

	Party / response	Question
1	Labour	<p>Could the Leader give a further update on the impact of the cut to Universal Credit and the likely future impact of impending rises in energy prices, and increases in National Insurance contributions on residents of Bury? Cllr Hayes</p> <p>Supplementary - The shadow Secretary of State at the DWP, Jonathan Ashworth M.P. visited the Brandlesholme Community Centre Foodbank on 15th December and heard heart-breaking stories from volunteers about the experiences of local residents' dependant on Universal Credit. What measures can the Council take to support the work of Foodbanks in alleviating the suffering of residents affected by the upcoming economic pressures.</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr O'Brien</p>	<p>The Council's Support Fund has seen an increase in requests for help of 300% over the same period last year with most people sighting difficulties with paying for food and fuel.</p> <p>The Government provided Household Support funding is being spent to support residents whose children receive Free School Meals with help during the holidays and with a further substantial amount going towards helping those residents in receipt of both Universal Credit and Council Tax Support with a payment towards food and fuel. We have supported the local Bury Community Support Network (of which Brandlesholme Community Centre Foodbank are a member) in recognition of the essential support they are providing our residents in these extremely difficult time, and also using their local knowledge of vulnerable residents to help direct people to the Councils schemes to help with additional support.</p>
2	Labour	<p>What progress has been made on the allocation of participatory budget funds as agreed in the budget last year and how are we evaluating their impact on our community strategy? Cllr Hayes</p> <p>Supplementary - Can the Cabinet Member please give details of the community groups and organizations in Elton Ward which have received funding from the Council in the last twelve months, and join me in congratulating them on the amazing work they do for our local community?</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Gold</p>	<p>The 2021 Pitch funding scheme was designed with Ward Councillors, the Bury Voluntary and Community Faith Alliance and informed by feedback from previous funding rounds. Community Groups were invited to make one bid for up to £5,000 funding to support community recovery.</p>

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		<p>The opportunity was promoted to all residents and community groups through a communications and digital media marketing programme and the leadership of the Community Hub in each neighbourhood. A total of 78 eligible applications were received, totalling over £340k in total.</p> <p>As a participatory scheme, the community was invited to vote for the schemes they thought best supported community recovery. Voting was arranged through digital and face to face channels. In-person events were arranged for every neighbourhood but, due to Covid infection levels, were postponed or stood down in some neighbourhoods.</p> <p>Successful projects have so far been awarded in the East, Prestwich and Whitefield neighbourhoods. Budget spend and the impact of the initiatives will be managed by the local Community Hub Manager across quantitative and qualitative outcomes (eg volumes of delivery; numbers of people involved and outcomes achieved), along with opportunities for projects to showcase their work and how local people can get involved.</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>As in every Ward in the Borough, the local voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise groups and organisations in Elton play a vital role in local life and are central to the delivery of Let's Do It. Within the last twelve months Brandlesholme Community Centre, Boomerang Centre, Incredible Edibles Brandlesholme and Woodbank Cricket Club have received Health Improvement Funds; the Sunnywood Project, Brandlesholme Warriors and All Saints Elton Operatic Society received Covid Community Resilience Funding; the Brandlesholme Community Foodbank has been supported via the Bury Community Support Network and Household Support Fund; the Friends of Burrs Park were successful with in receiving Town of Culture community funding, as were Bloco Ashe samba band, whilst Fusilier Court Association received monies to tackle social isolation and reduce loneliness. A number of these projects are also involved in the current Neighbourhood Pitch funding round with funding decisions due in February 2022.</p>
3	Conservative	<p>What is the explanation as to why the Council's corporate performance process failed to identify the deterioration in Children's Services since October 2020? Cllr. Bernstein</p>
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Tariq	<p>From October 2020 social workers and managers remained primarily working from home and business continuity measures were in place which ensured statutory work continued but there is no doubt that aspects of continuous development and monitoring was more challenging in this environment when teams were not meeting together.</p>

