

Q.	Party	Question
1	Labour	<p>Following the recent retender of the Care at Home Service (also known as Domiciliary Care), what will be the anticipated outcome for Bury residents in implementing a new model of provision?</p> <p>Cllr Black</p>
	<p>Answer: Cllr Simpson</p>	<p>Care at Home has been retendered. The new model moves from a rigid model of care for adults over the age of 65 to a flexible person centered model of care for all adults over the age of 18; with non-complex identified and assessed needs in the community, which will support the capacity requirement in the borough, and reduce delayed discharges in the borough by implementing a zoned model of provision.</p> <p>The new service will operate on a six zone basis with the development of neighbourhood working in the six townships, with two providers in each area. This should also ensure less travelling time for workers and a neighbourhood focused service.</p> <p>In addition, it is proposed to have a group of? providers on an open framework to support any further capacity issues and new providers accessing the borough for business set up.</p> <p>Although the outgoing providers will no longer be contracted to provide the Care at Home Service, some customers may have established good working relationships with these providers and their individual carer. The Council will offer customers wishing to retain their existing carer the option of Self Directed Support to facilitate this.</p>
2	Labour	<p>Would the Leader join me in sharing our success that Bury ranks first in the North West for NHS Health Checks?</p> <p>Cllr Preston</p>
	<p>Answer: Cllr Simpson</p>	<p>The free NHS Health Check is designed to detect the early signs of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease and type 2 diabetes in adults aged 40-74. The checks will identify people at high risk of these conditions, and also include a discussion around cancer and dementia awareness. The Health checks are commissioned by Bury Council Public Health and delivered exclusively through GP practices.</p> <p>Public Health England report that nearly 72% of Bury's eligible population has had an NHS Health check to have their health assessed since 2013 – placing the borough first in the north west of England for the programme.</p> <p>This achievement has been made possible through the close working between Bury Council's Public Health Team, NHS Bury Clinical Commissioning Group and frontline staff, and is</p>

		<p>particularly due to the hard work of Bury's GP Practices.</p> <p>In one year alone (last year) the number of NHS Health Checks completed was 9,501, equating to 77% of those eligible to be invited during the year.</p> <p>During these checks, the practices identified hundreds of people with high blood pressure, diabetes and pre diabetes, high cholesterol, Chronic Kidney Disease and at high risk of stroke, and cardio vascular disease. They also found thousands of smokers, obese patients and those who were recorded as having low physical activity levels.</p> <p>All people with or at risk of disease will be offered support to improve their health, wellbeing and lifestyle choices. This is a new way of working for many health professional used to patients presenting with disease, and the fact that it has been embraced by our health professionals and patients alike is worth celebrating. It has also now opened doors to similar partnership working arrangements in public health and primary care, with the aim of improving the health of our population.</p>
3	Conservative	<p>Residents often complain they very rarely see a street cleaner around their area. With Autumn approaching and wet leaves becoming a clear safety hazard, can the Leader confirm whether there are set routes and schedules for the street cleaning teams and confirm that all areas of the Borough are afforded equal street cleaning services? Councillor D.Silbiger</p>
	<p>Answer:</p> <p>Cllr Quinn</p>	<p>All minor roads are cleaned on an approximate 6 weekly cycle. Main roads are swept weekly. However roads are not cleaned if they are not dirty. These schedules are not set in stone because they can be impacted upon by reactive works and area based teams use their discretion when deciding when to clean any road.</p> <p>An example of this discretion is in Autumn when the trees shed their leaves when more attention is naturally paid to those streets with mature trees on them.</p> <p>I can confirm that all areas of the Borough are afforded equal street cleaning services in the sense that each Township area has a similar sized Street Cleansing team working within it, equipped with a similar type and number of machines.</p>

