

Minutes of: COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 16 July 2025

Present: The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor N Bayley, in the Chair)
Councillors A Arif, S Arif, R Bernstein, D Berry, C Birchmore,
C Boles, A Booth, C Cummins, D Duncalfe, U Farooq,
E FitzGerald, I Gartside, R Gold, D Green, J Grimshaw,
S Haroon, J Harris, M Hayes, J Hook, K Hussain, B Ibrahim,
J Lancaster, G Marsden, L McBriar, G McGill, C Morris, E Moss,
E O'Brien, T Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, T Rafiq, M Rahimov,
I Rizvi, M Rubinstein, J Rydeheard, L Ryder, K Simpson,
L Smith, M Smith, J Southworth, G Staples-Jones, T Tariq,
S Thorpe, D Vernon, S Walmsley, M Walsh and Y Wright

Lynne Ridsdale, Chief Executive Bury Council, Jacqui Dennis,
Monitoring Officer, Neil Kissock, Section 151 Officer, Kate
Waterhouse, Executive Director of Strategy and Transformation,
Jeanette Richards, Executive Director of Children and Young
People, Rachel Everitt, Elections and Land Charges Manager,
Chloe Ashworth, Democratic Services.

**Apologies for
Absence** R Brown and N Frith

Public Attendance: 27 members of the public attended the meeting.

C. 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the meeting.

C. 2 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor as Bury's first citizen updated Members of the Council on work undertaken since the last meeting.

C. 3 MINUTES

The minutes of the two meetings held on 21st May 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

C. 4 YOUTH CABINET NOTICE OF MOTION

Council considered a notice of motion received from Youth Cabinet.

The Motion was moved by Youth Cabinet Mayor, Violet Eadington and seconded by Laraib Malik, Deputy Youth Mayor and on being put to a vote all Members voted in favour, Council agreed to:

- (a) Encourage schools to participate in the provided training and forums.
- (b) Promote the benefits of School Councils to encourage widespread adoption.

(c) Support full Youth Cabinet meetings and student representation initiatives.

C. 5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notice had been received of the following questions:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Michaela Altman	Primate trade through Manchester Airport	Councillor O'Brien
Andrew Luxton	Road Safety of Chapel Street in Tottington	Councillor A Quinn
Andy Hay	Prestwich	Councillor O'Brien
Ian Strachan	COVID Bounce Back Loans	Councillor O'Brien
Carol Bernstein	Roads in Bury West	Councillor A Quinn

In relation to Question 2 submitted by Andrew Luxton, the Mayor permitted Councillor McBriar to ask his supplementary question at that time, as it aligned with a pre-submitted Member question.

Questions without notice:

Questioner	Topic	Responding
Judith Sheppard	Roads in Radcliffe	Councillor A Quinn

C. 6 RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES

(I) Housing Advisory Board Updated Terms of Reference

It was moved by Councillor Cummins and seconded by Councillor FitzGerald and on being put, with all Members voting for and the Mayor abstaining; that, Council, approves:

Council to approve updated Terms of Reference

(II) Amendment of transitional arrangements for existing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles in respect of emissions standards and a review of Council Age Policy.

It was moved by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Rafiq and on being put, with all Members voting for and the Mayor abstaining; that, Council, approves:

For existing vehicle licence proprietors with a non-complaint vehicle:

1. A vehicle proprietor of a hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licence that is due for renewal after the 1 January 2026 which is non-compliant with emission standards (EURO 4 Petrol vehicles and EURO 6 diesel vehicles) is permitted to make an application to renew the vehicle licence and provided the vehicle passes its compliance test it will be issued with a 12-month vehicle licence. The vehicle licence would be granted subject to a condition that the non-compliant vehicle is removed from the fleet and replaced with a Euro 4 or 6 compliant vehicle by the 31 December 2026.
2. Allow existing vehicle licence holders to continue to renew their vehicle licence with the same non-emissions compliant vehicle until the age limit of that vehicle in accordance with the vehicle age policy.