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		<p>In hindsight the decision to continue to implement a new practice model was ambitious considering the changes in leaderships and the instability of the workforce.</p> <p>Since new interim leadership arrangements were put in place we have developed a more robust approach to all areas of practice and quality assurance which include regular Childrens leadership meetings, regular meetings with the elected member, continued audit activity, and monthly performance management meetings. These steps will ensure continuous improvement.</p> <p>The Service Delivery Board established in September has transitioned into an Improvement board, independently chaired, and will be attended by the CEO, the DfE advisor, have broad partnership attendance, and will have cross party representation.</p>
4	Labour	<p>Following the Council's successful accreditation as a Real Living Wage employer, what more has the Council done to promote good employment standards for staff in Bury Council and our partners? Cllr Grimshaw</p> <p>Supplementary – With a cost-of-living crisis looming, it is even more important that we promote a real living wage in our borough. How much will our commitment on this at the Council benefit our lowest paid workers in the Council and what more can we do to promote this for other employers in the borough?</p>
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Rafiq	<p>Bury Council was accredited as a Real Living Wage employer in November 2021 and I am pleased to confirm that the quality of our employment offer was further recognized in December with confirmation of our Membership of the Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter. The Charter recognizes employers who commit to an independently developed definition of good work considering approaches to: secure work, pay, recruitment, health and wellbeing, flexible work, engagement and voice and people management.</p> <p>Bury is the only Greater Manchester Local Authority to be recognized as both a Charter Member and Real Living Wage Employer and has been promoting the standards which the Council is working to across Greater Manchester networks over the winter.</p> <p>It is crucial that the Council stands out as an employer of choice. If we are to deliver on our ambition for the borough, we need to attract and retain the best talent to work for us. We must also lead by example in</p>

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		<p>demonstrating, through our actions as well as our words, the standards of good employment we want to see across Bury.</p> <p>The Council has also taken this opportunity to promote good employment standards within the Borough through the Team Bury network of all public and community sector partners; the direct engagement of commissioned providers, particularly within adult social care and the Bury Business Leadership Group.</p> <p>As a result I am pleased to also report that Six Town Housing was also recognized as a Member of the Good Employment Charter in December and is working towards Real Living Wage accreditation.</p> <p>Supplementary:</p> <p>As I reported when the Council adopted the Real Living Wage, our commitment here has seen a direct increase in pay to the real living wage rate for around a thousand employees across Council Services and schools, with pay rates for a further circa. three thousand staff in Bury rising in Commissioned services, mainly the adult care sector.</p> <p>This is a long-term commitment and, from April, subject to agreement by Council, our lowest point of pay will raise further, to the new Living Wage rate of £9.90 further supporting a significant number of employees as well as those working for our providers.</p> <p>I would ask all Members to share in my personal commitment to promote the Living Wage to employers across the Borough in support of our commitment to good work within the Let's Do It Strategy and the Greater Manchester aspiration of becoming the UK's first Living Wage City Region.</p>
5	Labour	<p>Last year, Council agreed to work on a review of safety for women and girls in the borough. Can we have an update on the work that has been done on this? Cllr Farooq</p> <p>Supplementary – How does the Council plan to support the work at a Greater Manchester level, through the recent launch of the Gender Based Violence strategy?</p>
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Morris	<p>A draft women's safety charter has been produced following regular meetings in coordination with Greater Manchester Police and Community Safety and Public Protection.</p>

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		<p>The draft Women’s Safety Charter looks to promote Bury as a town where all women feel confident, welcome and safe in the night-time economy. The charter plans to reintroduce and include the ‘Ask for Angela’ scheme which is aimed at raising awareness, help and support for anyone experiencing harassment by any staff in a premises signed up to the scheme. The charter will also include promotion of the anti-spiking scheme which have been run over the Christmas period by Greater Manchester Police. The proposed Women’s Safety Charter will require interested businesses to sign up and commit to the Charter on an annual basis and will seek to promote and provide a list of businesses who have made a commitment to the Women’s Safety Charter on the Councils website.</p> <p>Support material has been produced and collated including posters, guidance and training material which will be made available on a dedicated page on the Councils Website.</p> <p>Engagement has taken place with Pub Watch groups. Greater Manchester Police have been approached to produce a training video which will be available to businesses to access via the Councils website to facilitate training annually or re-training of staff on demand by businesses.</p> <p>Confirmation on the appropriate governance for the Women’s Safety Charter is being sought and further engagement with Pub Watch groups in Bury is scheduled for January and February 2022.</p> <p>A communication plan is being drawn up including plans for a future launch of the scheme following the appropriate governance and adoption of the Charter by the Council.</p> <p>In the longer-term the new 3-year Community Safety Plan identifies Domestic Abuse and women’s safety in public places as specific priorities for the Community Safety Partnership which will keep this issue at the forefront.</p> <p>Supplementary –</p> <p>The specific recommendations of the GM Gender Based Violence strategy will be reflected in the Bury CSP Plan. The Council is an active partner in GM networks and will work closely with them on implementation</p>
6	Conservat	Can the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Skills detail how