4	Labour	How much did the new sculpture in Burrs country Park cost us? Councillor Kerrison
	Answer: Councillor Kelly	Formally the new sculpture in Burrs country park didn't cost the Council, as the funding for the project came from monies received from private developments through section 106 agreements. In total the cost of the sculpture was £62,888, which was more than the original budget was £57,000, which is roughly standard for a metal sculpture of this scale. The additional costs of nearly £6000 are covered by the monies secured through section 106 agreements. The additional costs came from technical difficulties relating to the foundations discovered during installation, made more complicated by the listed status of the Burrs Heritage assets on site.
5	Labour	What is the Council doing to help residents in Bury living in poverty? Cllr Leach
	Answer: Cllr Kelly	<p>Bury is a relatively affluent area but there are stark contrasts between some communities in some parts of the borough.</p> <p>According to the 2015 Indices of Multiple Deprivation, Bury is ranked 144th most deprived local authority area out of 326.</p> <p>Around 11,000 local people live within areas that rank amongst the 10% most deprived areas in England.</p> <p>Approximately 7000 children under 16 are classed as living in poverty (19.1% compared to 21.9% nationally).</p> <p>Life expectancy is as low as 53.1 years for males and 54.2 years for females living in the most deprived communities.</p> <p>What this means in reality is that not everyone across our townships are benefiting from economic growth.</p> <p>Addressing this disparity is a key ambition for this Council. We want to ensure that 'inclusive growth' is at the heart of everything that we do.</p> <p>Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out how we can collectively support residents to have better, healthier and more fulfilling lives.</p> <p>The ambitious priorities set the tone for work streams that sit under these.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Starting Well

- **Living Well**
- **Living Well with a long term condition or as a care**
- **Ageing Well**
- **Healthy Places**

Running in parallel we have our Growth Plan which clearly sets out our growth ambitions for the borough. With considered growth comes the opportunities for better employment prospects.

We understand that unemployment can have a negative impact on families and individuals, robbing them of economic independence and reducing their life chances.

It is imperative that we welcome inward investment, that we welcome good employers and that we continue to support our fantastic indigenous businesses.

Our Business Engagement Strategy has generated lots of goodwill and understanding between the Council and business leaders.

Open dialogue ensures that the Council does not inadvertently put up barriers to growth.

This Council invested in the Greater Manchester Working Well programme which is designed to systematically remove the barriers that prevent individuals accessing sustained employment. Bury residents have greatly benefited from this approach and our job outcomes are above target and continue to increase. Some of these individuals have been out of work for 10 years + and their confidence was at rock bottom. January 2018 will see the continuation of this success through the Greater Manchester Work and Health Programme. The recognition that work and health go hand in hand has been championed by this Council and we are ahead of the game in Greater Manchester, aligning respective work streams to cut duplication and make a real difference.

We can't ignore in-work poverty, those households that work hard but still live in poverty. Bury has relatively low quality jobs on offer with median gross weekly pay 17.5% lower than in the city of Manchester. A key challenge is to raise the game long term by increasing the availability of employment land across the borough, attracting good quality jobs.

We can't forget skills. It is imperative that our residents have the skills that make them employees of choice, raising aspirations and making Bury the destination of choice for employers across a wide range of sectors.

Our job is to ensure that all our strategies and policies are aligned as, everything should work in harmony, health and well being, inclusive economic growth, business engagement, the education and skills system, actively reducing poverty across the borough.

6	Conservative	<p>Within a month of completion of road works on Bury and Bolton Road - just a few hundred yards from the Church Ward boundary at the bottom of Watling Street - three more sets of work have now commenced. This is causing yet further severe traffic delays and problems for pedestrians crossing on what is already a very busy highway. Could the Leader please explain the reason for these additional works and give some indication as to when they will be completed? Councillor S.Nuttall</p>
	Answer: Cllr Quinn	<p>Excalon undertook the installation of a new electricity connection on Bolton Road/at the entrance to the Spen Moor Development 07-20 June using 3-way lights.</p> <p>Following this, mains replacement works were commenced by United Utilities/Amey on 24 July, where the Watling Street/Bolton Road junction was under 3-way lights. This scheme then progressed under 2-way lights towards Grindsbrook Road.</p> <p>During Amey's works there were complications with a culvert on Watling Street, which has delayed the scheme. Although they have pulled off their works from the highway, there is still around 2 weeks' worth of work to be done but this is scheduled to be undertaken during the October half-term. This will include closing Grindsbrook Road at its junction with Bury and Bolton Road</p> <p>It is recognised that these works have caused congestion but both have been necessary jobs and the utility companies have a statutory right to work on the highway. All the Council can do, as Highway Authority, is to attempt to coordinate the best time for the works to be undertaken, which is usually in school holidays when traffic flows are at their lowest in order to keep disruption to its minimum.</p>
7	Labour	<p>Following a recent report in the local paper regarding the future of the Uplands Health Centre, are you able to update Council about the future location of the Health Centre in Whitefield? Councillor Mallon</p>
	Answer: Councillor Simpson	<p>The Clinical Commissioning Group remains committed to supporting a capital build in Whitefield, to accommodate the Uplands practice as well as other community services for the wider population in the local area. The Clinical Commissioning Group is the prime sponsor of this project, which would be managed and funded by NHS Property Services (NHSPS). NHSPS have, for some time, been examining the prospect of building on the existing site of the Uplands practice, which includes the ruins of a building of historical interest known as Uplands House.</p> <p>It is now increasingly clear that using public funds to develop the site in this way (i.e. retaining the façade) is not going to be economically viable for NHSPS. Any proposals on the existing site</p>

