

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR LEWIS DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 1 submitted by Councillor Mallon

Q. Can the Leader give an update on progress with the Apprenticeship Scheme?

A. **Our apprenticeship scheme is going from strength to strength. At the moment we have 32 people undertaking apprenticeships with Bury Council, and around 150 apprentices have been taken on since Backing Young Bury was set up in 2010, 79 of whom are still employed with us.**

We’re currently in the process of recruiting 14 more apprentices, who will be starting work in various departments across the Council from September. With the Apprenticeship Levy and proposed Public Sector Recruitment Target on the horizon we’re now looking at ways we can expand the scheme even further and provide even more opportunities for young people in the borough.

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR SHORI LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 2 submitted by Councillor Adams

Q. Following the tragic death of Jo Cox on 16 June, can the Leader tell me if there is anything we should be doing as Elected members to ensure our own safety?

A. **Ensuring the safety of elected representatives, staff and our constituents is obviously a big priority. As such a ‘Personal Safety Guide for Councillors’ has been sent to all Members, which I would urge you all to read and act upon.**

The guide is designed to raise awareness of your own personal safety and to outline a number of measures you should put in place to minimise risk. Let’s remember that the risks are small but we can all take a little extra time to prepare and plan to reduce risks even further.

Following the issuing of the guidelines it is planned to run a number of Personal Safety Awareness Training Sessions and I would ask that you all attend. Details of dates and times will be available very soon.

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Suggested answer to written Question 3 submitted by Councillor Caserta

- Q.** Has this council done any work to calculate the profit or loss to Bury if business rates are transferred to the council in 2020 against the present money received from central government?
- A.** For 2016/17, the Council received Revenue Support Grant of £22.25 million, and is expected to pay Business Rates totalling £25.30 million over to the Government (this being 50% of yield).

The situation however is not that simple – the Council will not be £2.8 million “better off” under the new regime.

The Government has stated that the new regime will be “fiscally neutral”, however has not yet clarified who for, or for how long.

Clearly there will need to be a redistribution of Business Rates income nationally – some London Authorities generate significant amounts of Business Rates which if they were allowed to retain fully, they probably wouldn’t even need to set a Council Tax.

The Government is inviting suggestions for possible redistribution formulae, along with a new approach to determining Councils' funding requirements; and we are engaging with this process.

As always, we want nothing more than a "Fair Deal" for Bury residents.

Finally, I would add that whilst 100% retention of business rates presents opportunities for Local Authorities who pro-actively grow their business base, equally there are significant risks in these difficult economic times, especially with back-dated appeals.

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Suggested answer to written Question 4 submitted by Councillor Cummings

- Q.** Could the Leader please give an update on the final position with the Council’s 2015/16 accounts?
- A.** **The 2015/16 accounts have been prepared more than one month ahead of the statutory deadline, and report a £61,000 underspend which is 0.05% of the net budget.**

The external audit is now complete and we understand only one recommendation is to be made (requiring no adjustment).

The accounts will be formally considered for approval by Audit Committee on 19th July.

I wish to draw Members’ attention to the fact that 2015/16 saw cuts totalling £15.8 million, so the outturn is an excellent result, reflecting the efforts of staff and Portfolio holders alike.

I must also mention that the finance portfolio was overseen by Councillor Shori in 2015/16, and thank him for his excellent leadership and management through the year.

Of course it is not all good news. Going forward we know that we face further funding reductions of 25%, significant cost pressures, and the uncertainty of a new business rates regime – leading to self sufficiency by 2020.

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COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR TARIQ CABINET MEMBER COMMUNITIES AND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 5 submitted by Councillor Grimshaw.

Q. How is neighbourhood working progressing?

A. I am pleased to advise that there has been excellent progress with the redesign of services as we move to a model of neighbourhood working. Two trailblazer sites have been identified Bury East and Radcliffe. Consultation events were held earlier this year which determined priorities for those areas. Team Bury has developed strong governance structure building on the lawn and the store analogy. The real focus is about improving lives and gaining better outcomes for the residents we serve. I am sure you will agree at a time when budgets are shrinking . we have to do things differently We have committed to developing one commissioning organisation and to health and social care integration for which neighbourhood working is the delivery arm. There are a number of work streams currently underway which include development of

- a conversational tool which will help use move away from multi assessments to focusing on customers well being through self care and self this will still allow us to support those for which we have a statutory duty.

- **An operational pathway and mobilisation plan have been drafted with a view to going live in September.**
- **A outcome framework is also being developed so that we ensure the improvements in residents lives.**
- **Community and voluntary assets**

This work is also supported by a strong communication plan

A workshop was held last week for staff building on the road shows engaging staff in the process and the feedback has been very positive.