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	ive	<p>many Social Workers and at what level did the Council employ in years 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2021/22 and can the Cabinet Member share the details of the numbers of Social Workers the Council intends to recruit and what level of these social workers they will be? Cllr. Y Wright</p>																																			
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Tariq</p>	<p>We have various levels of social workers employed by Bury Council. Since 2017, at any one time, we have employed between 115 and 131 qualified social workers.</p> <p>We have agreement to initially recruit to an additional 6 Social Workers which we will recruit to our high demand areas.</p> <p>In Phase 2 we have a plan to scope out the requirement for any additional social workers to achieve caseloads of 15 per social worker, with team members having line manager responsibility for 6 social workers, achieving smaller teams will provide additional management support to SW's to improve retention, aide learning and development and thereby improve practice.</p> <p>We have a recruitment campaign underway with adverts out in December and January, this is supported by our comms team which will be utilising social media channels. This will then be rolled out every three months so we have a continual recruitment campaign. Our focus is on attracting experienced workers into the Council, but we know this is challenging, both in Bury but nationally. We are developing our career pathway for social workers so that our newly qualified workers can progress, and we retain workers as we develop our unique Bury offer.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="360 1429 1461 2016"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="360 1429 643 1621" rowspan="2">Social Work Role (Permanent Staff)</th> <th colspan="5" data-bbox="643 1429 1461 1496">Date</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="643 1496 807 1621">01/04/17</th> <th data-bbox="807 1496 971 1621">01/04/18</th> <th data-bbox="971 1496 1136 1621">01/04/19</th> <th data-bbox="1136 1496 1300 1621">01/04/20</th> <th data-bbox="1300 1496 1461 1621">01/04/21</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 1621 643 1733">Advanced Practitioner</td> <td data-bbox="643 1621 807 1733">4</td> <td data-bbox="807 1621 971 1733">5</td> <td data-bbox="971 1621 1136 1733">5</td> <td data-bbox="1136 1621 1300 1733">4</td> <td data-bbox="1300 1621 1461 1733">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 1733 643 1845">Assistant Team Manager</td> <td data-bbox="643 1733 807 1845">6</td> <td data-bbox="807 1733 971 1845">9</td> <td data-bbox="971 1733 1136 1845">7</td> <td data-bbox="1136 1733 1300 1845">10</td> <td data-bbox="1300 1733 1461 1845">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 1845 643 1957">EDT Advanced Practitioner</td> <td data-bbox="643 1845 807 1957">0</td> <td data-bbox="807 1845 971 1957">0</td> <td data-bbox="971 1845 1136 1957">3</td> <td data-bbox="1136 1845 1300 1957">10</td> <td data-bbox="1300 1845 1461 1957">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="360 1957 643 2016">IRO</td> <td data-bbox="643 1957 807 2016">6</td> <td data-bbox="807 1957 971 2016">7</td> <td data-bbox="971 1957 1136 2016">8</td> <td data-bbox="1136 1957 1300 2016">6</td> <td data-bbox="1300 1957 1461 2016">8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Social Work Role (Permanent Staff)	Date					01/04/17	01/04/18	01/04/19	01/04/20	01/04/21	Advanced Practitioner	4	5	5	4	6	Assistant Team Manager	6	9	7	10	10	EDT Advanced Practitioner	0	0	3	10	9	IRO	6	7	8	6	8
Social Work Role (Permanent Staff)	Date																																				
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		Service Manager	0	1	1	3	4
		Social Worker	89	89	75	68	64
		Strategic Lead	4	4	4	2	3
		Team Manager	16	16	17	12	13
		Total Qualified Social Work Staff	125	131	120	115	117
		<p>Please note: The above data is provided based on a headcount of all staff in Social Work qualified roles (strategic lead and below) in the CYP Directorate who were in position on 1st April of the specified year (so, in effect, a snapshot position which is the only way to do this without distorting / double counting people).</p> <p>Data does not include agency workers.</p> <p>Data has needed quite a lot of manual identification to get this, in terms of classifying staff to standard tiers and identifying Social Work / Non-Social Work roles, so I do have the underlying data sets if further work is needed.</p>					
7	Lib Dem	After purchasing the Istanbul restaurant in Prestwich for over half a million pounds about 2 and a half years ago as part of the Prestwich regeneration plan, can the Leader inform us why the Council didn't renegotiate the lease on the property at the same time? Cllr S Wright					
	Cabinet Member: Cllr O'Brien	I believe we made the right decision on this purchase, both strategically and financially. The Council purchased the restaurant when it was on the market, preventing any other interested parties from purchasing the restaurant and potentially stalling our regeneration plans. The Council has also received rental income since the purchase of the restaurant. The restaurant forms crucial frontage to Bury New Road and will be incorporated into the Prestwich Village project, delivered by Muse Developments.					

