

## **Public Questions – Budget Council**

1. Could Cllr Quinn please confirm that monies received from the government under the Sustainable Transport Funding initiative can only be used for agreed sustainable transport solutions and not general road maintenance?

John Southworth

**The City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement is the monies received from central Government to help improve public transport and highway infrastructure. Monies are allocated from this fund to specific projects.**

**Greater Manchester has secured over £1 billion in the first Transport Settlement to invest in transport infrastructure, covering a five-year period from 2022 to March 2027.**

**Bury has been successful in accessing these GM funds with :**

- **£47m for the new Bury Interchange (with more to follow in the second round);**
- **Over £15 million allocated to active travel schemes in Bury, Radcliffe and Ramsbottom town centres; and**
- **Additional monies to advance our transport strategy proposals, including making improvements to existing tram stops and for a new tram stop between Radcliffe and Bury**

**In terms of the Highway, the Transport Settlement has secured £17.7 million for road maintenance in the borough.**

**As a Council, we have also been investing heavily in repairing and maintaining the highway network. We have borrowed £35m, spending £20 million in the six years to March 2023 through our Highway Investment Strategy, resurfacing over 40 km of carriageway, carrying out preventative maintenance and repairing thousands of potholes. We are investing another £10 million over the next two years as well as £5m on replacing old streetlights with new LED ones.**

2. Has the company that provides the insurance cover for Bury Market Hall honoured the claim in relation to the issue of distressed RAAC concrete being found in the roof?

**Supplementary question (if applicable)::** If the answer to this is NO - can you give the reasons for this and a time scale of when this might happen?

Karen Simpson

**The Council has approached its insurers to ask whether the issue of RAACs is covered.**

**The response from our insurers is that buildings insurance policies are generally designed to cover damage from named perils and risks such as storms floods, subsidence, fire or damage from theft. They are not intended to cover defects that may arise from the choice of building materials and therefore the remediation costs arising directly from the presence of RAAC WILL NOT be covered from our property insurance with them.**

**As a duty of disclosure, we were advised to put our insurers on notice of a potential claim, and we have done this. The circumstances as reported have been referred to their specialist RAAC team. Each individual claim will be looked at separately by the claims team as and when a claim is submitted. To date we have not submitted any supporting evidence for a claim because they have told us that RAAC is not covered. Insurers have advised that further updates will follow as and when they become available.**

3. Has the council got enough money to repair all the problems with bury market hall as the cost of the repairs I feel will be significant and get the market traders back inside the market hall

And if no what happens to the market hall traders. Is there a plan b

Jennifer Eagle-Cooper

Not in attendance

**The Council have commissioned building condition reports into the Indoor Market Hall, we are waiting for wider tests to be concluded and then the full costs and options around replacement can be properly considered.**

**Once received and examined we can begin to share this fully informed view, including the cost implications.**

**This will be done at the earliest opportunity with full consideration of the facts and professionally validated costs.**

**Whilst some capital receipts are being considered for allocation to conduct the works required until the full cost options are configured it cannot yet be confirmed that the full amount for repairs has been allocated through an agreed process.**

**Bury Market is a key driver of footfall into Bury Town centre and is an integral part of the wider Town Centre master plan, so we are fully committed to ensure the future of the wider market is protected. We do understand the concerns of affected traders who wish to resume their stalls in the inside market.**