The voluntary and third sector organisations have representation on the Making it happen service design group and further consultation events are planned for Sept.

I will give further updates as this work progresses.

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR QUINN CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

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Suggested answer to written Question 6 submitted by Councillor Kersh

- Q.** Can the Leader or relevant Cabinet member please state how much revenue this Council received from charging for additional grey bins in the last financial year?
- A.** **A total of 154 additional grey bins with red lids were authorised in 15/16 for families that needed extra capacity. The charge of £30, and total income of £4,620, covers administration and delivery costs.**

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Suggested answer to written Question 7 submitted by Councillor Kelly

- Q.** Now we are leaving the EU, how much of the £350m per week promised by the “Leave” Campaign will be spent in Bury?
- A.** Any savings quoted by the “Leave” campaign are highly speculative, and we all know there is considerable uncertainty nationally as to the impact of the referendum outcome.

As the precise detail of the impact unravels, I make a simple plea – that Bury receives a “Fair Deal” in the redistribution of any resources.

Sadly however, experience tells me that this will not be the case

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR SHORI LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

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Suggested answer to written Question 8 submitted by Councillor Jamie Walker

Q. Will the leader join with me in condemning the UKIP immigration poster during the referendum campaign and will he also join with me in saying obnoxious, racist and frankly dishonest propaganda like that have no place in our society?

A. I would like to re-iterate how proud I am that our borough is a place in which everyone can prosper and where there is respect and tolerance between our diverse communities. We work hard to keep it this way and challenge hate crime in all its ugly forms.

The poster appeared to show refugees making their way into Europe, people who through no fault of their own, need our compassion and help.

UKIP received condemnation for their use of the poster from all political parties, including from within their own party.

I certainly join in this condemnation and agree that this type of campaigning should have no place in our society.

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LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

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Suggested answer to written Question 9 submitted by Councillor D’Albert

- Q.** 20 April 2016, saw the sad death of the Victoria Wood, the much loved comedian who was born in Prestwich and schooled in Bury. Would the Leader of the Council consider engaging with the family of Ms Wood, to see whether some sort of permanent memorial to Victoria Wood - would be appropriate in the borough?
- A.** **I’d be very happy to take on board the Councillor’s suggestion and I’ll ask the Chief Executive to report back to Members.**

I am aware that this issue has already been raised shortly after Victoria Wood's sad untimely death by Cllr Black, with regard to a statue or similar memorial to be sited in Prestwich or in Bury.

Early discussions have taken place with the Arts and Culture officer to look at the possibilities for progressing this. This could include sponsorship or crowdfunding opportunities to enable her many fans to make a contribution

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Suggested answer to written Question 10 submitted by Councillor Roy Walker

Q. Did Bury Council write to DATONG in 2011 to inform them there would be no more formal links between Bury and Datong? If so what was their response at that time?

A **At the time the Council felt that the relationship with Datong had delivered as much as it could and we wrote to our friends to tell them that.**

However times have changed significantly since then.

There has been a major drive by the Government to develop trade and investment opportunities with China; we have seen the groundbreaking visit of the Chinese President to Manchester; and transport links have improved massively with the introduction of direct flights from Manchester to Beijing.

At the same time we are now hearing from some of Bury’s biggest businesses about the significant damage that Brexit may do to their prospects and I am determined that the Council should do everything possible to bring business and investment into our borough.

Bury has never been an insular place and as a Council we will not shy away from looking far and wide for opportunities that can help our people's prosperity which is why I have responded positively to renewed overtures from Datong.

Where I intend this potential relationship to differ from past links is that it must be based on specific issues with clearly defined and beneficial outcomes.

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Suggested answer to written Question 11 submitted by Councillor O’Brien

- Q.** How much has our region lost in projected EU funding from the EU Social Fund and the EU Regional Development Fund?
- A.** **It is not clear how much European Funding will be lost to Greater Manchester as a result of the referendum decision to leave the European Union.**

GM is waiting for more detailed guidance from both managing authorities for the ESIF (European Structural Investment Funds) funds allocated to the region. CLG are the managing authority for ERDF (European Regional Development Funds) and DWP (Department for Works and Pensions) manage ESF (European Structural Funds).

It has been confirmed that activity that is currently contracted is not at risk. This amounts to a total of £75 million including match funding that is currently already contracted and being delivered.

There is £280 million including match funding for both ERDF and ESF that is currently in the negotiation and contract process that may be at risk. This includes proposals for the establishment of revolving funds which would invest funding as loans, equity and guarantees and would therefore invest more than once.

A further £280 million (including match funding) that is not in currently in the pipeline and has not been signed off by CLG.

There are other EU programmes that Greater Manchester organisations can apply for.