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8	Labour	<p>How has the current Covid situation impacted children returning to school in Bury? Cllr Boles</p> <p>Supplementary – With so much disruption to their education taking place, it is vital that we prioritise support to those most impacted. In light of this then, can I ask if Bury took part in the DfE’s Holiday Activity and Food Programme over Christmas or provide any other support to eligible FSM children?</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Tariq</p>	<p>The Council has maintained a strong relationship with all its schools, academies, and colleges throughout the pandemic, providing support, advice, and guidance in respect of the impact of COVID-19, and also to support the recovery of learning.</p> <p>With that support, schools have effective measures in place that has enabled the impact of COVID-19 to be mitigated, although the impact on children and young people and their loss of learning remains significant.</p> <p>Schools have continued to plan for the emerging challenges that COVID-19 presents, and have contingency arrangements in place, particularly in provided access to remote learning when pupils are unable to attend.</p> <p>Pupils have returned to school successfully following the festive break, and whilst there continues to be some impact on the school workforce and school communities, this is being managed effectively. The Council is mindful that, as all schools have now returned (with some having a staggered return) that there is a potential for cases to begin to rise. Schools will be supported if this is the case.</p> <p>Supplementary –</p> <p>From the introduction of lockdown measures in March 2020, the Council has funded food vouchers for the families of over 6,000 children and young people during every school holiday period.</p> <p>The number of families receiving this support has continued to increase throughout the pandemic, with approximately 6,500 children and young people now eligible.</p> <p>Alongside the provision of food vouchers, the Council has facilitated the Healthy Activity and Food programme. This programme targeted at this same group of families aims to provide access to a range of activities during key holiday periods. The HAF programme provided access to</p>

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		<p>activities for one week during Easter 2021, four weeks during the summer, and a further week over the festive break.</p> <p>Through this combination of food vouchers and access to activities delivered through the HAF programme, the Council has ensured significant support for some its most vulnerable families.</p> <p>Bury Council took part in the DfE's Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) over the winter holiday. In addition, the Council provided food vouchers to the parents of 6500 young people eligible for benefit related free school meals to ensure that the didn't go hungry over the Christmas period. The HAF programme will continue through 22-23 and we are already planning for Easter activities.</p>
9	Labour	<p>In light of its importance to members of our community, what is the Council doing to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day this year? Cllr D Quinn</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Gold</p>	<p>Cllr Gold: The Council has been working since August with Partners on the development of our annual Holocaust Memorial Event, which was planned for Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January. This year's theme is 'One Day' and our planned event involved a series of stories, music, a story from a Holocaust survivor and participation from Bury schoolchildren both, as part of the event, and a lesson plan we developed to be delivered in primary and secondary schools.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the Pandemic has meant that we have had to cancel our in-person event, but in its absence we have filmed a version which will go out on the 27th, and we will be promoting this in due course. We have managed to keep in the key messages and stories and look forward to sharing it with you all.</p> <p>Relatedly, we are working with the Association of Jewish Refugees to hold a tree planting event that is taking place on the 23rd January in Whitefield. The event in question is to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees and 80 trees are being planted across the UK to mark each year of the organisation's existence.</p>
10	Conservative	<p>The OFSTED report states that assessments are not focused enough on the impact enough of harmful experiences on children, which leads to over-optimistic decision making and unidentified risk. Can the Cabinet Member Children, Young People and Skills explain what they intend to do in order to reduce risk and ensure that assessments are focused and why they believe they were not focused to begin with? Cllr. Brown</p>

	Party / response	Question
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Tariq</p>	<p>Social workers were requested to work from home from March 2020 but have continued to see children regularly throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. At the time of the Ofsted inspection in October 21 which, in the main, reviews the quality of case work in the last 12 months, there were restrictions on social workers in place for most of this time which limited the ability of social work to spend time with families and included a reduction in live multi-agency discussions which support assessment work. Partners were also mainly working from home and schools had significant periods of closure and disruption. This context has contributed to assessments being much more task focused and narrow with an emphasis on self-reporting from parents which was identified in the Ofsted report.</p> <p>Additionally, the last 12 months has seen high levels of staff movement with several workers joining during covid lockdown which has impacted on usual induction processes. All of which has impacted on the quality of the assessment work.</p> <p>We have also seen increased demand in the system which has pushed up caseloads and which, as the Ofsted report recognised, hinders workers ability to deliver quality services including assessment work.</p> <p>We have already taken steps to address this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have sampled all cases to provide some immediate assurance in respect of children’s safety and acted where required • We are now looking at longer term changes need to drive up improvement in practice • We have commissioned two additional teams in July and November to reduce caseloads. We are still experiencing high demand which continues to impact on caseloads, but we are seeing a slow reduction • We have agreed additional monies to recruit to 6 additional social work posts • We have reduced team sizes so managers can have a stronger grip on practice and quality • We have refreshed the Quality Assurance Framework so that we build in quality assurance mechanisms at every stage of service provision • Learning and development of staff is a key area of focus within the workforce strategy, <i>building a confident, skilled, and experienced</i>