		<p>that do not retain the façade may be judged to carry a material planning risk, and so other options, including a new build on a different site, are being re-examined.</p> <p>This preparatory work for the Whitefield build has been progressing for several months and involvement of the users of the build has been an ongoing feature. Movement to any new site would be subject to an engagement phase with users of the service to ensure any decision made to relocate services is made within due governance. When we are in a position to communicate and ask for views on proposals we will engage in this dialogue with the community.'</p>
8	Labour	Can the Leader tell us what amount of money to be spent in Prestwich is available this year from the Parklife Community Fund? Councillor James
	Answer: Councillor Tariq	£22k. This will be spent through a mixture of Participatory Budgets and Elected Member Discretionary Budgets
9	Lib Dem	What impact does the recent announcement of delays to the 'Smart' Motorway works on the M60 have on the works to the A56 through Prestwich Village, and its resurfacing? Councillor D'Albert
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	Diversions for the Smart Motorway works only come into effect overnight (10pm to 5am) and, as a consequence, it is not anticipated that the recent announcement of delays will impact on the current works on Prestwich High Street.
10	Conservative	The central heating boiler at Tottington Library appears to be approximately 30 years old, no longer in a satisfactory condition and consumes an excessive amount of fuel. Furthermore the electrical system requires a thorough professional inspection and remedial work may well be necessary. As it is hoped the Library will be transferred to become a community administered service, will the Leader ensure that all utilities and services are in safe working order? Councillor G.Keeley
	Answer: Councillor Shori	The boiler at Tottington is fully functioning and will be checked and serviced before the building is handed over. As part of the Community Asset Transfer programme and the Library Service's routine repairs and maintenance schedule, boilers and other services will be checked to ensure that they are safe. However, as is made clear in the Community Asset Transfer toolkit, community groups must accept buildings in "as is" condition. The council will not be responsible for any repairs and maintenance issues once the buildings are being managed by community groups. Nor is there money in the Library Service budget to carry out those

		works other than works required to ensure safe working order.
11	Labour	What was the outcome of the DfE Strategic School Improvement Fund bid submitted in partnership between the LA, Teaching Schools and every school in Bury? Councillor Haroon
	Answer: Councillor Cathcart	<p>We have been successful in achieving all £410,000 as requested. The focus for using this money will be on improving access to learning for disadvantaged pupils and specifically on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ literacy in primary (phonics, reading comprehension) ❖ effective pupil premium (PP) strategies (use of support staff, mental health) ❖ transition KS2/3 (literacy across the curriculum) <p>The Delivery of these three strands of work will be led by a Bury Teaching School.</p> <p>The bid has been endorsed by the Greater Manchester Learning Partnership because it meets two key criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It shows evidence of collaborative working and an agreement to share good practice across the Partnership ❖ It meets the agreed GM priorities relating to improving performance of disadvantaged groups
12	Conservative	Is the Leader aware that areas of Elton ward around parts of Birks Drive and Garside Hey Close are subject to persistent flooding during periods of medium to heavy rain? Residents and myself are of the opinion that this is due to the nearby stream being clogged with vegetation and debris, preventing proper drainage. As this problem was solved previously by the clearance of the stream, could the Leader advise what steps are being taken to rectify the problem and give an estimate of the timescale for completion of the work? Councillor M.Hankey
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	The land in question is owned by the Council and leased as agricultural land. The tenant's lease agreement includes an obligation to maintain the watercourse. Now that we have been made aware that it is in need of maintenance, the tenant will be instructed to carry out the necessary works
13	Labour	There has recently been an inspection of one of our special schools, Millwood. Has the School been able to maintain its previous high standards? Councillor Holt
	Answer:	I am pleased to report that Millwood was recently inspected by