3. Extend the upper age limit for purpose-built Hackneys and wheelchair accessible Private Hire vehicles from 15 years to 17 years.
4. Extend the upper age limit for non-wheelchair accessible Private Hire vehicles to 12 years.
5. To delegate powers to the Head of Public Protection/Licensing Unit Manager and/or the Deputy Licensing Officer to suspend any vehicle licence that has been issued after the 4 January 2027 where the vehicle proprietor(s) have not complied with the condition to replace the non-compliant vehicle with a compliant vehicle by the 31 December 2026

(III) Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan: Decision Making Process

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Alan Quinn and on being put, with all Members voting for and the Mayor abstaining; that, Council, approves:

1. Agree to the principle of the making of a joint development plan document with the other 9 Greater Manchester councils (Bolton, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan), to cover planning for minerals and waste across Greater Manchester.
2. Note that Cabinet agreed, subject to the above recommendation, to delegate the formulating and preparing of the draft joint development plan document to AGMA Executive Board.
3. Note that there will be further reports to the Council in respect of, matters, which are within the remit of the Council including adoption of the joint development plan document.

(IV) Review of Corporate Core Senior Structure

It was moved by Councillor Gold and seconded by Councillor Rizvi and on being put, with all Members voting for and the Mayor abstaining; that, Council, approves:

1. Approve the Voluntary Early Retirement of the Head of HR, support payment of the Voluntary Early Retirement and capital costs associated.

(V) Bury Local Bee Network Forum Terms of Reference

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Staples-Jones and on being put, with all Members voting for and the Mayor abstaining; that, Council, approves:

1. Council to approve updated Terms of Reference for the Bury Local Bee Network.

C. 7 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT

It was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Bernstein; on being put with all Members voting for and the Mayor abstaining; that, Council, approves:

1. That Council notes the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel dated May 2025 (Appendix 1)
2. Following consultation with the Group Leaders, the Mayor and the Standards Committee Council consider the recommendations 1 – 27.

1. The IRP recommends that the Basic Allowance remains at £11,954, subject to indexation going forward.
2. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Leader remains at £35,862 for 2025/26.
3. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the two Deputy Leaders is reset at £19,724, which is 55 per cent of the Leader's recommended SRA (£35,862).
4. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the six other Members of the Cabinet is maintained at £16,138, which has been set at 45% of the Leader's recommended SRA.
5. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the nine Deputy Cabinet Members is maintained at £2,421, which is 15 per cent of the recommended SRA (£16,138) for the other Cabinet Members.
6. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Chairs of the six main Committees is maintained at £8,965, which is 25 per cent of the recommended SRA (£35,862) for the Leader.
7. The IRP recommends that the SRA for Members who sit on Licensing Hearings Sub Committees is maintained as follows:
 - Meetings over 4 hours: £106
 - Meetings up to 4 hours: £53
8. Furthermore, it recommends that the threshold for this SRA to be payable should be reset at over four Hearings attended in a year.
9. Also, as per current practice this SRA should only be paid to Members who are not otherwise in receipt of an SRA.
10. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Leader of the Main Opposition Group is maintained at £11,834, which is 33% of the Leader's recommended SRA of (£35,862).
11. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group is maintained at £4,734, which is 40 per cent of the recommended SRA for the Leader of the Main Opposition Group (£11,834). Furthermore the IRP recommends that the threshold for this SRA to be payable is reset at five Main Opposition Group Members.
12. The IRP recommends that the SRA for Leader(s) of Other Opposition Groups is maintained at £5,917, which has been set at 16.5 per cent of the recommended SRA for the Leader.
13. The IRP recommends that where there are two Main Opposition Groups of equal size their respective Leaders and Deputy Leaders are paid an SRA as follows:
 - i. Main Opposition Group Leaders £8,876
 - ii. Main Opposition Group Deputy Leaders £3,255