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		<p><i>workforce is key</i> We will deliver further training and learning sets around further developing the assessment skills of social workers, including professional curiosity, understanding the lived experience of children, parental capacity to change and analysis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final plan version of the Improvement plan (due to be submitted to Ofsted at the end of March) will include a detailed training plan addressing all aspects of children and families social work.
1 1	Labour	<p>Following the steep rise in cases and hospitalisations due to Covid, can we have an update on how this has impacted health and care services across Bury and what delays patients can expect to their care? Cllr McGill</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Simpson</p>	<p>I am sure all members will appreciate this has been an enormously challenging time for the health and care system nationally and here in Bury over the last 3 weeks. Community incidence rate of Covid 19 had risen exponentially to well over 2000 per 100,000 of population. This has generated significant pressure in demand on all health and care services, compounded by enormous staffing pressures due to the numbers of staff ill or isolating.</p> <p>In adult social care, the rise in cases has caused workforce shortages across the Council and our care services. Within our social work teams this loss of workforce has caused the numbers waiting to see a social worker to rise to its highest level but is now dropping as workers return and currently stands at 250 (14/01/2022).</p> <p>Despite reduced staffing within our care services, we have continued to function, but the availability of new care packages and new care home placements has reduced as there have been insufficient staff to support his new work. This is beginning to return now that staff are returning from isolation.</p> <p>As of 07 January 2022, local data from the Infection Control Team shows a total of 64 social care settings with cases or outbreaks. Of these 47 are care homes that have had cases within the last 14 days and are therefore likely to be closed to new admissions (note that in some circumstances such homes may be able to receive new residents on a risk-assessed, case-by-case basis).</p> <p>In primary care we have seen staff absences of clinical and non-clinical staff of up to 20% and higher in some practices and this has created</p>

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		<p>major pressure.</p> <p>For Hospital services, the pressure on Hospitals across Greater Manchester has been close to a critical incident collectively, although demand appears to show some signs of easing and staffing levels are recovering. At Fairfield General there have been some very difficult days reflecting in very high bed occupancy, and ambulance turnaround times at A&E. In the last week this position has eased.</p> <p>Members will however recall the note across GM suspending most elective care - non-urgent surgery and appointments, due to the rising impact of COVID-19. We recognise this is causing distress to very many Bury residents. It will be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgent treatments and cancer operations will continue to be prioritised. • Hospitals across the ICS will continue to work together to care for patients so that everyone who needs urgent care and treatment received it. • The Christie will continue to provide cancer care in a COVID-19 secure way. • Rochdale Infirmary continues to provide cancer and other urgent surgery as a COVID-19 secure site for Greater Manchester. • All diagnostic tests and most outpatient clinics continue to operate, with an increased focus on offering and utilising virtual wards and online appointments where possible. • The suspension of elective care is being reviewed on a regular basis by the GM wide Hospital leadership group and will be recommenced as soon as possible. • Anyone waiting for treatment is being directed for advice and support to the Greater Manchester While You Wait website - whileyouwait.org.uk. • From the GM platform Bury patients can access the local While You Wait resources. • Messages are going out to the public reiterating that if they have health concerns to continue to come forward for help and treatment in the usual way, using their local emergency department only for serious illnesses or injuries and NHS 111 for urgent medical problem where patients aren't sure what to do. <p>I am sure all members will wish to join me in paying tribute to health and care staff in the borough who have worked in very challenging circumstances over the Christmas period.</p>

	Party / response	Question
1 2	Labour	<p>Can the Cabinet Member for the Environment bring the council up to speed on tree planting efforts across the Borough? Cllr Pilkington</p> <p>Supplementary – One idea proposed to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee is the Queen’s Green Canopy, what is Bury council doing to help play our part in this?</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Quinn</p>	<p>The council has obtained matched funding from Northern Forest, Trees for Climate and Urban Tree Challenge.</p> <p>By March 2022 this funding will have been used to plant 25,442 whips, 395 standard trees, created over 12.5 hectares of new woodland and established 11 community orchards.</p> <p>Answer to Supplementary: As part of the Queen’s Green Canopy we are planting oak trees in each of our 12 green flag parks and helping a number of community groups across the borough with planting schemes to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.</p>
1 3	Conservative	<p>Can the Cabinet Member for Culture and The Economy outline what is the expected impact on culture and the economy in Bury following the anticipated clean air charge due to be implementation later this year by the Mayor of Greater Manchester? Cllr. Rydeheard</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member:</p> <p>Cllr Morris</p>	<p>Greater Manchester is experiencing dangerous and illegal air quality due to nitrogen dioxide exhaust emissions and other vehicle pollution, leading to serious health problems and 1,200 premature deaths every year. Modelling has shown that there are 152 locations across the 10 Greater Manchester local authority areas where nitrogen dioxide emissions will remain beyond legal levels without action.</p> <p>In March 2020, the government issued a legal direction requiring the ten GM local authorities to address the problem by introducing a Category C charging clean air zone - which would introduce a daily charge for principally commercial vehicles including HGVs, buses, coaches, minibuses, vans, taxis and private hire vehicles that do not meet prescribed national standards for nitrogen dioxide emissions. The current Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan was prepared with government to meet the terms of this direction to achieve legal nitrogen dioxide Limit Values in the shortest possible time and by 2024 at the latest.</p> <p>The Clean Air Zone is designed to encourage the most polluting vehicles to upgrade so that no one pays a charge, unlike a Congestion Zone,</p>

