

First paragraph replace Council with Government

We are calling on the Government to formally adopt a Socio-Economic Duty Policy. This will mean that any decisions on policy, funding or disposal of assets will be mindful of the impact on residents from more socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds. Through this policy the Government would aim for a more equal society where residents' access to quality education, health services, access to an equal standard of leisure services, public amenities and outdoor green spaces is not governed by their socio-economic status. The Government would introduce the requirement for observance of the guidelines derived from this policy into the formal decision making process.

Second paragraph delete from 'the proposal from' to the end of the sentence

This is a further extension of the proposal from the Overview & Scrutiny meeting that the Cabinet consider as part of its Antipoverty strategy adopting voluntarily the Socio-Economic Duty as details in Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010.

Second paragraph insert after of

Bury's Inclusion Strategy, updated following an independent review across Bury Council and Bury CCG, saw the additional of socio-economic vulnerability included as a local community of interest in addition to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010. As such when decisions are being made in terms of policy development or reviews, and an Equality Impact Assessment is carried out then due regard is required to be given to the impact of any proposed change/decision in terms of the impact this would have on those experiencing economic vulnerability and the impact on inequality. As with considerations across protected characteristics this requires those conducting work to consider the impact of this, any potential positive or negative impact; mitigations to address any negative impact; and outline means of engagement and review. It forms a core principal of the 'Let's Do it Strategy' in the Equality Impact Analysis, which goes further and asks "What will the likely overall effect of your activity be on equality, including consideration of intersectionality"

Third paragraph insert after notes "that despite our best efforts to address issues of inequality"

This Council notes that despite our best efforts to address issues of inequality

- Despite currently being rated as the third most affluent borough in Greater Manchester, Bury MBC currently has extremes of differences in index of Multiple Deprivation ratings having several areas rated as being in the 10% most deprived while several other areas are in 10% least deprived.
- There is a difference of average life expectancy of 15 years for men and 12 years for women between the longest and shortest life expectancy MSOAs.
- The achievement of pupils in Maths and English GCSE in the lowest achieving MSOAs was 25.3% compared to the national average of 43.2% and the rest of the borough at 39.8% (2019 figures)

- Some areas of Bury MBC have seen significant under investment for many years which has led to a deterioration of the area in terms of the quality of the council owned amenities and infrastructure.

Insert before the start of the fourth paragraph

“However this Council recognises that inequality has vastly increased since the introduction of the austerity programme, cuts to welfare benefits, changes to public service funding which removes the recognition of the need to address inequality and tax cuts to the wealthy.

This council resolves to”

Delete ‘all residents’ in paragraph 1. and amend community to country

1. Call on the Government to write and adopt a Socio-Economic Duty Policy requiring all departments at the Government to consider the potential of any policy, project or material amendment on ~~all residents in~~ the ~~country community~~. In particular they should ensure that areas of high socio-economic disadvantage are not unfairly impacted.
2. Ask the Government for the inclusion of 'disadvantaged socio-economic status' as a protected characteristic in Government procedures. This should prevent anyone being subject to less favourable treatment in the exercise of their rights because of their inherited social status or economic situation.
3. Call on the Government to commit to more open consultation with residents on all projects going forward. They should endeavour to fully engage with residents, listen to feedback and act on the outputs of these on consultations.