

	Party	Question	Questioner
1	<b>Labour</b>	What efforts are being made by GMP to tackle those shops in our town centres and on our high streets who are breaking the law, selling illegal goods or dealing drugs?	<b>Councillor Moss</b>
	<b>Councillor Walmsley</b>	<p>This is a complex issue that requires a joint solution as unless there is any evident criminality, or the premises is causing ASB the police have very limited powers.</p> <p>GMP have conducted 2 operations this year with our partners from the Council, targeting shops where we have seized illegal vapes, illicit tobacco and counterfeit items, in April, joined by the Mayor of Manchester, over 100 officers from GMP arrested 14 individuals, seized numerous class B drugs and 6 weapons. More recently, £37,500 worth of illicit goods were seized from Bury shops.</p> <p>The partnership have worked with Bury Council who review the information to explore all criminal and civil powers available, including the potential for closure orders.</p> <p>There is large scale day of action being planned for October targeting premises based on insight and intelligence received.</p> <p>For assurance there is currently a large-scale criminal investigation into such shops but no further information can be given due to the nature of a live investigation being underway.</p> <p>When the police receive intelligence and reports regarding criminality and Asb we do take action.</p>	
2	<b>Labour</b>	Can TfGM outline how the changes to concessionary fares will benefit more young people in Bury?	<b>Councillor Boles</b>
	<b>Councillor Quinn</b>	<p>On 1 September, Transport for Greater Manchester introduced a half-price 28-day Bee Bus ticket for residents of Greater Manchester aged 18 to 21.</p> <p>The ticket is priced at £40, 50% of the adult fare, and is available to customers upon their 18th birthday until 31 August following their 21st birthday.</p> <p>This initiative was introduced as a stepping stone for young people who are no longer eligible for Our Pass, but perhaps are not fully-equipped to begin paying the full adult fare.</p>	

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		<p>This discount, alongside Our Pass and the Care Leavers Pass, aims to reduce financial barriers to education, employment, and opportunity for young people, lowering barriers to young people succeeding across our city.</p> <p>In May, and informed by customer feedback, Our Pass digital applications through the Bee Network app opened for this year's cohort, allowing customers to apply in advance, in preparation for 1 September, when they become eligible for free bus travel.</p> <p>This new digital application process has made it easier for customers to apply and is quicker for TfGM to verify and process applications. There has been no change to the proof of eligibility criteria and the £10 administration fee still applies.</p> <p>To promote the new digital application process, engagement with schools and colleges has been taking place, supported by communications and marketing activity, and this will continue throughout the summer.</p> <p>In September, successful applicants received a digital pass in the Bee Network app which they can use for free bus travel in Greater Manchester.</p>	
3	Conservative	<p>After many years, and at a cost of more than £100 million, signs are starting to come down across Greater Manchester for the ill-fated charging Clean Air Zone, and a consultation is set to be launched to determine the future of the cameras. Please may the relevant Cabinet Member confirm more details surrounding this consultation, whether it will be binding and how people can have their say?</p>	Councillor Rydeheard
	Councillor Quinn	<p>In July 2025, a <a href="#">report</a> to the Greater Manchester Air Quality Administration Committee set out plans for a six-week consultation on proposals to change the use of the ANPR cameras, commencing in the week of 15 September 2025.</p> <p>Local Authority Leaders will receive an update from GMCA to confirm arrangements for the consultation, ahead of consultation launch.</p> <p>The consultation will be led by GMCA and hosted on the GM Consults website so residents and businesses</p>	

