

Q.	Party	Question
1.	<b>Conservative</b> <b>Cllr Quinn</b>	<p>Could the Leader provide an update on the consultation undertaken by the Mayor of Greater Manchester on the Greater Manchester Congestion Plan and this Council's development of the Air Quality Plan which were due to have been concluded in March 2018? <b>Councillor Nuttall</b></p>
		<p><i>Within the Greater Manchester Congestion Plan action is being proposed in five key areas;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Corridor management</i></li> <li><i>• Consideration of expanding use of bus lanes</i></li> <li><i>• High occupancy vehicle trials</i></li> <li><i>• Permission for NHS blue light patient ambulance services</i></li> <li><i>• Incentives for flexible working and off peak use of Metrolink</i></li> </ul> <p><i>In addition Bury Council and 7 other GM boroughs are mandated to produce a local plan to decrease roadside Nitrogen dioxide concentrations in areas which exceed statutory targets. Working together with TfGM the Council submitted a Strategic Outline Case of how we propose to develop the GM Clean Air plan in March 2018. This included a shortlist of potential measures which could contribute to tackling NO<sub>2</sub> - this is stage 1 of the process.</i></p> <p><i>Stage 2 is to produce an outline business case which will use evidence from more detailed local feasibility studies to identify a preferred package of measures. Stage 3 is the Final business case which will describe the final preferred package of measures, set out the commercial and contractual arrangements, costs and sources of funding and final management arrangements for delivery of the GM Clean Air plan. The deadline has been extended to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019 to take account of the complex consultation and approval processes across all 10 GM boroughs.</i></p> <p><i>It is recognised that the timescales are extremely tight and that any actions at a local level need to be backed up by significant action and policy at national Government level if we are to be serious about changing our transport habits.</i></p>
2.	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Simpson</b>	<p>We know Bury CCG is underfunded by millions by the Government but they now have to cut services further by £7m to balance the books – how will this affect services for Bury residents? <b>Councillor Black</b></p> <p><i>The CCG has a statutory duty to live within its financial allocation and to break even each year.</i></p> <p><i>The CCG needs to secure the best investment for the funds it has been allocated to provide high quality care for local people.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst in recent years the CCG has been able to manage expected</i></p>

		<p><i>financial gaps through the use of non-recurrent monies, these opportunities are now very limited and more radical solutions needed to be identified to close the circa £7.3 million financial gap expected in 2018/19.</i></p> <p><i>The CCG explored all areas of spend.</i></p> <p><i>Potential savings of around £5.2 million were identified and considered by the CCG Governing Body in March, areas were considered where it was felt that savings could be achieved whilst minimising the potential overall impact of any changes.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst some of the decisions may feel uncomfortable, the CCG believes they are appropriate in this challenging financial situation.</i></p> <p><i>Areas approved for savings included:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• A scheme deemed poor value for money with low useage; and a 12 month scheme with limited outcomes evidenced (vulnerable patient scheme; clinical pharmacist scheme)</i></li> <li><i>• Stopping the prescribing of some drugs which as per national guidance shouldn't routinely be prescribed by GPs (one specific drug to treat an underactive thyroid and a second to treat depression)</i></li> <li><i>• Stopping the prescribing of a product which is available over the counter (a weight loss drug)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Decisions on some of the recommendations put to the Governing Body were deferred with a view to seeking a Greater Manchester Approach (using an alternative lower cost drug to treat wet age related macular degeneration; and reconsidering the CCG's policy in relation to IVF), or to allow for further research on the potential impact (availability of nicotine replacement products).</i></p>
3	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Simpson</b>	<p>Can the Leader tell me what the Council is doing to support residents in Care Homes which have received an inadequate rating with CQC? How are we raising standards? <b>Councillor Leach</b></p>
		<p><i>The following actions would be taken by the Council's Provider Relationship Team (PRT) following a CQC inspection where a "Requires Improvement" or "Inadequate" rating is given.</i></p> <p><i>The PRT allocate an officer to each commissioned social care</i></p>