	Cllr Cathcart	Ofsted and remains an outstanding school across all areas.
14	Labour	Would the Leader like to congratulate the Scottish Assembly for following Bury's example of proposing a deposit return scheme? Councillor James
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	<p>The Scottish Government intends to implement a deposit return scheme (DRS) for drinks containers across Scotland. Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister of Scotland, announced the measures as part of the Climate Change Bill within the Scottish Government's forthcoming legislative programme on 5 September. Under this scheme, consumers would pay a deposit that would be refunded once the empty bottle was returned to the shop.</p> <p>The announcement was made as the First Minister unveiled her legislative programme to the Scottish Parliament, saying that her ministers "will do more to support the circular economy and reduce waste".</p> <p>Commissioned by the Scottish Government, 'Zero Waste Scotland' published responses to the consultation on the feasibility of a return scheme in December 2016.</p> <p>Within the consultation document, reference is made to the materials which could be covered by the term "drinks containers" with the document referencing "plastic bottles, glass bottles and cans" in the modelling assumptions made.</p>
15	Conservative	Following the shambolic manner in which the GMSF public consultation was handled by the Council last year, will the Leader confirm what steps have been taken to publicise the present consultation on the Bury Local Plan and encourage public participation in the process? Councillor J.Harris
	Answer: Councillor O'Brien	<p>I refute the suggestion that the consultation on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework was shambolic. This Council, along with the other Greater Manchester authorities, went to great lengths to publicise the draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and its proposals. The fact that over 27,000 responses were made as part of the consultation process is testament to the success of the consultation efforts and that so many residents were reached.</p> <p>The consultation on the Bury Local Plan is well underway but it is important to note that this is at an early stage of the process and, at this stage we are just seeking views on what issues should be considered in the plan – rather than setting out how these issues will be dealt with. Consultation on the Local Plan Issues Paper will</p>

		<p>run for an eight-week period ending on 2nd October. This is in excess of the statutory six-week period.</p> <p>In order to publicise this consultation and encourage participation, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly contacted around 2,500 contacts by letter or email; • Issued a Press Notice and Press Release in the Bury Times, Radcliffe Times and the Prestwich and Whitefield Guide; • Made copies of the report available at all libraries, the Town Hall and the planning office; • Made all documents available on the Council's web site together with an on-line comment form for the submission of sites. • Issued posts on Facebook and both the Council's and the Planning Twitter feeds; • Advertised the consultation on TV screens in reception areas of the Town Hall, the planning office and the leisure centre; and <p>Notified contacts on our circulation list for 'Planzone' newsletter.</p>
16	Lib Dem	<p>Can the leader inform use how much has been collected in fines for dog fouling in the borough, and can this be broken down by Township?</p> <p>Councillor S Wright</p>
	<p>Answer:</p> <p>Councillor Quinn</p>	<p>Since January 2014 the Council have issued 23 Dog Fouling Fixed Penalty notices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 in Bury East • 4 in Whitefield • 4 Tottington • 1 Ramsbottom • 2 Bury West • 5 Radcliffe <p>Of these</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 paid £50 fine which equates to £800 • 1 was prosecuted for not paying the fixed penalty – fined £400 with £478 costs • 6 were voided due to wrong address/insufficient evidence <p>Total fines were therefore £1200</p>
17	Labour	<p>Can the Leader give the costs to clean up Kersal Rd park after the recent 2 week occupation by travellers? Councillor Black</p>

	Answer: Councillor Quinn	<p>The Council's operational teams cleared Kersal Road Park as soon as the travellers left the site.</p> <p>The cost to remove the fly tipping and site clearance was £250. The disposal cost for the rubbish was £400 as well as removing an abandoned caravan (which was £175).</p> <p>The damaged and part missing height barrier will cost £2,000 to replace. Repairs to the ball zone fencing will cost £1,150 and play area £400, as well as £500 for the legal enforcement process.</p> <p>The total cost relating to the occupation of travellers was in the region of £4,875.</p>
18	Labour	Will the Leader be encouraging everyone to participate in the Bury 10km fun run on September 17th? Councillor Preston
	Answer: Councillor Shori	I certainly have been encouraging everyone to take part in this fantastic event this Sunday. Building on last year's superb debut race, around 1500 runners are expected in our town, generating thousands of pounds for worthy charitable causes
19	Conservative	Could the Leader update Councillors on the current progress made on the schedules for (1) weeding the pavements and for (2) the pruning and lopping of trees on the highways of the Borough? How far behind are we on achieving set deadlines and are there any initiatives planned to help our staff meet stated target dates? Councillor R. Walker
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	<p>Our external contractor responsible for weed spraying was delayed starting work in Bury due to inclement weather. So far, the contractor has treated the Prestwich, Whitefield, and Unsworth areas and is currently working in the Radcliffe area. We anticipate that all the adopted roads and footways within Bury will be treated by the end of September.</p> <p>There is currently a backlog of highway tree maintenance due to emergency and high priority works. Two additional teams are to be set up at the end of the mowing season through -skilling up our existing Grounds workforce to support the tree section through the winter period. This will aid catch up on the backlog. Highway trees are pruned as part of a 5 year rolling programme.</p>
20	Labour	Could the relevant Cabinet Member please update us on how we are progressing on our partnership with the community, voluntary and faith sector? Cllr J Walker
	Answer:	The partnership with the voluntary, community and faith sector is

