

Meeting:	The Council
Meeting date:	7th December 2022
Title of report:	Leaders' Report
Report by:	Leader of the Council
Decision type:	Non key decision
Ward(s) to which the report relates:	All Wards.
Summary:	To provide a summary of the work of the Cabinet since this last report, an update on progress against the corporate plan, and a statement from the Leader of the Council.

1 Leader's note

- 1.1 I am pleased to provide Council with my report covering the period from 13th September 2022 to 25th November 2022.
- 1.2 The cost-of-living crisis continues to weigh heavily on the shoulders of the people in our borough. The Government has offered little to no further support in the Autumn Statement, but at Bury Council we are doing what we can despite our limited financial resources to ensure our residents can get the support they need across this winter.
- 1.3 Prior to the Autumn Statement I, along with Bury businesses, charities, community groups and councillors called on the Chancellor to give Bury a fair funding deal to cope with the cost-of-living crisis. The letter explained that for over a decade we have seen increasing demand for services, and in recent months this has escalated even further with more and more households requiring help. The letter then called on the Government to intervene with a series of measures designed to help those in need, and better fund the institutions which support those in need. I look forward to sharing the Chancellor's response.
- 1.4 At the November Cabinet meeting we brought a report which recognised the actions which have taken place following the publication of our Anti-Poverty Strategy, and approved proposals for allocating the Household Support Fund. This includes a provision of free-school meals vouchers to cover school holiday periods, those on income related benefits which aren't Universal Credit, vouchers to support the energy costs of those who have living equipment which requires electricity, vouchers to support the

energy costs of care leavers up to the age of 25, proactive targeting of deprived households, and provisions of resilience support to community support groups.

- 1.5 Following the cost-of-living summit held in early September and the positive reaction from attendees, we held a follow-up event to continue important discussions with our partners about how we better work together to deliver for the residents of our borough.
- 1.6 At the November Cabinet meeting I was delighted to award the Freedom of the Borough honour to six people who have demonstrated a strong and continuing connection with, and commitment to, the borough; or have made a major contribution to national life and, in doing so, have enhanced the reputation of the borough. Among the recipients this year are former councillors and mayors Trevor Holt, Roy Walker, and Dorothy Gunter. The others are Itzik Alterman, a Holocaust survivor who uses his experiences to do vital Holocaust education work; and Akram Baig, chief executive of the Jinnah Day Care Centre in Bury which, among other activities, provides care to the area's elderly Asian community.
- 1.7 In November our commitment to honouring our veterans was further awarded when we were presented with a Silver award from the Ministry of Defence for actively supporting the armed forces community in our workplace. The Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) encourages organisations which champion the armed forces and encourage others to follow suit. This includes employing serving and former members of the armed forces community and demonstrating flexibility towards training and mobilisation commitments for Reservists and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers. We had previously been award bronze status, but it is a fantastic compliment for us to have been presented with the silver award.

2 Reporting progress against stated commitments in Corporate Plan

- 2.1 The following table provides a brief summary of the Council's progress against the priorities set out in our Corporate Plan covering August 2022 to October 2022.

Dept	Priority	Deliverables
BGI	Developing Bury Market & Flexi Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION – Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Stage 2 is complete and the team are developing RIBA Stage 3 outputs, including planning documentation. Initial consultation has been undertaken with key stakeholders and officers held a public session with Market Traders on the 21st of September. Pre-planning advice has been received through the Bury Planning team and an external design review

		<p>has now been completed (06/10) for the project. Following receipt of this feedback, the development team have been tasked with revising the design of the market canopy. The revised options will be reviewed by the Council on the 14th of November. Further work will also begin on landscape design work for public realm areas on the 23rd of November. This will take 2-3 weeks, the results of which will be presented for approval alongside other design improvements to Regeneration Board on the 2nd of December. Consultation is continuing with the Market Traders Association and other stakeholders during this period to ensure that they are kept informed with more detailed presentations and events in the New Year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAND ASSMEBLY – CBRE have now made offers to assemble the remaining 3 properties required to deliver the development. The offer presented to the casino operator has been immediately rejected and CBRE are undertaking further discussions. The sale of 2 Princess Parade has now been agreed and a paper will be presented to Cabinet to progress matters. • OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT - Internal work has been carried out to agree an operations management strategy for the flexi hall. The market is now being tested to select an external operator. • MONITORING / REPORTING - Monitoring reports to Department for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) will be submitted in November and will now include more detailed outcome/benefits realisation information which is now required by Civil Servants.
	Radcliffe Hub Levelling Up programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION - RIBA Stage Three is complete, and a VE exercise is currently underway to ensure the project remains within the approved budget envelope. Forecast commencement date for main contract works is currently 8 weeks behind programme due to re-design of the building facade, with enabling works due to commence at the start of 2023. The planning application for the temporary modular unit to house Freak Dance is to

