
Rochdale	**45**		**41**	
Bury & Rochdale	**84**	**180**	**83**	**173**
Bolton	77	223	63	181
Manchester	177	300	135	230
Oldham	54	185	47	160
Salford	42	159	51	188
Stockport	50	170	37	122
Tameside	26	107	26	104
Trafford	20	74	34	122
Wigan	47	144	39	116
Greater Manchester	577	187	515	
England and Wales	8,905	151	8,376	
YOT Family	740	166	727	



Custody

YOT	Jul 24 - Jun25 Custodial Sentence	Jul 24 - Jun25 Custody rate per 1,000 10-17 Population 2023	Jul 25 - Jun26 Custodial Sentence	Jul 25 - Jun26 Custody rate per 1,000 10-17 Population 2023	Rate per 1,000 Change
Bury	**4**		**2**		
Rochdale	**3**		**2**		
Bury & Rochdale	**8**	**0.17**	**4**	**0.08**	**-0.09**
Bolton	8	0.23	4	0.11	-0.12
Manchester	11	0.19	3	0.05	-0.14
Oldham	4	0.14	8	0.27	0.14
Salford	2	0.07	3	0.11	0.04
Stockport	5	0.17	6	0.20	0.03
Tameside	2	0.08	1	0.04	-0.04
Trafford	7	0.29	1	0.04	-0.26
Wigan	2	0.06	1	0.03	-0.03
Greater Manchester	49		31		
England and Wales	581		486		
YOT Family	60		46		

Jul - Sep 2026 Custodial sentences

Bury 0
Rochdale 2

The tables show custodial rates for the last 4 quarters and a profile of those currently in custody for the most recent quarter available (using local data). Custody rates use case level data from the YJ Application Framework and is the number of custodial sentences in the period given to young people with a local residence aged under 18 years on the date of their first hearing related to the outcome. If a young person was given the same type of custodial sentence on the same day to be served concurrently or consecutively, they will only be counted once.
Our current rate of 0.12 is lower than the same time last year of 0.17. We are currently lower than GM, and higher than NW, YOT family and England .

Custody rate per 1,000 per 10-17 population. Good performance is low percentage	Bury & Rochdale	North West	Greater Manchester	YOT Family	England
Jul - Jun 26	**0.12**	**0.10**	**0.13**	**0.11**	**0.09**
Apr - Mar 26	0.12	0.10	0.13	0.11	0.09
Jan - Dec 2025	0.17	0.09	0.10	0.11	0.09
Oct - Sep 2024	0.19	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.10

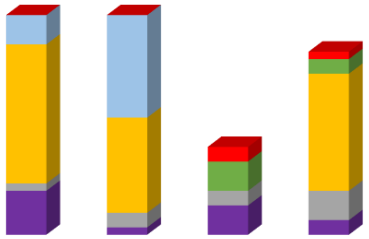
Young People Custody Caseload Jul - Sep 2026							
Gender	Ethnicity	Area	YOI	C4C Status	Intervention Type	Offence	Outcome
M	Mixed	Rochdale	Forest Bank	N/A	DTO Custody	Section 18 GBH	Transferred to Probation
M	Mixed	Rochdale	Wetherby	Remand LAC	Remand	Section 18 with intent	Ongoing
M	Black	Rochdale	Doncaster	Remand LAC	Remand	Section 18 with intent	Ongoing
M	Mixed	Rochdale	Doncaster	Remand LAC	Remand	Section 18 with intent	Ongoing

The table shows the children & young people either in custody or on licence in the community post custody during the last quarter. It is very clear that children are only receiving custodial sentences for serious offences (often violent). This reduction in children receiving custody for less serious matters has partly been achieved by greater management oversight of pre-sentence reports & skilled court work**. It is noted that of the 4 children 3 of these were Cared for due to Remand status**

Out of Court Disposals (OOCD)

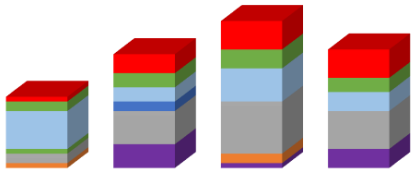
There were 51 OOCD started within Q2 2026-27, consisting of 51 children. Prevention showed the highest interventions for Bury and Outcome 22 shows the highest intervention for Rochdale. A comparison for the previous year Q2 2025 -26 Turnaround showed the highest interventions for Bury and Outcome 22 shows the highest intervention for Rochdale.

Bury OOCD Interventions Started within the Quarter



	Q3 2025-26 Bury	Q4 2025-26 Bury	Q1 2026-27 Bury	Q2 2026-27 Bury
YCC	1	3	2	1
Youth Caution	2	4	4	2
Turnaround	12	15		
SHB Prevention				
School Group				
Prevention	19	13		16
Outcome 22 / Deferred	1	2	2	4
Knife Crime Intervention				
Community Resolution	6	1	4	2

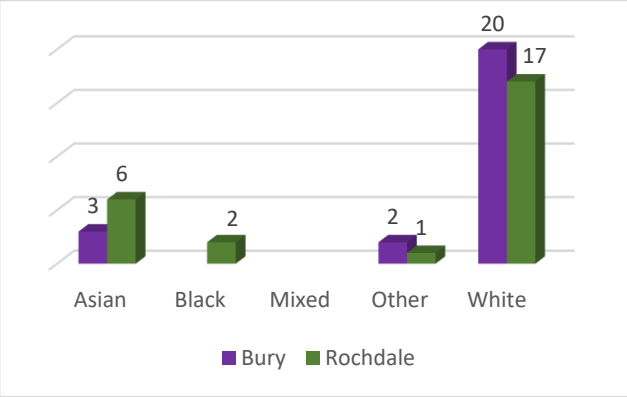
Rochdale OOCD Interventions Started within the Quarter

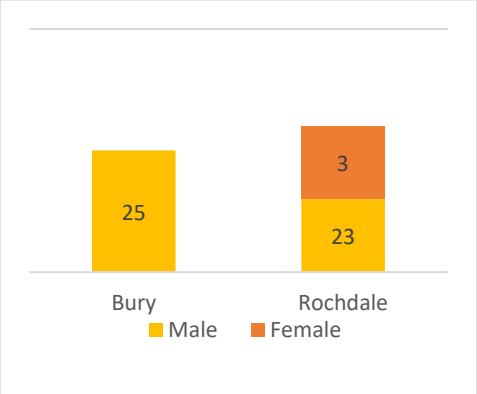


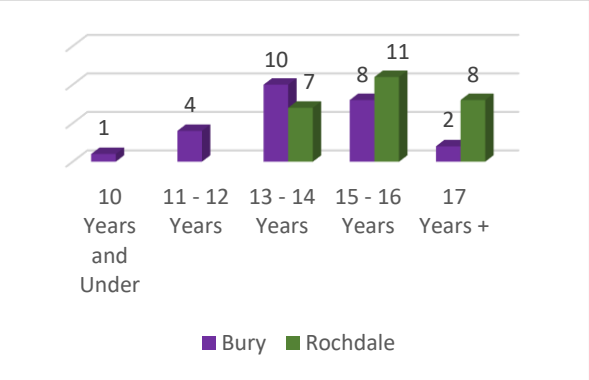
	Q3 2025-26 Rochdale	Q4 2025-26 Rochdale	Q1 2026-27 Rochdale	Q2 2026-27 Rochdale
YCC	1	4	6	6
Youth Caution	2	3	4	3
Turnaround	8	3	7	4
SHB Prevention	1			
School Group		2		
Prevention	1	1	1	
Outcome 22 / Deferred	1	6	10	8
Knife Crime Intervention	1		2	
Community Resolution		5	1	4

Number of children who started an OOCD

There were for Bury 20% and Rochdale 37% non White British that started an intervention within Q2 2026-27. 13 - 14 year olds were the largest proportion for Bury and 15 - 16 year olds for Rochdale. The proportion of males for Bury is 100% and Rochdale is 88.5%. The most common offence commited within this quarter is Generic Offence for Bury and Vehicle theft/taking for Rochdale.





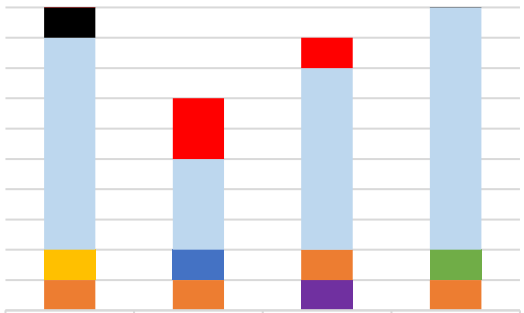




Court Ordered Interventions

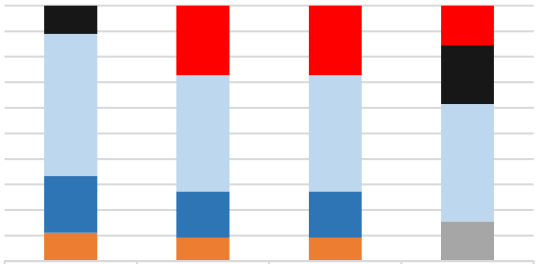
There were 28 Court Ordered Interventions started consisting of 23 children within Q2 2026-27 for Bury & Rochdale. Referral Order show the highest intervention for Bury 53.3% and Referral Order for Rochdale 46.2%. A comparison for the previous year Q2 2025 -26 Bury Referral Order 40.6% and Rochdale Referral Order 56.3%.

Bury Court Interventions Started within the Quarter



	Q3 2025-26 Bury	Q4 2025-26 Bury	Q1 2026-27 Bury	Q2 2026-27 Bury
YRO ISS				2
YRO	1	2	1	2
Section 250 Custody				
Remand in Custody YOI	1			1
Remand in Custody STC				
Remand in Custody SCH				
Referral Order	7	3	6	8
ISS DTO/Licence				1
ISS Bail		1		
DTO/Licence	1			
DTO/Custody				
Bail Support	1	1	1	1
Aim Intervention			1	

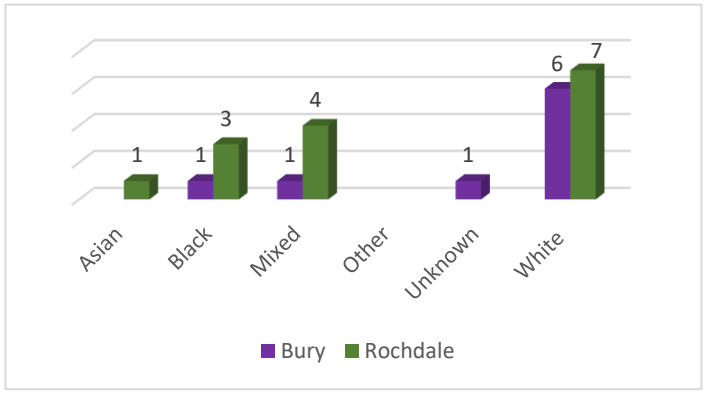
Rochdale Court Interventions Started within the Quarter

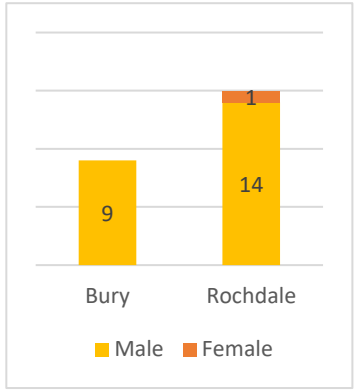


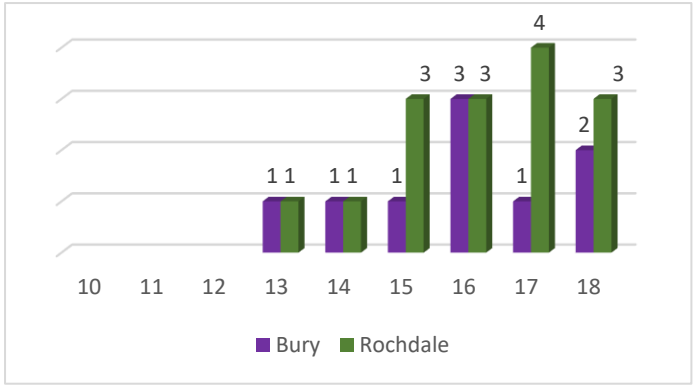
	Q3 2025-26 Rochdale	Q4 2025-26 Rochdale	Q1 2026-27 Rochdale	Q2 2026-27 Rochdale
YRO ISS				
YRO		3	3	2
Section 250 Custody				
Remand in Custody YOI	1			3
Remand in Custody STC				
Remand in Custody SCH				
Referral Order	5	5	5	6
ISS DTO/Licence				
ISS Bail	2	2	2	
DTO/Licence				
DTO/Custody				2
Bail Support	1	1	1	
Aim Intervention				

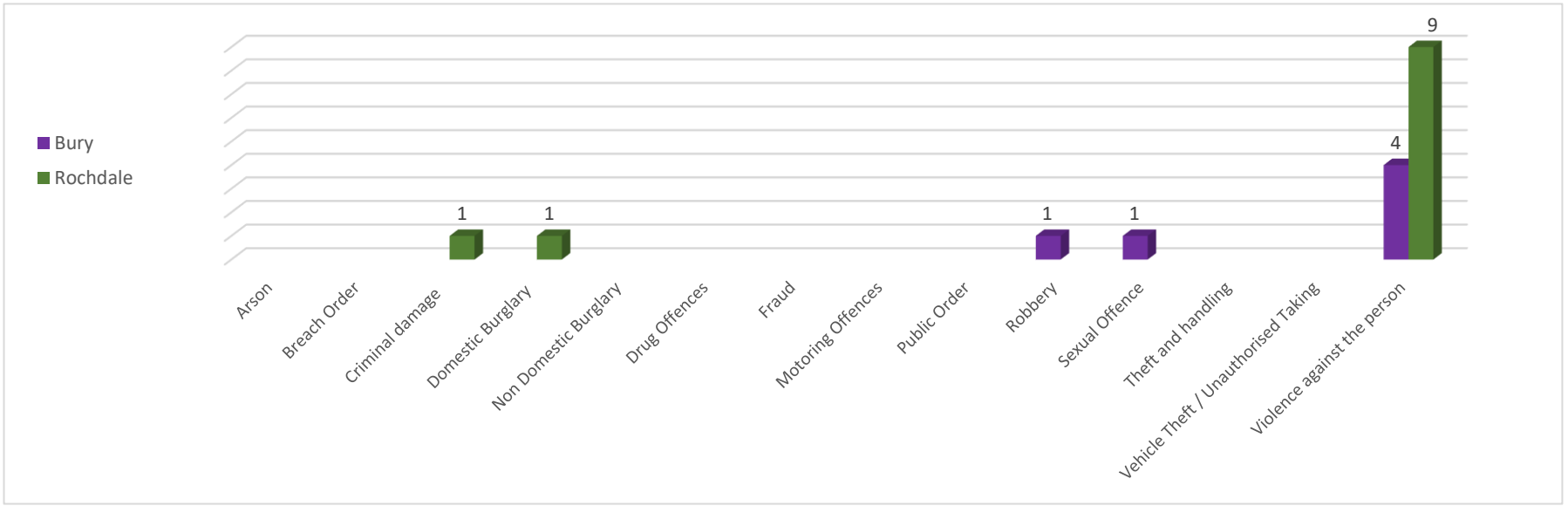
Number of children who started a Court Intervention

Of the young people with court-ordered offences, 33.33% in Bury and 53.33% in Rochdale, were not White British. 16 year olds were the largest proportion for Bury and 17 year olds for Rochdale. The proportion of males for Bury is 100% and Rochdale is 93.33%. The most common offence commited within this quarter shows as violence against person for both Bury and Rochdale.









Accommodation

Leaving custody is a difficult transition for young people, making resettlement vital. This measure is designed to monitor accommodation arrangements for all young people on leaving custody. There were 0 children released from custody during the latest reporting quarter.

