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1	<b>Conservative</b> Cllr L Smith	Have this years A level and GCSE results in Bury been at the levels anticipated?	Cllr McBriar
		<p>Thank you for your question.</p> <p>The available data for this years' exam results are as follows. These are indicative results based on unvalidated data and are subject to change :</p> <p><b><u>GCSE Results</u></b>  42% of Bury children received a good pass (5-9) in English and Maths. This is 2% above Bury's performance last year. We are yet to see Greater Manchester and National data so cannot yet ascertain whether this is a trend in other areas.  63% of Bury children received a standard pass (4-9) in English and Maths. This is 1% below Bury's performance last year but are yet to understand whether this is a local or national trend.  Similarly, Bury's attainment 8 is 44.3 which is 0.4 below Bury's performance last year. National statistics are not yet available.</p> <p>Strong outcomes remain a relentless focus of the education department. As the majority of our high schools are part of Multi Academy Trusts, we will continue to support and challenge MATs through our senior leader meetings and the offer of brokered support. Local Authority maintained schools will continue to be provided with a bespoke package of support based on areas identified in this data should it vary from national norms or from predicted outcomes. The Quality Assurance team is now in the process of analysing school level data with school senior leaders to design this support.</p> <p><b><u>A Level</u></b>  The A level results from our colleges have yet to be verified and therefore greater detail cannot yet be shared. However, our colleges have reported positive A level results and level 3 equivalents and are confident this will compare favourably with national averages.</p>	
2	<b>Labour</b> Cllr L Smith	How did Bury children perform in summer exams and what does this show us about Bury schools?	Cllr A Arif
		<p><b>Supplementary:</b> Would the Cabinet Member join me in welcoming the opening of the new High School in Radcliffe and thank all those involved in getting this cornerstone of our regeneration plans delivered?</p> <p>Thank you for your question, I refer you to the response provided to the first question with regards to GCSE and A level result.  In addition, the following are the main headlines for each key stage and a comparison against our outcomes last year and national outcomes where available.</p> <p><b><u>Year 1 phonics</u></b>  79% of children passed the check. This is 1% below Bury's performance last year and 1% but we are yet to see whether this is a local or national trend. Schools with lower than national performance or with a declining</p>	

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		<p>trend will be offered additional support and training from our Quality Effectiveness Partners and other high quality settings</p> <p><b>Key Stage 2 SATs (Year 6)</b> 63% of children attained the expected standard in Reading/Writing/Maths. This is 4% above Bury's performance last year and is 2% above the provisional 2024 national average.</p> <p><b>Supplementary:</b> We are delighted to welcome the first 151 students into Star Academy Radcliffe. This is a crucial part of the ongoing regeneration of Radcliffe and from recent visits it is clear that the school will not only deliver a first class education but will also promote healthy living and lifestyle choices. The school is also committed to the local community and want to be part of all aspects of Radcliffe life. Thank you to all those involved in the delivery of the current temporary classrooms and the future new building.</p>	
3	<p><b>Labour</b></p> <p>Cllr L Smith</p>	<p>Given that school attendance is a national problem what are Bury Council doing to support schools in their attendance figures?</p>	<p>Cllr M Rahimov</p>
		<p>Bury Council have a graduated approach to improving school attendance. The DfE Working Together to Improve Attendance has become statutory from 19th August 2024 and I am pleased to share that Bury is strides ahead in ensuring that targeted support meetings are embedded well in all schools.</p> <p>To help strengthen school attendance, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rolled out new guidance and escalation pathways</li> <li>- Provided support strategies to schools throughout the academic year, including termly school attendance forums, training, data sharing and school attendance clinics.</li> <li>- Delivered 2 online attendance campaigns to children and their families.</li> <li>- Rolled out a clear legal framework in readiness for the new academic year.</li> <li>- Delivered a transition project to support children moving from primary school into high school, including school support and multi-agency drop in sessions for parents.</li> <li>- Increased the frequency of home visits undertaken by the school attendance officers throughout the school year.</li> <li>- Increased the focus on children missing in education and children who are electively home educated.</li> </ul> <p>We are also engaging positively with the Greater Manchester Local Authority Attendance Alliance (GMLAAA) to share good practice and evolve our practice. We are confident that these measures are having a positive impact across our school system, as we have increased our school attendance figures again this year and are now above national benchmarks.</p>	
4	<p><b>Conservative</b></p> <p>Cllr A Quinn</p>	<p>How successful are the Council in recovering costs incurred due to fly-tipping?</p>	<p>Cllr Vernon</p>