The UK's future access to the Erasmus+ programme will be determined as a part of wider discussions with the EU. Until then, UK partners are entitled to participate in current and planned calls as any other Member State.

European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (Interreg and URBACT) have released statements in relation to UK participants in the programmes. There are no immediate changes. *"The UK is still a full member of the European Union with all the associated rights and obligations this entails"*. However, where projects require transnational partners we do not know the impact of the uncertainty of the UK position on being able to secure partnerships with other areas, which are a condition of funding.

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR QUINN CABINET MEMBER ENVIRONMENT

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Suggested answer to written Question 12 submitted by Councillor James

- Q.** Will the Leader thank the excellent work done by Bury’s officers to stop the setting up of an illegal campsite during the Parklife weekend?
- A.** **Clearly the Council were not happy with the proposed campsite for a wide variety of reasons including lack of time to assess the site, and the impact on the local community etc.**

We came to the view that the proposed use of the Football Club’s premises was in breach of the terms of their lease with us and the Chief Executive wrote to the club informing them of that fact and asking for confirmation that they wouldn’t act in a way that breached the lease. Consequently this proposal did not come about.

Event Camping were advised to let all the prospective campers know that the camping was no longer happening and to refund any monies owing

Officers from Manchester Council, Bury Council, GMP and GMFRS also been met along with the Parklife promoter to put in place contingency arrangements to safeguard anyone who might turn up trying to camp.

Officers from Community Safety, Trading Standards and the police patrolled the Simister field to help any vulnerable campers who might turn up but fortunately only a couple did.

This was a very time consuming issue for a number of officers throughout the Council but public safety was paramount and the significant potential for harm to a large number of people meant that the officers were more than prepared to give this priority.

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

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Suggested answer to written Question 13 submitted by Councillor Bevan

- Q.** In view of the fact that there were 70,750 visits to Ramsbottom Library in the twelve months from April 2015, can the Leader of the Council assure my constituents that Ramsbottom library and heritage centre will not close as a result of the library review?
- A.** **As you are aware, we are currently seeking the views of the public on 6 keys principles that could be used to provide the framework for a full review of Bury’s Library Service. The Council is committed to retaining a high quality library service but must also find ways of delivering the savings required by the Government’s Comprehensive Spending Review. We need to develop a resilient Library service which will take us forward, build on our existing strengths and allow us to plan to meet areas of developing need.**

The Library service review is not simply about saving money; it is about making a relevant Library Service that supports the people of Bury. We encourage all of Bury’s residents to complete a survey to have their say on their Library service.

No decisions have been made at this stage; this is only the first part of the consultation. The second public consultation is scheduled to begin in November and this is when the Council, library users and other partners will be asked to help formulate services for the future.

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Suggested answer to written Question 14 submitted by Councillor James

- Q.** Could the Leader confirm that the to Bury for Parklife is cost neutral ?
- A.** **Yes I am happy to confirm the event is cost neutral and any services that Bury Council provides (such as security) in relation to Parklife is billed to Manchester Council. There are incidents where staff attend meetings in preparation for the event but the only costs to the Council are in time, there is no physical monetary loss.**

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COUNCIL MEETING –13 July 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

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Suggested answer to written Question 15 submitted by Councillor Noel Bayley

- Q.** The Prestwich Guide recently reported that 3 new homes were bought within 10 minutes when a new housing development went on sale. Does this confirm that Prestwich is the up and coming place to move to within the GM area?
- A.** **We already know Bury is an attractive place to live, and is the jewel in the crown of Greater Manchester.**

It therefore comes as no surprise that Housing is in great demand, and the popularity of Prestwich reinforces the need for investment the Council is making in the area, e.g. the A56 corridor.

Of course, the demand for housing brings with it pressures too and through our Vision, Purpose and Values we are committed to ensuring that new and affordable housing is developed across the Borough.

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Suggested answer to written Question 16 submitted by Councillor Gartside

- Q.** Will the Leader or relevant Cabinet member endeavour to look into the safety issues that pedestrians are currently facing on the Kirklees Trail, due to the unreasonable speeds that some cyclists are cycling at?
- A.** **This issue was considered at a meeting on 4th July involving Councillors Wright, Southworth, GM police and relevant officers. It was agreed that Council officers would draft proposals for a sign that would, at a glance, convey a code of conduct for all users of the trail.**

The Trail is a popular, shared-use path and the Council receives complaints about all users: cyclists travelling too fast, dogs not under control, dog muck not being removed, horse muck being deposited, children dropping litter and groups of pedestrians blocking the path. There is some existing signage that encourages users to be considerate, but it seems more may be required. It is hoped the police will help enforce the code of conduct.

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Suggested answer to written Question 17 submitted by Councillor Preston.