		<p>be submitted on 18th Nov, on the Railway Street site (amended from the library car park)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONSULTATION/COMMS - Community Engagement events are now complete. Reports on feedback have been shared with colleagues from Operations for their review. Report due to be uploaded to webpages by end of November • COMMERCIAL – Negotiations ongoing to reach an agreement on vacant possession with Boots • TEMPORARY/ENABLING WORKS - Decant planning ongoing with Radcliffe Market operator and traders. Project remains on programme, with the majority of Utility diversion works now been instructed. Dialogue is ongoing with BT Openreach and Cadet in relation to fibre cable and gas main diversions • MONITORING/REPORTING - DLUHC report on project progress has been submitted, support will be required to progress benefits realisation plan as a priority
	<p>Radcliffe SRF including: - Housing - North Block - Transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deloitte has been appointed to deliver a multi-disciplinary study and recommendations which will baseline plans for parking on the Radcliffe Hub alongside wider development opportunities in the Town. Commission will reference recent progress and design development for the Radcliffe Hub, the SOBC plans for the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and developments at the new High School and the East Lancs Papermill sites. • East Lancs Paper Mill site Reserved Matters application due in December 2022.
	<p>Delivering the Prestwich Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Venture (JV) Agreement - Joint Venture Agreement, Option Agreement and Development Management Agreement all in final stages for sign off. • Design and Planning - RIBA stage 1 Preparation and Design work: Design team working on draft Masterplan, cost plan, financial modelling, and business case in preparation for RIBA Stage 1 report by Jan 2023. Hub Building engagement scoping session with Health 14th November to establish interest in the Hub from health perspective

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comms and Engagement - Mid November Comms and Engagement activity due to commence running for a period of 5 weeks, webinar, drop-in sessions at Prestwich Library, Newsletter, and social media campaign • Vacant Possession (VP) - Operational work on the lease renewals, tenancy engagement, and agreeing HoTs for the Vacant units. VP strategy to be developed for the LSC
	Delivering the Bury Town Centre Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bury Town Centre Advisory Board has been established along with several subgroups. Meetings of the Flexi Hall & Interchange subgroups have taken place. Millgate JV have appointed an architectural team to develop a centre masterplan – draft report imminent. • Meetings continue with regards to the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the new Interchange. • A proposal has been submitted to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to fund some public space enhancements. • Work in progress to produce a high-level programme/project plan that will be used to monitor progress and overall delivery of the masterplan. Additional support has been secured from the Council’s Delivery Unit to support its further development. • The new, business led, Bury Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID) has now been established, with scope to support the delivery of the masterplan. Bury BID report requested by Overview & Scrutiny for their November 22 meeting. • Meetings with Strategic Transport lead regarding borough-wide transport strategy and Bury Parking provision
	Assets disposed of in line with the Land Disposal Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme continuing – active steps being taken to move transacted deals through the legal process • Closing bids for the sale of Summerseat House received and under review • Marketing of former Police Station site commenced. • Preparation for further housing sites to go to the market