	Councillor Tariq	<p>progressing well.</p> <p>A Shadow Board has been established alongside a variety of groups and sub groups who are taking forward the development of a new infrastructure for the sector. The Shadow Board is currently, with the support of Officers, working on the Governance and processes to enable the Board to function properly; and to place the sector in Bury in a much better position.</p> <p>A Voluntary, Community and Faith Group Lead Officer has been appointed by the Shadow Board to support the work of the sector. One of her first tasks will be to undertake a 'state of the sector' survey to enable us to understand more the needs and requirements of the sector in order to have a strong and sustainable voluntary, community and faith sector in Bury.</p> <p>The newly appointed Lead Officer is hosted by the CAB but sits within the Council one day per week. Her workload is overseen by the Shadow Board.</p> <p>The Voluntary Community and Faith Group has been identified to lead the "Enabling Local People" work stream of the Locality Plan, which really demonstrates the partnership working approach and new working relationship that is evolving</p> <p>A sub group still meets every four weeks and is growing in attendance as new groups are getting on board and want to be involved in the new working relationship that is evolving.</p> <p>The sub group are working with Officers to establish a Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Intranet, to be hosted on the Bury Directory.</p> <p>VCFS groups which were previously funded through the Commissioning fund were given an extension to the fund for 3 months to allow stability to the groups. In this time, Officers have worked with the groups to seek out alternative funding and commissioning streams.</p> <p>In a small number of cases groups have been unable to secure additional funding and Officers have been supporting these groups to help secure funding, offer fundraising ideas, look at sharing of office space etc.</p>
21	Labour	<p>The Council passed the Neighbourhood Engagement Framework last April, could the Leader please give us an update on the progress of implementation thus far. Cllr Haroon</p>
	Answer: Councillor Tariq	<p>The Neighbourhood Engagement Framework (NEF) and new way of investing grant funding was approved at Full Council in April 2017. Supporting the new framework is the Neighbourhood Engagement Co-ordinators (NEC) previously Township Co-</p>

		<p>ordinators.</p> <p>A number of Elected Member Engagement leads have been appointed to work with the Co-ordinators to shape and develop the frameworks implementation in each Township and Ward.</p> <p>We are well on the way with implementing the framework and this has recently been to Joint Cabinet/SLT, Labour Group, Conservative Group and a meeting has taken place with the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Branding/ look and feel is aligned to the transformation and Locality Plan branding and narrative; and will be in place by Oct • An Operating Framework has been co-produced by the Elected Member Engagement Leads, System Leaders and NE Co-ordinators • Borough Wide Engagement has progressed as we have now purchased "Engagement HQ-"online public engagement software that gets more people involved and is available 24/7. This will be live in October/November. • Township Level Engagement in the form of the annual Township meetings have been arranged for throughout November • Ward Level Engagement will be determined this year at the annual Township event • Sub Action Groups are on-going, as some groups have already been established and will continue. Future priorities and focus for Action Groups will be determined at the Annual Township meeting and Ward level meeting <p>Grant funding this year is the usual £43k grant plus £37k transformation monies, to make a total pot of £80k.</p> <p>This year, we are in the process of scheduling 6 Participatory Budget events over weekends in November to follow the Annual Township Meetings. These will be a mixture of Township or Ward specific events dependent upon the area.</p> <p>Elected Members will have access to their Discretionary budget pre-paid card in November and will have until March 2017 to invest this money in ways that will support and strengthen local communities.</p> <p>This year the budget will be £500 each and years 2 and 3 will be £1,000. The original £250 has been strengthened by additional Transformation monies.</p> <p>Next steps are to take the implementation plan and Operating principles to Cabinet on 18th October.</p>
22	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader please give an update on the number of new businesses locating into the Borough and the overall levels of new business inward investment? Councillor I.Gartside</p>