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		<p><b>The Council has a range of enforcement powers to deal with fly tipping which includes issuing Fixed Penalty Notices and/or Prosecution. Any enforcement action taken must be in line with the Councils Enforcement Policy.</b></p> <p><b>If the Council decides on prosecution of an offender for fly tipping. An application for costs can be made to the Court if the offender is found guilty. This includes Investigating Officer time, preparation of case files, legal fees and waste removal costs if available or applicable. However, the award of costs in such prosecutions is at the discretion of the Court/Magistrate. The court's decision to determine the amount awarded to the Council including any penalty fine(s) and court costs are “means tested”.</b></p> <p><b>Unfortunately, it is outside the Councils control the amount Courts determines to award, and the full amount is routinely not fully awarded and therefore recovered.</b></p> <p><b>In 2022/23 the Council took 9 successful prosecutions to Court and in 2023/24 6 successful prosecutions were undertaken. Unfortunately, full cost recovery was not awarded by the Courts with offenders being issued with fines ranging from £80 to £1173 and cost wards ranging from £100 to £500 respectively which did not cover all costs incurred by the Council. Where fixed penalty notices are issued and a legal intervention, if paid, there are no provisions in law to recover the costs of the Council from the offender such as officer time or removal of waste costs. Where an Fixed Penalty Notice has been issued and paid The Council proactively request perpetrator(s) to remove waste wherever possible. Such co-operation or putting right the wrong is seen as a mitigating feature during criminal proceedings.</b></p> <p><b>The Council is committed to investigating and holding fly tippers to account and acknowledges the negative impact fly tipping has in our communities.</b></p>	
5	<p><b>Radcliffe first</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Morris</b></p>	<p>Due to the restricted access during the Hub build in Radcliffe, the market day traders have suffered a huge drop in footfall. This drop is likely to lead to the imminent failure of two or three of the day traders currently operating. I believe the Market benefits from Royal Charter status which is dependent on a certain number of traditional market traders being operational. What assistance can we give these traders and what will the council do to protect the Royal Charter status of the Market?</p>	<p><b>Cllr M Smith</b></p>
		<p><b>Bury Council are working with the contractors for Radcliffe Hub, (Vinci) to ensure the contractors are taking every opportunity to promote the market whilst they are in Radcliffe. Traders are encouraged to drop off promotion leaflets with Vinci and they will ensure they are laid out in the site accommodation.</b></p> <p><b>They also mention what the market has to offer during the sub-contractor induction sessions and encourage all site operatives to make use of the</b></p>	

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		<p>facility.</p> <p>The hoarding around the Hub site displays directional signage to the market and also opening times. These site hoarding panels have been specifically designed in conjunction with the Market operator to direct people to the market.</p> <p>Vinci are directly supporting many of the food and drink businesses within the market and have provided microwaves in the accommodation so site staff can purchase cold pies from the market to warm up. The site management also purchase breakfasts from the market for their various meetings etc.</p> <p>The Market Charter is held at Bury Market. It is a historic legal means of holding markets and fairs for their own benefit within a specified area, in this case within 6 miles of Bury Market. The Local Authority can grant permission for market's using the market charter within this area, however permission to hold contemporary markets is usually granted through the Food Act 1984. It will not impact the licencing of Radcliffe Market in any way.</p>	
6	<p><b>Labour</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Walmsley</b></p>	<p>Large parts of Prestwich already suffer disruption for 2 or 3 days in June with Parklife at adjoining Heaton Park. We are now having at least 5 Oasis concerts in July. How are Manchester City Council and organisers going to minimise the impact of possibly 100,000s of Oasis fans on the businesses and residents of Prestwich?</p> <p><b>Supplementary:</b> Can the Leader inform council of any latest developments in talks with MCC?</p>	<p><b>Cllr E Moss</b></p>
		<p><b>Bury Council officers and Ward Councillors in Prestwich have held initial meetings with Heaton Park management to discuss managing any mitigations for these concerts which will continue on a monthly basis leading up to the events. This builds on, and will include feedback from, event planning from previous Parklife festivals and other events held at the Park. Manchester City Council have shared event planning arrangements for the venue with the event organisers, including that of the Community Impact and Engagement company that supports Parklife and therefore is familiar with the local business and residential community.</b></p> <p><b>A meeting will take place later this month with Operations and Community Safety colleagues to discuss minimising impact in terms of resident access, public transport, environmental health and how Manchester, Bury and Rochdale Council's will work in a co-ordinated manner with broader partners.</b></p> <p><b>There will be formal Safety Advisory Group meetings and specific sub-groups for Traffic and Community Impact held by Manchester City Council that officers from Bury Council will be actively involved with including highways, waste management, licensing, trading standards and community safety. It will also be tracked by Bury's Event Safety Advisory</b></p>	