	<p>Delivery of the Economic Development Strategy including embedded all age skills strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 initiation meeting held with Hatch • Outline structure prepared - Will be presented to Economic Development strategy steering Group & Business Leadership Group in November. • Meetings held with key officers from across the Council to introduce the strategy and gain their support for helping to input into shaping the document. Proformas to be sent out seeking information on issues, strategies, and actions. Meetings with Hatch and the steering group continue.
	<p>Delivery of activity associated with the progression of the Bury Local Plan: Places for Everyone (PfE)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All statements in response to the Inspectors' Matters Issues and Questions submitted. • Hearing sessions commenced on 1 November and scheduled to finish at the end of March 2023
	<p>Delivery of Brownfield Housing Site Sales Programme</p>	<p>Continuing to progress delivery of Brownfield Tranche 1 and 2 sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • William Kemp Heaton - various surveys and ground investigations underway. • Wheatfields – exchanged contracts 28.10.22, deposit monies received 31.10.22. Planning ap determination due Dec 2022. • Willow St - pre-app to be determined. • Fletcher Fold – report going to Cabinet 16 Nov for disposal to a registered provider. Red book valuation received. Procurement brief being prepared. • Pipeline of sites in place, prioritisation of sites in line with updated Accelerated Land Disposal Programme (ALDP) commenced: • School St – preparing legals to exchange contracts 29/11/22 • Seedfield site - exchanged and deposit received 10/11/22 and planning app submitted 11/11/22 • ELPM site – Cabinet report seeking approval for revised offer 16th November 2022. • Green St – Exchange and deposit received on 4/10/22. Planning app due in 14th October. • Humphrey House – Growth Location funding sought for due diligence work for Build to rent apartment scheme.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Townside close 100% affordable homes scheme being scoped. • Pyramid Park – Soft market testing commenced and joint master plan with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) being scoped. • Housing Propositions on Townships scoped to understand current mix of houses and what new homes are needed to achieve desired mix and affordability.
CYP	Delivery of activity within the OFSTED Improvement Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted monitoring visit on 12 & 13 October 2022 • Children’s event on 29 September 2022 for the whole service to launch the Threshold Document (Continuum of Need), the Revised Early Help Strategy and to share plans for the Family Safeguarding model. • Introduction of Teaching Tuesdays to deliver training and close the loop on our learning cycle • Diagnostic work undertaken by Hertfordshire in preparation for the implementation of the Family Safeguarding model. • Further work on the recruitment and retention offers for front line SW practitioners – outline proposals re international recruitment, business support pilot, enhanced offer for those in front line safeguarding. • Review of children in high-cost placements completed.
	Support to deliver the Schools Capital Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Leadership Academy Radcliffe –Detailed planning and delivery programme to be developed during autumn term. Planning application expected January 2023. Pre-application discussions on planning/highways underway. Lease agreement close to completion mid-October. Start on site anticipated July 2023, with completion of main school building August 2024, and site works by October 2024. • Detailed programme for adaptation of Spurr House in place and financial approval to proceed in place. Adaptation works to be completed autumn term 2023. Actual relocation date to be confirmed but prior to the required vacant possession date on the Spring Lane site.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good progress made in respect of ASC Special Free School, with planning application secured May 2022. Identification of first cohort is now a priority, to inform engagement between parents and school for intake in autumn 2023. • New secondary Social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) Special School competition closed, with 7 expressions of interest received. Expected to translate to 6 applications by closing date in mid-October. Local authority (LA) evaluation panel to be established late October to produce draft short list that will then be subject to moderation with Department for Education (DfE). Final selection interviews February 2023. Draft Heads of Terms for site nearing completion with Property Services and Legal services. On target for practical completion and opening September 2025. • Draft application for Special Free School 3 produced, submission mid October 2022. • Schools Capital Board established; Terms of reference produced, and draft Capital Strategy developed. Ongoing discussions with Mace for technical support for delivery. Round table workshop held early October to refine terms of reference/governance • Discussions with proposed sponsors on the development of new Alternative Provision (AP) DfE competition.
	<p>Delivery activity within the Safety Valve programme (PSV)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSV submission went in during September 2022. • The Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) Team have commenced the online Special Educational Needs (SEND) Training in preparation for the face to face 4-day joint training with parents and DFE (training on affective communication / chairing skills / person centred approaches); training took place on the 22nd/27th September and a further session is planned in October. • Meeting held with the Council for Disabled Children regarding joint work with us around the developing collaborative policy and practice around children who are deemed Education Otherwise Than At School (EOTAs)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress development of new provision – autistic spectrum condition (ASC) Special Free School secured planning permission; SEMH Special Free School timescale agreed for expressions of interest; draft application for primary Speech, language and communication needs (SCLN) Special School being finalised with submission mid October 2022. ongoing discussions with schools about development of Resourced Provision; additional capacity to be identified to support the standardisation of the offer across Bury • SEND event took place on 6th October 2022 to launch the graduated response • Contract monitoring for First Point held in September 2022; this has resulted in an established schedule of contract monitoring throughout the year • Progress continues to be made within agreed time frame on the redesign of request to assessment & Advice for Education Health Care Plans • In September 2022 we have introduced a process for QA feedback forms with all parents at the end of the EHCP process • Reworking the finance strategy and approach in light of increased expenditure of out of borough Places. • Work undertaken to identify possible satellite provision & ongoing discussions with schools with regards to an increased continuum of provision
	<p>Improve education outcomes at all Key Stages (KS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing analysis of the provisional data received for early years foundation stage (EYFS). Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 & Key Stage 5 – detailed analysis will be provided through Scrutiny. EYFS declined at a greater rate than national; KS1 in line with national and expected but challenges at greater depth; KS2 in line with national; KS4 an improving picture but awaiting national comparators; KS5 similarly initial results in line with national and awaiting national comparators