	<p>Answer: Councillor Shori</p>	<p>Encouraging entrepreneurship and new business formation, survival and growth remains a key priority for Bury Council.</p> <p>Long-term the sustainability of Bury's economy will be dependent upon its ability to stimulate entrepreneurial activity. We have put in place activity to facilitate an environment where people and organisations can drive business growth. We have identified our key sectors and understand where there is scope for growth. (advanced manufacturing, Digital and Creative and science). There are 6,380 businesses operating within the Borough which is an increase of 19.25% from 5,350 in 2010.</p> <p>New business start up rates in Bury are the best in Greater Manchester according to Start-up Britain, the Government-backed national enterprise campaign. Bury had 2,766 new start ups registered with Companies in 2016.</p> <p>This Council has provided match funding for the Greater Manchester bid for European Funding to deliver bespoke start up support across the region. This will mean that Bury will have a dedicated start up support offer for Bury residents. In addition we have also sponsored the Made in Bury Business Academy for the second year, taking a diverse range of businesses through their fledgling years. Feedback from the groups has been extremely positive.</p> <p>Through our Business Engagement Team we have developed a Bury Means Business 'Offer' to employers. This brings together all the support available on one easy to access platform. Whether it be access to finance, workforce development, digital support, we have put everything available to our businesses into one place. We continue to fund a dedicated Business Growth Advisor who has supported over 200 businesses across the borough.</p> <p>Our Strategic Planning Team fields queries on a weekly basis from potential inward investors who want to move into the borough. This is a reflection of the attractiveness of our townships: good housing stock, good connectivity, skilled residents, and excellent retail and leisure facilities for example. Unfortunately in terms of land availability we cannot meet the needs of all our enquiries. However where we have been able, we have been successful in supporting a number of new businesses into the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange Utility – over 250 new jobs in Bury Town Centre • Dunelm Call Centre, Radcliffe – 50 new jobs in Radcliffe Town Centre • Holchem continue to expand its business in Pilsworth creating new jobs

		<p>In 2018 we will welcome Continental Fine Foods to the borough transferring its business from Trafford Park and creating over 400 new jobs for local people.</p> <p>Lidl has starting building its new retail premises in Radcliffe Town centre, boosting the local economy with a variety of jobs and shift patterns.</p> <p>Three new restaurants are coming to Bury Town Centre, bringing new jobs and increasing the attractiveness of the town centre as a destination of choice.</p> <p>The refreshed Greater Manchester Strategic Framework will consider how best we develop employment land to facilitate new employers; and support our existing employers who need more land to expand their businesses.</p> <p>We are also investing in our young people by enthusing them to explore entrepreneurialism. We have developed a programme of activity with all our schools, ensuring our young people understand where the jobs of the future will come from and what skills they will need to access those jobs. This year we have added a new exciting element supporting our business leaders to visit local school groups talking to them about the world of work and what it is like to work in our key sectors.</p>
23	Lib Dem	<p>Could the Leader inform members how much Bury Council has received from developers in the last 3 years, in recognition that they have not provided affordable housing in line with the Local Plan? Councillor D'Albert</p>
	Answer: Councillor O'Brien	<p>Members will be aware that the Council has an affordable housing policy that seeks to secure affordable housing on large development sites. The Council has a good track record of securing contributions to affordable housing through private developments, with 253 affordable properties being developed in the Borough since the adoption of the Policy in 2004. This has given individuals and families access to much needed affordable homes and has helped first time buyers get a foot on the property ladder by providing low cost homes.</p> <p>However, this is a complex area and it is not always possible to secure the full 25% affordable housing that our planning policy seeks. Many development sites in Bury, as is the case across the country, have viability issues relating to factors such as contamination, flooding, topography, for example. This can mean that the costs of building new homes (including planning policy costs) is not covered by the value of the properties on completion.</p> <p>National planning policy stipulates that the scale of planning obligations should not threaten the viability of developments and applicants are allowed to submit viability information which must</p>