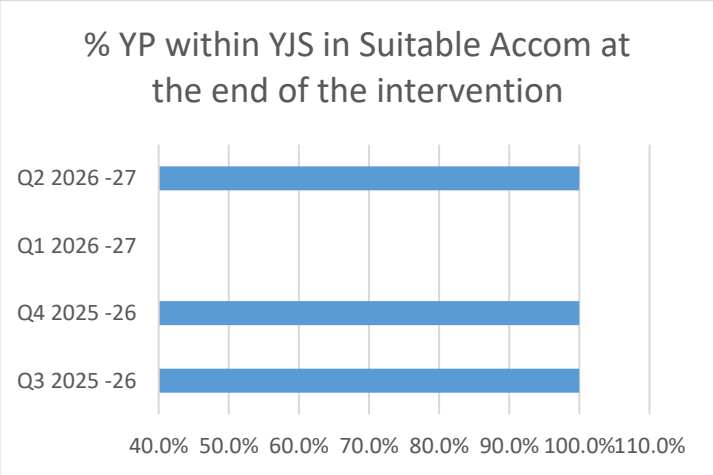
Custody Accommodation			
Accommodation on release from Custody	Number released from Custody	No Suitable Accommodation	Percentage in Suitable Accommodation
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Accommodation on release from Custody Q2 2026 - 27					
Ethnicity	Age	Gender	Release date	Accommodation on release	Suitability
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

% YP within YJS in Suitable Accom at the end of the intervention	Outcome	Direction of travel
Q2 2026 -27	100.0%	
Q1 2026 -27	N/A	
Q4 2025 -26	100.0%	
Q3 2025 -26	100.0%	

Jul - Sep 2026 Accomodation

Bury 20/20
Rochdale 32/32



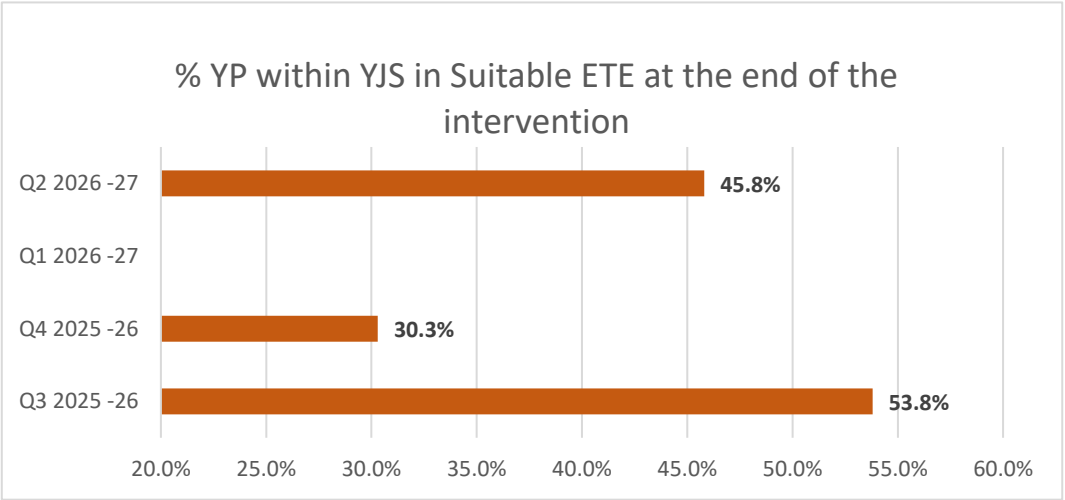
Education Training and Employment (ETE)

The ETE measure looks at how many young people are in suitable ETE by the end of their intervention with the YJS. The ETE data for Q2 shows Local data as the YDS data from YJB is currently experimental and therfore not published in the YDS data. The data used consisting of Youth Cautions and YCC and court disposals.
Information is collated from the case management system. Q2 saw an increase from the previous quarter in the percentage of children in suitable ETE. Suitable ETE is defined as a minimum of 25 hours per week of school or with a training provider for school age or 16 hours minimum of paid employment, training, college or volunteering.

The data shows there were in suitable ETE:

Bury	**10/19**	**52.6%**
Rochdale	**12/29**	**41.4%**

% YP within YJS in Suitable ETE at the end of the intervention	Outcome	Direction of travel from 2023/24
Q2 2026 - 27	45.8%	
Q1 2026 - 27	N/A	
Q4 2025 -26	30.3%	
Q3 2025 -26	53.8%	



Diversity

Ethnic disproportionality measures the overall ethnicity of the local 10-17 population against the ethnicity of young people in post court, pre-court and total YJS cohort over a 12-month period. Numbers are based upon a distinct count of offenders (i.e: a repeat offender will only be counted once) cross referenced against ONS

Ethnicity	Pre Court - YC, YCC, Turnaround, Pre Court Assessment,		AIM and Sexually Harmful Behaviour		Remand		Referral Order YRO Bail, SYV and PSR		Custody/ Licence		Total Caseload		Total Caseload%		*Bury 10-17 Population	*Rochdale 10-17 Population
	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale	Bury	Rochdale	%	%
White	21	33		1			21	16			**42**	**50**	**72.4%**	**53.8%**	73.7%	61.2%
Asian	1	12					4	7			**5**	**19**	**8.6%**	**20.4%**	15.7%	26.3%
Black		2				1	2	4		1	**2**	**8**	**3.4%**	**8.6%**	2.6%	5.8%
Chinese/Other											**0**	**0**	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	2.8%	2.5%
Mixed	1	2				2	3	5		1	**4**	**10**	**6.9%**	**10.7%**	5.3%	4.3%
Unknown	3	5					2	1			**5**	**6**	**8.6%**	**6.4%**	0%	0.0%
Total	**26**	**54**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**3**	**32**	**33**	**0**	**2**	**58**	**93**	**100%**	**100%**	100%	100%
Red-over represented by 2% or more								Green-under represented by less than 2% variation								

The young people are counted once using the most recent intervention.
The data used is showing open interventions between Q2 2026 -27

There remains a disproportionate overall picture across some ethnic groups with 31.8**%** of the YJS cohort being of Asian, Black or mixed ethnicity, although this is based on small overall numbers and so is prone to fluctuation and can be misleading unless viewed over much longer time periods based on higher overall numbers. It raises a consideration for those across Bury & Rochdale involved in SYV planning/delivery about ensuring the preventative offer is culturally appropriate and reaching all ethnic groups and communities.
There were 6 ISS interventions within the caseload.

Current Caseload

Ref	Title	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	Number of Interventions Open	B91 R135 O12	B86 R131 O13		
2	Number of Young People Open	B65 R88 O10	B58 R92 O10		
3	Number of Young People C4C	B3 R8 O4	B4 R9 O4		
4	Number of Young People with SEN	B20 R33 O1	B20 R29 O3		
5	Number of Young People with an EHCP	B10 R12 O0	B13 R10 O1		
Ref	**Title**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**
6	Female	B7 R10 O2	B6 R9 O1		
	Male	B58 R78 O8	B52 R83 O9		
Ref	**Title**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**
7	White	B45 R49 O8	B42 R49 O7		
	Asian	B6 R17 O0	B5 R19 O1		
	Black	B2 R9 O0	B2 R8 O0		
	Mixed	B5 R9 O0	B4 R10 O0		
	Other	B0 R1 O1	B0 R0 O1		
	Not Known	B7 R3 O1	B5 R6 O1		
Ref	**Title**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**
8	8-10	B0 R1 O1	B0 R0 O0		
	11	B0 R0 O0	B0 R0 O0		
	12	B2 R2 O0	B2 R1 O0		
	13	B2 R6 O0	B4 R8 O1		
	14	B7 R13 O2	B8 R14 O1		
	15	B13 R18 O1	B13 R19 O3		
	16	B12 R19 O5	B9 R13 O1		
	17	B18 R17 O1	B14 R25 O3		
	18-20	B11 R12 O1	B8 R12 O1		
Ref	**Title**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**
9	Pre Assessment, Prevention, Youth caution, Youth conditional caution, Community Resolution, Outcome 22	B28 R38 O4	B37 R65 O3		
	AIM and Sexually Harmful Behaviour	B1 R1 O0	B2 R1 O0		
	Remand	B0 R0 O0	B1 R3		
	Court Orders including PSR	B33 R29 O6	B39 R34 O9		
	Custody	B0 R2 O0	B0 R4		
	Bail including ISS Bail	B3 R6 O0	B5 R6 O1		
	Custody Licence	B0 R0 O0	B0 R1 O0		
	ISS YRO and Licence	B0 R0 O0	B2 R0 O0		
	School Group Prevention	B0 R2 O0	R0		
	Knife Crime Intervention	B0 R3 O0	R1		
	SYV Intervention	B0 R1 O0	R2		
	Turnaround and HSB Turnaround	B0 R6 O0	R14		

KEY:
B – Bury
R – Rochdale

Caseload data as at Q2 Jul - Sep 2026. EHCP data is collected from ASSET+, interventions without ASSET+ are not counted for EHCP.

Agenda Item 7

SCRUTINY REPORT

MEETING:	**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**
DATE:	**12 November 2026**
SUBJECT:	**Bury Belongs in School**
REPORT FROM:	**Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**
CONTACT OFFICER:	**Ben Dunne, Director of Early Years, Education and Skills**

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The **Bury Belongs In School** report sets out a key delivery programme for the ambitions contained within the **Education and Inclusion Strategy**. It translates the strategy's vision that every child should attend, participate, belong and achieve into a practical, borough-wide framework for action. Rather than viewing attendance, behaviour and inclusion as separate issues, the report recognises that educational engagement and attainment are fundamentally linked to a child's sense of belonging, safety and connection within school.

1.2 The initiative is underpinned by a whole-system approach involving schools, colleges, health services, children's social care, families, community organisations and other partners. Through the principles of early intervention, needs-led support, mainstream inclusion and shared responsibility, the programme seeks to remove barriers to learning before they escalate into persistent absence, exclusion or poor educational outcomes. This directly supports the **Education and Inclusion Strategy's** commitments to create an inclusive, safe, high-attaining and collaborative education system across Bury

2 ISSUES

2.1 The report is informed by clear evidence that Bury faces significant inclusion and educational performance challenges which, if left unaddressed, may limit progress towards the ambitions set out in the Education and Inclusion Strategy.

2.2 Local authority benchmarking report (2025) highlights a notable disparity between performance in the primary and secondary sectors, with outcomes generally stronger in primary schools than in secondary settings. Several key indicators place Bury below where the borough would aspire to be nationally. Secondary suspension rates rank 128th out of 153 local authorities, secondary exclusion rates rank 120th, Attainment 8 ranks 115th, and secondary absence ranks 100th nationally. GCSE attainment in English and mathematics is also comparatively weak, ranking 129th nationally.

2.3 The challenges are particularly acute for vulnerable learners, including children and young people with SEND. The benchmarking report highlights high rates of suspension, persistent absence and reduced educational outcomes among secondary-aged pupils with additional needs. These trends suggest that too many young people become progressively disconnected from education as they move through the system, resulting in poorer attendance, greater reliance on exclusionary practices and lower attainment at Key Stage 4.

2.4 Without a coordinated and sustained response, there is a risk that these patterns continue to suppress educational outcomes, increase pressure on specialist and alternative provision, reduce life chances for vulnerable learners and hinder Bury's ambition to improve its standing against national, Greater Manchester and statistical neighbour comparators

3.1 Bury Belongs in School represents a strategic response to these challenges and a practical mechanism for delivering the borough's wider educational vision. It seeks to create the conditions in which attendance, inclusion and attainment improve not through enforcement

alone, but through stronger relationships, earlier intervention, better coordinated services and more inclusive mainstream provision.

3.2 The programme aligns closely with the five commitments contained within the Education and Inlcusion Strategy, particularly the ambitions that every child should experience a sense of belonging, feel safe, receive an excellent education and benefit from a connected local system. Through the implementation of the SEND Reform Programme, the Experts at Hand model and a borough-wide Inclusion Dashboard, partners will be better equipped to monitor progress, identify emerging concerns and target support where it is needed most.

3.3 For scrutiny members, the key consideration is that Bury Belongs in School as an institutional pledge is not simply an attendance initiative. It is a long-term improvement programme designed to address some of Bury's most significant educational challenges and strengthen outcomes across the borough. Success will depend upon sustained collaboration, collective accountability and a shared commitment from all partners to ensure that every child and young person can participate, belong and succeed within their local community.

List of Background Papers:-

a) Bury Belongs in School
b) Bury v LA Rankings

Contact Details:- Ben Dunne, Director of Early Years, Education and Skills

Bury Belongs in School

Promoting Strong Inclusion Across Bury's Educational Landscape

Bury's **Education and Inclusion Strategy** is committed to ensuring that every child and young person attends, participates, belongs, and achieves within their local educational setting. This represents an urgent educational priority. Educational inclusion can no longer be treated as an isolated Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) initiative or a reactive attendance enforcement process.



In November, Bury Council, alongside its strategic partners across health, social care, and the voluntary sector, will formally launch **Bury Belongs in School** at the **Bury Leadership Conference.**

This initiative represents a borough-wide pledge uniting education providers, healthcare professionals, children's social care teams, families, and community organizations around a shared commitment to remove systemic barriers to school participation. Grounded in the core principle that belonging cannot be mandated or imposed through punitive measures, the strategy recognizes that relational trust, psychological safety, adaptive teaching, and targeted early help create the essential conditions under which regular attendance and high academic attainment naturally occur.

A high attendance culture is not solely the responsibility of schools. It requires a coordinated approach involving education services, children's social care, health partners, families, early years settings, colleges and wider community organisations working together around a shared set of outcomes and beliefs. **"Unlocking Every Child's Potential"** reflects a commitment to removing barriers to participation so that all learners can flourish academically, socially and emotionally.

A Whole-System Commitment

The removal of barriers demands a coordinated whole-system approach that addresses the root causes of disengagement long before difficulties escalate into chronic absenteeism or exclusion.

Bury Belongs in School is anchored by the following operating principles:

- **Universal Responsibility** Inclusion and attendance are the collective responsibility of all education, health, social care, and community partners across the borough.
- **Proactive Early Help** High-quality, multi-agency early intervention must be deployed when disengagement risks emerge, preventing problems from escalating into more problematic crises.
- **Needs-Led Support** Provision and support must be tailored directly to a child's observed strengths and barriers, rather than relying on formal medical diagnoses or statutory Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).
- **Mainstream Success by Design** Mainstream schools must be structurally and

relationally equipped to support the vast majority of learners safely and successfully within their local neighbourhoods.
- **Coordinated Family Experience** Children and families must experience one seamless, integrated multi-agency response, eliminating disjointed referrals and fragmented service delivery.

Bury Belongs in School's institutional pledge acknowledges that attendance difficulties are often symptoms of wider barriers. For some children these barriers may relate to anxiety, mental health needs or neurodiversity. For others they may stem from family circumstances, poverty, safeguarding concerns, health conditions, unmet SEND needs or challenges during transition.

There are also significant differences between inclusion indicators when comparing Bury's primary and secondary settings (see LA Ranking Report)

Bury's Inclusion Deficit: Secondary Sector Underperformance

An analysis of local performance metrics highlights challenges across Bury's educational landscape. Comparative data drawn from local authority performance rankings reveal severe disengagement, high suspension rates, persistent absence, and depressed academic progress from the end of Key Stage 2 to the end of Key Stage 4.

The quantitative data underscores a stark divergence between primary and secondary phases across the following key inclusion indicators:

- **Secondary Suspension Rates** Bury ranks 83rd out of 153 local authorities nationally for secondary suspensions, placing the borough in the 46th percentile. Within the Greater Manchester GM10 peer group, Bury ranks 6th out of 11, and 7th among its 11 Statistical Neighbours. For secondary pupils with identified SEND, the suspension rate reaches an alarming baseline of 226 suspensions per 1,000 pupils, compared to a primary SEND suspension rate of just 14 per 1,000.

- **Secondary Permanent Exclusions** The permanent exclusion rate for secondary pupils with identified SEND stands at 2.71 per 1,000 pupils, over six times higher than the primary SEND rate of 0.42 per 1,000.

- **Persistent Absence Dynamics** Persistent absence among secondary pupils with identified SEND stands at 39.4%, compared to 21.3% in the primary phase. Overall attendance for secondary SEND pupils drops to 85.3%, whereas primary SEND attendance remains at 92.4%.

- **Key Stage 4 Academic Progress**: Academic outcomes at GCSE directly reflect these disengagement patterns. Secondary pupils on SEN Support achieve a mean Attainment 8 score of 33.9. For pupils holding an EHCP, the mean Attainment 8 score drops to 14.6 indicating that vulnerable learners in Bury fall nearly a full grade per subject behind national expectations.

To help tackle these challenges and promote accountability across the borough, an **Inclusion Dashboard** will track qualitative and quantitative indicators across six core strands:

- **Participation & Attendance** Will track overall attendance, persistent absence and

severe absence broken down by phase, SEN status, FSM eligibility, and ethnicity.

- **Behavioural Dynamics** Will monitors fixed-term suspensions, permanent exclusions, internal disciplinary isolations, and alternative provision usage.
- **SEND System Flow** Will track SEN Support cohorts, rolling 12-month EHCNA requests, EHCP issuance rates, and 20-week statutory compliance performance.
- **Academic Outcomes** Will track Key Stage 2 reading, writing, and mathematics attainment, GCSE Attainment 8 and Progress 8 gaps, Level 2/3 qualifications at age 19, and 16–17 NEET rates.
- **Placement Sufficiency** Will track occupancy in mainstream resourced inclusion bases, independent non-maintained special school (INMSS) reliance, and out-of-borough placement trends.
- **Family & Pupil Voice** Will captures parent-carer satisfaction metrics, SENDIASS feedback, mediation-to-tribunal conversion rates, and pupil belonging survey indices.

A Team Around the School and Family

The **Bury Belongs in School** vision is founded on bringing together an extensive network of expertise across the whole system. This will be realised through the SEND Reform **Experts at Hand model** and closley aligned to the **Inclusion Strategy** of each school looking to create 'inclusion by design' in our mainstream settings. It is in short creating a visible "team around the school and family" approach.