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		<p><b>Group which is a multi-agency partnership including blue light services such as GMP, GM Fire &amp; Rescue and North West Ambulance Service. Place based Council colleagues in Prestwich will work with their colleagues across public services and community connections, both within the Borough and across the border into North Manchester to minimise impact on delivery of services such as district nurse/ social care provision.</b></p> <p><b>Supplementary</b> Representation has been made of the importance of a resident parking scheme (including adaptations to this based on learning from events in 2024); consideration of recompense for businesses whose trade might be impacted by the concerts and a community impact fund for local community groups to provide some social value to events being held in the park and as a means of compensating the local community for the impact of the events.</p> <p>Further meetings are scheduled for later this month, including regular meetings with Ward Councillors, and discussions are taking place with enforcement colleagues on the opportunities to share resourcing burdens with Manchester colleagues given the impact such events have on Bury Council resources</p>	
7	<b>Labour</b>  Cllr Walmsley	With the very welcome extension of the Household Support Fund now confirmed, what will the Council be doing to work with local partners to get this much-needed money to those who need it?"	Cllr Ryder
		<p><b>On 2<sup>nd</sup> September, Government announced a six month extension of the Household Support Fund, whilst national Spending Reviews take place, which will provide a vital source of support to financially vulnerable households in the Borough. Whilst this is a positive move, it reflects the ongoing pressures faced by some households, which had been recognised by the Council and formed an integral part of early discussions and representations to the new Government as a key priority to address, to deliver on local outcomes and national missions.</b></p> <p><b>Exact confirmation of the funding amount and any specific requirements or priorities within the fund are being sought, in order to shape local proposals for maximising the impact of this fund, including through the multi-agency Bury Anti Poverty Steering Group. This recognises that Household Support Fund has only ever been part of the approach to addressing Cost of Living and longer term economic resilience of local communities, and included approaches such as the Ingeus Neighbourhub, pension credit promotion, Radcliffe Goals project and Working Well Work &amp; Health Programme.</b></p>	
8	<b>Conservative</b>  Cllr A Quinn	As we prepare for autumn/winter will the Council commit to a review of grit bins?	Cllr Lancaster
		<p><b>Our highways team are reviewing all 324 grit bins located on our highway.</b></p> <p><b>This review will be completed in time for the 25/26 winter season.</b></p>	

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		<b>We will ensure that grit bins are replenished ahead of this winter.</b>	
9	<b>Radcliffe first</b> <b>Cllr A Quinn</b>	Can the Cabinet Member advise what the Council can do to reestablish water flow to the culvert under Water Street in Radcliffe?	<b>Cllr Birchmore</b>
		<b>The culvert is not blocked, but is heavily silted. The silt is present along the whole section of the canal, so any silt removal in the culvert will simply be replaced by migrating silt from elsewhere. We are liaising with the Canal and River Trust about the possibility of general silt removal from the canal, but costs of us undertaking this in isolation will be prohibitive.</b>	
10	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr O'Brien</b>	The new Labour Government has made house building a top priority, in order to deliver the growth we need for the economy and address the housing crisis. What plans does the Council have to build the homes we need in Bury?	<b>Cllr Ibrahim</b>
		<p><b>The Council has already made significant progress in bringing forward brownfield sites for development to deliver the new homes our Borough needs. We are working with development partners to deliver growth and regeneration in our town centres at Prestwich, Radcliffe and Bury, and with registered providers to deliver affordable housing on brownfield sites such as Wheatfield in Whitefield and William Kemp Heaton in Bury. Through working with private developers and registered providers, the Council is actively bringing forward around 1,200 new homes on brownfield land, helping to provide a wide range of house types and tenures, including specialist accommodation for older people and those with additional support needs.</b></p> <p><b>Through Places for Everyone we have allocated strategic sites at Elton, Walshaw and Simister to deliver over 6,000 new homes, which will be supported by the necessary infrastructure to build sustainable and thriving communities. Work is on-going to develop masterplans for these sites to set out how the policy requirements in the plan will be translated into development layouts and designs within the sites – identifying key highway and public transport proposals, new schools and health facilities, as well as retained recreation and leisure parcels within the sites.</b></p> <p><b>Importantly, the sites will provide a range of different house types and sizes, including much needed affordable homes for our residents. These masterplans will be consulted on in the coming months and they will help shape future planning applications and the delivery of these sites.</b></p>	
11	<b>Labour</b> <b>Cllr A Quinn</b>	What work is being done to survey the number and location of non-household bins across the borough?	<b>Cllr D Green</b>
		<p><b>Supplementary: What processes are in place to move existing bins to help address overflowing bins and litter in hotspots such as parks?</b></p> <p><b>The Street Cleansing Team, monitor the bin collections and report to the street cleansing manager when either bins are not being used or are overflowing. We would then look to relocate the bins to a more suitable location or provide an additional collection.</b></p>	