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Above analysis being used to risk assess school; revise the school tool kit and inform brokered school to school support. • Health checks and other brokered support in schools identified as causing concern • Increase in proportion of good or better schools with 91% of primary schools good or better. Reports following inspection during the latter part of the summer term now published – St Michael’s (Special Measures) and St Stephen’s (requires Improvement). Philips High still to be published. • National Exclusion data published for 2020/21. Bury has reduced its permanence exclusion rate from 0.05 – 0.03 (National 0.05); Suspension rates have increased in Bury to 4.45 and are now at national.
Review of Early Years Services against the 1001 days pathway and GMCA 8 stage delivery model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review has been completed; we are now in consultation on recruitment to key posts which will progress following consultation final agreement of the restructure at the end of September • The Family Hub transformation lead has now been appointed and started on 4th October. This will bring some capacity and traction to the implementation plan
Develop locality teams to a Family Hub model through Bury East pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entered delivery stage of the model • There is some delay in progressing the implementation of the Family Hub due to a review of buildings as Redvales which is the identified site is part of the review • Transformation lead now in place to take this agenda forward
Increasing attendance levels through a strengthened strategic approach to attendance and by the expansion of the role of the Virtual school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model attendance policy produced and shared with all schools. Supporting guidance being produced for circulation to schools (mid-October) • Review of school attendance service level agreement (SLA) offer under review. Commitment to honour for schools already buying-back, and new LA funded universal offer to be available from January 2023

	Develop SEND integrated transparent pathways through the revised Graduated Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduated response work completed and now be progressed onto the portal – Generic launch took place at the SEND Information Day on the 06-10-22 as planned • Multi Agency Training to commence in November onwards • Linked work within Early Years underway to support the development of the SEND Support that links into the Graduated Response - • Next step is the work around the post 16 work on Graduated Response
	Increase the proportion of 16–25-year-olds with SEND in employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training around the annual review process to ensure that the Transition paperwork is embedded to support this agenda concluded on the 18th October • Team now using the preparing for Adulthood framework within the writing of EHCP plans to support aspirational work • Transition pathway steering group meet monthly • Joint review of 14-25 option with adult has been completed with recommendation around development or service offer
	Improve the outcomes of SEND children and young people so they attain educationally to the best of their ability and potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance continues to stabilise through strengthening data performance and the embedded performance clinics / weekly reporting • Team is now working on the phased transfer action plan to ensure we completed this activity within time scale • Joint training with the Council For Disabled children concluded on the 18th October which support our improvement on quality and focus on clear outcomes which should support Children and Young People meet their full potential
Ops	Develop the Wellness model and prepare to move existing provision to the new Radcliffe Hub (Ops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport England full bid for Radcliffe Hub submitted £1.5m • Community engagement re design and layout complete. • Full Wellness investment business plan developed. • Prep work underway for Planning Application. • Operational Plan for Radcliffe Hub developed

improvement plan)	
Achieve carbon neutrality by 2038 and be single use plastic free across the Council by end 2022/23	Develop business case together to use Go Neutral - This will be progressed for corporate buildings once the asset rationalisation project is complete and there is an understanding of what buildings the council will keep going forwards. Feasibility studies carried out for 2 primary schools suggest solar PV could be beneficial and could therefore make use of Go Neutral. Liaised with Childrens Services to investigate how we should approach/prioritise the schools. A meeting has taken place with GM Community Renewables to gather information on their model for installation of solar on schools.
Highway resurfacing and preventative maintenance (delivery of Highway Investment Strategy (HIS) - Tranche 2) and Improvement programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision made on HIS3* strategy (3-year highway programme). Work continues on the development of the strategy and will be shared with Cllr Quinn and Cllr Peel November 22. • Continue planning and programme development of HIS3. Prioritisation will follow after Nov/Dec with a report going to cabinet in Q3.
Ops Improvement Plan - Corporate Landlord implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed disposal programme with advice from Robertsons • Developed Corporate Landlord structure. • Development of Neighbourhood Asset Review (Lead BGI). • Building conditions surveys, including health and safety to be completed.
Introduction of Clean Air Zone for Greater Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater Manchester has now published a case for a new investment-led Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan, with no charging Clean Air Zone. This was submitted to government on 1 July 2022 and still awaiting a response. • Participatory engagement approach delivered via early stakeholder engagement.
Introduction of a women's safety charter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety coordinating training video to help licensed premises meet WSC commitments.