		<p><i>provider. On receiving either a "Requires Improvement" or "Inadequate" rating, staff from the PRT will decide whether (or not) placements to the service should be suspended.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally the allocated member of staff will conduct a site visit as soon as practicably possible. During that visit they will work through the CQC action plan and visit weekly in order to ensure the action plan is being progressed at an acceptable rate. If progress is not made consideration will be again given to service suspension, potentially raising a safeguarding investigation or whether additional support can be sourced in order to support progress (i.e. staff training, peer support etc).</i></p> <p><i>During this time other Local Authorities or health providers who have also commissioned placements within the particular service will be appraised of the situation. This affords them the opportunity to take action as they see fit.</i></p> <p><i>The PRT will also update the appropriate Social Workers/Team on the situation and where appropriate, the allocated PRT officer will also look to engage with residents during regular visits, escalating concerns when required.</i></p> <p><i>Weekly visits to the service will continue until the action plan has been discharged/service improvements have been raised to an acceptable level. Updates regarding progress are also shared with CQC.</i></p>
4	<b>Conservative</b> <b>Cllr Shori</b>	<p>While welcoming the news given to the Bury Times that progress is being made on the demolition of the former Bury Police Station, and at the risk of being told ' I am always running down the town', could I ask the Leader when the site will finally be cleared for future development and will town centre apartments be encouraged rather than another Supermarket?</p> <p><b>Councillor Walker</b></p>
		<p><i>The demolition of the former police station is currently ongoing The deconstruction of the remaining building is due to be completed by the end of April although this can be subject to change as work progresses. The clearance of the site will then commence following the appointment of a contractor to undertake the final stage of the process.</i></p> <p><i>The future use of the site has not yet been determined. However, from a planning perspective, the location of the site within the town centre means that it is likely to be suitable for housing and</i></p>

		<i>other town centre uses or a mixture of these uses.</i>
5	<b>Labour Cllr Simpson</b>	<p>Can the Leader update me on the performance of Fairfield Hospital during the winter crisis and tell me how many patients are still delayed with elective surgery and outpatient appointments? <b>Councillor Adams</b></p>
		<p><i>Unfortunately, Fairfield General Hospital have not been able to provide figures for the number of people still delayed with elective surgery and outpatients appointments and it is suggested that this information can be obtained once the Easter Holiday and half-term period is over as key staff have been taking annual leave.</i></p> <p><i>However, Fairfield General Hospital has performed well during the winter crisis despite seeing an almost doubling of daily attendances at the Accident and Emergency Department, with attendances regularly exceeding 200 per day with over 60 ambulance attendances.</i></p> <p><i>The 'winter crisis' period, which usually covers the December - mid February period has continued up to the present time placing huge pressures on the whole system with record numbers of admissions of very poorly patients. Despite this Fairfield staff have attained an average performance of 92.8% in the key performance indicator for 4 hour A&amp;E waits, was the highest performing hospital in Greater Manchester and one of only a handful of hospitals nationally to reach this target KPI.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the hospital recently underwent an inspection of its services by the Care Quality Commission and received a rating of Outstanding, again making it one of only a few such ratings for hospital services across the nation.</i></p> <p><i>Colleagues within the Council have been thanked by FGH staff for their work to help them achieve this exceptional performance, which they acknowledge could not have been reached without genuine partnership in enabling the whole system, from the front door of A&amp;E to the discharge of the person back home, to flow smoothly. They have expressed their appreciation of the commitment of our staff to enable the patients to receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.</i></p>
6	<b>Labour Cllr Simpson</b>	<p>Would the Leader join with me in wishing Kiran Patel, the previous Chair of the CCG, all the best in his new role of Medical Director of the Bury GP Federation and congratulate Dr Jeff Schryer on his appointment as Chair of the CCG? <b>Councillor Preston</b></p>
		<i>Dr. Kiran Patel fulfilled the role of Chair of NHS Bury CCG for 5</i>

		<p><i>years since its inception in 2013.</i></p> <p><i>He has taken up the new role of Medical Director of the Bury GP Federation from 1st April. This new position will give Kiran the opportunity to play a more active role in shaping the future model for GP primary care services to meet patients' needs now and in the future.</i></p> <p><i>I would like to wish Dr Patel well for the future while at the same time welcoming his replacement Dr Jeff Shryer.</i></p>
7	<b>Lib Dem Cllr Briggs</b>	<p>Could the Leader inform members of how many children are being educated outside of the Borough because of special educational needs? What measures are in place to monitor their educational progress? <b>Councillor Pickstone</b></p>
		<p><i>There are 245 children and young people with a Special Educational Need, placed in provision located outside of the borough. This includes provision maintained by other local authorities, and also independent non maintained specialist provision. As with all schools, these settings are responsible for monitoring pupil progress, but additionally, the Education Health &amp; Care Plan, which names the provision, is subject to annual review, at which time any concerns about progress can be addressed.</i></p>
8	<b>Conservative Cllr Shori</b>	<p>Will the leader join me and my fellow Ward Councillors in celebrating the success of the 10th annual Chocolate Festival in Ramsbottom? <b>Councillor Hodkinson</b></p>
		<p><i>The Council continues to support the Ramsbottom Chocolate Festival and this year was a huge success attended by several thousand visitors to the event. The event organisers had adapted the event to cater for more people by spreading the stalls over wider area, improving the seated area and increasing the number of coaches from 2 to 4 to operate the park and ride from Woodhey High School.</i></p> <p><i>A multi-agency approach will be used to review the event and procedures with the event organisers. This will include a review team from Council services and emergency services.</i></p>
9	<b>Labour Cllr Kelly</b>	<p>Would the Leader like to join me in congratulating all those concerned in bringing about the successful prosecution of a Prestwich based vet illegally importing puppies from overseas? <b>Councillor Black</b></p>
		<p><i>Thank you Cllr Kelly and congratulations to the trading standards and licensing section for this successful result of this important investigation.</i></p>

