

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2023

THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL POSITION - 2022/23 OUTTURN

1. Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities, presented the report which set out the final financial position for the Council for 2022/23, both revenue and capital and provided an analysis of the variances, both under and overspending. It was noted that the Treasury Management Strategy appended to the report would be presented to Full Council, in accordance with regulation.
2. Members noted that at quarter 3 the revenue budget overspend was forecast to be £3.958m therefore the financial position has improved by £1.629m during the last quarter of the financial year. The largest individual departmental overspend was on Children and Young People around agency costs for social care and safeguarding, an increase in demand for children's residential placements including Independent Foster Agency costs and increased costs for home-to school transport.
3. Members discussed the challenging context nationally and noted that capital developments were progressing and would be delivered but required reprogramming. Councillor Lucy Smith highlighted the challenges in Children's Services, and advised on a number of initiatives to improve outcomes for young people would secure future savings.
4. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

COMMISSIONING NEW MENTAL HEALTH HOUSING

5. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, presented the report which sought approval to commission the necessary care services for two new mental health supported housing schemes. These had been supported by the Mental Health Housing Group, and would offer 'step-down' supported accommodation to support people in their mental health recovery. Members voiced their support for this and noted its close links to the Housing Strategy.
6. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PROPOSALS TO ALTER THE UPPER AGE RANGE AT MANCHESTER MESIVTA SECONDARY SCHOOL

7. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which sought approval for a prescribed alteration to change the age range of Manchester Mesivta Secondary School.
8. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

TENDER FOR INCLUSION ON BURY COUNCIL'S FLEXIBLE PURCHASING SYSTEM FOR ALTERNATIVE PROVISION (OF EDUCATION)

9. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which sought approval to tender for the re-design of the Alternative Provision Offer for children and young people in Bury. The new supplier framework and directory of provision was required for September 2023 so that the Council and

schools can refer to high quality provision with choice; this required the tender to go live and be evaluated over the summer 23.

10. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME

12. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which provided an update on three capital projects: Spurr House, Millwood Special School, and Specialist Resourced Provision Units.

13. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PROJECT SAFETY VALVE UPDATE AND DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT DEFICIT RECOVERY

14. Councillor Lucy Smith, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, presented the report which provided an update on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit position and the next steps required to reduce the deficit through General Fund contributions. In response to questions, Members confirmed their confidence in the delivery, despite financial pressures, and discussed the issues from the national system and need for reforms to ease pressure in SEND services.

15. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BURY CORPORATE PLAN 2023/24

16. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which provided details of the Council's corporate priorities for 2023/24, aligned to the planning framework set out in the "3Rs" commitment of Response, Recovery and Renewal. It detailed some of the key deliverables by quarter and the key performance indicators that are monitored throughout the year. Members noted this had been considered at Overview and Scrutiny Committee and, in response to questions, it was noted that financial monitoring would be included in quarterly monitoring reports and that savings were a collective responsibility for Cabinet Members and for Executive Officers.

17. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

RESTRUCTURE OF THE HR DEPARTMENT - APPROVAL OF REDUNDANCY COST

18. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report regarding the proposed redundancy of the post of Strategic Lead (Human Resources) as part of the restructure of the wider HR Service.

19. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

HEALTH AND SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT & POLICY

20. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which set out key health and safety activity over the 2022/23 financial year alongside a summary of reported health and safety incidents, and proposed a set of Health and Safety Priorities for the 2023/24 financial year. He also advised that, as part of the annual reporting process, the Council's Health and Safety Policy had also been reviewed in-line with HSE Best Practice and was recommended for approval.

Both the Annual Report and the Policy had been considered by the Health and Safety Joint Consultative Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

21. In response to Members' questions, Councillor Rafiq confirmed his confidence that learning from incidents was being disseminated effectively, and that an external review of Health and Safety practices had been carried out, the results of which would serve to strengthen this learning. Members thanked officers for the reports and agreed that a health and safety culture was being developed to ensure officers remained empowered to report incidents and near misses.
22. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

RENEWAL OF THE COUNCILS CORPORATE WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT

23. Councillor Tahir Rafiq, Cabinet Member for Corporate Affairs and HR, presented the report which sought approval to use the YPO water supply framework for the period 1 October 2023 to 24 October 2024, and further to enter into YPO's new water supply contract for the period 2024 to 2028, once a new framework has been established.
24. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE (EVCI) TO SUPPORT RESIDENTS WITHOUT ACCESS TO OFF-STREET PARKING

25. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations, presented the report which sought approval for a procurement exercise to appoint a supplier to install, operate, and maintain a network of EVCI aimed at supporting residents who do not have access to off-street parking.
26. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

PRESTWICH VILLAGE REGENERATION - PROGRESS UPDATE AND DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

27. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report which set out the general principles and direction of travel set out in the Draft Phase 1 Development Plan, Interim Partnership Business Plan, and the RIBA Stage 2 Masterplan and supports further development of these proposals. These documents were not final and will evolve alongside design and business case development activity and further engagement work. In response to questions, Members noted that this was a complicated project and would require decant and alternative provision of businesses, but confirmed their confidence in the timescale noting that the final stage of design development (RIBA Stage 4) was anticipated for October 2024.
28. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

MILL GATE SHOPPING CENTRE & ESTATE: JOINT VENTURE UPDATE AND DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

20. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report regarding engagement with local stakeholders to communicate

the emerging development vision prior to further design development activity. This will be based on a Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF) approach which provides a greater level of structure and flexibility to govern the development process for Mill Gate as a whole when compared with a phased ('plot by plot') approach.

21. Members discussed the long timeframe for the project, noting this would enable extended consultation to ensure residents and businesses were committed to the development. The Mill Gate was a successful development and the Council were looking to make improvements to ensure that success would continue in the future, rather than there being problems to fix.
22. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

RADCLIFFE HUB PROJECT - MAIN WORKS CONTRACT

23. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report regarding the works packages that, in accordance with the Radcliffe Hub project programme, now need to be instructed via the Main Works Contract.
24. Cabinet agreed to recommend approval to Council.

THE BEE NETWORK - IMPROVING GREATER MANCHESTER'S TRANSPORT GOVERNANCE

25. Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth, presented the report which sought approval of new GMCA governance arrangements to enable a more coordinated and integrated approach to transport governance. It was noted that this approach would amplify Bury's views and ensure that Councils had more direct control over the development and improvement of transport in Greater Manchester.
26. Cabinet agreed to recommend approval to Council.