

## Public Questions

1. In a recent hustings held at Manchester Metropolitan University for Greater Manchester mayoral candidates, in reference Bury's proposals as part of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, the current mayor Andy Burnham said:

"I think there needs to be changes in Bury, by the way when I said I want to see that 10% reduction I am very much thinking of Bury in that because the plan isn't right for Bury at the moment"

When referring to the 10% reduction Mr Burnham meant overall reduction in greenbelt used as part of the GMSF IN Greater Manchester as a whole.

What do the Council think Mr Burnham meant by his statement and isn't this exactly what Bury Folk Keep it Green have been telling the Council for a number of years now?

**Carol Birchmore**

**Unfortunately it would not be appropriate for me to speculate as what Mr Burnham means in his reference to Bury in the context of the GMSF.**

**What I can say is that work is continuing on the GMSF, including the extensive evidence that is needed to support its final content. At this stage we are simply not in a position to say what that final content will look like and we cannot pre-determine what the evidence will tell us in due course.**

**I can also say, as I have said all along, that this Council will only support a plan that guarantees that the essential infrastructure needed to accommodate our housing targets will be provided as part of the proposals.**

2. What progress, if any has been made in securing a new leisure centre for Radcliffe? What timescales are in place to complete the project?

Supplementary question would be:

Have funds have been put aside for its completion?

**Gareth Staple Jones**

**The Council remains committed to developing options for a new leisure facility in Radcliffe subject to a sustainable business case. A new 'Bury Moving' strategy has been developed that will underpin any future leisure and wellness provision.**

**A Consultants (Deloitte) are also currently progressing the preparation of a Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF) for Radcliffe following their appointment in January 2020.**

**The SRF comprises an important part of the wider Bury 2030 Strategy and will provide both the overarching vision and key vehicle for the delivery of the Council's continued ambitions to regenerate Radcliffe. It will provide a framework and coordinated delivery plan to drive forward the sustainable and managed regeneration of the Radcliffe Township over the next 10 to 15 years.**

**Leisure provision will be considered as part of the SRF and we should have a better idea of what can be achieved later in 2020.**

**Supplementary**

**Funding has not yet been identified for a new leisure facility. This will depend on the longer term sustainability and business case for a leisure provision that is also being progress during 2020. It is still too early to say what leisure provision could be provided.**

3. Maintained nursery schools like Hoyle Nursery in Moorside are reliant on supplementary funding from the Government because of the extra costs they incur from things like the requirement to hire qualified teachers and the support they provide to children with SEND; a higher proportion of whom attend maintained nurseries. That supplementary funding - extended last year thanks to fierce lobbying, including by our own former MP - will soon run out. Last week's Budget was the Government's chance to provide a long-term funding settlement for our nurseries. It did not do so. Tens of thousands of children in Bury and across the country could lose their place in early education if these nurseries are forced to close. Can the Cabinet Member for Children's Services update us on the situation and what the council can do in the absence of Government action?"

**Kevin Peel**

**I can confirm this matter is raised at each meeting with the DFE by the LA given the uncertainty due to the Maintained Nursery School (MNS) funding protection that was initially suggested to cease after 2019/20. Thankfully the DfE have extended the protection into 2020/21 and they are considering the future funding.**