		<p><i>This investigation involved authorities literally the full length of the British Isles with a complaint about an extra miniature daschund from a purchaser in Paisley Scotland which was found to be too young to travel and not inoculated against Rabies and Animal Health Port Authorities in Kent.</i></p> <p><i>It is important to protect not only the unsuspecting public but vulnerable animals taken from their mothers when they are too young. Even the District Judge directed the council to ensure this matter was notified to the Royal college of Veterinary Surgeons to consider action to revoke the Vet's status to practice.</i></p>
10	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Kelly</b>	<p>Can the Leader please explain the work the Council is undertaking with others across Greater Manchester to deliver a full fibre broadband network for our local economy? <b>Councillor Lewis</b></p>
		<p><i>This Council recognises the economic importance of supporting Greater Manchester to become the first major city region in the UK to become fully fibre enabled. Access to faster speeds and future proofed infrastructure presents an excellent opportunity for our businesses and communities. This Council is fully aligned to the ambition to be a place where connectivity bandwidth is never a barrier to commercial, social activities or indeed the delivery of public services.</i></p> <p><i>Leaders across Greater Manchester supported the Greater Manchester Fibre Challenge Fund Bid in 2017.</i></p> <p><i>I can confirm that Greater Manchester has been successful in its £23.8m bid for Full Fibre Network Funding.</i></p> <p><i>This will be the largest scale project in the UK. This investment will increase the current full fibre coverage across GM from 2% to 25% by the end of 2020.</i></p> <p><i>This will be a huge piece of work with our neighbouring authorities but will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Support public sector reform ambitions</i></li> <li><i>• Accelerate wider investment in fibre to the premises</i></li> <li><i>• Grow the provider market in increase confidence to invest</i></li> <li><i>• Create the best infrastructure to encourage the digital industry to grow, innovate and invest in the city region</i></li> <li><i>• Help drive next generation 5G mobile technologies</i></li> <li><i>• Support our efforts to ensure our residents are digitally included and can access the support to grow and use their digital skills.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>There is much work to be done before the final sign off and a full procurement phase commences. I have been assured that Council officers are fully involved in this process to ensure Bury optimises the opportunity that this presents. I will keep members updated</i></p>



		<p><i>as this investment develops.</i></p> <p><i>* This investment is primarily about using public sector assets to make it easier for providers to invest in providing fibre to the premises. The majority of cabinets in Bury are fibre enabled but the final connectivity to premises relies on copper-connectivity which limits superfast speeds.</i></p> <p><i>This project will use the Public Sector as anchor tenants and encourage a uniformed approached to wayleaves, planning and highways work and the potential use of GM Metrolink network.</i></p> <p><i>Access to Gigabit vouchers targeted at SME will stimulate demand, making it commercially viable for providers to invest in the infrastructure</i></p>
11	<b>Conservative Cllr Quinn</b>	<p>Can the Leader rule out the introduction in Bury of a workplace parking levy following the conclusion of the Air Quality Action Plan? <b>Councillor Nuttall</b></p>
		<p><i>The GM Clean Air Plan is being produced in response to the Governments 'UK Plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide'.</i></p> <p><i>Bury Council and 7 others in GM are mandated to reduce concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> in their area in the shortest time possible. We will have to identify interventions which will persuade drivers of polluting vehicles to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Use public transport</i></li> <li><i>• Travel along alternative less polluted routes</i></li> <li><i>• Use a less polluting vehicle e.g. electric</i></li> <li><i>• Take up walking or cycling</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Working together with TfGM, a shortlist of potential measures which could result in the reduction of NO<sub>2</sub> in the shortest time possible across GM has been produced and submitted to DEFRA. This includes differential parking charges which could include a workplace parking levy. The idea being that if it was more expensive to park polluting vehicles people would be persuaded to take the actions aforementioned.</i></p> <p><i>This shortlist does not commit Bury Council to introduce such a levy at this stage. We want to explicitly state that we will <u>not</u> be introducing a workplace parking levy</i></p> <p><i>Work is now being carried out in more detail to look at the package of measures which will best work in each of the boroughs and across the conurbation. Bury Council's Air Quality Steering Group is holding a workshop with TfGM mid-April to identify preferred measures which will become part of the outline business case.</i></p>