		<p>be treated as a material planning consideration in the determination of a planning application. On some sites, where there have been genuine viability issues, the Council has not received the full 25% provision as the policy requires. Instead, a reduced provision is often secured, which still provides some affordable housing as well as securing inward investment and regenerating our local neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Bury is not unique in this and reducing affordable housing provision on the back of viability issues is common right across the country – even in strong housing markets such as London.</p> <p>Therefore, in direct response to the question, the Council has not received anything from developers in the last 3 years where the full 25% provision has not been secured. The way the policy operates is that a reduced provision is secured.</p> <p>However, the Council has received £956,674.52 in the past three years from the affordable housing policy relating to a number of sites, including those prior to the 3 year period in question. These payments were made in accordance with the legal agreements on individual development sites.</p>
24	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader confirm the total figures spent on public highways, rights of way, pavements and public infrastructure projects on a ward by ward basis for the last financial year? Councillor O.Kersh</p>
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	<p>The amount of data processing required in order to respond to Cllr Kersh's question means it was not possible to have the answer available at tonight's Council meeting. I have asked officers to collate the figures and to communicate them to Cllr Kersh when the figures are ready.</p>
25	Lib Dem	<p>Can the Leader inform members us how many new businesses have started, and re-located to Bury in the most recent year where figures are available, and how does this compare with the previous four years? Councillor S Wright</p>
	Answer: Councillor Shori	<p>I would refer Councillor Wright to the figures I provided in the response to Councillor Gartside</p>
26	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader give an update on the state of bin and household waste collection in the Borough and in particular confirm that the number of missed bins has increased over the last twelve months? Councillor R.Caserta</p>

Answer: Councillor Quinn	01 September 2016 – 31 August 2017					
	Bin Type	Number of Missed bins	Number of collections due	% missed	Missed bins per 100,000 collections	Est. missed bins per route
	Grey	2220	1,430,000	0.16	155	2.4 per day
	Blue	638	1,430,000	0.04	45	0.7
	Brown	1901	2,080,000	0.09	91	1.6
	Green	1129	1,430,000	0.08	79	1.2
	Total	5888	6,370,000	0.09	92	
	01 September 2015 – 31 August 2016					
	Bin Type	Number of Missed bins	Number of collections due	% missed	Missed bins per 100,000 collections	Est. missed bins per route
	Grey	2310	1,430,000	0.16	162	2.5 per day
Blue	1037	1,430,000	0.07	73	1.1	
Brown	2099	1,976,000	0.11	106	1.8	
Green	1032	1,430,000	0.07	72	1.1	
Total	6478	6,266,000	0.10	103		
Assumptions:						
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 82,500 households in the borough• 78,000 brown bins in yr 1						

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80,000 brown bins in yr 2 (following food waste promotional campaign) • average route size for grey/blue/green bins 1550 and for brown bins 1800 • same level of service across the x4 bin types across entire borough
27	Conservative	<p>Can the Leader confirm the number of staff sickness days within Bury MBC taken in the financial year 2016/17 and is the trend increasing in the current municipal year? Councillor R.Caserta</p>
	Answer: Councillor Holt	<p>In 2016-17, 80,001 working days were lost across the Council. This figure includes schools and equates to 50,736 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) days lost.</p> <p>This is an average of 10.03 FTE days lost per FTE employee.</p> <p>Turning to the figures excluding schools, 35,938 working days were lost. This equates to 24,949 FTE days but as there are significantly less staff in scope the figure for FTE days lost per FTE employee is higher at 11.13.</p> <p>Looking at the trend including schools, from 1 April 2017 to -31 August 2017 there have been 29,003 working days lost compared to 29,121 for the same period a year ago. FTE days are 18,961 compared to 18,273.</p> <p>As the number of full time equivalent days has increased the Council is working on a number of initiatives to reduce it. We have a dedicated Health and Wellbeing Advisor in place and some of the things we are and will be doing to drive sickness levels down include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Live Better, Feel Better branding with supporting Workplace Champions • Supporting employees who are currently off sick to return to work • Holding employee health check sessions • Looking at Stress Management and being a Mindful Employer, holding Mindfulness training sessions • Organising various health and wellbeing related awareness raising events including; mental health awareness week, amplification of Public Health campaigns, and work out at