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		from across Greater Manchester can take part. Following analysis of consultation responses, a decision on the proposals is expected by the end of the year.	
4	Independent	How many GMP Bury police officers are currently suspended?	Councillor Vernon
	Councillor Walmsley	There are currently 14 GMP Bury officers suspended.	
5	Labour	Following the trial during August which allowed those with the older person's pass to use it before 9:30am, what plans are in place to follow up this trial with additional measures?	Councillor Hayes
	Councillor A Quinn	An initial evaluation of the scheme will be undertaken in September and a future trial is planned for November.  The evaluation of both trial periods will inform next steps.	
6	Independent	Are there any plans to install average speed cameras elsewhere in the Borough following their installation on Bolton Road?	Councillor Lancaster
	Councillor Quinn	There are plans to install one further average speed route in Bury, on Peel Way.  This is part of the wider Safety Camera Project to replace existing spot speed cameras in GM.  TfGM is working with the safety camera supplier to design the average speed route on Peel Way, and meetings have been held with Bury Council Highways and Streetlighting teams.  Once the designs have been produced, further discussions will take place with Bury Council to agree next steps.	
7	Independent	In welcoming the trialling of the new night 135 service what will be the evaluation process to determine its effectiveness?	Councillor McBriar
	Councillor Quinn	From 1 September, service 135, running between Bury and Manchester, was added to TfGM's 24-hour transport pilot.  The 135 now runs all night on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. TfGM will continue to monitor the performance of this trial throughout the year to understand patronage, customer feedback, and the impact of the routes.	

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		Alongside other services making up the trial, night bus services will continue until there is a full year of data to fully evaluate their performance.	
8	Conservative	According to Home Office figures, a record number of police officers were sacked from forces in England and Wales last year, with Greater Manchester Police incurring a year on year fall of 29 officers. Please may the relevant Cabinet Member confirm whether Bury has more officers or less officers than last year, and detail their actions to support the GMP Bury in carrying out their duties?	Councillor Gartside
	Councillor Walmsley	<p>I'm happy to report that from 13/09/24 to 12/09/25 there are more officers active in Bury.</p> <p>This increase includes student officers who are currently in training and will be fully independent 2026.</p>	
9	Conservative	Please may the relevant Cabinet Member confirm the subsidisation plan in place for the Bee Network from Central Government, how long this will run and how the GMCA plans to ensure its long term viability?	Councillor Hussain
	Councillor Quinn	<p>The three principal sources of recurrent day-to-day funding to operate the Bee Network are:</p> <p>Passenger fares revenue reflecting that GMCA is now responsible for the entirety of the bus and Metrolink networks since the final tranche of bus franchising was introduced;</p> <p>The local Transport Levy (including the 'statutory charge') which is agreed in conjunction with Local Authorities as part of GMCA's annual budgeting process; and</p> <p>Central government funding which, since the start of the 2025/26 financial year, is consolidated into an 'Integrated Settlement' for the GMCA as part of deeper 'trailblazer' devolution.</p> <p>Patronage and revenues on Metrolink and Bus have continued their recovery during the current financial year. Nonetheless, revenues are still below where they would have been if the Covid-19 pandemic had not occurred and this has combined with exceptional inflationary pressures to lead to an increase in the cost base of operating the transport network.</p> <p>Since the start of 2025/26, GMCA has received an Integrated Settlement from central government.</p>	

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		<p>The Integrated Settlement devolves funding to the GMCA from the government for five different business areas of the Authority, including funding for local transport. This means that previously individual transport grant funding streams from across government departments are now combined into the Integrated Settlement.</p> <p>The premise of the Integrated Settlement is that GMCA is more akin to a central government department in terms of its funding settlement, with the funding envelope being determined over spending review periods, rather than single years. Greater flexibility is also provided in terms of how GMCA prioritises its funding to achieve the outcomes agreed with government.</p> <p><u>Long-Term Sustainability</u> GMCA's transport budget for 2025/26 anticipates the use of £30.9 million of reserves to achieve a balanced budget.</p> <p>Going forward, GMCA / TfGM are continually monitoring financial sustainability of the Bee Network and have in place a Financial Sustainability Plan (FSP) to drive further efficiency, changes and funding reform to ensure long-term sustainability. In summary, key pillars within the FSP are to further grow farebox revenue, including initiatives to reduce fare evasion; continuing reviews of network provision and optimising service delivery; internal efficiencies, including commercial income growth from the transport asset base; and, making the case for transport as an enable</p>	