Aligning Support Across Stakeholders

Bury's **Local SEND Reform Plan**, which has now been approved by the Department for Education (see attached **Outcomes Letter**) sets out a Year 1 plan that is focused on aligning the support across a wide range of services and professionals. The following list across several agencies is not exhaustive but highlights the depth and range of support available:

Education Services

- Educational Psychologists
- School Improvement Advisers
- SEND Team
- Outreach Services
- Family Hubs
- Early Years team
- Portage
- Deaf and Hearing Impairment Service
- Vision Impairment Service
- Multi-Sensory Impairment Services
- SENDCO Networks
- Communities of Practice
- Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) Programme
- Multi-Agency Inclusion Panels
- Virtual School
- Attendance Networks
- Designated Safeguarding Lead Networks
- Designated Teacher Networks
- Inclusion and Alternative Provision Services

Health Services

- Health Visiting Teams
- SEND Health Visitors
- School Nursing Teams
- Specialist School Nursing
- Community Paediatricians
- Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT)
- Occupational Therapy (OT)
- Physiotherapy
- Continence Service
- Community Eye Service
- Sensory Assessment Teams
- Children's Learning Disability Team
- Epilepsy Services
- Community Dietetics
- Mental Health Support Teams
- CAMHS
- CAMHS Rapid Response Team
- Neurodevelopmental Pathways
- Neurodiversity Hub
- Designated Clinical Officer for SEND
- Intensive Support Service
- GM Keyworker Service (Barnardo's)

Children's Social Care and Family Support

- Early Help Services
- MASSH
- Duty and Assessment Teams
- Family Safeguarding Service
- Care and Support Service Teams
- Complex Safeguarding Team
- Youth Justice Service
- Children with Disabilities Team
- Short Break Services
- Family Hubs
- Best Start Services
- Next Chapter Teams (Care Experienced Young People)
- Transition to Adult Social Care Teams (Preparing for Adulthood)
- Advocacy Services

Voluntary, Community and Sector Partners

- BIG
- Creative Living Centre
- Calico
- Healthy Minds
- Kooth
- Early Break (RISE)
- Parenting Support Programmes including Riding the Rapids
- Local community organisations and commissioned services supporting children, young people and families.

These networks working collaboratively to support eduaction settings demonstrates that **Bury Belongs in School** is far more than a school attendance initiative. It is an integrated approach to supporting children and families before difficulties escalate and ensuring help is available at the earliest opportunity

Bury Belongs in School in School will develop over time through strong partnership working and will be built on the positive relationships we continue to forge across partnerships that include school leaders, special schools, colleges, early years providers, NHS leaders, social care leaders, educational psychologists, SEND leaders and parent carers working together to remove barriers and improve outcomes for children and young people.

By bringing together the strengths of schools, families and services under a shared banner, **Bury Belongs in School** aims to create the conditions in which every child can participate, belong and succeed.

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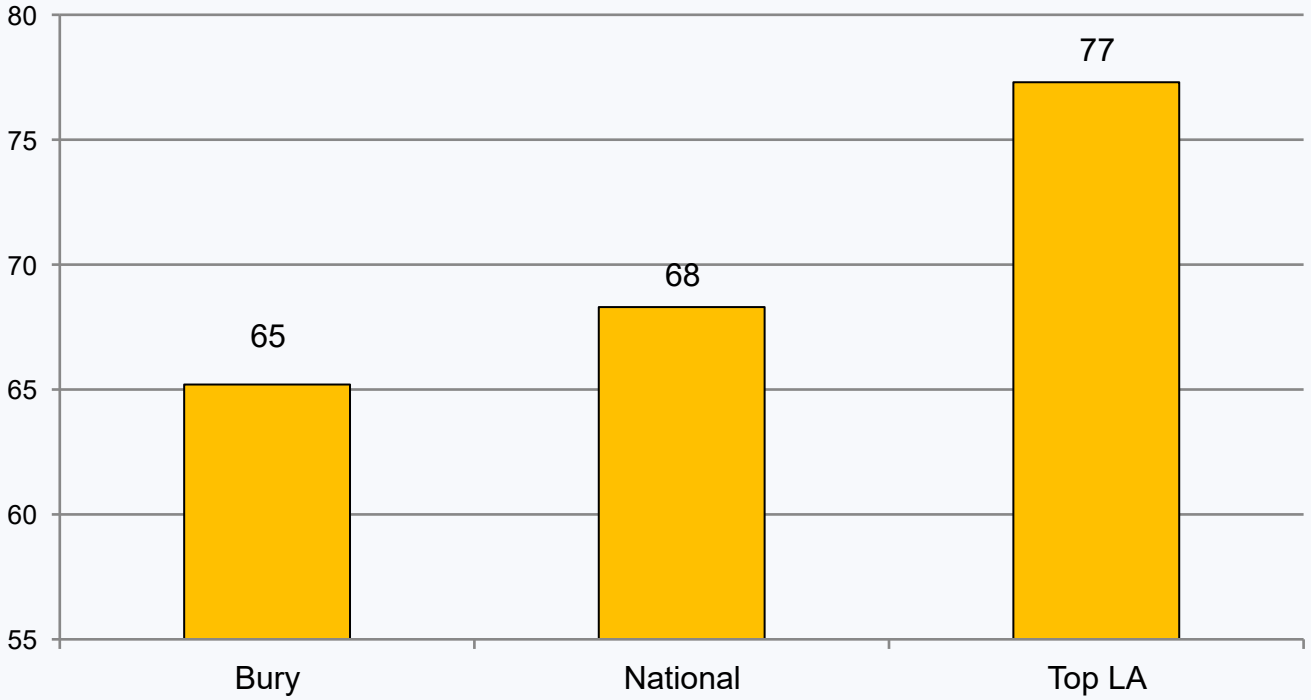
What's our goal?

Bury Education KPI Benchmarking

2024 - 2025

Comparison against England, GM10 and Statistical Neighbours

Good Level of Development (GLD)



Ranking

124 National Rank (153)

10 North West Rank (24)

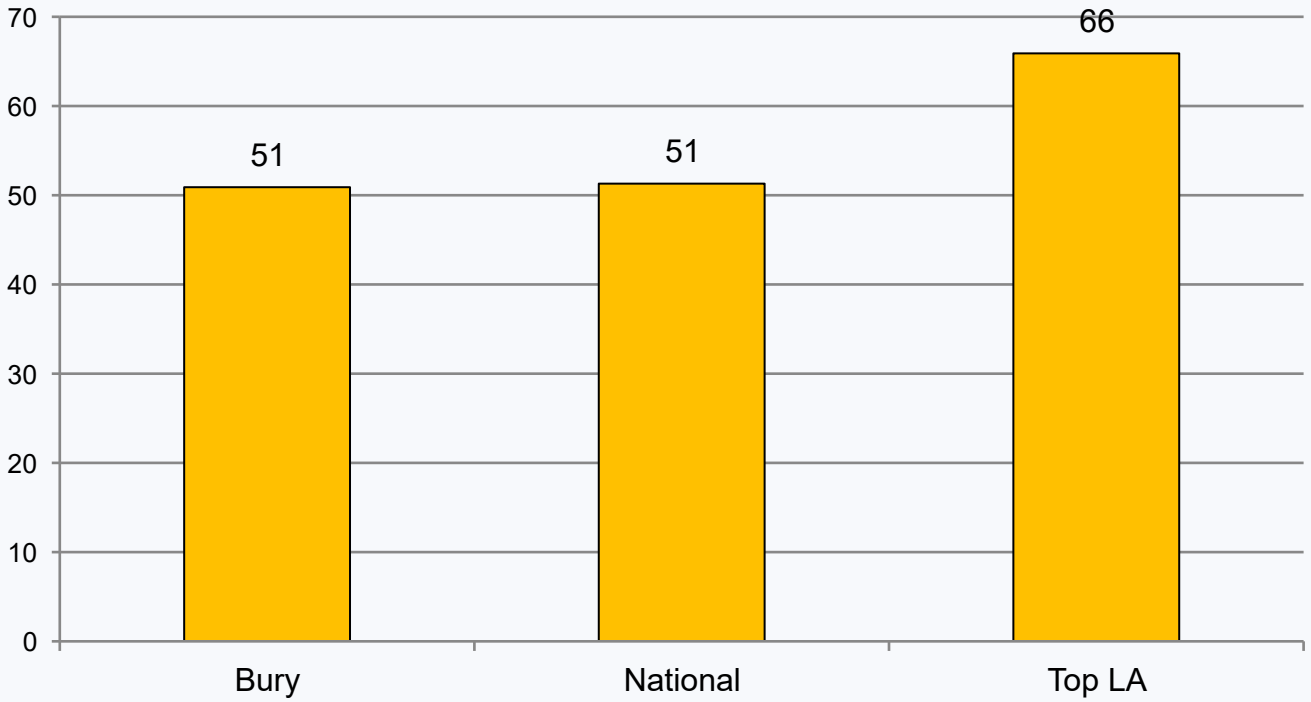
9 Stat Neighbours (11)

4 GM10 Rank

National Rank: 124/153
Percentile: 19th



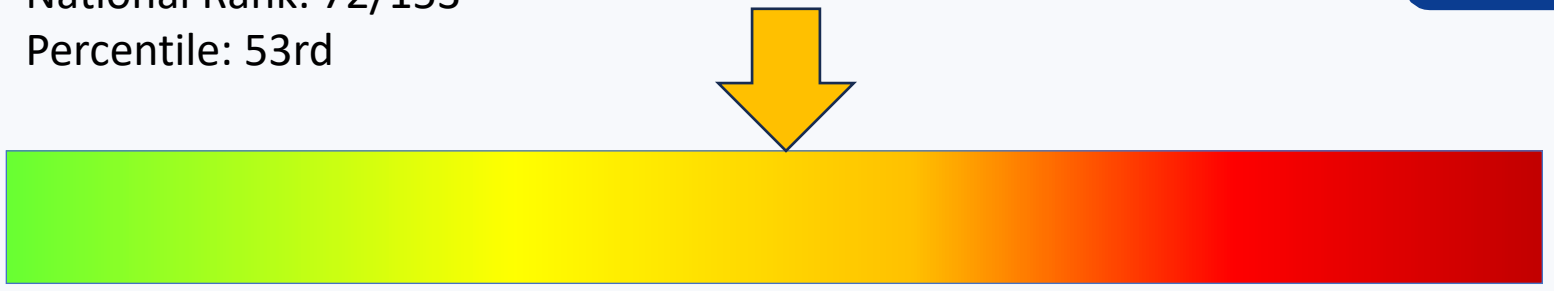
GLD FSM



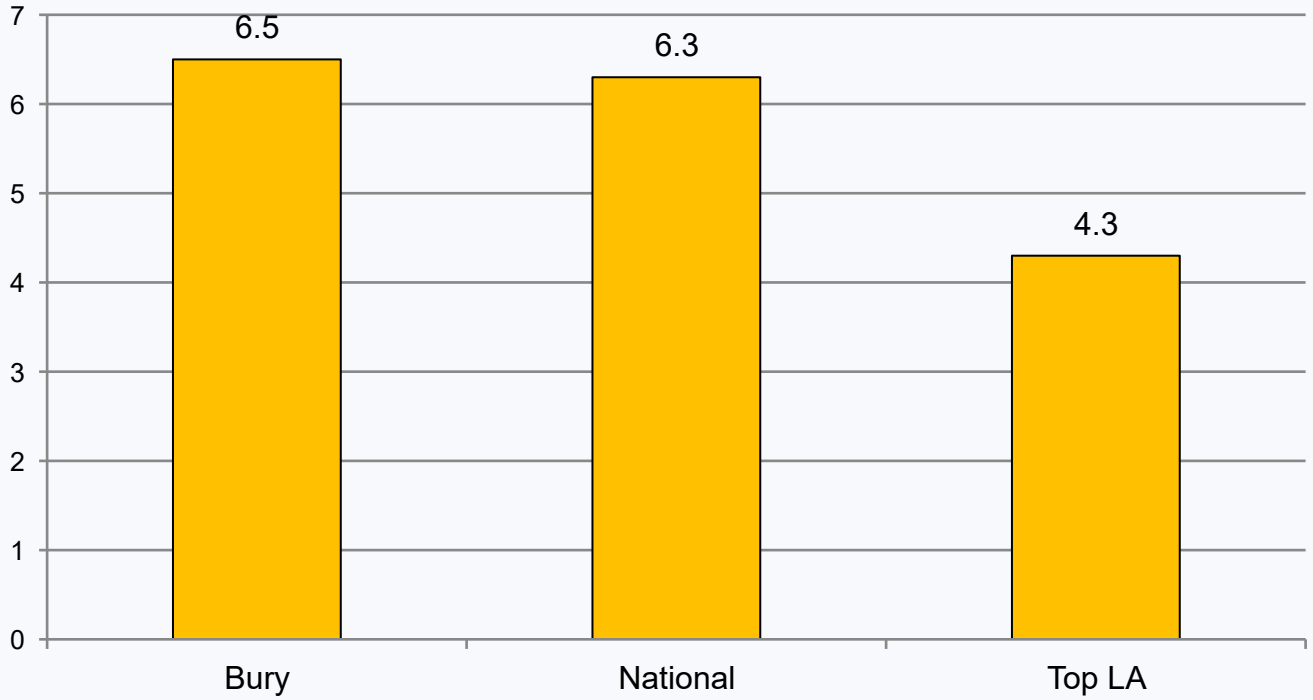
Ranking

72	National Rank (153)
9	North West Rank (24)
5	Stat Neighbours (11)
4	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 72/153
Percentile: 53rd



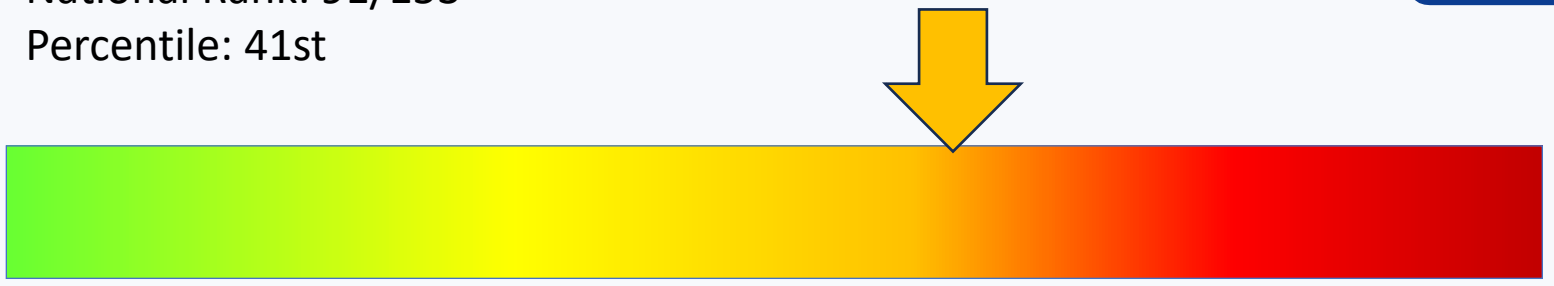
4 -Year-Old Absence



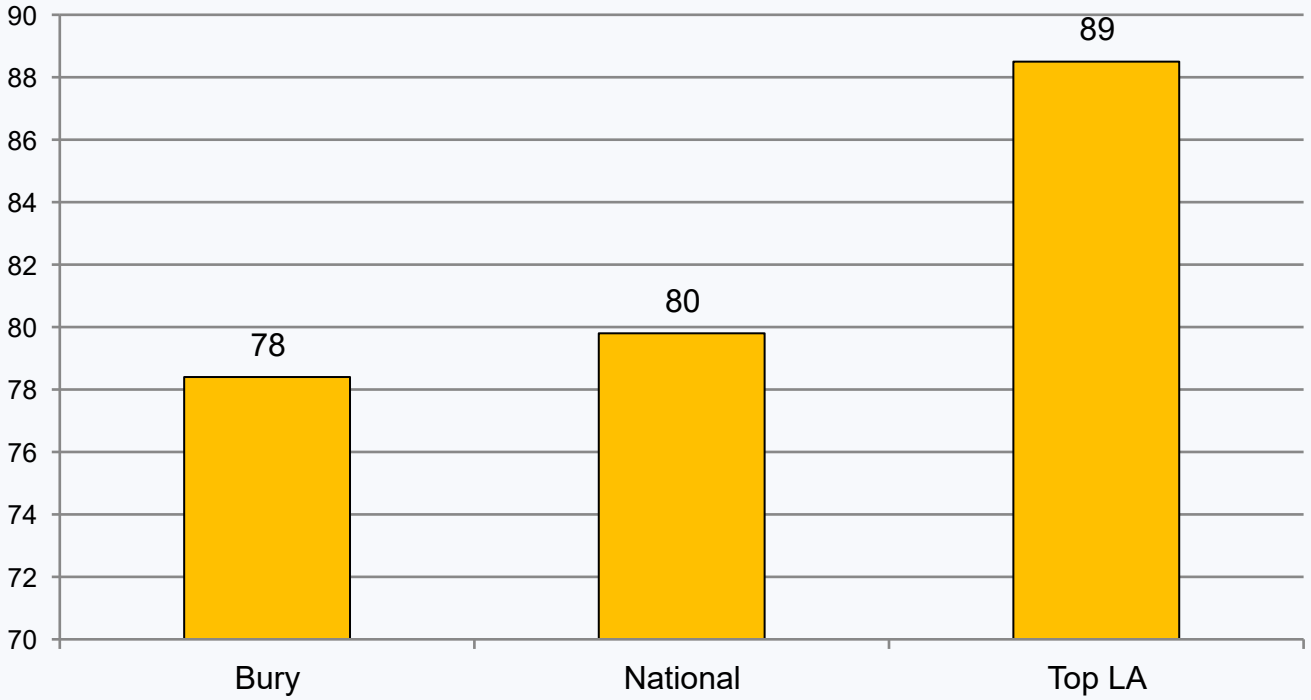
Ranking

91	National Rank (153)
16	North West Rank (24)
9	Stat Neighbours (11)
6	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 91/153
Percentile: 41st