14. The IRP further recommends that the SRA for the Deputy Leaders of two Main Opposition Groups of equal size is only payable if each Main Opposition Group reaches the qualifying threshold of five Group Members.
15. The IRP recommends that the SRA paid to the Leader as a Member/Portfolio Holder on the GMCA under the 2011 Order is reset at £9,000.
16. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Bury Member appointed to the GM Bee Network Committee is maintained at £3,000, which is one third of the recommended SRA (£9,000) for Leader appointed to the GMCA.
17. The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Bury Council Members appointed to the GM Waste and Recycling Committee is maintained at £1,500, which is 16.5 per cent of the recommended SRA (£9,000) for the Leader appointed to the GMCA.
18. The IRP is not making a recommendation for an SRA regarding the Council's appointment to the GM Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.
19. The IRP recommends that the 1-SRA only rule is maintained with the exception of the additional SRAs paid under the 2011 GMCA Order.
20. The IRP recommends that the two Audit Committee Co-optees be paid a Co-optees' Allowance that has two elements maintained as follows:
 - i. Standard element £500 per year
 - ii. Meetings element
 - iii. Meetings over four hours £106 per meeting
 - iv. Meetings up to four hours £53 per meeting
21. The IRP is not recommending any change to the Mayoral Civic Allowance (£18,567) and Deputy Mayor Civic Allowance (£4,642).
22. The IRP recommends that the remuneration of the Independent Persons is reset as follows:
 - i. Standard element £1,000 per year
23. The IRP recommends that the rates at which the DCA can be claimed are maintained as follows:
 - i. Child care: maximum hourly rate paid at real living wage (Currently £12.60)
 - ii. Elderly/disabled care: maximum rate paid at the hourly rate charged By Bury Council Social Services (Persona) for a Home Help
24. The IRP further recommends that the DCA is amended as follows:
 - i. That the DCA may be claimed an hour before an approved duty starts and an hour after an approved duty ends
 - ii. That the annual cap on the total amount that can be claimed under each category is increased as follows:
 - o Child care: £4,000 per year
 - o Elderly/disabled care: £8,000 per year

25. The IRP recommends that the current terms and conditions and rates at which Members can claim travel and subsistence outwith the Council are maintained.
26. The IRP recommends that the following indices are applied to the allowances paid to Members and appointees of Bury Council:
- i. Basic Allowance, SRAs (including those paid in accordance with the GMCA 2011 Order), Co-optees' Allowance, within Council Travel Allowance, Civic (Mayoral) Allowances and the remuneration for the Independent Persons:
 - ii. Indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at spinal column 43) as agreed each year by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and applicable to the same year it applies to Officers but with an implementation date from the start of the municipal rather than financial year.
 - iii. Mileage Allowance (Outwith only):
 - iv. Members' mileage allowances rates indexed to HMRC Approved Mileage Allowance Payment rates.
 - v. Subsistence Allowances (Outwith only):
 - vi. Subsistence allowances should continue to be indexed to the same rates that are applicable to Officers.
 - vii. The Dependants' Carers' Allowance:
 - viii. Child care: maximum rate indexed to the real living wage
 - ix. Elderly/disabled care: maximum rate indexed to the hourly rate charged by Bury Council Social Services (Persona) for a Home Help
27. The IRP also recommends that indexation should run for four years (2025/26 – 2028/29), which is the maximum length of time permitted by the 2003 Regulations. For authority for indexation to be extended beyond the fourth anniversary of the establishment of the new scheme of allowances the Council is required to first seek advice from the IRP.

Instructs the Monitoring Officer to amend the Council's Members Allowance scheme in accordance with the decision of the Full Council meeting held on 25th May 2022

C. 8 LEADER' STATEMENT AND CABINET QUESTION TIME

(a) Written question (Notice given)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor E O'Brien, made a statement on the work undertaken by him since the date of the last Council meeting.