	(WSC) (voluntary pledge for all licensed premises)	Video production expected to be completed in November 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web forms and webpage finalised and will go live following WSC launch.
	Develop a Driver Safety initiative for the Taxi Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Consultation open for licensed drivers 26/6/2022-9/8/2022 (6 Weeks). • Consultation now completed - 421 aware participants with 83 contributors to the consultation. Separate focus group completed by Trade Engagement Officer. Consultation findings report being drafted, and findings will be used to develop the initiative and training video.
OCO	Managing and overseeing transition to ICS	Development work continues. Confirmation of Deputy Place Based Lead
	Health and Care System Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgent and Emergency Care (UEC) Improvement Plan continues • Winter Planning Sub-Group met three times now, Directory of Services being updated, Admission Avoidance schemes being updated • Presentation for Locality Board submitted • GM System Operational Response Taskforce additional schemes (£900) submitted • Virtual Ward continues to progress at Fairfield General Hospital (FGH) • Northern Care Alliance (NCA) Four Localities work on no reason to reside ongoing, control Room established at FGH
	Deliver the government's adult social care reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Social Care Reform Program board established, and programme manager recruited • Fair Cost of care submission 14th October submitted
	Population Health system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First cohorts of L1 & L2 Health Improvement courses delivered • 'Path to Pantry' toolkit for Bury Foodbanks on Bury Directory • Completed Wellbeing strategy and business case which was approved at locality board • Developed an older people winter support pack (distributed during covid boosters and flu jabs) with key information around vaccinations, keeping

		<p>warm, physical activity, financial support, self-care, mental wellbeing and keeping safe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carried out an evaluation of the Move More Live Well Health Improvement Fund • Recruited the 'Start Well, Public Health Practitioner' role • Facilitated the 'Connect 5' Mental Wellbeing training across Bury through the Voluntary, Community, Faith Alliance (VCFA) • Facilitated a multi-agency substance misuse workshop agreeing a system approach to delivering new national strategy 'Harm to Hope' • Continued roll out of COVID-19 and flu vaccine programme. Completion of care home roll out. Revised vaccine governance in place with single vaccine assurance group covering all vaccination programmes. • First meeting of newly formed Screening Assurance Group to bring oversight to screening programmes commissioned under s7a of the NS Act 2006.
Corp Core	Embedding the Neighbourhood Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-poverty - Planning underway for second Anti-Poverty summit in Nov. New details of Household Support Fund received including cover for Oct Half Term. • Culture Strategy - Draft report produced for November Cabinet, now delayed to December. Budget consultation on Bury Art Gallery underway. • Bury East People Plan - Draft with Bury Town Centre Board for sign-off. Further work undertaken to embed culture and to incorporate social value offer from lead contract on the Bury Town Masterplan.
	Getting the basics right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LETS Values & behaviours framework: Launch planned for 15th Nov • Problem solving training delivered to senior managers • iTrent: MFA / Single sign on launched. Plan for further functionality implementation between now and April 23 on track • Social media policy: Social Media policy due to Cllr Gold for approval on 17 Nov • New Website: Initial designs shared, and addition content migration resource identified.

		<p>User acceptance testing to commence in November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Team – implementation of new operating model: Phase One completed – scoping the As-Is position. All staff interviewed and feedback received by management team. Phase Two commenced re design of the new TOM and accompanying staff structure Review of Bury ACEs completed and new model live
	Delivery of the Internal Transformation Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Channel shift: December Cabinet report will start consultation with staff. M365 training rolled out: Programme delivery underway and plan of action for utilisation of remaining support time agreed by Programme Board Anti-Social Behaviour Policy review: Draft policy approved at Portfolio. To be presented to the Community Safety Partnership on the 8th of December 2022 Legal Services restructure: Job descriptions drafted. Following evaluation finalised structure will proceed to formal consultation. Ongoing staff meetings to ensure staff are engaged with the restructure proposals Corporate business support service: Service live and paper on progress agreed by Exec. Further work to manage operational issues in Children’s and Operations underway and planning for phase 2 savings commenced
	People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff survey: Pulse survey 2 results shared and action planning underway. Planning for Survey 3 in December Adult Education Improvement Plan: Learner numbers now higher than at any point in 2021. Further work being undertaken to link with Prevent training and safeguarding awareness. Adult Ed now represented on the Radcliffe People & Communities Steering Group.

3 Additional reports

3.1 Attached as an appendix to this report are a summary of Cabinet decisions and urgent decisions taken since the last ordinary council meeting.

List of Background Papers:-

None identified