Q. Can the leader bring us up to date with the planned flood defences on the River Irwell?

A. Members may be aware that the Environment Agency produced draft proposals for flood defences in Radcliffe and Redvales a couple of years ago. A shortfall in external funding meant that progress with these proposals was taking longer than the Council had intended.

Following the experience and knowledge gained from the Boxing Day flood, the Environment Agency in partnership with Bury Council has committed to fund a revised hydrological study, a design review and revised business case for the flood defences. This will result in revised proposals, cost estimates and hopefully, a higher proportion of grant aid being made available.

According to the timetable proposed by the Environment Agency, the review and selection of the preferred option will be completed by September 2017, the detailed design will be carried out in 2018 and, funding permitting, construction will take place in 2019-2022.

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR BRIGGS CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 18 submitted by Councillor Pickstone

- Q.** Could the Leader inform members of what leadership the authority is giving to help ensure that the Bury ‘family of schools’ can be maintained should a process of acadamisation be forced on our schools?
- A.** **The Council recognises that decisions in respect of Academy conversion are a matter for individual schools and it does not have direct influence over that process. However, there is a strong relationship between the Local Authority and its schools, and it is intended that this will be maintained as schools make those decisions.**

The Local Authority will still play an important role in sustaining the ‘family of schools’ and Officers will be bringing a report to Cabinet in September setting out this role.

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR SHORI LEADER OF THE COUNCIL ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 19 submitted by Councillor Caserta

- Q.** Can the Leader confirm that all members have now completed their Declaration of Interest forms
- A.** **The Register of Members Interests is maintained by the Council’s Monitoring Officer. Having made enquiries I can confirm that all members have completed their forms.**

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COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR HOLT CABINET MEMBER HEALTH AND WELLBEING

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 20 submitted by Councillor McKay .

- Q.** Could the Leader give an update on the progress of the Bury'd Treasure initiative, involving local schools and explain the benefit of the scheme to Bury families?
- A.** **Children and families from across Bury have been invited to hunt for 'Bury'd Treasure' as part of a new pirate-themed family adventure game happening this summer across the borough. The game has been launched by Bury Council in partnership with the I Will If You Will (IWIYW) campaign, Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) and 15 Bury primary schools. The pirate inspired treasure hunt aims to get children and families more active via discovering and enjoying Bury's natural beauty, having fun, and walking or cycling whilst searching for clues to solve puzzles, that may win them or their school a prize. The clues change every Monday for eight weeks until Sunday 21st August and children and families can choose to take part every week, or just**

join in for part of the time. In its opening week, over 48 families excitedly followed a treasure map on one of the routes, braving the bad weather. So far 177 families and 15 schools have signed up to the game.

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**NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR HOLT
CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING
ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET
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Suggested answer to written Question 21 submitted by Councillor Sarah Southworth.

- Q.** After a recent inspection at Elmhurst Short Stay Service in Whitefield by the Care Quality Commission, the service was rated Good. Would the leader agree that the new rating is a great achievement for both the service and Persona and that everyone involved should be thanked for their hard work in bringing about real improvements since the previous inspection in 2015?
- A.** **In May 2015, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) carried out an unannounced inspection against the five Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOEs) to ensure that the services provided at Elmhurst Short Stay Service in Whitefield were Safe, Caring, Well-Led, Effective and Responsive.**

Following this inspection, the service was rated as ‘REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT’.

As a result, over the past 10-12 months, the management and staff have been working hard and have made significant changes and improvements including the following just to name a few.

- **A detailed action plan to address the issues identified from the initial CQC inspection in May 2015 was developed and all actions completed to address these accordingly.**
- **A comprehensive review of its internal systems, processes and procedures with changes to make sure these are streamlined, consistent, effective and efficient across the service.**

- **The successful recruitment and appointment of a new Registered Manager in January 2016.**

An inspector from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) completed a full comprehensive inspection under the inspection method in June 2016, and it is with great pleasure to announce that the inspector found that sufficient action had been taken to ensure that high quality care was provided and that a number of shortfalls identified from the previous inspection had been addressed and improved at Elmhurst Short Stay Service which is part of Persona Care and Support Limited.

Overall Elmhurst was rated as good in all 5 Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOEs) and has now been given an overall rating of 'GOOD', which means the service is meeting all the essential standards and requirements to ensure that the services provided to our customers is Safe, Caring, Well-Led, Effective and Responsive.

Verbal feedback from the inspector on the day was very positive and the inspector provided the management team with advice of where it was felt outstanding could be achieved in the future.