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		<p>where all or most vehicles are charged.</p> <p>The Greater Manchester Authorities, including Bury, recognise that the introduction of a Clean Air Zone will be a major challenge for many individuals and businesses and must be accompanied by a fair package of financial support. Accordingly we have been able to secure £120 million of Government funding across Greater Manchester to help our local businesses to upgrade their vehicles. This was less than then c.£150m package that was requested and did not include the hardship funding that GM councils and the Mayor had asked the government for.</p> <p>A full appraisal of the economic impact of the Clean Air Plan has been undertaken and this included consultation with key commercial stakeholders to gain a direct understanding of relevant issues. This appraisal showed that there would be a 'moderate to high' adverse affordability impact on businesses with the most substantial impact on micro businesses and sole traders. The proposed funding packages for retrofit or replacement vehicles was expected to mitigate this impact from 'moderate to high' to 'slight' adverse.</p> <p>With this existing adverse impact in mind alongside further concerns re the economic impact of the pandemic Councillor Western, GMCA Green City Region Lead formally contacted the Government in Summer 2021 to request money for a hardship fund that could be used to help those businesses with specific problems meeting the cost of vehicle upgrades. The Minister responded to say that they were not convinced that this was the best way to mitigate the impact of uncertainty due to the pandemic. However, they agreed to work with GM to understand the situation in the future in relation to funding if the impact is found to be more severe than they anticipated.</p> <p>In recent months evidence has emerged to suggest there are now additional significant challenges related to the vehicle supply chain and cost inflation. Based on this evidence, there is a fundamental concern that these global and national factors may impact on the ability of local businesses and individuals to upgrade their vehicles and whether the current financial support package agreed with government is sufficient.</p> <p>A thorough, detailed review is needed to understand whether this situation could create significant financial hardship for commercial vehicle users – already facing fuel and cost of living increases on top of the impact of the pandemic. What this means for Greater Manchester local authorities, and its impact on our ability to comply on time with a legal direction from government to tackle illegal levels of air pollution, is also to be determined.</p> <p>This review would look to ensure that the right funding arrangements can be put in place quickly to better reflect the additional costs and vehicle</p>

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		<p>availability problems that businesses are facing.</p> <p>On 20 January the Greater Manchester Air Quality Administration Committee will therefore be recommended to seek approval from the Secretary of State to pause opening of phase two Clean Air funding support at the end of January 2022 for vans, taxis, and private hire vehicles. This pause will enable an urgent and fundamental joint policy review with government to identify how a revised policy can be agreed to deal with the supply issues and local businesses' ability to comply with the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan.</p> <p>GM is still under a legal direction from government to achieve legal limits of nitrogen dioxide in the shortest possible time and by 2024 at the latest. Therefore, the Committee will also be asked to confirm that the first phase of the Clean Air Zone due to launch in May 2022 – applying to buses, coaches, HGVs and taxi and private hire vehicles which are not registered in Greater Manchester – should go ahead. This will include the ongoing provision of funding support for HGVs and buses to upgrade. Greater Manchester coach operators who need more time to upgrade are being urged to apply for an exemption to 1 June 2023.</p> <p>It is anticipated that with the co-operation of Government, the proposed actions described above will allow us to meet air quality targets to safeguard the health of our communities whilst minimising negative impacts on our local economy and our local culture</p>
14	Lib Dem	<p>Following the recent BBC investigation into accommodation for asylum seekers that has uncovered serious concerns about housing conditions, can the Council give an update about the conditions of emergency housing in Bury supporting asylum seekers and refugees? Cllr Tegolo</p>
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Cummins	<p>All accommodation procured by the Council for the recent Afghan crisis and the homeless dispersed temporary accommodation that assists with the wider asylum seekers and refugees in Bury are checked and inspected weekly to ensure the properties and furnishings remain to the required standards. The inspections include all H&S checks such as smoke alarms and fire doors etc. All property inspections are recorded, and any repairs are reported and carried out as soon as is necessary. Serco and the Home Office also have circa 150 properties within Bury to accommodate asylum seekers and refugees while the Home office determine the status of these cases. The Home office and Serco are responsible for ensuring these properties are to the required standard.</p>
15	Conservative	<p>At the November Council meeting, the Labour Group opposed the Conservatives motion for free parking on Council owned car parks in the run up to Christmas. The Labour group proposed free bus travel</p>