		<i>Local sign off and approval will be sought before the outline business case for the GM Clean Air plan is submitted in August 2018. Consultation will also take place before a full business case is submitted to DEFRA – the deadline being 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019.</i>
12	<b>Labour Cllr Kelly</b>	Can the Leader comment on the progress of the newly named Peachment Place in Redvales Ward? <b>Councillor Haroon</b>
		<p><i>It is with great pleasure that I can report that our new 60 unit extra care scheme, Peachment Place, is on track to be completed by October this year.</i></p> <p><i>This will be a flagship extra care scheme owned by the Council and building on the success of the existing Redbank Scheme. It will provide much needed affordable extra care housing for people, providing independent living and care and support where needed as well as access to high quality communal facilities and other services which will be enjoyed by residents and the wider community alike.</i></p> <p><i>We have only very recently determined the name for the scheme, Peachment Place. This was voted by the neighbouring community as the top name amongst four shortlisted possibilities. This is in commemoration of Rifleman George Stanley Peachment who was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross after losing his life at the Battle of Loos in 1915 helping his injured commander who survived. He was one of the youngest in his battalion and lived close to the new scheme in Manchester Road, Bury.</i></p> <p><i>The scheme is being built by Eric Wright Construction on the former Haworth Close site at St Peter's Road, Bury, supported by funding from Homes England.</i></p> <p><i>In the coming months we will start to allocate residents to the scheme, which we anticipate will be extremely popular.</i></p>
13	<b>Labour Cllr O'Brien</b>	Can the Leader of the Council provide an update on what is being done to help tackle homelessness and rough sleeping in Bury? <b>Councillor Jamie Walker</b>
		<p><i>Members will be aware that homelessness is on the increase nationally and that the Homeless Reduction Act came into force on 3rd April. The new legislation require us to focus on early intervention and prevention, complementing the work being done in the neighbourhoods.</i></p> <p><i>Bury has a number of challenges that affect homelessness, e.g. The expensive private sector market for those on benefits, reduced turnover of tenancies in Six Town stock and a lack of 1-</i></p>



	<p><i>bed &amp; 3-bed properties.</i></p> <p><i>The number of people asking for help and the complexity of those cases are both increasing; last week we saw a 26% increase in footfall.</i></p> <p><i>Officers work tirelessly to ensure that we don't place people in bed and breakfast. It is remarkable that we have been able to sustain this since 2008. They are also being creative in finding solutions. Work is underway to see if we can work with landlords in a different way and we are considering how we can change the profile of our current stock. We have also reviewed floating support and supported accommodation provision.</i></p> <p><i>We are approaching partners and the Voluntary Sector through the Bury Homeless Partnership, which is a new initiative to find solutions to some of these issues – such as see if we can work with registered landlords in a different way and also look at different style of properties. I hope to provide members are more details of this shortly.</i></p> <p><i>I would urge members to view our website. The information on homelessness has been updated to reflect the new Act and provides customers with help and advice. We need to be able together to help manage customer's expectations and perceptions.</i></p> <p><i>Bury does not have a major problem with rough sleeping - we estimate that we have between 10-15 rough sleepers. I am pleased to say working with our faith communities we have been able to provide provision during the cold temperatures and officers are looking at how we can extend this. Members should note that not all beggars are rough sleepers and some do, in fact, have tenancies. Please encourage people on the streets to engage with us and don't give them money. We commission a rough sleepers services from Calico who work directly with rough sleepers and there have been local initiatives that have seen entrenched rough sleepers that have been street homeless for many years now sustaining tenancy.</i></p> <p><i>I am delighted to advise members that shortly we will be launching the GP Homeless Friendly scheme. Where homeless people are given a card and can access primary care services. This work is being done in partnership with BARDOC, Bury CCG, GPs and the Council. Everyone should have access to medical care no matter where they live.</i></p> <p><i>I am sure you will agree that we are trying to tackle this in a</i></p>
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		<p><i>proactive way and officers should be complimented on their creativity, compassion and empathy with Customers but please be aware that not everyone wants help and it can take many attempts to get someone to engage.</i></p> <p><b><u>Supplementary Question on GM work</u></b></p> <p><i>As well as the work undertaken locally. We are heavily involved in work across Greater Manchester. GMCA received funding to allow us to work on a number of work streams. There is a central team working at GMCA that manage the regional approach and I am pleased to advise for the first time ever there is a common IT system across GM and that all authorities use the same letters when dealing with customers.</i></p> <p><i>Other work across GM is with entrenched rough sleepers. A social impact bond was secured and our partner locally is Great Places. All agencies in the borough can refer and customers will be provided with housing and support. We need to ensure that we refer as many people as we can before the Sept. deadline. This has already seen rough sleepers moving into sustained tenancies.</i></p> <p><i>I am pleased to advise a Homeless Action Network has been set up in GM that brings together agencies across GM and is led by Cllr Beth Knowles from Manchester. This enables to work together to tackle homelessness.</i></p> <p><i>I am sure members will agree that both the work going on locally and regionally is excellent but there is still more to do, with the further change to the benefit systems and the lack of affordable homes we need to be creative in finding solutions but I urge you to be realistic with customers in terms of the availability of homes and help customers to find solutions.</i></p>
14	<b>Lib Dem Cllr Shori</b>	<p>Next week is the second anniversary of the sad death of our locally born comedian Victoria Wood. Could the Leader of the Council update members on progress towards a permanent memorial to Ms Wood in the borough? <b>Councillor D'Albert</b></p>
		<p><i>The sculptor Graham Ibbeson has completed the design for the Victoria Wood statue - a model of which has been on display in the Art Gallery since mid February and will continue to be viewable until 13 April. The sculpture itself has gone to the foundry ready to be cast in bronze. We are working closely with Victoria's family and awaiting their sign off to produce a limited edition of the models for sale to further fundraise for the project - although the estate has agreed to upfront the costs. The design of the base/plinth is being developed by Graham Ibbeson and Draxeda Ltd. We have ascertained that the land is the owned by Council. Once we have the design of the base and a final approval from family, there will an application for planning permission. I anticipate if there are no unforeseen technical delays the sculpture</i></p>