**A copy of the full report is available on the Care Quality Commission (CQC) website (www.cqc.org).
Debra Guider, Operations Director at Persona Care and Support said:**

"I am delighted that I can now say that Elmhurst has received an overall rating of 'Good' from the Care Quality Commission following their comprehensive inspection in June this year and I am confident that Elmhurst are providing safe, caring, responsive, well-led and effective services to our customers."

"The new rating is a great achievement for both the service and Persona alike and I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all the team and everyone else who has been working hard to make some real improvements since their previous inspection in May 2015."

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**NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY
CABINET MEMBER STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT
SERVICES**

**ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET
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**Suggested answer to written Question 22 submitted by
Councillor Kersh .**

Q. How many building works and/or renovations of public spaces total over £750,000 in Bury every year?

A. **The Council sets its Capital Programme each year as part of the budget setting process. Schemes are put forward in line with the Council’s strategic priorities, but also subject to the availability of funding.**

As we know, Bury has suffered significantly in recent years as Government funding has been cut for essential capital investment areas such as highways.

Despite this the Council does embark upon a number of self-financed schemes on an “invest to save” basis – where the costs of capital investment can be offset by future revenue savings.

The 2016/17 to 2018/19 Capital Programme includes the following schemes over £750,000.

- **Schools Capital Works**
- **Disabled Facilities adaptations**
- **Highways Maintenance**
- **Met Refurbishment (Invest to Save)**
- **Housing Capital Works (The “Bury Standard”)**
- **LED Street Lighting (Invest to Save)**

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CABINET MEMBER STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT
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Suggested answer to written Question 23 submitted by Councillor Mallon

- Q.** A large number of sites have been put forward for development as part of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. Could the Leader confirm how these are being considered?
- A.** **As you know, Bury along with the other nine Greater Manchester districts, is committed to producing a statutory development plan that will set out the vision for strategic planning across Greater Manchester over the next 20 years or so.**

The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, as it will be known, will be designed to ensure that future development across the conurbation is properly planned and managed in a way that directs growth to the most sustainable locations and towards key areas where there are opportunities to improve strategic and local infrastructure.

Without the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, there is a real danger that all the ten districts will be exposed to unplanned development that would put our important environmental assets under threat and would not address the need to deliver brownfield sites to help regenerate and reduce the inequalities in our communities and neighbourhoods.

Likewise, without proper strategic planning, we would be unable to identify major development opportunities and schemes that could attract national funding and private investment into much needed new roads, public transport, new schools and other types of infrastructure - aided by the planning gain that comes with new development.

The Government is telling us that there is a need for over 230,000 new homes in Greater Manchester and there is a need for land to accommodate around 3.5 million square feet of employment floorspace. However, the current supply indicates a significant shortfall of land to accommodate around 60-70,000 new homes and 1 million square feet of employment floorspace.

Following national guidance, a 'call for sites' exercise has been carried out to help identify suitable sites to bridge the gap between need and supply. Officers from the ten districts are collectively working through the sites that were submitted and assessing these against a wide range of factors including national and local planning policies, environmental and ecological issues, transport and infrastructure capacity issues, alongside a whole list of other considerations and constraints.

At this stage, until all these assessments have been undertaken, it is too early to say which, if any, of these sites are considered to be suitable for inclusion in the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016 NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 24 submitted by Councillor Whitby

Q. Can the Leader advise us how many responses to the survey on the Libraries consultation have been received so far and explain how the Council will encourage others to participate before the closing date?

A. **Just over 2000 responses have been received so far with two months of the first consultation to run. The survey is available both online and in a paper format (including large print). Visually impaired people, including both library users and non-users, are being contacted by telephone.**

A communications plan has been produced detailing publicity across the whole consultation period, methods include: Posters, leaflets and bookmarks in libraries and other council departments; press releases; social media updates on Twitter, Facebook and Google+; emails to schools, council staff, partner agencies and community groups; presentations at Township Forums and the Library Service Ezine delivered monthly to 16,000 library members. In addition a telephone survey aimed particularly at non-library users has been commissioned.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 25 submitted by Councillor Bevan

Q. It is widely reported that over £4 million is held by the Council in Section 106 monies. Can the Leader of the Council advise how much has been collected as a result of approved planning applications from Ramsbottom Ward and how much is still to be spent in the ward?

A. I can confirm that **£240,643.58** has been collected as a result of approved planning applications in the Ramsbottom Ward.

I can also confirm that £233, 565.04 of this money has been earmarked to be spent within the Ramsbottom Ward.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR SHORI LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 26 submitted by Councillor Sarah Southworth.

Q. Can the Leader provide an update of recent progress on the development of the Chamberhall site?

A. After undertaking a rigorous selection process, the Council has now selected St Modwen as its development partner for the whole of the Chamberhall site. St Modwen, a FTSE 250 company, is one of the UK’s leading regeneration specialists, with over 1.6 million square feet of space currently within their pipeline of projects.

