

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>The Council</b>
<b>Meeting date:</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023</b>
<b>Title of report:</b>	<b>Leaders' Report</b>
<b>Report by:</b>	<b>Leader of the Council</b>
<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Non key decision</b>
<b>Ward(s) to which the report relates:</b>	All Wards.
<b>Summary:</b>	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 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023.
- 1.2 I would like to start by reiterating our solidarity for the people of Ukraine after recently passing the first anniversary of the invasion of the country. Our support for Ukraine and its people is unwavering, and we will back their fight for freedom.
- 1.3 The Ukrainian community in Bury has a long proud tradition and the invasion of their country has touched so many. Our local communities have responded remarkably to support those in need from an initial outpouring of generosity in donations and emergency aid, through to supporting arrivals settle through the Homes for Ukraine scheme and integration into local community groups.
- 1.4 Bury has welcomed 136 guests to date through the Homes for Ukraine Scheme across all townships in the borough. This has included supporting more than 30 young people enrolled into local schools in the borough to help their ongoing education.
- 1.5 Onto the council's finances for 2023/24. We have a tremendous financial challenge facing us meaning we had to find £31 million to balance the budget.
- 1.6 This has been caused primarily by the high rate of inflation, which has led to steep rises in the cost of fuel and supplies. We are also having to cope

with an ever-increasing demand for services, and a labour shortage. And, as usual, we are not getting the additional funding we need to meet these demands.

- 1.7 However, I am still optimistic and ambitious for this borough. We're going forward on two fronts – supporting those who are most in need, and to transforming our town centres to create jobs and prosperity for the future.
- 1.8 Firstly: we're allocating an extra £400,000 to help the borough's most vulnerable through the cost of living crisis. This includes new council tax support grants of £100 to 1,000 households who are financially struggling but not eligible for the current support scheme.
- 1.9 We're also providing £100,000 in grants to community groups to improve their localities, and £51,000 to local councillors to spend in their area.
- 1.10 We're freezing Bury Market rents for an extra year to help traders recover from the effects of Covid lockdowns and with anticipated disruption during the £20 million renovation of the market.
- 1.11 And we're creating a £50,000 pot to support children in care and care leavers, and allocating £20,000 to support our armed forces veterans and cadets.
- 1.12 We've listened to people, which is why we're putting another £10 million into improving our roads, and £125,000 to deal with the backlog in tree maintenance, a topic that frequently fills our in-boxes.

## 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 December 2022 to January 2023.

Dept	Priority	Deliverables
BGI	Developing Bury Market & Flexi Hall	Significant work has been completed during Q3 including the approval of Radcliffe Hub project RIBA Stage 3. RIBA Stage Four is now set to commence. Work continues to complete documentation required for planning application submission (due in January) and submission of the full bid to the Sport England Strategic Investment Programme (deadline end of January). Bury Market & Flexi Hall programme continue to develop stage 3 outputs including planning documentation. Negotiations continue regarding land assembly and the remaining properties required for the development. For Prestwich the Joint Venture Agreement, Option Agreement and Development Management Agreement has been signed off and Prestwich Regeneration LLP has been formed. RIBA stage 1 Preparation and Design work
	Radcliffe Hub Levelling Up programme	
	Radcliffe SRF including: - Housing - North Block - Transport	
	Delivering the Prestwich Plan	

	Delivering the Bury Town Centre Plan	is underway and will continue into Q4. A full communications and engagement framework will also launch in Q4. Work will continue into Q4 regarding the Ramsbottom and Town Centre plans
	Delivering the Ramsbottom Plan	
	Delivery of Brownfield Housing Site Sales Programme	
Children and Young People	Delivery of activity within the OFSTED Improvement Plan	<p>Delivery of the Project Safety Valve programme continued in Q3 with preparation for the submissions to the DfE planned for January. The plan for enhanced resource provision is in place and work will continue into Q4. An outreach offer has been developed which has been highlighted to all schools and the internally seconded headteacher has consulted with schools on the provision and outreach offer required going forward. Support plans for Category 3 &amp; 4 schools are now in place to support improved outcomes.</p> <p>The Virtual School has recently recruited which will support the expansion of the role of the virtual school and successful candidates started on 3rd January 2023. During Q3 a procurement exercise was finalised to purchase a software system which will provide visibility of live attendance data: this implementation is now in Phase 1 (pilot) with 20 schools. Phase 2 will see it linked to LCS database in order to track attendance of children with a social worker. We are hoping to have this connected to this cohort by September 2023, providing live attendance data for all children with a social worker. Q3 saw continued delivery of the Bury East and Radcliffe people's plan. Learning from these will be built into the developing plans for the remaining areas.</p>
	Delivery activity within the Project Safety Valve (PSV) programme	
	Develop locality teams to a Family Hub model through Bury East pilot	
	Develop Special Educational Needs (SEND) integrated transparent pathways through the revised Graduated Approach	
	Increase the proportion of 16-25-year-olds with SEND in employment	<p>Work continued on the development of the Bury East Family Hub with launch expected April 2023. Discussions are ongoing to map the offer in Radcliffe and identify a site for delivery.</p> <p>Delivery of the Children's improvement plan continued during Q3 overseen by the Improvement Programme Board and a supporting governance framework. A</p>