		<i>should be installed in mid-Summer this year.</i>
15	<b>Conservative Cllr Quinn</b>	Can the leader confirm when road markings in Ramsbottom Town centre will be reinstated? <b>Councillor Schofield</b>
		<i>Bury Council has an extremely limited budget for reinstatement of road markings, which means road markings are not reinstated as frequently as we would like. Road markings that require reinstatement on safety grounds are identified through our system of routine highway safety inspections and issued to our external road markings contractor for reinstatement.</i>
16	<b>Labour Cllr O'Brien</b>	Would the Leader join me in condemning the Government for failing to use £817m set aside for affordable housing this past year? <b>Councillor Skillen</b>
		<p><i>There has indeed been failure to spend £817m for affordable and other housing projects in 2017/18 by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government and this is extremely disappointing.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst some £500m of this will be going back to the Department to fund affordable housing in future years, with the biggest element of over £300m having been allocated for Starter Homes (a particular form of affordable housing), this represents a failure to deliver new affordable housing of a significant scale which could otherwise have been achieved in this year.</i></p> <p><i>It is extremely concerning that out of this underspend, £72m has been returned to the treasury and thus completely lost for affordable housing.</i></p> <p><i>This £72m loss is of perhaps of most concern as in addition to the failure to deliver additional affordable units this year and it not being made available in future years, this funding specifically helps to fund affordable housing for those on lower incomes, including affordable and social housing. This is at a time when pressures on social housing, including a significant rise of homelessness, are most acute. At £70,000 subsidy per unit, the £72m slice could have built more than 1,000 social rented homes – double the number of government-backed social rented homes built the previous year.</i></p> <p><i>Whilst the government states that there has been good progress on the building of new housing, with a 20 year high on national housebuilding in this year, there is clearly a significant shortfall in</i></p>

		<p><i>the amount of growth necessary and in particular the level of affordable housing required.</i></p> <p><i>This is also set within a policy context which continues to hold the social housing sector back in relation to building new social housing, including in particular the right to buy provisions, welfare reforms and the effects of the rent reduction policy over the last 4 years.</i></p> <p><i>Within this challenging context, the Council continues to work with partners to maximize the number of affordable homes delivered and draw upon any government funding available.</i></p>
17	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr O'Brien</b>	<p>Can the Leader of the Council provide an update on the GMSF process? <b>Councillor Cummings</b></p>
		<p><i>Members will be aware that an 11 week consultation on the initial draft of the GMSF ended in January 2017 and that this generated a significant and encouraging response with more than 27,000 responses. Processing these responses has been a huge task but this is now complete.</i></p> <p><i>The GMCA are currently working on a revised draft of the GMSF, taking into account the comments raised on the previous draft.</i></p> <p><i>One of the key drivers in developing the revised draft of the GMSF has been a commitment to revisit the extent of available brownfield land for development within the existing urban area in an attempt to reduce the impact on Green Belt. In addition, the revised draft will seek to accommodate growth sustainably by pursuing objectives such as supporting economic development and providing good quality jobs; providing for truly affordable housing; protecting and enhancing the natural environment and wildlife; and tackling flood risk.</i></p> <p><i>Consultation on the revised draft GMSF is currently timetabled to take place over a 12-week period in June or July this year giving people a further opportunity to get involved in the preparation of the plan and to have their say on its content.</i></p>
18	<b>Conservative</b> <b>Cllr Quinn</b>	<p>Can the leader confirm how many potholes since 1st January have been reported in Ramsbottom and how many have been filled? <b>Councillor Hodkinson</b></p>
		<p><i>Bury Council received 470 customer enquiries relating to potholes in Ramsbottom between 01/01/18 and 31/03/18. 340 of these require no action because they are either duplicate reports, have already been identified for a response or do not meet the criteria for repair. Of the 130 requiring action 50 are complete with orders</i></p>