		<p>work day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A free Health Check machine has been installed in the Town Hall providing staff the opportunity to understand their own health and wellbeing • providing a wide range of support, guidance and therapies through occupational health for employees and managers • Promoting I Will If You Will Events to encourage more women to participate in physical activities
28	Lib Dem	<p>Could the Leader please give details of purchases or land, buildings or investments the Council made in recent years outside of the Authority (asset, location and purchase price)? Cllr Pickstone</p>
	Answer: Councillor O'Brien	<p>Since the adoption of its Investment Strategy the Council has acquired the following properties situated outside of the Borough:</p> <p>Prezzo Restaurant Lytham St Ann's Purchase price: £1,010,000 Current annual revenue generated: £60,000</p> <p>Capita Regional Office Headquarters Huddersfield Purchase Price: £2,300,000 Current annual revenue generated: £150,000</p> <p>Bakerie Restaurant and My Dentist Surgery and Regional Training Centre Manchester Purchase Price: £2,560,000 Current annual revenue generated: £163,500</p>
29	Conservative	<p>Could the Leader confirm how frequently the passageways within housing estates such as the ones on Seddons Farm in Church Ward are checked and action taken to remove weeds, dog waste bags and potentially dangerous items such as broken bottles? Councillor S.Nuttall</p>
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	<p>All highways including adopted passageways (with the exception of main roads) are cleaned on an approximate 6 weekly cycle. Main roads are swept weekly. However no roads are cleaned if they are not dirty.</p> <p>There is a contractor in the borough at the moment spraying all Highways weeds, including those in adopted passageways. There has been a delay in the commencement of this contract due to inclement weather elsewhere, which has caused delays on other</p>

		<p>contracts. This has inevitably led to more apparent weed growth on highways this year. It is hoped that the spraying will be complete by the end of September.</p> <p>Reports of broken glass, and other potentially hazardous waste, anywhere in the borough are acted upon immediately and cleaned up as soon as is practicably possible within the working day.</p>
30	Conservative	<p>For the past few years there have been problems with the control of weeds on pavements in residential areas, such as the Tamworth Drive and Throstle Grove areas of Brandlesholme. Could the Leader please advise what steps are being taken to address this problem and prevent it recurring in the future? Councillor M.Hankey</p>
	Answer: Councillor Quinn	<p>Our external contractor responsible for weed spraying was delayed starting work in Bury due to inclement weather. So far the contractor has treated the Prestwich, Whitefield, and Unsworth areas and is currently working in the Radcliffe area. We anticipate that all the adopted roads and footways within Bury will be treated by the end of September.</p> <p>The delay in these works has led to more apparent weed growth than usual. It is hoped in future years that our contractors will be able to complete the weed spraying earlier in the season, but this will be weather dependant.</p>
31	Lib Dem	<p>Can the leader gives us an update on the recent GCSE results and how this compares with other LEAs in the North West, and how this comparison compares to previous years? Councillor Pickstone</p>
	Answer: Councillor Cathcart	<p>Year 11 students in 2017 have been examined in the new GCSEs in English language, English literature and mathematics for the first time. They are linear, in that all the examinations are taken at the end of the course. The previous A*-G GCSE grades have been replaced with a GCSE grade scale of 9 to 1 - distinguishing the new GCSEs from the predecessor qualifications. The examinations have been designed to assess the more demanding curriculum determined by the Department for Education.</p> <p>Under this new system, pupils with a grade 4 will have achieved a 'standard pass' whilst those with a grade 5 will have achieved a 'strong pass'. A grade 4 or above will be equivalent to a grade C and above and will continue to have currency for individual pupils as they progress to further study and employment. The government is clear that a 'standard pass' is a creditable achievement but also expects to see the percentage of pupils</p>

	<p>achieving a grade 5 'strong pass' increase over time.</p> <p>In 2016, the new headline and other accountability measures constituted some of the most significant changes to the national indicators of pupil and school performance in a generation; and consequently presented particular challenges when attempting to make any comparison with pupil outcomes at the early stages of inception of the reforms with those achieved in previous years. The DfE itself urged a cautious approach to comparing GCSE results to those in previous years due to changes in the accountability measures.</p> <p>For the 2017 GCSE results it is important to continue to acknowledge that the introduction of more challenging qualifications with a new GCSE 9-1 scale makes any comparison with the previous year or showing changes over a period of time incorrect and misleading.</p> <p>Bearing in mind this cautionary note on making comparisons , early provisional figures for the majority of Bury schools indicates that the percentage of pupils gaining a 'standard' pass in both English and mathematics is slightly higher than the figure for C+ grades last year with English showing a slight increase from the 2016 figure as a separate subject area. We are proud of the achievements of Bury's pupils and Bury schools.</p>
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