Phonics



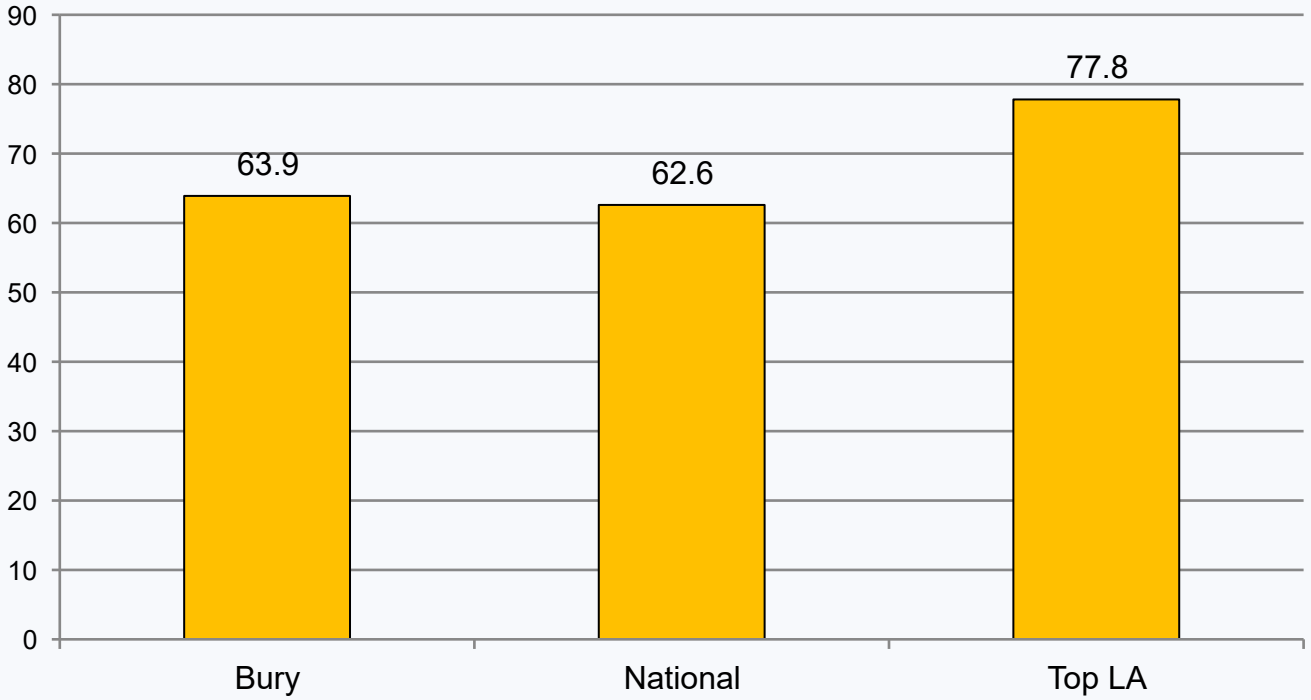
Ranking

108	National Rank (153)
14	North West Rank (24)
6	Stat Neighbours (11)
5	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 108/153
Percentile: 29th



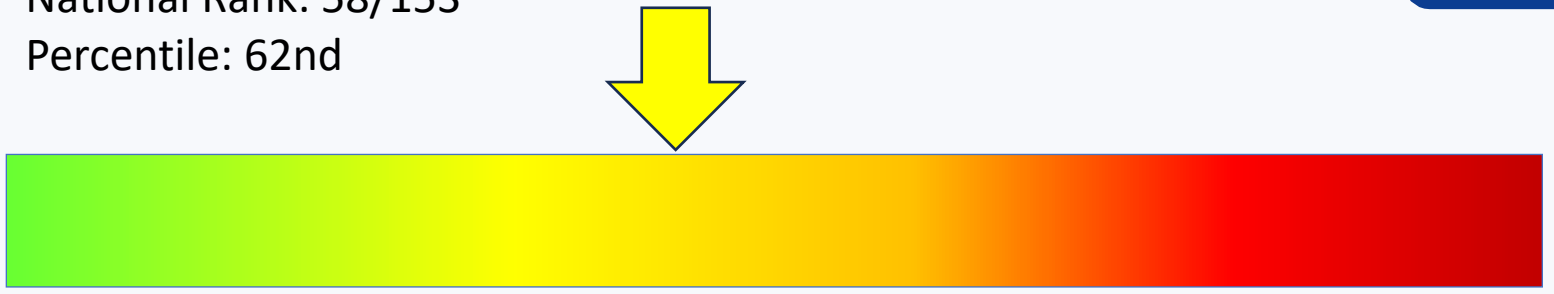
KS2 RWM



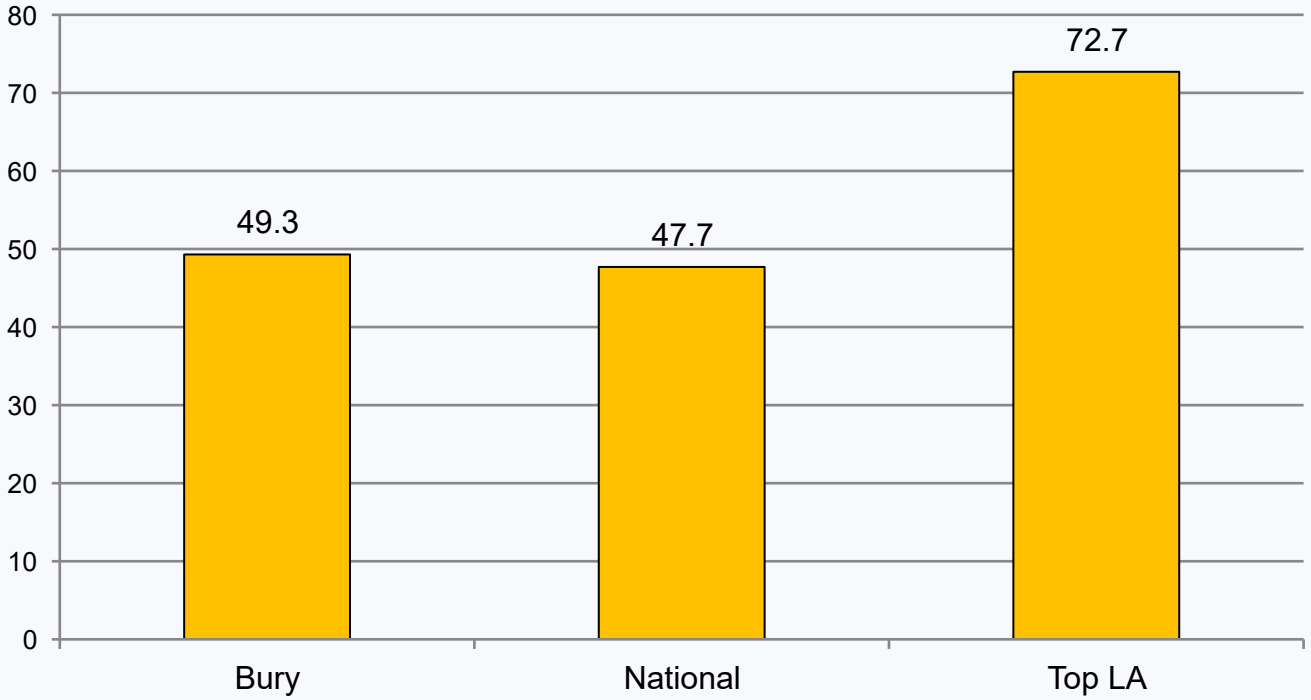
Ranking

58	National Rank (153)
7	North West Rank (24)
3	Stat Neighbours (11)
5	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 58/153
Percentile: 62nd



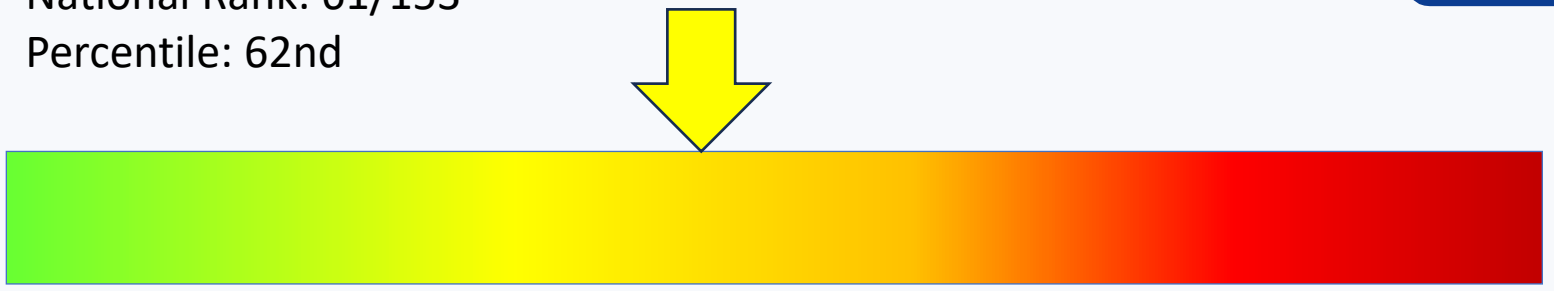
KS2 RWM Disadvantaged



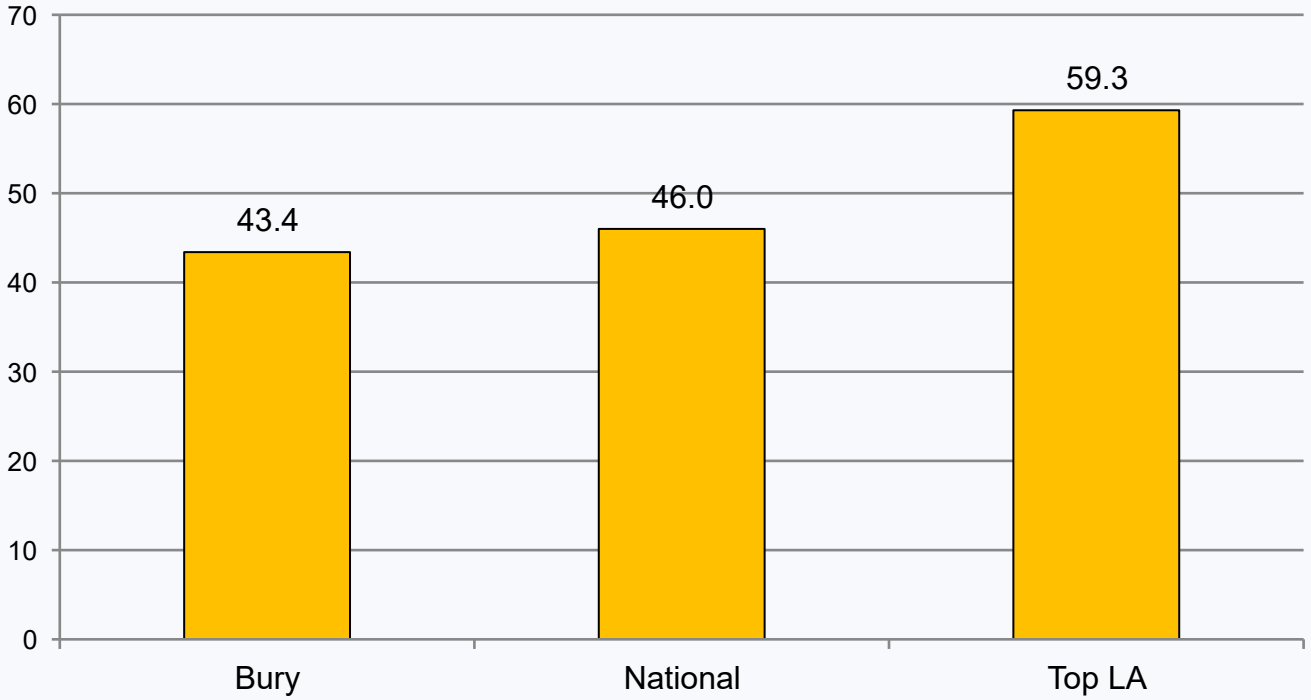
Ranking

61	National Rank (153)
8	North West Rank (24)
3	Stat Neighbours (11)
5	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 61/153
Percentile: 62nd



Attainment 8



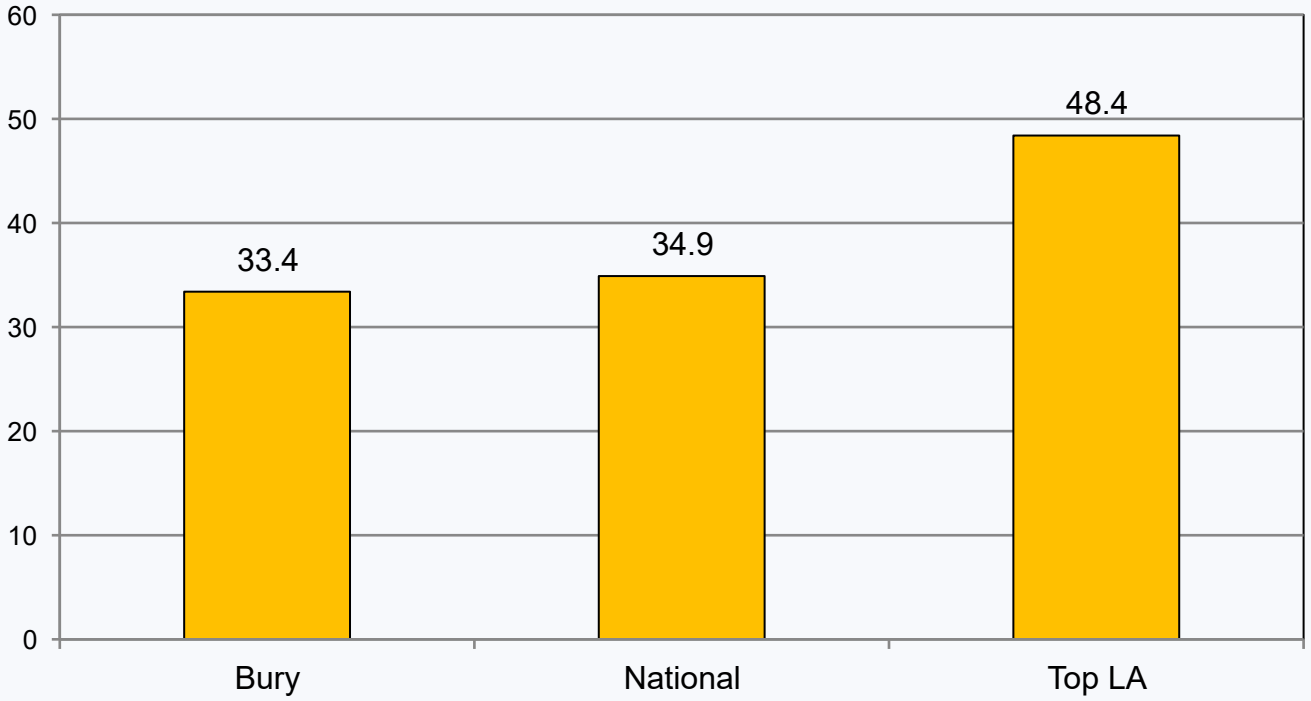
Ranking

115	National Rank (153)
13	North West Rank (24)
10	Stat Neighbours (11)
6	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 115/153
Percentile: 25th