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		<p><b>Supplementary</b>  When a request is made to move a litter bin, the Street Cleansing Manager will assess the request based on factors such as the usage of the bin and the ease of collection. If the Street Cleansing Manager approves the relocation, they will submit a request to the Grounds Maintenance team, who will then arrange for the bin to be moved to the new location.</p>	
12	<p><b>Conservative</b>   Cllr A Quinn</p>	<p>Throughout the Seddons Farm Estate there are several walkways which are hazardous due to loose paving stones. As a consequence of this, a number of residents have fallen and sustained injuries. Will the Cabinet Member commit to looking into this with a view to carrying out the necessary remediation?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Jackie Harris</b></p>
		<p><b>Our Highways team carry out routine safety inspections of the 660km of carriageway and 1200km of footway in the borough.</b></p> <p><b>Hazardous defects identified during these inspections are repaired in accordance with our policy.</b></p> <p><b>Residents can report highway defects to us via our webmap reporting system on the Bury Council website.</b></p>	
13	<p><b>Radcliffe First</b>   Cllr Tariq</p>	<p>Can you please tell us if the attendance at Bury leisure centres is now the same, above or below, attendances pre covid. Given the current booking systems, are there any indications or concerns that certain groups are not using the facilities.</p>	<p><b>Cllr Berry</b></p>
		<p><b>The total attendances pre COVID up until March 2020 were 654,167. Since then, attendances have been steadily increasing however, in 23/24 there was a decrease in attendances overall due to the closure of Radcliffe.</b></p> <p><b>Regarding Memberships pre COVID during 19/20 Bury leisure had 3601 members, 20/21 this was 2155 which was affected by the pandemic, 21/22 increased to 3174, and in 22/23 to 3713 and 23/24 3906 an increase of 8.5%. Currently in September Bury Leisure has 4225 which is a 17% increase since COVID.</b></p> <p><b>Bury Leisure are also delivering outreach community sessions in Radcliffe and since going live in January 2024 there have been over 5000 attendances.</b></p> <p><b>Overall, 90% of customers are booking online and 10% in centre. There is concierge support to enable all customers to book online, in centre at the in-centre PODS and Kiosks. We are not aware of any ongoing issues. Around 85% of those attending our Wellbeing Classes book online and or there is also support in centre to book these classes.</b></p> <p><b>As part of the Digital First Transformation Programme, a new Leisure APP with a QR access code is being launched in September to further support customers with booking and accessing facilities.</b></p>	