		<p><i>raised for the remaining repairs (which will include repairs prioritised over a longer timeframe following inspection).</i></p> <p><i>The Council has repaired more potholes than customer reports due to the planned programme of highway inspection. 195 carriageway jobs have been completed during this period where each job may include several pothole repairs.</i></p> <p><i>Moving forward, the computer systems have been reconfigured to record individual potholes completed on top of jobs completed and sq m completed which are already recorded</i></p> <p><i>In addition to these works full resurfacing of Longsight Road and Bury New Road, Ramsbottom has recently commenced as a part of the £10million highway investment programme.</i></p> <p><i>In 17/18 The Council completed around 5900 jobs (16,600 sq. m). This is a 28% increase on 16/17 following the effective use of machinery such as the jet patcher which was hired in during 17/18.</i></p>
19	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr O'Brien</b>	<p>Can the Leader of the Council inform us of this Council's submission to the Local Government Fair Funding Review? <b>Councillor Cathcart</b></p>
		<p><i>A review of funding for Local Government is long overdue – indeed the Government have themselves referred to the current system as "broken".</i></p> <p><i>We know that current allocation methods do not work in Bury's favour; they are based upon outdated principles that no longer reflect the cost drivers and demand pressures of Local Government – primarily Adult Social Care and Looked after Children.</i></p> <p><i>The impact for Bury is stark.</i></p> <p><i>If we were funded at the national average per head, we would have an extra £7.8 million per annum.</i></p> <p><i>If we were funded at the Greater Manchester average, we would have an extra £16.5 million per annum.</i></p> <p><i>We also know that the flaws in the methodology are not restricted to Local Government – as our own CCG is also underfunded to the tune of £9 million per annum.</i></p> <p><i>We therefore welcome the review and have submitted a robust response.</i></p> <p><i>We are engaging on an officer level with workshops being run by the MHCLG.</i></p>

		<p><i>We have also offered officer time to support the review as we recognise the stakes could not be any higher.</i></p> <p><i>Whether the review changes things remains to be seen, and we have to be realistic, recognising that the overall funding for Local Government continues to be cut to dangerous levels.</i></p> <p><i>We will however continue to engage and state Bury's case.</i></p>
20	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Tariq</b>	<p>How has Bury council consulted with the wider community on the work around the GM Mayors Cohesion commission? <b>Councillor Haroon</b></p>
		<p><b>Members will no doubt be aware that in the wake of the Manchester attack the Mayor of Greater Manchester set up the 'Preventing Hateful Extremism and Promoting Social Cohesion Commission' to examine the work being undertaken to confront all forms of violent extremism and build cohesion to ensure residents across Greater Manchester are protected.</b></p> <p><b>Its main aims are to consider the following:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. How Prevent operates in Greater Manchester across all agencies</b></li> <li><b>2. To look at the broader determinants of social exclusion and how we can work collectively to address these;</b></li> <li><b>3. To engage in dialogue with our communities and the business sector to develop a Greater Manchester Charter, which includes a set of shared values and commitments that will be used as the foundations upon which the Greater Manchester Strategy work is built (not just principles that are called into action when something goes wrong).</b></li> <li><b>4. To develop a distinctive community led GM approach to challenging hateful radicalisation.</b></li> </ol> <p><b>The Panel is chaired by Councillor Shori and comprises of seven other Commissioners from a variety of backgrounds.</b></p> <p><b>The work of the Commission is being informed by a comprehensive engagement programme aimed at discovering the views of Residents across Greater Manchester. As part of this engagement process each area was asked to undertake Consultation events.</b></p> <p><b><i>I am pleased to announce that in Bury we have undertaken the following:</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Engaged with 75 young people as part of Hate Crime Ambassador Workshop.</i></b></p>



		<p><i>Faith leaders contributed at the Bury Faith Forum and from there specific events were requested, so we then:</i></p> <p><i>Held an event at a Mosque in Bury where members of the Bury East Community gave their views</i></p> <p><i>and</i></p> <p><i>Also attended a Synagogue in Whitefield where Councillor Shori and Councillor Tariq listened to the Community air their opinions</i></p> <p><i>Finally, we promoted a public event for all-comers but unfortunately take-up was poor so we had to cancel.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, there is an online questionnaire where anyone can give their views without having to attend a meeting.</i></p> <p><b><u>Supplementary Question</u></b></p> <p>Supplementary when will the commission report on its findings.</p> <p><b><u>Supplementary response:</u></b></p> <p>Following this process a report will be prepared for the GM Mayor in May/June 2018 containing short, medium and long-term recommendations, a summary of which will be a public document.</p>
21	<b>Lib Dem Cllr Quinn</b>	<p>In a previous meeting of this Council, the Leader committed to a review of bus lanes in the south of the Borough. Could he update members on this review? <b>Councillor D’Albert</b></p>
		<p><i>The review will not take place until the GM Congestion Plan and GM Air Quality Plan have been completed and their requirements fully determined and understood. This is because there is a possibility that the emphasis on bus lanes may have change in order to drive through meaningful progress to meet the aspirations of these plans. Consequently, any bus lane review undertaken too early would result in the outcomes being framed in completely the wrong context.</i></p>
22	<b>Conservative Cllr Quinn</b>	<p>Can the leader confirm how many reports of missed bin collections have been made in Ramsbottom since 1st January. Can this be broken down by bin colour. <b>Councillor Schofield</b></p>
		<p><i>The total number of bins reported to the Customer Contact Centre as missed, from any property with a Ramsbottom postal address, to which crews have returned to empty the bin. Figures are for 3 months January to March 2018. The figures do not include the self-serve missed bins forms</i></p>