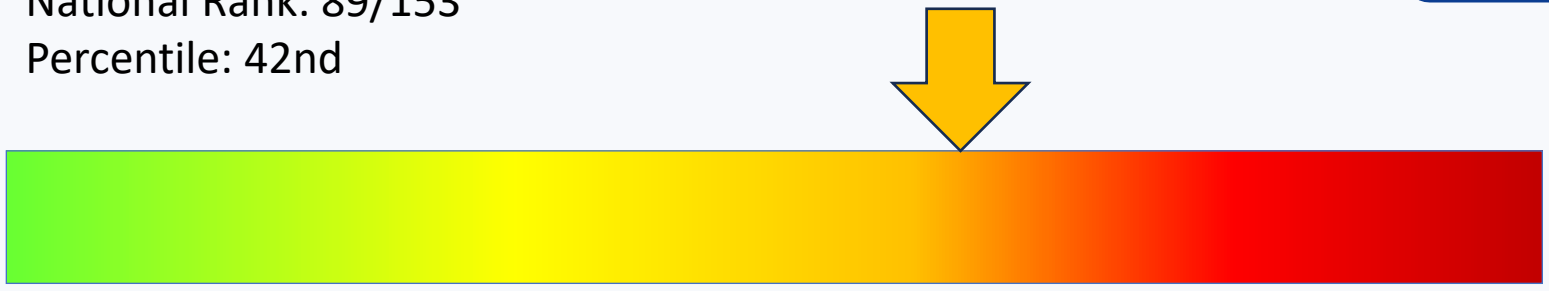
Attainment 8 Disadvantaged



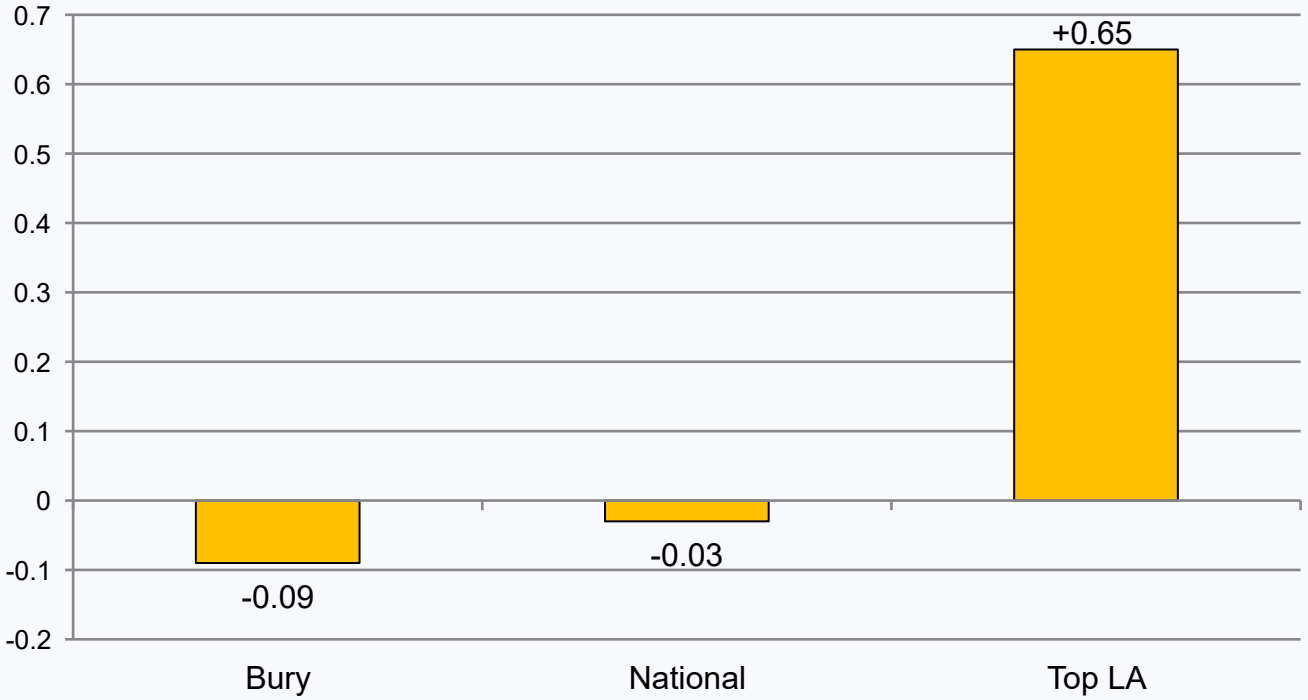
Ranking

89	National Rank (153)
13	North West Rank (24)
7	Stat Neighbours (11)
10	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 89/153
Percentile: 42nd



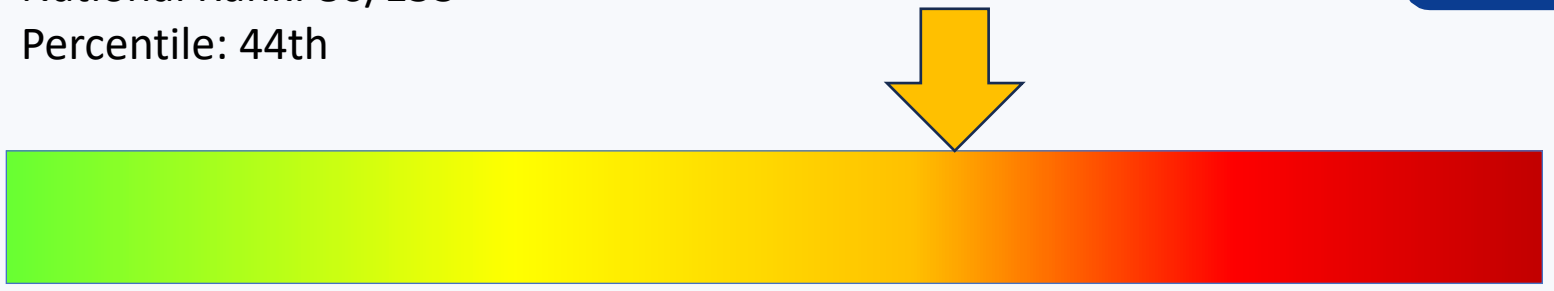
Progress 8



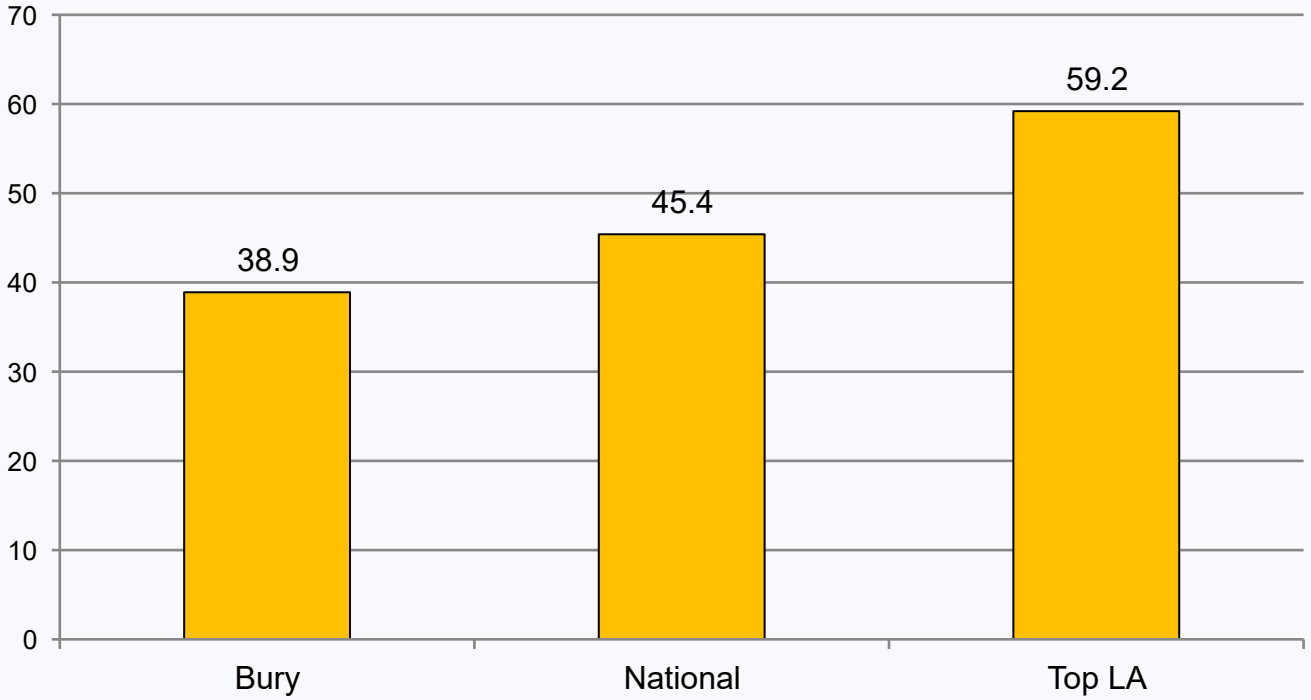
Ranking

86	National Rank (153)
8	North West Rank (24)
7	Stat Neighbours (11)
5	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 86/153
Percentile: 44th



E&M 5+



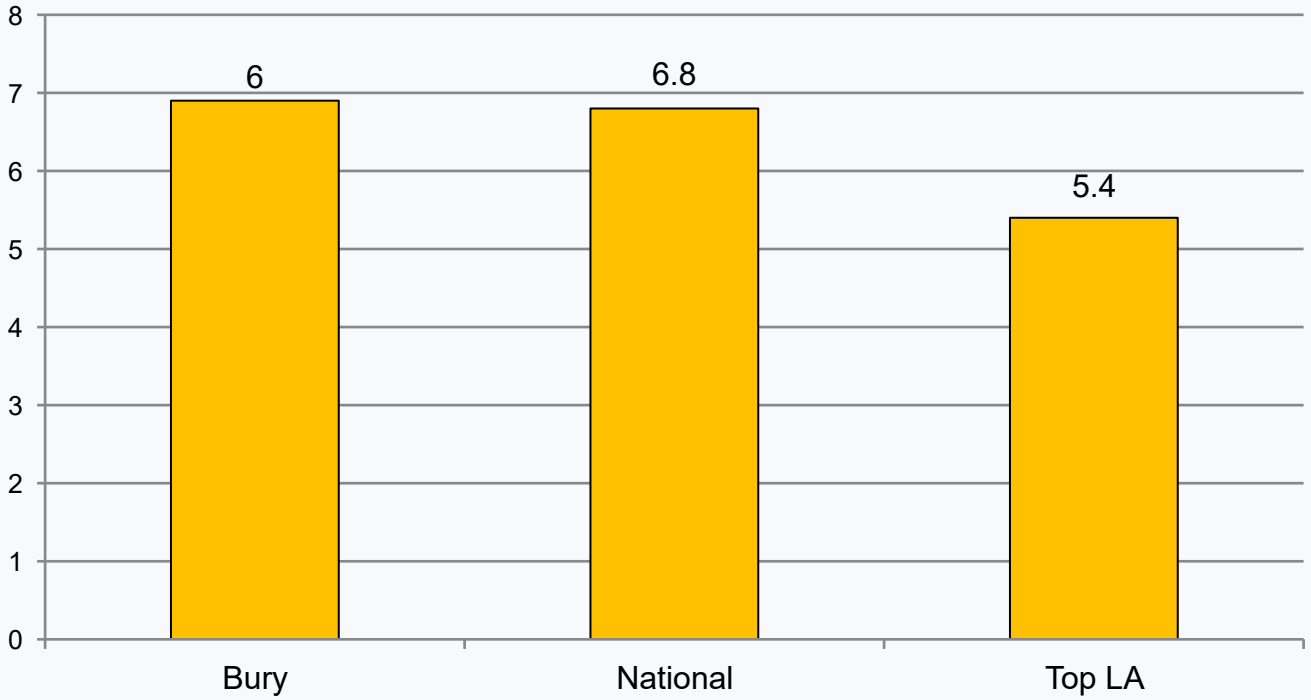
Ranking

129	National Rank (153)
16	North West Rank (24)
11	Stat Neighbours (11)
7	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 129/153
Percentile: 16th