		<p>further Ofsted Monitoring Visit took place 12 &amp; 13 October 2022 which recognised pockets of improvement in service delivery, increased stability in leadership team and continued corporate support.</p> <p>The LGA review took place in November which focussed on corporate parenting this is part of a continuing support package from LGA to develop corporate parenting in Bury. The review findings and associated action plan will be in place for Q4.</p> <p>Essex CC completed a 2-day diagnostic under the SLIP arrangements during Q3, the purpose of the diagnostic was to review how an edge of care offer would support improved outcomes for children and families across Bury. Findings will be used to develop an edge of care offer during Q4.</p> <p>The Head of Service from Manchester also completed a review of child protection within the safeguarding service across Bury and feed back to partners is scheduled for Q4.</p> <p>Improvements are evidenced below with a reduction in the number of CIN plans open at the end of the month as well the highest amount of caseloads allocated and an increase in the proportion of cases held by agency workers. The number of children subject to a child protection plan has decreased this quarter whereas the number of CLA has increased.</p> <p>The multi-agency improvement programme board and associated governance continues to drive and manage the work programme. This was formally launched at the SEND information day on 6th October. The graduated approach has been developed and rolled out with a group of schools now piloting the graduated response and using the resources available. 32 schools are also engaged in SEND peer reviews to gain the Inclusion Mark.</p> <p>Performance continues to stabilise through strengthening data performance and the embedded performance clinics and process of weekly reporting. Work continued through Q3 with the EHCP team to assure improved processes around assessment and EHCP advice. The proportion of EHCP plans issued on time, within the 20 week compliance has fluctuated over the year whilst work has also been focussed on tackling</p>
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		the backlog of plans which will improve performance in the next quarter.
Operations	Achieve carbon neutrality by 2038 and be single use plastic free across the Council by end 2022/23	<p>Although the programme is behind schedule through delays at GM and National level delivery has continued locally through Q3. GMCA are now providing a consultant resource to provide information/data, business cases to help bring solar PV projects to market, Bury Council have provided an initial list of both schools and corporate buildings to GMCA that would benefit from this input. A refresh of the Single Use Plastic Action Plan has been produced and we have joined a GMCA group to progress this consistently across GM and share best practice, work will continue into Q4. The E-hub trial is in full operation with car club cars in place at both Market Car Park Bury and Fairfax Road, Prestwich.</p> <p>GM is still awaiting a formal response to the case for a new investment-led Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan, with no charging Clean Air Zone. Work on this will continue into Q4.</p>
	Introduction of Clean Air Zone for Greater Manchester	
One Care Organisation	Health and Care System Transformation	<p>The programme of transformation continued through Q3 with significant delivery in pathway development within urology, glaucoma, orthopaedics, long COVID and through the elective care recovery board. Bury is also piloting a GM led initiative into direct access chest X-ray (DACXR) with evaluation continuing into Q4. Q3 also saw E-Derma pilot launch with all Bury GP's engage. The adult social care reforms transformation programme has been developed and moving into implementation to support work across the health and care system.</p> <p>To support the urgent care system a system wide Urgent Care turnaround programme was established in Q2 that included a supplementary UEC Improvement Plan. Delivery and monitoring of the programme continued in Q3 and will through to Q4.</p> <p>Our data shows that Referral to treatment waiting times of over 52 weeks has reduced by 26% since the previous quarter. Admissions to hospital from A&amp;E has maintained over this same period. Patients at Fairfield General Hospital with no right to reside continues to fluctuate and stood at 32 patients at the end of quarter 3.</p> <p>Significant risk remains through winter to the health and care system, but strong system leadership is in place to tackle through the existing transformation programmes mentioned above.</p>
	Population Health system	

Corporate Core	Getting the basics right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery continued through Q3 on the suite of programmes built into 'the basics'. Key delivery was the roll-out of Problem Solving training to senior leaders, development and launch of the behaviours and values framework, improvement of internal HR processes around agency and honoraria and development of the core leadership programme. The development of a suite of KPI's to support this work was finalised in Q3 and detailed below.</li> </ul>
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### **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