		<p><i>Type of bin Missed Collections:</i></p> <p><i>Brown 58 (out of 38,300 collections)</i></p> <p><i>Blue 26 (out of 25,100 collections)</i></p> <p><i>Grey 100 (out of 25,100 collections)</i></p> <p><i>Green 33 (out of 25,100 collections)</i></p> <p><i>Total 217 (out of 113,600) less than 0.2% of total collections</i></p> <p><i>Missed collections may be as a result of several reasons such as access problems particularly in narrow back street collections, weather conditions and mechanical breakdown. The 'farms' round vehicle travels along some farm and rural lanes which are in a poor state of repair which puts significant stress on the vehicle for which we do not have a spare.</i></p>
23	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Tariq</b>	<p>How is the new system of discretionary budgets for councillors via pre paid cards working so far? <b>Councillor Preston</b></p>
		<p><i>The new prepaid card system for allocating Elected Member Discretionary Budgets is now fully operational. Prepaid cards have been delivered to Elected Members containing their budget for 2018/19 (£500) and each Member has access to an online portal that is operated by Allpay Ltd, our prepaid card provider, which allows 24/7 access to information on their card, including all transactions and balances.</i></p> <p><i>Elected Members can make purchases on the card or online transfers using their online portal access, which effectively acts like online banking. The cards do not allow cash withdrawals, this has been blocked to prevent any issues about transparency and audit trail. Elected Members have also been provided with a budget sheet that they must complete for each transaction, detailing who the money is going to, what it is being spent on and information on how the project they are contributing to meets our objectives around improving health and wellbeing in a particular Ward. Receipts must also be submitted for proof of purchases.</i></p> <p><i>Some Elected Members have already fed back that they find the system to be empowering, giving them autonomy to provide support to local groups and residents who are working on initiatives that help themselves and others within their community to improve their wellbeing. For those Elected Members that have needed support with setting up their cards we ran a drop in session on 19th March where Members could hear a full overview</i></p>

		<p><i>of the new scheme and discuss all aspects of the new pre-paid card system with the Neighbourhood Engagement team. Members were provided with the opportunity to log onto the portal (online banking site) and navigate their way through with assistance from the team whilst asking any questions they had. An FAQ help sheet was also provided as part of the session.</i></p> <p><i>The new system is a transformational yet robust approach to allocating funding at Ward level and has already seen a number of local projects and initiatives supported across our six Townships.</i></p> <p><i>To date, approximately £6,000 has been spent going towards worthy causes.</i></p>
24	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Briggs</b>	<p><b>Can the cabinet member comment on the high number of Looked After Children in Bury and what is being done to address this?</b> <b>Councillor Mallon</b></p>
		<p><i>There has been a lot of work undertaken to develop a robust strategy to ensure that we have the right children in our care and that interventions to support children to continue to live at home safely are effective. This strategy is overseen by the Corporate parenting Board. I am pleased to report that this strategy is having a positive impact. At the end of March 2017 the number of Looked after Children stood at 350 and as of 19th March 2018 the figure is at 336. This reduction has been safely achieved through enhanced support to prevent cyp coming into our care, reducing the drift for cyp once in our care so that they are not in care longer than they need to be and also working with some families effectively to discharge the care orders so they are able to parent their children safely without LA intervention. Judge Newton recently commented positively on Bury Councils work in managing some of these cases.</i></p> <p><i>The strategy will continue to be monitored and updated to ensure that it remains as effective as possible.</i></p>
25	<b>Conservative</b> <b>Cllr Quinn</b>	<p>Can the leader confirm that this Council will act quickly to remove illegal signage on Council owned street furniture and take action against persistent offenders. <b>Councillor Hankey</b></p>
		<p><i>Our highway inspection team routinely remove illegal signage from street furniture during highway safety inspections of the adopted highway network.</i></p>
26	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr Briggs</b>	<p>Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the progress being made, for those children and young people with a Special educational Need, in transferring their Statement of SEN to an Education Health and Care Plan?</p>