The Leader and the relevant Cabinet Members answered questions raised by Councillors on the following issues:

	Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
1	Cllr Moss	Leader	Prestwich Community Fund
2	Cllr Arif	Cllr Walmsley	Supporting Veterans and their families

3	Cllr Berry	Cllr A Quinn	Road works in Radcliffe
4	Cllr Harris	Cllr A Quinn	Harrogate Square
5	Cllr McBriar	Cllr A Quinn	Turton Road – Question withdrawn
6	Cllr Rizvi	Leader	Heaton Park Metrolink Station
7	Cllr Ryder	Cllr Morris	Private Hire Taxi's
8	Cllr Duncalfe	Leader	S106 Monies

Due to the lack of time to answer questions 9 to 20 inclusive, the Leader gave an undertaking that copies of those questions and responses will be circulated to all Councillors. The Leader also gave an undertaking to make these available on the Council Web Site.

b) Verbal Questions

The Leader received verbal questions from the following Councillors present: M Smith, J Rydeheard, Cllr Bernstein, K Simpson, S Arif and J Lancaster

Questioner	Cabinet Member	Topic
Cllr M Smith	Cllr E O'Brien	Northern Gateway
J Rydeheard	Cllr E O'Brien	Bury Interchange development
R Bernstein	Cllr E O'Brien	Pinfold Library
Cllr K Simpson	Cllr E O'Brien	Adult Service Finances
Cllr S Arif	Cllr E O'Brien	Community Events
Cllr Lancaster	Cllr E O'Brien	Whistleblowing Complaints

C. 9 COMBINED AUTHORITY REPORT AND QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S COMBINED AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES

The Council received a report on the work of the Combined Authorities. The following questions had been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rules:

Questioner	Combined Authority Member	Topic
Cllr Ryder	Cllr Walmsley	Heaton Park
Cllr Haroon	Cllr A Quinn	Network Review of Bus Services
Cllr Rydeheard	Cllr O'Brien	Taxpayer backed loans
Cllr Brown	Cllr A Quinn	Bee Network
Cllr Harris	Cllr Walmsley	Investigations into child sexual and criminal exploitation
Cllr Vernon	Cllr O'Brien	Transport Interchange

Cllr Lancaster	Cllr Walmsley	Neighbourhood policing
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C. 10 NOTICES OF MOTION

(i) The Design of Future Active Travel Schemes

Council considered a motion in the names Carol Birchmore, Cllr Donald Berry, Cllr Andrea Booth, Cllr Des Duncalfe, Cllr Glyn Marsden, Cllr Ken Simpson, Cllr Mike Smith and Cllr Mary Walsh

The motion was moved by Councillor Birchmore and seconded by Councillor Berry and on being put; with 18 members voting for and 30 members voting against and the Mayor abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion lost

(ii) Take Back Control of Our Highways

Council considered a motion in the names A Arif, Bayley, Boles, Cummins, Farooq, Fitzgerald, Frith, Gold, Green, Grimshaw, Haroon, Hayes, Hook, Ibrahim, McGill, Morris, Moss, O'Brien, Pilkington, A Quinn, D Quinn, Rafiq, Rahimov, Rizvi, Rubinstein, Ryder, L Smith, Southworth, Staples-Jones, Tariq, Thorpe and Walmsley.

The motion was moved by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor FitzGerald and on being put; with 43 members voting for and 5 members voting against and the Mayor abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

(iii) The Nolan Principles

Council considered a motion in the names Bernstein, Lancaster, McBriar and Vernon.

The motion was moved by Councillor Bernstein and seconded by Councillor McBriar and on being put; with 46 members voting for and 1 member voting against and the Mayor and one other abstaining, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

C. 11 FOR INFORMATION ONLY - COUNCIL MOTION TRACKER

Attached for information only.

C. 12 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORTS AND SPECIFIC ITEMS "CALLED IN" BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were no scrutiny review reports and specific items "called in" by scrutiny committees.

C. 13 QUESTIONS ON THE WORK OF OUTSIDE BODIES OR PARTNERSHIPS

There were no questions on the work of outside bodies or partnerships.

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Notes: The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 11.00 pm