The legal agreement now being finalised provides for a phased approach to the development of this 19 acre site, with a guarantee of a minimum of 40,000 square feet of office/light industrial space being built within the first phase. Modern, high quality, accommodation of this nature is currently lacking within the borough and will be an important source of high quality jobs for local people. It is anticipated that construction activity on site will commence in earnest in 2017.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 27 submitted by Councillor Preston.

Q. Can the Leader confirm the number of households that have benefited from flood Resilience grants?

A. **We have currently approved 83 Applications from private homeowners.**

We are processing an application on behalf of Irwell Valley Housing for 77 Properties.

We are processing an application on behalf of Six Town Housing for their Properties.

We are in processing a further 30+ applications from private homeowners.

**BURY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016**

**NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR QUINN
CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

**ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET
QUESTION TIME**

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 28 submitted by Councillor Steven Wright.

- Q.** Could the Leader inform members of the numbers of bins which are reported by residents as uncollected, by bin type, for the previous three financial years?
- A.** The figures identify the number of bins reported as not collected by bin type. This includes instances where it is not the Councils fault such as access problems due to parked cars, snow and floods etc, contaminated bins, bins not out and bins too heavy.

Missed Bins 2013/2014

Grey	2230
Brown	1847
Green	1146
Blue	799

Missed Bins 2014/2015

Grey	1829
Brown	1262
Green	503
Blue	552

Missed Bins 2015/2016

Grey	2227
Brown	1583
Green	816
Blue	869

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COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 29 submitted by Councillor Gartside

- Q.** Does the leader agree with me that when Bury comes to produce it’s “local plan” that all green spaces in our Borough should be protected in it from being developed on?
- A.** **As I referred to earlier, the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework will form part of Bury’s development plan along with Bury’s own Local Plan. Bury’s own Local Plan will deal with more local planning matters but there will need to be consistency between the two plans.**

The Government is putting significant pressure on planning authorities to produce plans that fully meet development needs and the work that is being undertaken at the strategic level identifies a substantial shortfall in land available for housing and employment to meet needs over the next 20 years.

Work is continuing to look as ways in which these needs can be met but an option that will need to be considered by the ten Greater Manchester authorities is whether or not Green Belt is released in some or all of the districts to help accommodate some of the identified development needs.

I would stress that no decision has been taken as to whether the GMSF will seek to release Green Belt land but given the shortfall in available development land, this is something that cannot be ruled out. Indeed, other districts across the country are facing the same issues with the Governments development targets and many are having to release Green Belt to meet needs – including Birmingham and Cheshire East in recent months.

Bury's current development plan, the Unitary Development Plan, includes policies that seek to protect important areas of open space and sites used for sport and recreation and a new replacement Local Plan will include similar policies in line with national planning policies.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 30 submitted by Councillor Skillen .

- Q.** Can the Leader comment of the recently held Flood advice session held in Radcliffe?
- A.** **The Flood Resilience Event at Radcliffe United Reformed Church on 18th June served the purpose well. We estimate 200-300 people attended as well as local radio and TV.**

The event was funded by the Council and promoted by Radcliffe Flood Action Group and the National Flood Forum. It was well supported by the Council with Building Control, Adult Services and Six Town Housing present to offer advice and assistance. Many people were advised on how to make their properties more resilient to flooding and how to obtain flood resilience grants.

There were some emotional moments when people explained their difficult circumstances but overall feedback was very positive.

BURY COUNCIL

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR WALMSLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 31 submitted by Councillor Jones.

Q. Can the Leader comment on the way the Council managed Parklife and in particular the last minute campsite proposals

A. See Q12

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR TARIQ CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(Note: A printed version of the question has been circulated around the Council Chamber at the back of the Order of Proceedings and therefore **the question should not be read out.**)

Suggested answer to written Question 32 submitted by Councillor Jones

- Q.** Does the Cabinet Member for Communities and Safer Neighbourhoods agree that if we tackle hate crime in all forms, work with young people of faith and non faith together to learn more about each other and promote mutual understanding, love and respect?
- A.** **I agree that if we are to prevent and challenge hate crime, work with young people is crucial. Educating young people about hate crime and its devastating consequences can help to build a more tolerant and cohesive society. Our work with young people in Bury includes:**
- Bury Inter-school Youth Hate Crime Forum. Pupils from across the Borough’s Secondary Schools have joined together to tackle hate crime in schools and communities. Launched in March 2016, representatives from Greater Manchester Police, Local Authority, third sector, Sophie Lancaster Foundation and the OPCC supported the young people in developing a campaign to raise awareness of the consequences of hate crime and the support available to young people who may have experienced incidents. Young people are continuing this work back in their schools.**

