

Public Questions

	Questioner/ Respondent	Question
1	Michaela Altman	<p>I would like to raise an issue that is close to my heart and see if you would be willing to ask a question on my behalf at Bury Council's next meeting on 21st May. The issue is the primate trade that flows through Manchester Airport, of which you are a shareholder. Thousands of endangered Long-Tailed Macaque monkeys are imported for toxicity testing via Manchester Airport each year. A trade rife with suffering as reported in the Independent and Mirror late last year: https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/monkeys-travelling-uk-labs-medical-34226401 https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/monkeys-import-lab-animal-tests-blood-b2652835.html</p> <p>And a "cargo" that staff at the airport find distressing and upsetting to unload as reported in the Manchester Mill in 2023: https://manchestermill.co.uk/p/the-secret-flights-manchester-animal-testing</p> <p>I firmly believe, and hope you do too, that this kind of trade should have no place at our regional airport and should not be profiting off monkeys' misery. In October 2023, fellow shareholding council Stockport declared the primate trade as "deplorable" and wants to work with other shareholding councils to get the monkey flights stopped from landing at Manchester Airport. The question I put to Bury Council is: Will Bury Council commit to working with Stockport Council and any other shareholding Council to find a way to stop the endangered Long-Tailed Macaque shipments landing at Manchester Airport?</p>
	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien	
2	Andrew Luxton	<p>Can the council work with residents of Tottington to improve the road safety of Chapel Street in Tottington after another injury road traffic accident. The last accident left people injured and a car in flames, weeks before a lady without a car and post office vehicle badly damaged.</p>

		<p>Can the worn-out road markings be re-done with long lasting markings?</p> <p>Can we work to enhance or improve the existing provision to raise safety awareness?</p> <p>Can we work towards an Interactive Safety Sign that has seen success on Turton Road?</p> <p>If the council can work with Tfgm, ITB and CRSTS and other departments to enhanced road safety in this area?</p> <p>Please add any background information that may assist with your question: Stolen Car incident that left a car in flames on the pavement, hit another car written off and on opposite pavement. Car spun out and left on pavement demolished whitehead park wall. Car hit by post office vehicle leaving royds st, all airbags deployed in both. Van hit lamppost on pavement outside St Anne's Church</p> <p>Supplementary question (if applicable): will attend meeting</p>
	Councillor Alan Quinn	<p><i>Funding for new safety schemes in Bury is currently provided by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) through the Integrated Transport Block (ITB), part of the City Regional Transport Settlement (CRSTS) from central government.</i></p> <p><i>This funding must be used at known injury collision hotspots, near schools, or for new pedestrian facilities. For 2025/26, all ITB funding has already been allocated to approved schemes, which are now progressing.</i></p> <p><i>A review of the most recent three-year injury collision data (01/10/2021 – 31/10/2024) for Chapel Street shows no recorded injury collisions.</i></p> <p><i>As a result, it would be difficult to justify the use of TfGM's ITB funding for safety improvements in this area.</i></p> <p><i>Although Chapel Street has no recorded injury collisions during this 3 year period, it remains on our list of sites for potential safety improvements.</i></p> <p><i>It will be considered for an interactive safety sign in the 2026/27 ITB funding round. Additionally, future funding streams may become available that focus on perceived</i></p>

		<i>road safety concerns rather than solely on injury collision data.</i>
3	Andy Hay	Can the leader of the council, please update me on the progression of Prestwich regeneration?
	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien	<p>The delivery of the Prestwich Village regeneration project is on track with the first major milestone on site - the construction of a £14 million multi-storey travel hub.</p> <p>Construction is in its 19th week and is on track to be practically complete July 2026. This phase is a key enabler for unlocking the delivery of future phases of the scheme by laying the groundwork for wider transformation across the village centre.</p> <p>The new multi-million-pound travel hub is being funded by the government's City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) to support the delivery and continuous improvement of the Bee Network, Greater Manchester's ambition for a joined-up travel network.</p> <p>Site preparation, ground clearance and piling works are all already complete, as are the Vinci site offices and welfare compound. Drainage works are ongoing and works to create the foundations for the new building are ahead of schedule, with the first and second concrete pour now finished. In the coming weeks, during August, installation of the steel building frame will begin.</p> <p>The four-storey travel hub has been carefully designed to maximise efficiency while minimising the environmental impact of construction materials. The design allows contractor Vinci to source materials from UK-based suppliers, further reducing the project's carbon footprint. In addition, the construction methodology has been thoughtfully developed to limit disruption to neighbours and residents by ensuring work is carried out as quietly and swiftly as possible. Once the structure is in place, cladding and masonry will be installed, followed by internal fit-out works. The travel hub is expected to be fully completed by the end of July</p>

		<p>2026</p> <p>This modern-day multi-storey Prestwich Travel Hub will provide a quality, long-term parking solution for the village with 301 spaces, electric vehicle charging points, cycle storage, and car club vehicles. It's the first phase of the once-in-a-generation plans to reboot the village centre and create a thriving destination for shopping, dining and community events.</p>
4	Ian Strachan	Do the Council have any information on the number businesses in Bury that are yet to repay Covid bounce back loans?
	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien	The Covid Bounce Back Loan Scheme was administered via central government and so this is not information the local authority would be party to. Any information on non-payment would need to be directed to the Insolvency Service.
5	Carol Bernstein	Could the Cabinet member confirm which roads will be re-surfaced in Bury West over the remainder of this financial year?
	Councillor Alan Quinn	<p>No additional roads in Bury West are scheduled for resurfacing before the end of the current financial year.</p> <p>However, council officers are currently developing proposals for further resurfacing projects, supported by the recently announced additional highway maintenance funding from the Department for Transport. Bury is set to receive an extra £1.8 million, and while plans are not yet finalised, it is likely that a portion of this funding will be allocated to resurfacing work in Bury West.</p>