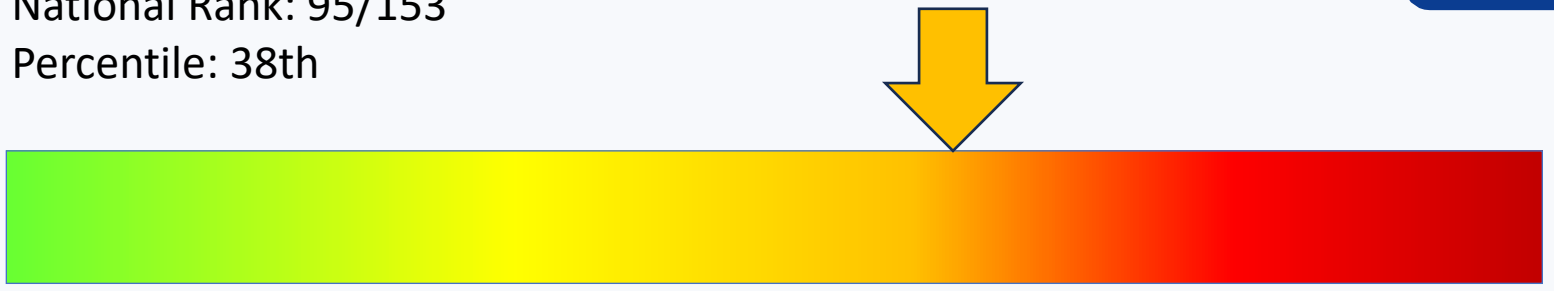
Overall Absence



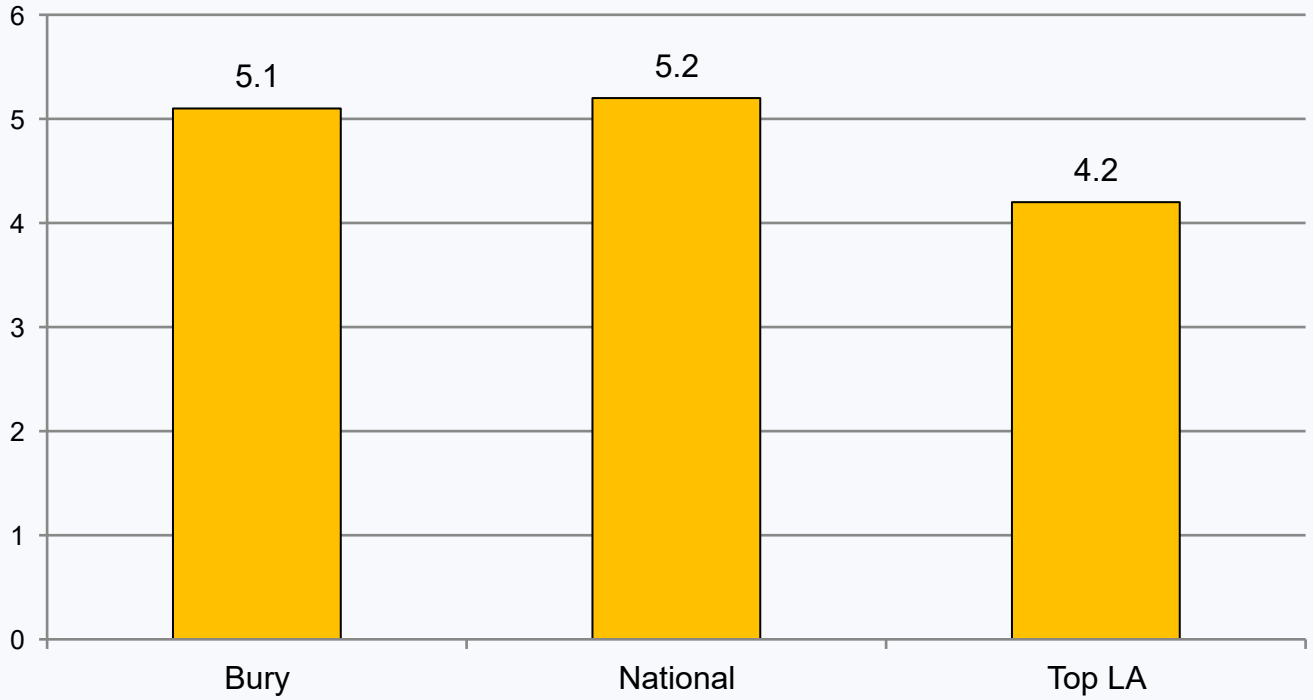
Ranking

95	National Rank (153)
16	North West Rank (24)
5	Stat Neighbours (11)
8	GM10 Rank

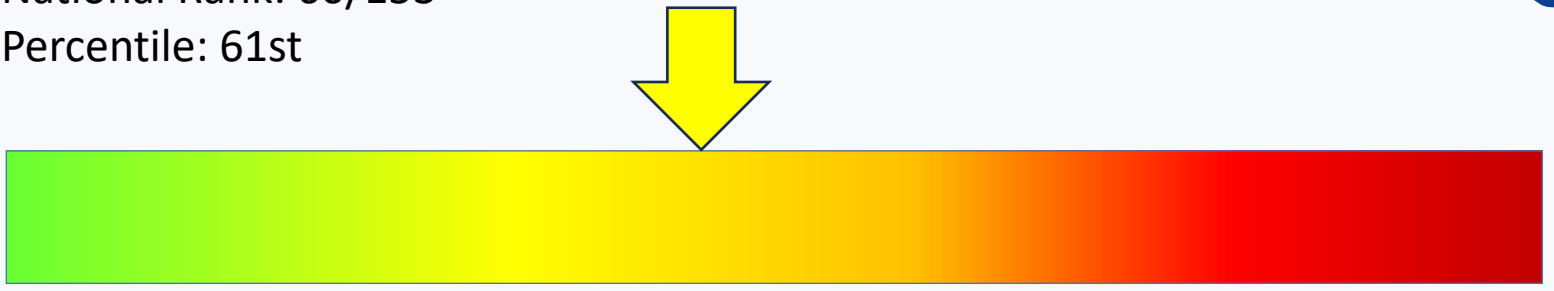
National Rank: 95/153
Percentile: 38th



Primary Absence



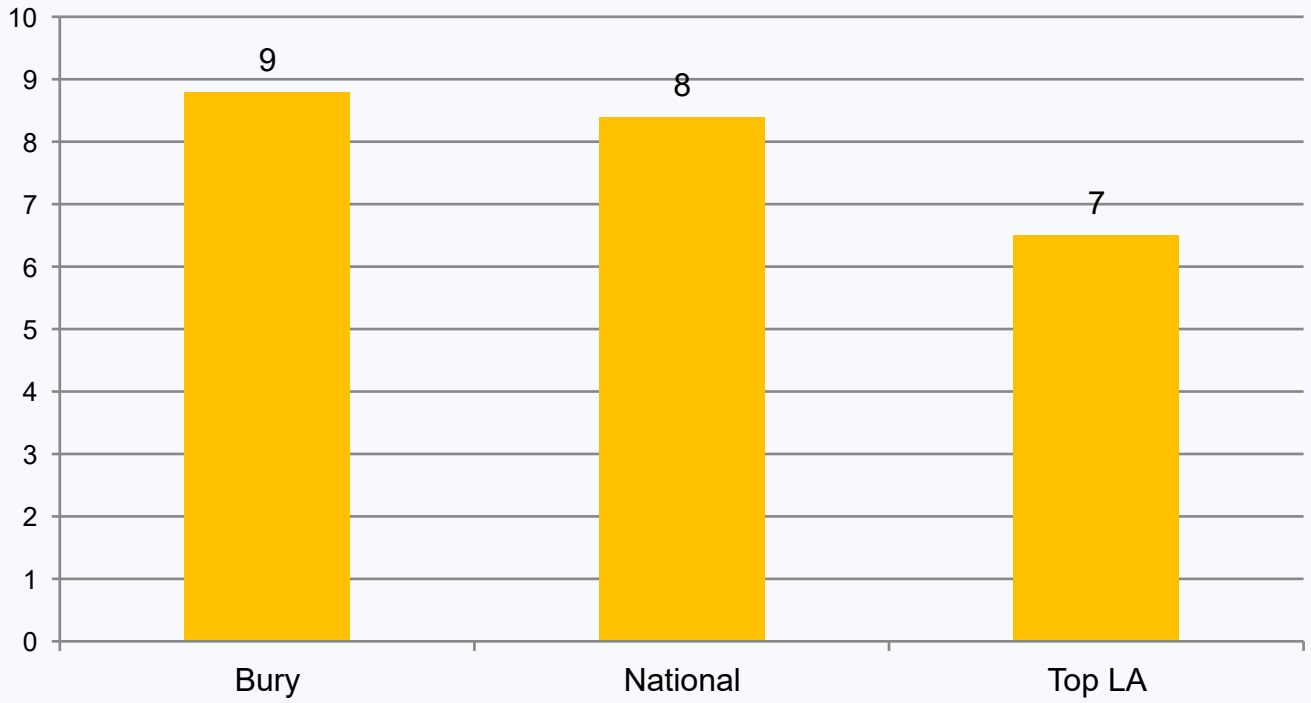
National Rank: 60/153
Percentile: 61st



Ranking

60	National Rank (153)
10	North West Rank (24)
6	Stat Neighbours (11)
4	GM10 Rank

Secondary Absence



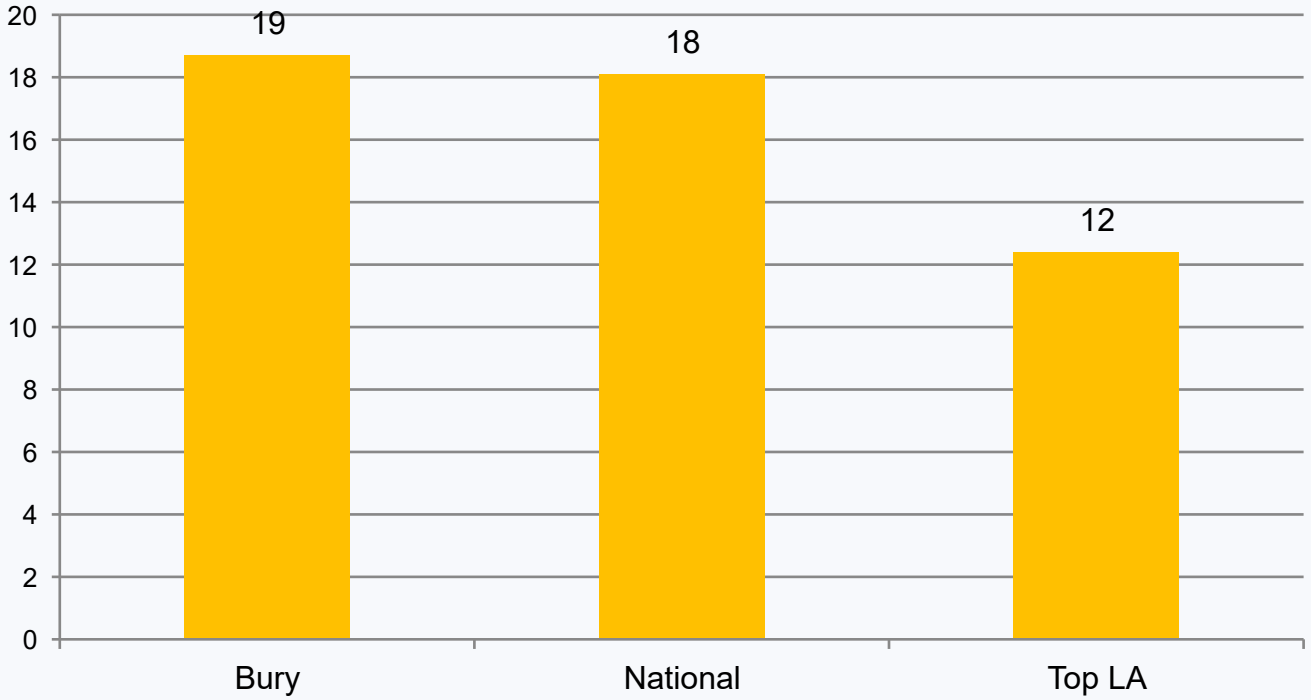
National Rank: 100/153
Percentile: 35th



Ranking

100	National Rank (153)
12	North West Rank (24)
8	Stat Neighbours (11)
6	GM10 Rank

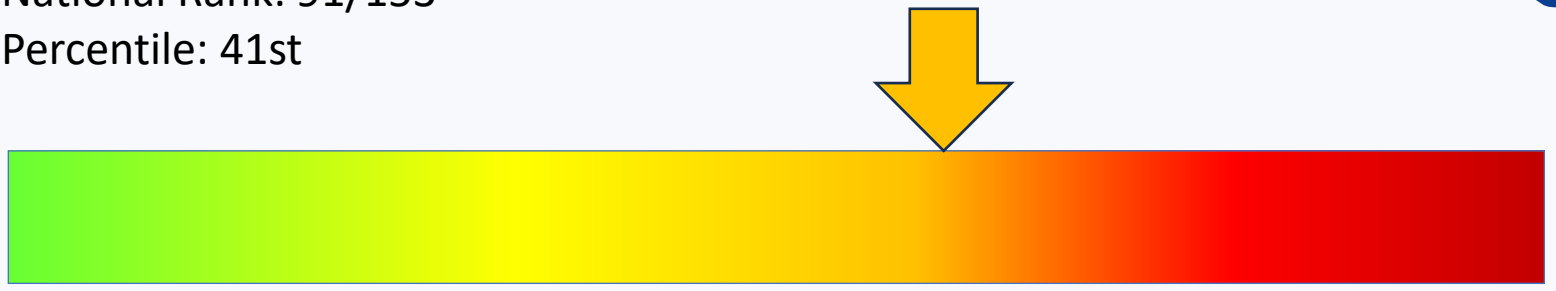
Persistent Absence



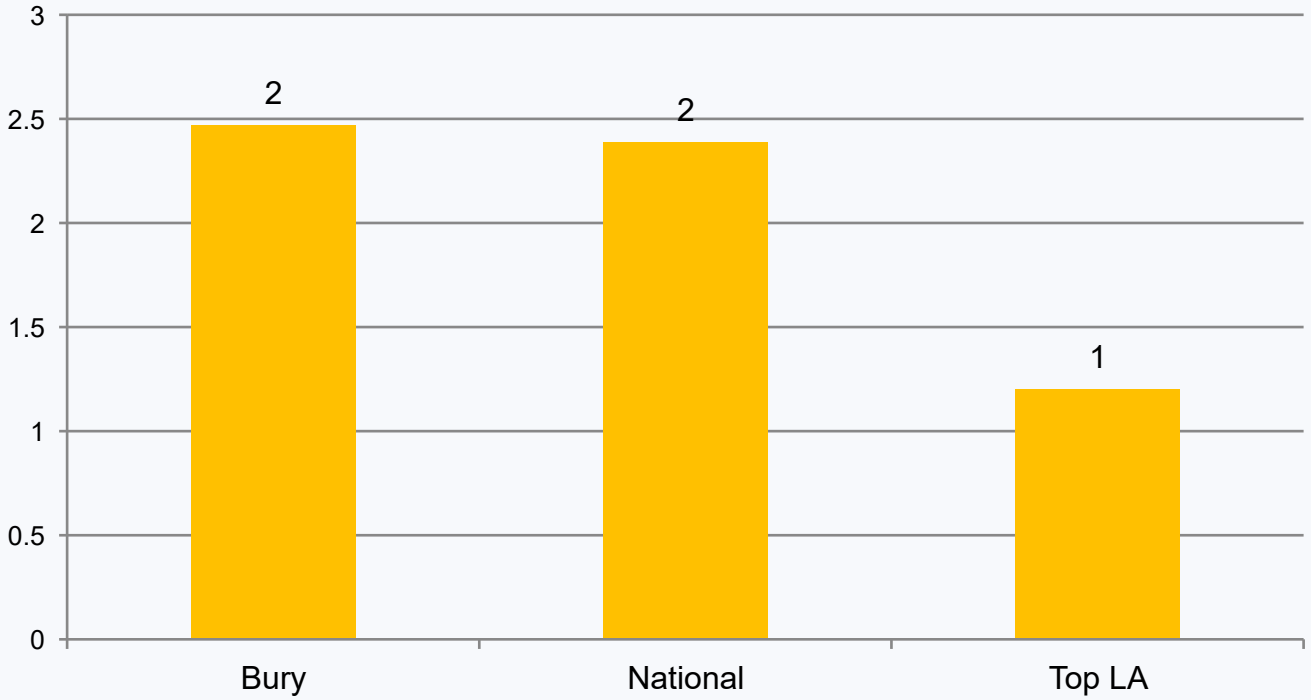
Ranking

91	National Rank (153)
13	North West Rank (24)
6	Stat Neighbours (11)
6	GM10 Rank

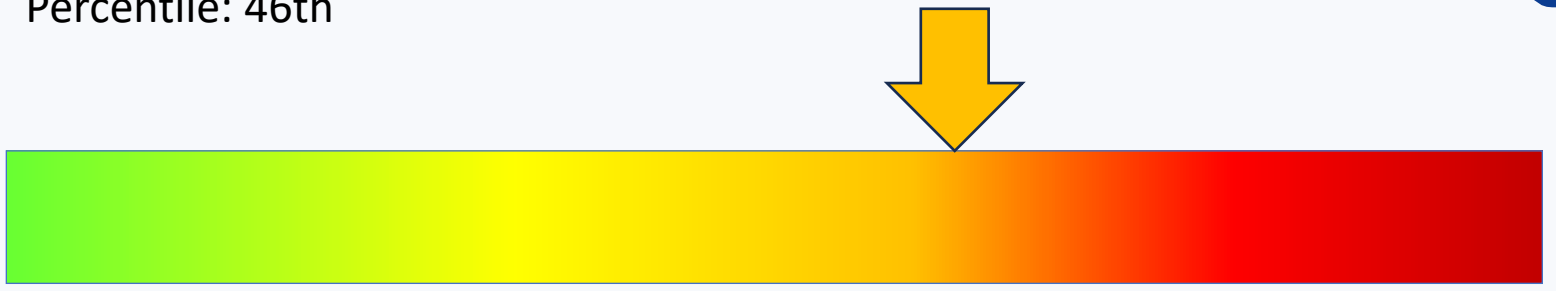
National Rank: 91/153
Percentile: 41st



Severe Absence – All Schools



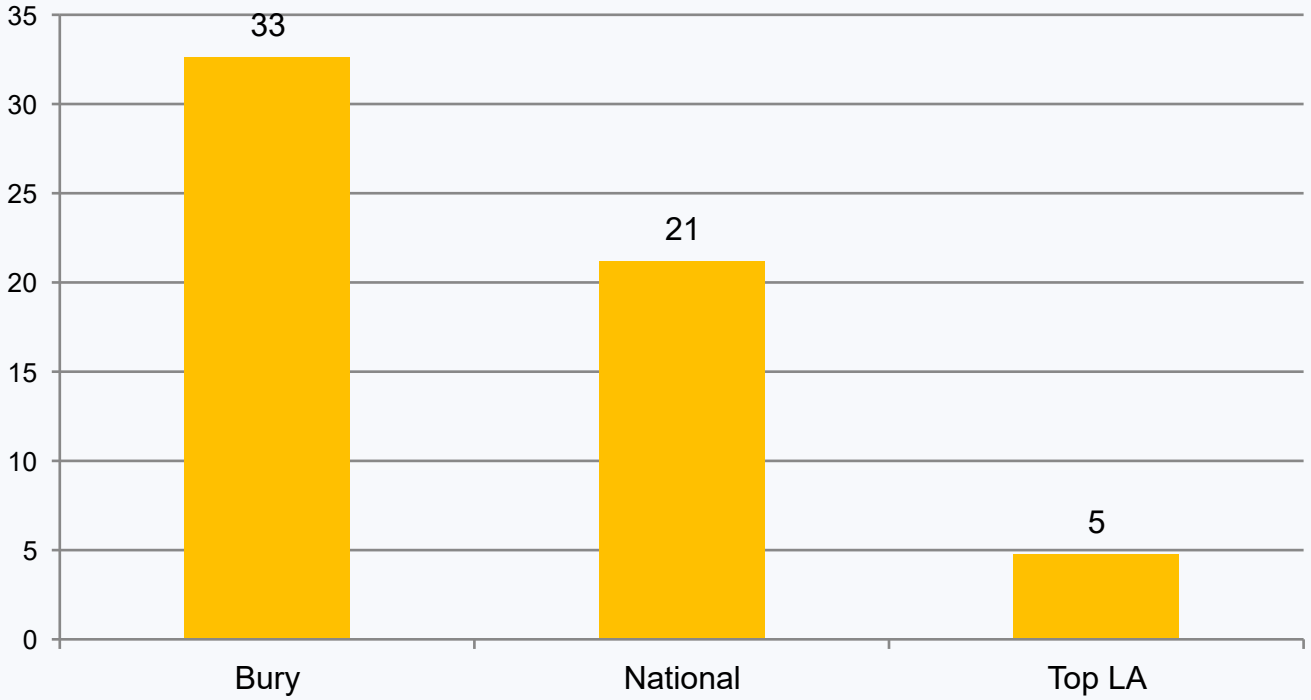
National Rank: 83/153
Percentile: 46th



Ranking

83	National Rank (153)
12	North West Rank (24)
7	Stat Neighbours (11)
6	GM10 Rank

Secondary Suspension Rate



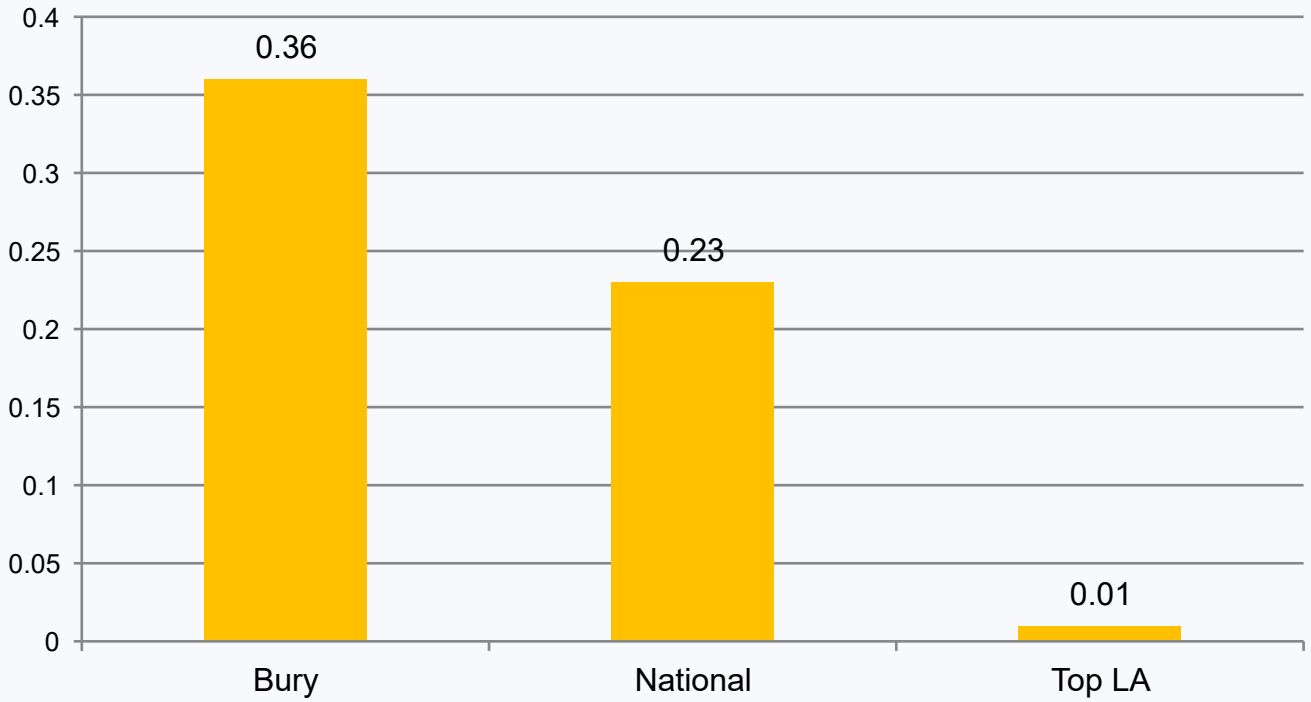
Ranking

128	National Rank (153)
20	North West Rank (24)
9	Stat Neighbours (11)
8	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 128/153
Percentile: 16th