- **BE SAFE BE COOL initiative – takes place in all our secondary schools across the Borough each year. Interactive workshops with children help teach them about hate crime and other community safety issues.**
- **I would also like to draw your attention to two events that will be taking place in Bury in the coming weeks which show our continued desire to bring communities together to overcome prejudice.**
- **On the 12th July 2016, the 5th annual 'Walking Rainbow' event will take place in Bury Town Centre. Organised and led by our young people, people from all communities came together to say 'No' to homophobia and celebrate diversity. This year the young people were delighted to welcome Liaqat Ali from Qadria Jilania Islamic Centre and Cultural Association in Bury who also offered his support to the young people and spoke at the event.**
- **On 27th July 2016 we are also holding an event called 'Collabor8'. This will bring communities of faith and non-faith together to provide an opportunity for young people to learn more about faith communities.**

At both events, officers will be raising awareness of hate crime, providing reassurance and encouraging people to report any incidents.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR BRIGGS CABINET MEMBER CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 33 submitted by Councillor Steven Wright

- Q.** Could the Leader inform members if he expects there to be sufficient provision in the borough to deliver the Government's commitment to 30 hours free childcare? Are there any issues that need to be resolved to ensure this provision?
- A.** **Bury submitted an expression of interest and have been selected as an Early Implementer Innovator. This means that we won't be funding places until September 2017 but we will be working in partnership with parents, childcare providers, employers and others, planning for successful implementation next year.**

The purpose of the early implementation is to:

- **Test provider capability to deliver the entitlement in a way that suits working parents employment patterns**
- **Test market innovation and flexibility of provision around sufficiency, use of funding rates and partnership working**
- **Provide the government with early intelligence on how it can refine the system**

A partnership (Making it Happen) group has been established in Bury who will provide governance for this work and also oversee a very detailed project plan.

In order to understand some of the issues around the 30 hours, a consultation survey has been running across some of the GM authorities involved (including Bury). This has been targeted at parents, providers and employees and has been addressing many issues including sufficiency. We will have the results of this survey by the end of July.

In addition there are plans to develop and implement a borough wide multi-media marketing campaign to raise awareness of 30 hours.

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COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR TARIQ CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 34 submitted by Councillor Parnell .

Q. Can the Leader provide an update on the Bury Directory, including how many people are using the facility?

A. **Yes sure, there has been a lot happening with the directory.**

We are now getting around 10,000 hits per month which is an increase of over 1,000 % from when it was first implemented which is great. More staff are using this than ever before to help customers find support and know what is available in their local community.

We have been working on improving the look and feel of the site so that it is easier to use. It is now much easier to view on a mobile phone or tablet computer which has meant that now over 60% of people are finding what they are looking for in this way.

Although downloadable guides are on the site already, short video clips will be added over the summer that will show and talk people through how to search for information, register on the site, add their own entry and upload documents and videos to their page and ‘rate’ a service.

Drop in sessions take place regularly that are promoted on the site where anyone can drop in and ask a question about the directory, how to use it or be added.

The 'What's on' in your local area section has been improved and there is now a banner running across the bottom of the screen that promotes what is on in peoples local community that day.

Specialist sections have been set up around Autism and mental health (these have been co-produced with customers) and we are now working on sections for Dementia and Carers. We have also added videos clips of people telling their story about how services on the directory have improved their lives.

More services, groups and organisation are adding themselves to the directory every month and we are also using it to promote the Township Forums.

Although people can use the directory to search for a GP or pharmacy in their local area already, we are making this better by linking (or integrating) all of the information on the NHS Choices site to the directory. This will mean that all services offered by GP's and Pharmacies will be now listed on the directory rather than just the contact details and people will be able to search for self help information and advice about common health conditions from the NHS CHOICES site through the directory. We are working with Bury CCG to make this happen and are also working with Pennine Care Community Services to ensure that all of their community services directory and self care information is also linked to the Bury Directory which will mean that all health and social care information and services can be found in one place.

We are also working on developing the directory to produce a 'Wellbeing Plan' as part of Neighbourhood Working. People will be asked to think about all aspects of their life and score themselves between 1 and 5 for each section.

Based on their score they will then be offered a tailor made plan of where they can go for help and support using services listed on the directory, advice about how they can help themselves and then any courses that they could go on that may help them.

The new Bury Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) has been developed by Team Bury can be accessed as a standalone site or a sub section of The Bury Directory. Officially launching in August, the JSNA provides information on Bury and establishes current and future health needs of the local population. Unlike previous versions of the JSNA, the new JSNA is not a large report; it is a dynamic online resource that provides a constantly evolving suite of intelligence which helps inform decisions on local services. With a seamless look and feel, the JSNA and The Bury Directory complement each other and allow both the needs and assets of Bury to be accessed seamlessly in one place.