	Party / response	Question
		<p>throughout Bury instead. Could an update be provided as to why the Council failed to implement their plan after rejecting the original motion that would have benefitted residents and businesses at this important time. Cllr Vernon</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member: Cllr O'Brien</p>	<p>It should be noted that we sought to explore the possibility of free or discounted bus travel for the first three weekends in December. The Council could not lawfully enter into contracts with bus companies, so we worked TfGM and the Combined Authority to explore the practicalities of this, however the additional legal and practical challenges meant that there was not enough time prior to Christmas to bring in such a scheme.</p> <p>Despite not being able to offer free or discounted bus travel prior to Christmas, this is still something we are exploring and may offer at a convenient time in the future.</p> <p>This again highlights the importance of having a publicly controlled bus network, which the Conservative Group voted against.</p> <p>Currently, free parking is available everywhere except Bury Town Centre, so the free parking scheme suggested by the Conservative group would only benefit one of our towns (Bury).</p> <p>I would like to remind the Cllr Vernon that we still supported businesses in a multitude of ways across the Christmas period:</p> <p>Awaiting list</p>
<p>1 6</p>	<p>Conservative</p>	<p>Throughout the borough a considerable number of roads have been resurfaced. However, the road markings have not been reinstated. As a result, several accidents have taken place in Church Ward and across the Borough Please can the Cabinet Member responsible look into this issue and provide an update on progress towards completion? Cllr Harris</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member: Cllr Quinn</p>	<p>Many of the roads in Church ward have been surface dressed this year using our Highway Investment Strategy funding. This work has been welcomed by many local residents and shows our commitment to improving our local roads.</p> <p>The contractor has been delayed from reinstating all of the road markings on these streets as this work cannot be done when the road surface is damp, which it has been almost continuously since completion of the surface dressing work.</p>

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		<p>Other types of carriageway surfacing can be forced dry to allow markings to be installed in damp conditions. However, the drying process would damage the newly applied surface dressing and so this is not an option. Our contractor knows that this work is a priority and will reinstate the markings when we have a dry spell.</p>
<p>1 7</p>	<p>Conservative</p>	<p>The Council is expected to have an OFTSED Action Planning in June 2022, can the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member Children, Young People and Skills outline what the Council will do to prepare for this and how key stakeholders will be informed of outcomes i.e Councillors, MPs and Members of the public. Cllr. McBriar</p>
	<p>Cabinet Member: Cllr Tariq</p>	<p>On 12/01/22 senior leaders met with the DfE to assure them we are taking appropriate steps to progress the improvement Journey. DfE officials were assured that we are taking appropriate steps, and that we have established a robust system of improvement with the establishment of an independently chaired Improvement Board and wider council and partnership support.</p> <p>In relation to Ofsted, the DCS has contacted the lead HMI, seeking confirmation of the date for the action planning meeting. The feedback from this meeting will be shared at the Improvement Board.</p> <p>Other actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The independent chair will hold the department to account • the CEO has scheduled regular monthly meetings with Councillors. Childrens Scrutiny will challenge the progress of the improvement journey. • The focus of Scrutiny will be aligned to the workstreams of the Improvement Plan, Leadership and Management, and the quality and impact of social work practice upon outcomes for children and building a skilled, confident, and experienced workforce. <p>The 5 or 6 monitoring visits undertaken by Ofsted during the 3year cycle of improvement will (except for the first report) be published by Ofsted and therefore be in the public domain and will be made available to Councillors.</p> <p>The formal 6 month reviews undertaken by the DfE will be considered by the Secretary of State and will be made available to Councillors.</p>