		<b>Councillor James</b>
		<i>Following the reforms introduced in 2014 to improve provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs, the local authority is under a statutory duty to transfer all existing Statements of Special Educational Need to an Education Health &amp; Care Plan by 31st March 2018. This presented a significant challenge, with over 1,500 Statements to transfer. Many local authorities have failed to meet the deadline and so it is pleasing to report that Bury has transferred all Statements by the deadline, and is a testament to the hard work of Council staff, working with partners, in achieving this.</i>
27	<b>Lib Dem Cllr Briggs</b>	National figures show that the number of children taken into local authority care have doubled in the last ten years. Could the Leader inform members on trends within the Borough of the number of children being taken in to care over recent years and how has this impacted on our work in this area? <b>Councillor Pickstone</b>
		<i>I would refer Councillor Pickstone to my earlier answer</i>
28	<b>Lib Dem Cllr Quinn</b>	Recent reports have indicated that LED street lighting can have a negative impact on both wildlife and on human eyesight. Could the Leader inform members what actions are being taken to review this information what impact will this have on our lighting policies? <b>Councillor Wright</b>
		<p><i>There has been much discussion on this issue, with many articles being published in the press and online. Unfortunately, many articles (both for and against) appear to be personal opinion without any credible source, or appropriate professional qualification of the author. As such, it is a difficult task to sort fact from fiction at this moment in time.</i></p> <p><i>Staff are not aware of any official advice, or guidance, identifying any risk to health.</i></p> <p><i>The Scientific Committee on Health, Environment and Emerging Risks (SCHEER) produced a Preliminary Opinion on "Potential risks to human health of Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs)", which was adopted on the 6th of July 2017.</i></p> <p><i>Section 6.11 "Overall conclusion" states: "The Committee concludes that there is no evidence of direct adverse health effects from LEDs in normal use (lighting and displays) by the general healthy population."</i></p> <p><i>All LED lanterns used within the Borough have been sourced from reputable, well established, manufacturers and conform to all</i></p>

		<p><i>required British and European standards.</i></p> <p><i>Our main supplier is Philips Lighting, whose LED lanterns conform to BS EN 62471 Risk Group 1 - No photobiological hazard under normal behavioural limitations.</i></p> <p><i>Staff will continue to monitor information provided by the manufacturers, guidance from the respective professional bodies, such as the Institution of Lighting Professionals, and also information provided by the Council’s Health &amp; Safety Advisors, who often receive information and guidance from the Health &amp; Safety Executive.</i></p> <p><i>It is not possible to say what impact this will have on our policies until a specific risk has been identified.</i></p>														
29	Lib Dem Cllr Quinn	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? <b>Councillor Wright</b>														
		<p><i>The total number of bins reported to the Customer Contact Centre as missed for the previous 3 financial year. The figures do not include the self-serve missed bins forms and are based on a total of 82,850 properties and does not include any increase for new properties over the 3 year period.</i></p> <p><b>2015/16</b></p> <p><i>Type of bin Missed Collections</i></p> <table><tr><td><b>Brown</b></td><td><b>1583 (out of 2,080,000 collections)</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Blue</b></td><td><b>869 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Grey</b></td><td><b>2227 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Green</b></td><td><b>816 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Total</b></td><td><b>5495 (out of 6,388,000 collections)</b></td></tr></table> <p><b>2016/17</b></p> <p><i>Type of bin Missed Collections</i></p> <table><tr><td><b>Brown</b></td><td><b>2462 (out of 2,080,000 collections)</b></td></tr><tr><td><b>Blue</b></td><td><b>1113 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></td></tr></table>	<b>Brown</b>	<b>1583 (out of 2,080,000 collections)</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>869 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b>	<b>Grey</b>	<b>2227 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>816 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5495 (out of 6,388,000 collections)</b>	<b>Brown</b>	<b>2462 (out of 2,080,000 collections)</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>1113 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b>
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		<p><i><b>Grey                    2357 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Green                    1209 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Total                    7141 (out of 6,388,000)</b></i></p> <p><b>2017/18</b></p> <p><i><b>Type of bin Missed Collections</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Brown                    1799 (out of 2,080,000 collections)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Blue                    1004 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Grey                    2553 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Green                    1098 (out of 1,436,000 collections)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Total                    6454 (out of 6,388,000)</b></i></p> <p><i><b>Missed collections may be as a result of several reasons such as access problems particularly in narrow back street collections, weather conditions and mechanical breakdown.</b></i></p> <p><b>Note for Alan</b></p> <p>Over the 3 year period there has been approximately 19,000 reports of missed bins (excluding on-line forms) out of a total of about £19m collections. This equates to about 0.1% (or 1 in every 1000) missed for various reasons such as blocked access, breakdown etc.</p> <p>This does not include on-line forms. For the future we are looking to work with IT dept to be able to provide telephone and on-line missed bins as a combined quick report.</p>
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