Secondary Exclusion Rate



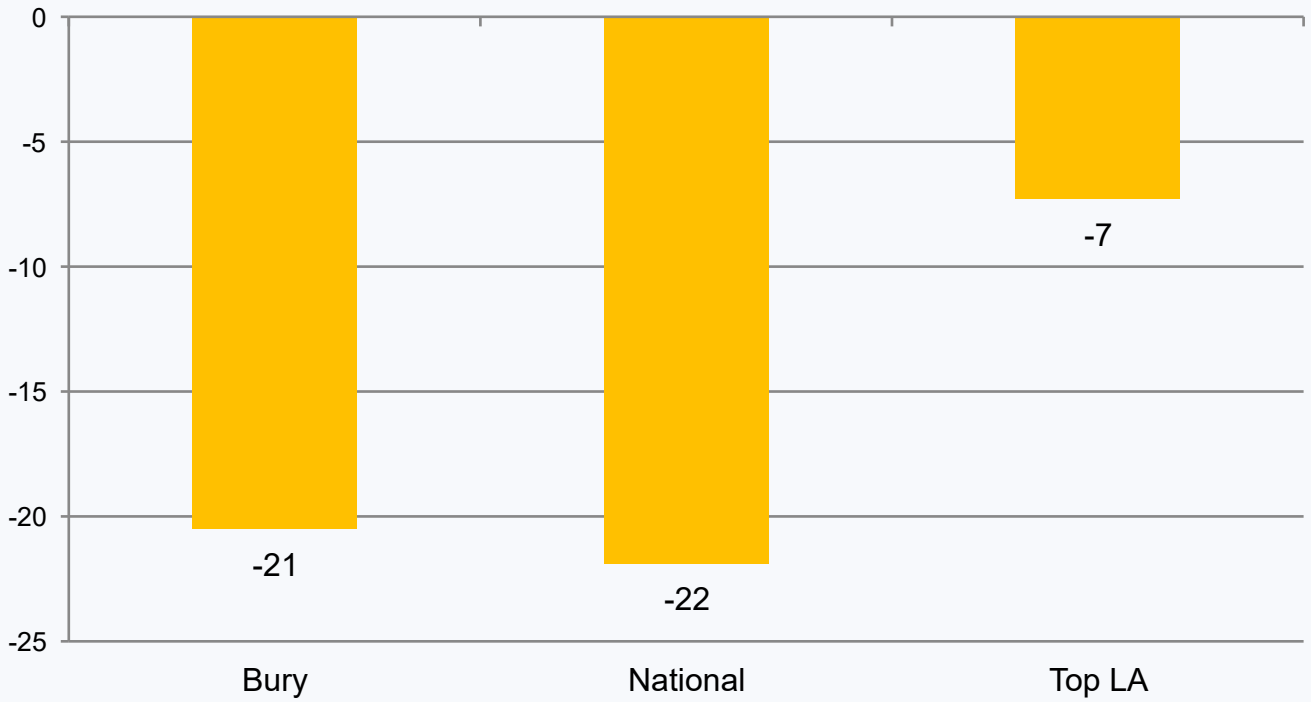
Ranking

120	National Rank (153)
13	North West Rank (24)
6	Stat Neighbours (11)
5	GM10 Rank

National Rank: 120/153
Percentile: 22nd



KS2 Disadvantaged Gap



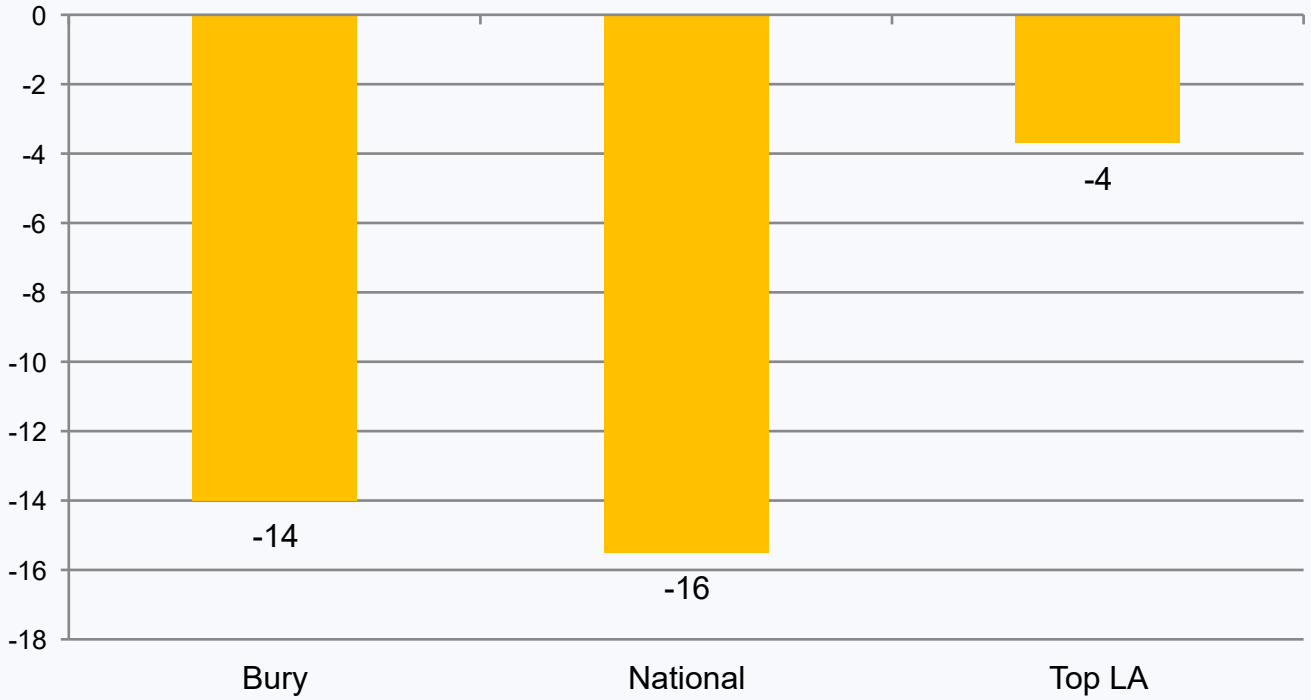
National Rank: 47/153
Percentile: 69th



Ranking

47	National Rank (153)
9	North West Rank (24)
2	Stat Neighbours (11)
6	GM10 Rank

A8 Disadvantaged Gap



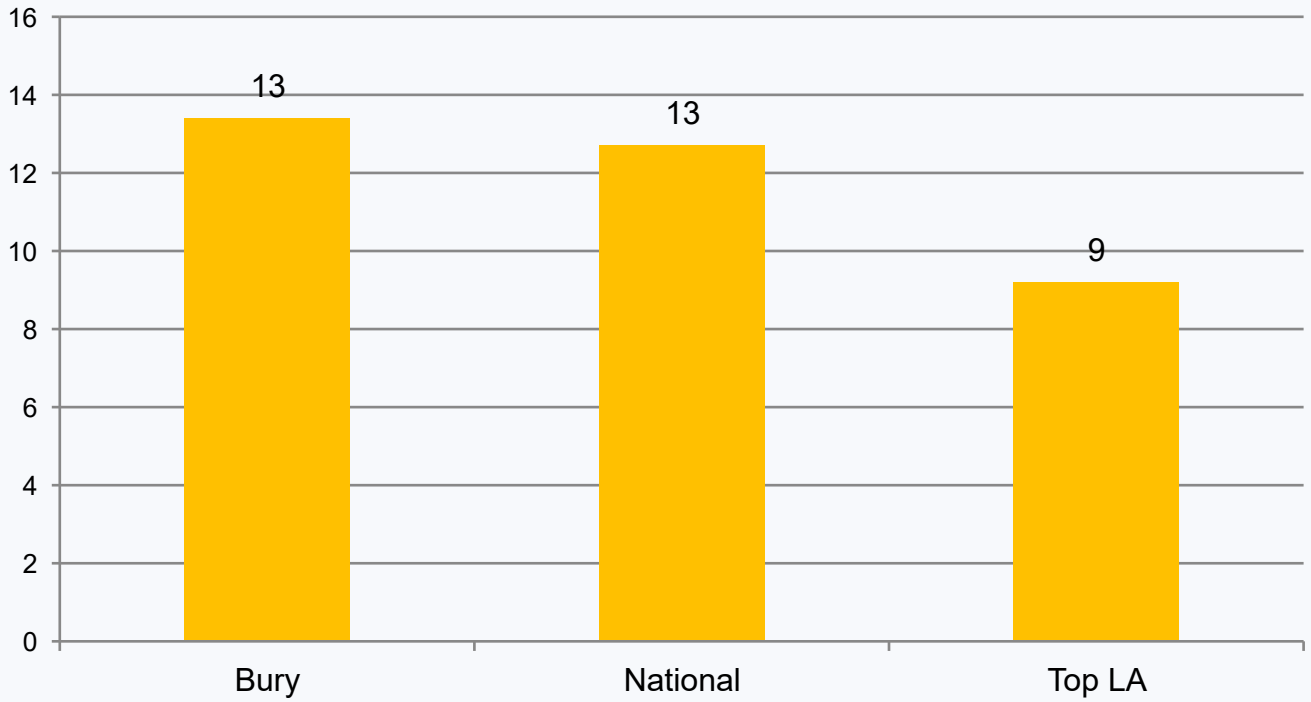
National Rank: 47/153
Percentile: 69th



Ranking

47	National Rank (153)
10	North West Rank (24)
1	Stat Neighbours (11)
8	GM10 Rank

EHCP Absence



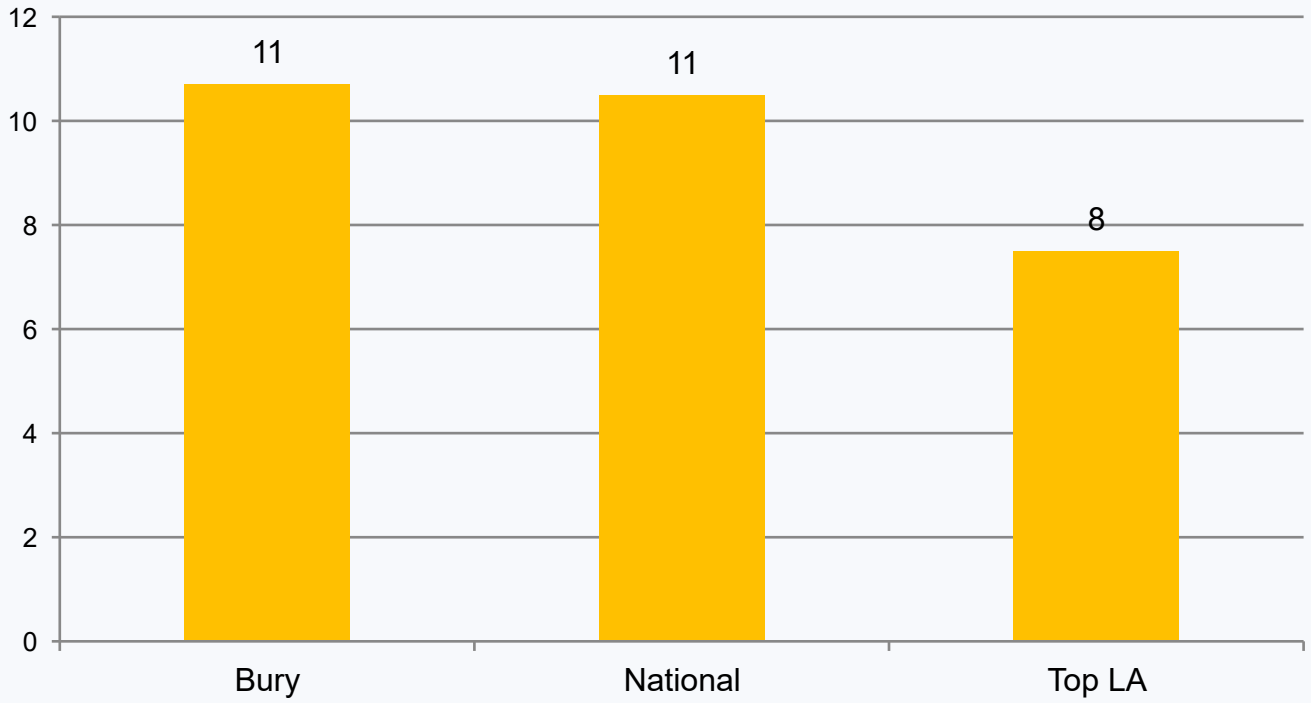
National Rank: 106/153
Percentile: 31st



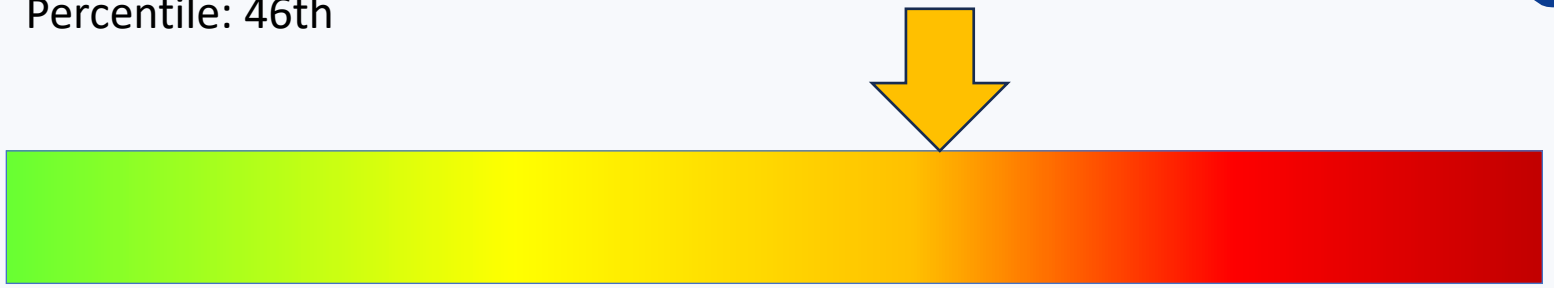
Ranking

106	National Rank (153)
21	North West Rank (24)
7	Stat Neighbours (11)
9	GM10 Rank

FSM Absence (All schools)



National Rank: 82/153
Percentile: 46th



Ranking

82	National Rank (153)
13	North West Rank (24)
5	Stat Neighbours (11)
8	GM10 Rank

Complex Change Lies Ahead

Bury Council

Schools need to change to accommodate learner diversity, rather than expecting diverse learners to change to fit the existing school system

ROGER SLEE (2018)

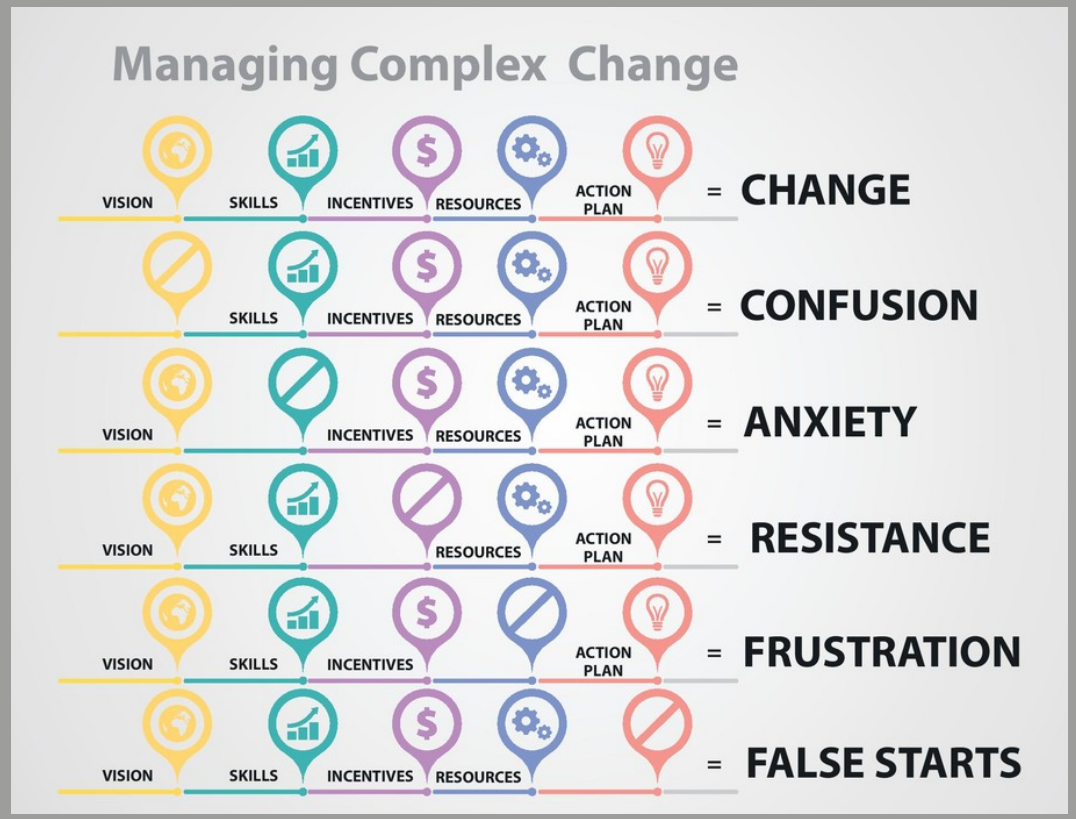
How do we influence change?