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18	Conservative	Can the Cabinet Member for Communities outline how many CCTV cameras there are provided and managed by the Council in the borough broken down per Ward? Cllr. Caserta																																																																													
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Gold	<p>The Council manages 131 CCTV across the Borough. These are made up of 95 permanent cameras, 11 rapid deployment cameras which can be relocated based on need and 25 cameras in fly tipping hotspots.</p> <p>A full break down by ward can be provided as requested.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="363 672 1461 2016"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th colspan="3">PUBLIC AREA</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>PERMANENT</th> <th>RAPID DEPLOY</th> <th>FLY TIPPING</th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <th>AREA</th> <th>WARD</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Bury East</td> <td>Moorside</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>9</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Redvales</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>East</td> <td>40</td> <td></td> <td>8</td> <td>48</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Bury West</td> <td>Elton Ward</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Church Ward</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor</td> <td>Ramsbottom</td> <td></td> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Manor</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tottington</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Radcliffe</td> <td>Radcliffe North</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Radcliffe West</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Radcliffe East</td> <td>29</td> <td>3</td> <td>6</td> <td>38</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			PUBLIC AREA			TOTAL			PERMANENT	RAPID DEPLOY	FLY TIPPING		AREA	WARD					Bury East	Moorside	3	4	9	16	Redvales					East	40		8	48	Bury West	Elton Ward					Church Ward					Ramsbottom, Tottington and North Manor	Ramsbottom		4		4	North Manor					Tottington					Radcliffe	Radcliffe North					Radcliffe West	1		2	3	Radcliffe East	29	3	6	38
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19	Lib Dem	How is the rollout of electric charging points going in the Borough and what is the Council doing to ensure good quality and access of these charging points? Cllr Tegolo																																						
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Quinn	<p>The Council has recently completed the procurement for a supplier to install Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) at Bradley Fold and Bury Cemetery to allow the council to charge the electric vehicles that will be procured as part of the ongoing actions to green our fleet. These new chargepoints will be installed by the summer 2022.</p> <p>During 2021 we worked with TfGM to use Government Clean Air Early Measures funding to install 2 rapid chargers at The Millgate and The Rock Shopping Centre car parks. These are both now in full operation.</p> <p>Work is progressing with TFGM to install 3 rapid charging hubs for Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles. The proposed are sites currently undergoing feasibility studies with a view to installation later in 2022.</p> <p>We are also commencing a procurement process to appoint a contractor to be able to bid for Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) for On-Street Residential Charging Scheme (ORCS) funding. This funding pays towards the installation of public electric vehicle chargepoints aimed at residents without access to off-street parking.</p> <p>We have developed a long list of possible locations for public chargepoints throughout our borough and this is currently going through our approval process.</p> <p>Once a list of sites has been agreed this will put the Council in a better</p>																																						

	Party / response	Question
		position to apply for funding or to explore alternative options to install charging infrastructure.
20	Lib Dem	Can the Leader please provide an update on the plans for Phillips Park Hall as part of the Council's accelerated land and property disposals and what discussions have been undertaken recently with the existing tenants? Cllr Powell
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Quinn	The community asset transfer process is ongoing, the next steps following advertising will be to engage with interested parties and receive formal applications. It is our understanding that existing tenants have been consulted and it is expected that they will be part of an overall submission to the Council.
21	Lib Dem	What progress has been made on plans to implement 'no idling' zones outside schools in Bury, as agreed upon at a Council meeting three years ago? Cllr Wright
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Quinn	We are committed to address the issue of idling vehicles specifically where it can impact on vulnerable members of our community. In the UK, it is illegal under the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 to leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road. Doing this can incur a £20 fixed penalty fine under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2002. This is only imposed if the driver fails to turn off their engine when asked to do so. Enforcement of this legislation sits with local authorities and the legal powers are in place for parking enforcement officers to issue the necessary fixed penalty notices. As the enforcing officer has to give the driver the opportunity to switch off the engine first and the penalty for idling is relatively small (£20), Greater Manchester Local Authorities do not consider the Regulation to be an effective deterrent. The Government has previously announced proposals to consult on toughening up rules on vehicle idling and increasing fines for drivers who leave their engine running while parked. The GM Authorities have written to the Transport Secretary asking for the launch of the public consultation

	Party / response	Question
		<p>on this issue to be brought forward.</p> <p>Given limited council resources along with the limited enforcement deterrent, Bury and the other GM Authorities are planning to focus more on awareness raising campaigns in the first instance. The aim will be to inform our populations of the impacts of idling vehicles on air quality and therefore health.</p> <p>With this in mind, in 2021 the council purchased 3 air quality sensors which are being located outside schools to show the impact of the school run on local air quality emissions. These sensors will be moved around our schools on a rota basis and council officers will work with the schools and parents to help raise awareness of the impacts of poor air quality on health and the benefits of walking and cycling as a means of getting to and from school.</p> <p>We are also working with TFGM to develop "School Streets" in our borough and have recently been notified that 3 "School Street" schemes have been approved for Guardian Angel RC Primary, Chesham Primary and Hazel Wood High School. These schemes will allow us to restrict access to motorised traffic outside schools at drop off and pick up times. We will gain experience and learning from these first schemes which should allow us to roll out similar schemes at a wider range of our schools.</p>
2 2	Lib Dem	Can the Leader confirm whether there are any plans to upgrade the CCTV in Prestwich village? Cllr Powell
	Cabinet Member: Cllr Gold	I can confirm the cameras in Prestwich will be upgraded during the forthcoming financial year as part of the overall upgrade of Prestwich, Radcliffe and Ramsbottom CCTV. The tender for this has just been awarded and the budget allocated to cover the work.