BURY COUNCIL

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NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR TARIQ CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES AND SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 35 submitted by Councillor Black .

Q. How is neighbourhood working going to work in line with grants available to the voluntary and 3rd Sector?

A. **As part of Neighbourhood Working, we will be reviewing the role and function of Township Forum Meetings and the grants associated with the Forums.**

We will be exploring opportunities to develop things like Participatory Budgeting which has worked well in Bury previously in relation to STRIVE for example, as a way of allocating funding to community groups.

We want to strengthen engagement with communities as part of Neighbourhood Working through the Township Forums and ensure that the process of applying for funding is as simple as possible. We would like to encourage innovative and creative ideas that will make a real difference to communities. We would also like to highlight and promote best practice and encourage these ideas to be rolled out in other areas.

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR HOLT CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 36 submitted by Councillor Pickstone .

Q. Recent figures have shown that alcohol-related deaths have risen 4% a year and 13% in a decade (across England). What is the situation in Bury and what is the Authority doing under its public health remit to reduce the number of alcohol related deaths in the authority.

A. Key Messages:

- **In line with the national picture Bury has had an increase in alcohol related deaths in recent years (since 2009), with a particularly large rise in 2013/2014.**
- **Alcohol-specific mortality is significantly worse in Bury than the England average.**
- **The rate of persons admitted to hospital for alcohol-specific conditions remains significantly worse in Bury when compared to the England average**
- **Alcohol-related admissions to hospital are significantly worse than the England average**
- **Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Broad) in relation to persons and males are**

significantly worse than the England average. However the rates are lower when compared with the North West average.

- **Alcohol-specific admissions for Under 18s are continuing on a downward trend, in line with England. Bury is not significantly different than the England average, and has a lower rate than the North West Average.**
- **Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Narrow) in relation to persons and females are significantly better than the England average and North West average, which has been an improvement from not significantly different in the last reporting timeframe. Males however remain not significantly different; however the trend for all three is that Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Narrow) are on the decline.**
- **In regards to the age group Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Narrow):**
 - **Under 40's for persons, males and females is not significantly different than the England average but the trend is on the decline.**
 - **For 40-64 years persons and females are significantly better than the England average and for persons, males and females the trend is rates are on the decline.**
 - **Over 65's for persons is significantly better than the England average and the trend is on the decline along with females. Males however like females are not significantly different than the England average, but the male trend is increasing.**

**What we are doing to address this:
Bury have commissioned a robust Drug and Alcohol Service which supports the prevention, early intervention and treatment of alcohol related issues. The types of activity currently being carried out within Bury as part of the drug and alcohol contract is as follows:**

- **Universal prevention and behaviour change support**
- **Targeted support and early intervention**
- **Assertive outreach with vulnerable groups**
- **Treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics**

BURY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING –13 JULY 2016

NOTE FOR: COUNCILLOR QUINN CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT

ITEM (6) – LEADER’S STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

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Suggested answer to written Question 37 submitted by Councillor D’Albert .

Q Could the Leader inform members if there is a difference in the air quality reported at the M60 Junction 17 air quality monitoring station since the start of the M60/M62 smart motorway works?

A **The automatic monitoring station at Junction 17 of the M60 did not meet current requirement for air monitoring sites and had to be taken out of operation in 2013. (We have set up a new site at St Bernadette’s RC Primary School on Bury New Road Whitefield).**

However we still monitor one of the main traffic pollutants, nitrogen dioxide at a site adjacent to Junction 17.

When work started on the managed motorway scheme in 2014 we saw a small improvement in the annual average nitrogen dioxide at this site. However in 2015 the level increased slightly.

It is important to note that concentrations of nitrogen dioxide at Junction 17 have been irregular for many years and therefore it is no surprise that levels tend to increase and decrease. Air quality is also impacted by other factors such as atmospheric conditions and the weather. It would therefore be inappropriate to conclude

that this slight increase in 2015 is the result of works on the M60.

The managed motorway scheme aims to reduce congestion and improve journey times through our borough which will in the main be an improvement for residents and businesses in the region.

Having said that Greater Manchester councils recognise the negative impact that motorways have on pollution levels in our communities. Assessments have shown that our motorways exceed national and EU targets for air quality and as a result officers from Bury are working with colleagues in Greater Manchester and Highways England to reduce the pollution impact of the motorways in our conurbation.

Earlier this year we consulted the public on our draft Low Emissions Strategy and Air Quality Action Plan which described the issues and the proposed actions to improve air quality. This document is available at the Transport for Greater Manchester website. The final version of the document will be available later in 2016.