Complex Change Lies Ahead

- Relationships! Relationships! Relationships!
- Communication
- Build and develop strong partnerships and networks
- Share performance data
- Professional Development, Training and IAG
- Targeted support
- Inclusion Strategies (Experts at Hand/Inclusion Charter/Bury Belongs in School)
- Community Engagement
- Resource Sharing (Side-by-Side SLNs)

How do we influence change?

Complex Change Lies Ahead



- Vision = Do people understand why we're doing it?
- Skills = Do people know how to do it?
- Incentives = Do people want to do it?
- Resources = Can people do it?
- Action Plan = Do people know what to do next?

How do we influence change?

Team Around the School Model

December 2025

Catherine Hobday
Head of Service. Vulnerable Children & YP in Education

- Virtual School lead
- Looked After Children (0-18)
- CIN / Kinship Care
- School Support

Wendy Young
Head of Service, SEND & Inclusion

- Educational Psychology
- Inclusion & Outreach
- EHCP assessment
- SEND Sufficiency

Ben Dunne
Director Early Years, Education and Skills

Education Team

Sonja Butterworth
Head of Service, School Assurance & Early Years

- School Assurance
- Inspection Support
- Complaints
- School Improvement

Rachael Stirk
Head of Service, Education Operations

- School Organisation
- Capital Projects
- Pupil Place Planning
- Admissions & Appeals

Amy Appleyard
Principal Governance Officer

- School Assurance Team
- Governance Advice
- Complaints & Grievances
- Educational Legislation

Andy Bradburn
Service Manager, Skills

- Careers, Connexions
- Skills and Post-16
- Reducing NEETs
- Employer engagement

Cath Atherden
Service Lead, SEND Support

- SEND support service
- Inclusive Provision
- Graduated Approach
- Communities of Practice

Damian Kay
School Assurance Officer

- School Improvement
- School Support
- Compliance
- School Networks

Collette Radcliffe
Service Manager
Early Years & Family Hubs

- Family Hubs
- Early Years Advisors
- Inclusion & SEND support
- Early Years Offers

Nick Bell
Alternative Provision& SEND Sufficiency Lead

- AP Strategy and Oversight
- AP Quality Assurance
- EOTAS Policy & Practice
- SEND Sufficiency / S19

Joanne West
Deputy Head of the Virtual School

- Operations Manager
- Social Worker support
- PLAC support
- Education Support



All Education Settings

Janet Lloyd. Service Manager, Attendance, Exclusions & Community

- Attendance Support
- Child Licensing
- Section 19 / EHE
- Multi-Agency collaboration

Samantha Horrocks
Asset Management Team

- Property Management
- Capital Building Projects
- Capital Funding
- School Place Planning

Vicky Hunter
Admissions & Pupil Place Planning

- Fair Access to Schools
- Sufficient Supply
- Data Reporting
- School Organisation

Tom Rawdon
EHCP Assessment & Review Team Manager

- Statutory Compliance
- EHCP Quality Assurance
- Stakeholder Liaison
- Performance Monitoring

Sebastian Heywood
Operations

- School Communication
- Programme Co-ordinator
- Event Organisation
- Director Support

Gina French
Community Education & Safeguarding Lead

- Safeguarding Oversight
- Policy & Advice
- Early Help & Intervention
- Training and QA

Dr Jawad Shah
Lead Educational Psychologist

- Specialist support
- Service Development
- Quality Assurance
- Research & Training

Agenda Item 8

SCRUTINY REPORT

MEETING:	**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**
DATE:	**12 November 2026**
SUBJECT:	**Bury SACRE Annual Report**
REPORT FROM:	**Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**
CONTACT OFFICER:	**Amy Appleyard**

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 There is a **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education** (SACRE) formed in each Local Authority. SACRE is the local government body responsible for advising schools on religious education and collective worship.

1.2 Since 1988, each Local Authority (LA) has been required by law to have a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE).

1.3 The remit of a SACRE is principally to oversee the Religious Education (RE) and collective worship within the authority principally to:

a. advise Bury Council upon matters connected with Religious Education and Collective Worship in community schools and in foundation schools which do not have a religious character. Religious Education in these schools is to be given in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus;
b. advise Bury Council on teaching methods, choice of materials and teacher training in Religious Education and Collective Worship;
c. require Bury Council to review the locally agreed syllabus for religious education at least every five years.

2 ISSUES

2.1 Each SACRE is required to produce an annual report. The reporting period of the 2025 - 2026 report starts from September 1st, 2025, and runs to August 31st, 2026. The report must be submitted to the DfE and for the NASACRE website by 31st December each year. Bury SACRE has approved this report.

3.1 The Committee is asked to consider and confirm the report.

List of Background Papers:-

Bury SACRE Annual Report, 2025/26

Contact Details:-

Amy Appleyard, Governors Support

Executive Director sign off Date:____21 October 2026

JET Meeting Date:_____

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Bury Council

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Annual Report, 2025 - 2026

-

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	Standards and monitoring of RE	
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Foreword

Bury SACRE is a group of professionals and members of faith communities which is actively involved in ensuring that all children in our borough receive a high standard of Religious Education, including non-religious world views. We continue to keep the Bury Agreed Syllabus for RE at the centre of our work and have extended the currency of the existing syllabus until 2027 pending review by the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

We continue to promote the AWARE award (Award for Widening Achievement in RE) to build on our work in promoting the 2021 Agreed Syllabus with both maintained schools in Bury and the increasing number of schools joining Multi Academy Trusts. Four primary schools in Bury have been successful this year, bringing the total to 10 schools.

We provide locally delivered and nationwide training to ensure that teachers and other staff providing RE in our schools have the knowledge and expertise to ensure that we are helping children to develop enquiring minds and an investigative, questioning approach.

The SACRE is supported strongly by the local authority, and active in regional and national networks. I commend this annual report to all interested readers.

Alan Beedie

SACRE Chair

Overview of the work of SACRE

Since 1988, each Local Authority (LA) has been required by law to have a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE).

The remit of a SACRE is principally to oversee the Religious Education (RE) and collective worship within the authority principally to:

- advise Bury Council upon matters connected with Religious Education and Collective Worship in community schools and in foundation schools which do not have a religious character. Religious Education in these schools is to be given in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus;
- advise Bury Council on teaching methods, choice of materials and teacher training in Religious Education and Collective Worship;
- require Bury Council to review the locally agreed syllabus for religious education at least every five years.

The reporting period of the 2025 - 2026 report starts from September 1st, 2025, and runs to August 31st, 2026.

SACRE met on three occasions during the academic year 2025 – 2026. The dates of these meetings were Wednesday 8th October 2025 (virtual meeting using TEAMS), Monday 23rd March 2026 (virtual meeting using TEAMS), Monday 8th June 2026 (in person meeting at Star Radcliffe Academy with option of joining virtually). The meetings held on Monday 23rd March and Monday 8th June were quorate.

Standing items in meetings:

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- Additional items in specific meetings:

8th October 2025

- Chair and vice chair for 2025-26
- AWARE award
- Establishment of Agreed Syllabus Conference
- Training for schools
- SACRE membership
- National RE news
- Member updates
- Any other business
- Date and time of next meeting

23rd March 2026

- Bury SACRE AWARE award
- Training for schools

- NASACRE statement on the Curriculum and Assessment Review report, Building a world-class curriculum for all, 2025
- DfE Curriculum and Assessment Review final report
- RE in English schools; non statutory guidance 2010, DfE
- National RE news
- NB this meeting was directly followed by an Agreed Syllabus Conference

8th June 2026

- Any other business
- Date and time of proposed meetings 2026/27
- NB this meeting was directly preceded by an Agreed Syllabus Conference

Section 2: Religious Education

The Locally Agreed Syllabus and RE in schools

RE is not part of the national curriculum. Each LA is required to produce an Agreed Syllabus for RE. Each LA is required to begin reviewing the current Agreed Syllabus within five years of its production.

The Bury Agreed Syllabus for RE is due for review in the academic year 2025 – 2026 as the current agreed syllabus reaches the end of its five-year cycle on 31st August 2026. The current syllabus is being extended by one year, so can now be used in Bury schools until 31st August 2027.

Schools have been surveyed about the current syllabus, and an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) was formed to review it. Changes were agreed by the ASC in June 2026, and these will mainly ensure that the next version of the syllabus will reflect the demographics of Bury to a greater extent. The draft syllabus will be updated by RE Today and approved by the conference in early September. It will then be approved by Bury Council.

Standards and monitoring of RE

Bury SACRE has continued its statutory responsibility to monitor RE in the borough and in doing so has collected information on the success of the Agreed Syllabus through surveying schools. Although some important points were raised, most schools expressed satisfaction with the syllabus. The decision has been taken to extend the current syllabus until the end of the 2026/2027 academic year to allow time for a revised version to be completed in line with the points raised.

Bury SACRE has continued to present schools with the AWARE Award where schools have shown progress against criteria determined by the SACRE for widening achievement in religious education. In the academic year covered by this report the following schools have attained the AWARE award:

Elton Primary School

Radcliffe Primary School

All Saints CE Primary School

St Stephen’s CE Primary School

At present, the examination results from Summer 2026 are unvalidated. Please see appendix A for the unvalidated results from 2026.

Bury Local Authority validated GCSE Religious Studies data, Summer 2025

GCSE Religious Studies Count by Grade				Grading									
School	NOE	No. 9-4 Pass	No. 9-5 Strong Pass	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	U
Unsworth Academy	13	6	5	2	2	3	1	1	1		3		
Hazel Wood High School	52	40	33	3	2	4	7	6	8	12	4	3	3
The Heys School	0	0	0										
St Gabriel's RC High School	201	118	99	13	24	39	19	26	21	25	14	13	7
The Elton High School	20	16	15	1	2	1	1		3	6	4	2	
Manchester Mesivta	0	0	0										
St Monica's RC High School	209	171	146	6	6	24	25	32	38	32	23	21	2
The Derby High School	58	45	36	3	3	6	9	12	8	12	4		1
Tottington High School	25	9	5	3	4	6	4	2		3			3
Parrenthorn High School	192	98	68	23	32	28	30	30	22	10	5	1	11
Philips High School	22	19	17		1	1	2	2	2	3	7	3	1
Woodhey High School	15	12	11	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	3	1	
Bury Church of England High School	140	101	86	3	10	22	15	18	31	17	13	7	4
Elms Bank Specialist Arts College	0	0	0										
Grand Total	947	635	521	58	87	135	114	131	138	121	80	51	32

Bury validated A level RS data, Summer 2025

Grade	No.
A	9
B	7
C	13
D	2
E	2
U	1

In the year covered by the report, several schools in Bury received an Ofsted inspection. Two inspection reports included comments about RE:

East Ward Community Primary School: 'Pupils … take part in a wide range of cultural activities including music lessons, performing arts and themed days that celebrate different cultures and faiths.**'**

St Peter's Church of England Primary School stated: 'Pupils reflect on their own beliefs and listen respectfully to the views of others. They speak thoughtfully about different religions and cultures, and visits to places of worship and cultural institutions broaden their understanding further.'

Teacher training materials and advice for schools

CPD sessions have been organized for primary and secondary school teachers in Bury throughout the year.

A full day cross-phase conference, which was provided free to Bury teachers, was held in October 2025.

Throughout the year, primary colleagues had access to three online training sessions, which were provided free to schools:

Teaching Judaism in the primary classroom (15th October)

RE Subject leadership (25th March)

Teaching Non-Religious Worldviews (29th April)

Throughout the year, secondary colleagues had access to three online training sessions, which were provided free to schools:

Better thinking, better writing results – GCSE (18th November)

Effective use of quotations for A level Religious Studies (4th March)

Who are the Nones? Examining research into non-religious worldviews (12th May)

Other information

There were no formal complaints to SACRE about RE during the year.

Advice given to the Local Authority

No formal advice was given to the local authority in the period covered by this report. However, SACRE and the Local Authority work together closely, with the Local Authority having involvement in matters such as reviewing the syllabus and updating the constitution.

Section 3: Collective worship

Standards and monitoring of Collective Worship

Determinations

There were no applications for determinations in the period covered by this report.

Teacher training provided

No training was provided in this period covered by this report.

Other information

There were no formal complaints to SACRE about collective worship during the year.

Advice to the Local Authority

No advice was given to the local authority in the period covered by this report.

Section 4: Links with other bodies

National Bodies

Bury SACRE are pleased to be linked with national bodies and receive national updates from our RE adviser.

Bury SACRE has links with and is a member of NASACRE.

Information from the DfE, NASACRE and NATRE has been used in meetings and shared with schools where appropriate.

SACRE members are able to regularly attend NASACRE webinars.

Local bodies

Local places of worship are well represented on SACRE.

Section 5: SACRE involvement in the Local Area

Governor and head teacher links

All materials pertaining to the SACRE are shared with governors and headteachers through Governor Services.

Advice on community issues

The Chair has a list of visits available. RE advisers regularly give advice on speakers coming into schools and visits to places of worship in both SACRE meetings and training sessions.

SACRE sent a response to the incident at Heaton Park Synagogue, which is very close to Bury and a PowerPoint from the Board of Deputies of British Jews which was useful in helping pupils to talk about the attack was sent to schools in a school briefing. As a result of the incident, Parrenthorn High School took on the work of setting up a school voice conference for 26 local schools. The conference saw over 100 pupils from a range of schools including primary, secondary, special, mainstream and colleges working together to produce the Bury Anti-Hate Charter. The SACRE Chair attended and addressed the conference.

Section 6: Managing the SACRE and partnership with the Local Authority (LA)

Professional and administrative support

During the reporting period, clerking of SACRE was undertaken by Jacqui Mellor of Governor Services.

The Local Authority provided funding to support SACRE activity 2025 - 2026 by contracting with RE Today Services of an RE Consultant for SACRE support, provision of the annual report, management of the AWARE award and CPD.

Julia Diamond-Conway from RE Today took on the role of RE consultant.

Amy Appleyard held responsibility for SACRE support and liaised with the Chair, Clerk and RE consultant.

Membership

The table provided below demonstrates the composition of Bury SACRE. Members in bold signify attendance. (A) signifies apologies were received and recorded in the minutes.

	8 October 2025	23 March 2026	8 June 2026
Committee A	**Alan Beedie (Chair)** Bec Hyndman Alison Knott (A) Russell Conn Mandy Williams Fatima Zubair Martin Knowles (A)	**Alan Beedie (Chair)** **Bec Hyndman** **Alison Knott** Russell Conn (A) **Mandy Williams** Fatima Zubair **Martin Knowles**	**Alan Beedie (Chair)** Bec Hyndman (A) **Alison Knott** Russell Conn (A) Mandy Williams (A) Fatima Zubair (A) **Martin Knowles**
Committee B	Sheryl Farnworth (A) Claire Clark **Gail Branch**	**Sheryl Farnworth** **Claire Clark** **Gail Branch**	Sheryl Farnworth Claire Clark (A) **Gail Branch**
Committee C	Rachel Messenger Zoe Simmons	Rachel Messenger **Zoe Simmons**	**Rachel Messenger** **Zoe Simmons**
Committee D	Cllr M Hayes (A) **Cllr K Hussain**	Cllr M Hayes (A) **Cllr K Hussain**	Cllr M Hayes (A) **Cllr M Walsh**
In attendance	**Jacqui Mellor (Clerk)** **Julia Diamond-Conway** **Sonja Butterworth**	**Jacqui Mellor (Clerk)** **Julia Diamond-Conway** Damian Kay (A)	**Rebecca Taylor (Clerk)** **Ian Nicholson** Julia Diamond-Conway (A) **Amy Appleyard** Ben Dunne (A) Damian Kay (A)
Observer	Ravinder Kaur Joanne Burns	Ravinder Kaur Joanne Burns (A)	Ravinder Kaur Joanne Burns
	8 October 2025	23 March 2026	10th June 2025

Training

Training is available to SACRE members through NASACRE and is advertised to all members of the SACRE.

Finance

The LA allocated funding for support to SACRE from the RE Consultant. Funding was allocated for clerking.

Appendix A

Circulation of the Annual Report

The Bury Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education Annual Report will be:

- Provided, via e-mail, to all SACRE Members
- Provided, via e-mail, to the Department for Education
- Provided, via e-mail, to NASACRE