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14	<b>Labour</b> Cllr Thorpe	What percentage of Council spending is now being spent on adults and children social care costs, and how much has this gone up over recent years?	Cllr Farooq
		<b>HAC and CYP represented 62.7% of the 23/24 approved budget and £63.7% of the 24/25 budget. However both years' budgets were set with a structural funding gap being met from one-off reserves totalling £4.802m in 23/24 and £13.149m in 24/25. When the non-recurrent reserves are excluded HAC and CYP represented 64.4% and 67.7% of the ongoing funding available to the council in those financial years, an increase of 3.3% from 2023/24 to 2024/25 reflecting the inflationary and demand led pressures in those service areas that are national issues and not specific to Bury.</b>	
15	<b>Labour</b> Cllr Morris	The summer has been packed full of amazing cultural events right across the borough. Would the Cabinet Member join me in thanking all those who organised and took part in these events and outline what support the Council gives for these events?	Cllr Pilkington
		<b>The Team in Operations have organised the events with cultural partners and the BID. Bury Council received £500k of UKSPF funding over 23/24 and 24/25. This funded a new Events Manager post. The rest of the funding was spent on a large Community Arts Grant Fund for grassroots artists and lots of large-scale events. This included The Women's Tour of Britain, Pride, The Bury Food and Drink Festival, the Bury Art Festival, Heritage Open Days, animation of the Running Festival, Armed Forces support, cultural events in care homes, holiday events in Libraries and the Knife Angel amongst others.</b>  <b>There's more to come including Winter events at Bury Art Museum, The Ramsbottom Come Together Festival and the LS Lowry Going to the Match exhibition and events at Bury Art Museum, working with local football teams.</b>  <b>Staff at Bury Market, Bury Libraries, Parks and Bury Art Museum have contributed support for other events including Comicon and the Mela.</b>	
16	<b>Conservative</b> Cllr O'Brien	Can the Leader of the Council confirm due to the Labour Governments proposed planning reforms and the potential increase in housing targets will this result in more of the Greenbelt in Bury being at risk of desecration?	Cllr Jack Rydeheard
		<b>I cannot confirm any speculation regarding the potential outcomes of a draft change currently going through a consultation. Clearly, higher housing targets may be one outcome but with the adoption of PFE agreed we have a plan that will deliver significantly more homes than we have been building historically and help the Government meet the policy ambition it was elected on to build more homes.</b>  <b>It is also worth noting that the proposed reforms to the NPPF make it clear that effective strategic planning across boundaries will continue to play a vital role in delivering sustainable growth. If there are increased targets, then we will explore with other districts how these can be accommodated and distributed in the most sustainable locations within the conurbation.</b>	



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		<b>Ultimately though, we must await the outcome of the consultation and any eventual changes within the NPPF before being able to outline our response to this.</b>	
17	<b>Radcliffe First</b> <b>Cllr Tariq</b>	GP surgeries appear to be heavily used and when trying to get an appointment, it can be a struggle getting through on the phone. It appears that some surgeries only have a short window when people can phone in and have been going to A&E instead. Has this issue been observed in Bury.	<b>Cllr Berry</b>
		<p><b>Thank you for your question, yes, our GPs are really really busy and their phone lines will be very much in demand. However, worries about only short windows when people can phone for an appointment are not the case here in Bury</b></p> <p><b>Our practices phone lines are open from 8am to 6:30pm and will continue to be answered during this time.</b></p> <p><b>If no appointments are available immediately, they are offered for future dates and our local contract also mandates that if a child under 12 years has an urgent clinical need then same day access with a prescribing clinician is guaranteed.</b></p> <p><b>If we look at our most recent data which is from July 2024 we can see that 45% of appointments are provided the same day and 72 % of people get a appointment within less than a week</b></p> <p><b>We can also see that the number of appointments provided each month is now 94,000 per month compared to 64,000 a month only 2 years ago</b>  <b>If we look at how often Bury residents go to our local A &amp; E at Fairfield then we can see in the most recent data available from June shows that last year 4143 people from Bury went to Fairfield but only 3900 in June this year and earlier in the year this was as low as 3600</b></p> <p><b>So I understand your concerns but this doesn't suggests that people are using A and E instead of their GP</b></p> <p><b>I hope this answers your question and if anyone does ring their GP and gets an engaged tone I encourage them to try again, as 94,000 appointments a month, 43,0000 offered on the same day is really great performance by such a busy part of our health care service and I'm sure you'll join me in saying thank you to all the GPs here in Bury for providing so many extra appointments.</b></p>	
18	<b>Conservative</b> <b>Cllr A Quinn</b>	Can the Cabinet Member advise if there is a strategy for traffic calming measure across the Borough?	<b>Cllr S Arif</b>
		<p><b>Our traffic calming strategy is in accordance with the GMCA's Vision Zero strategy.</b></p> <p><b>The vision of this strategy and action plan is to eliminate road death and life-changing injury by 2040, with a target to achieve a 50 per cent</b></p>	

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		reduction by 2030. The intention is to increase safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all.	