

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 JULY 2025

MILLWOOD PRIMARY SPECIAL SCHOOL

1. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report providing a full explanation of the latest position, details of the programme and seeking approval of a costed bid from the contractors for the construction of the new wing; roofing remedial and other outstanding defects scheme. The contractors have completed the Pre-Construction Services Agreement (PCSA) for the detailed design up to RIBA Stage 4 and Cabinet approval is needed to ensure a start on site can be made on 4 August 2025 to meet the tight project deadlines.
2. In response to Member questions, Rachael Stirk, Head of Service CYP, advised that completion date was anticipated for September 2026, subject to no delays to the programme. The Leader added that, in the meantime, the Council would support the school to manage the works.
3. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

REFRESHED RESIDENTIAL AND NURSING HOME CONTRACT AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT PROCESS

4. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform, presented a report which sought approval to the contract arrangements for the provision of older adult residential and nursing care services in Bury. In borough, the annual value of services contracted through the current arrangements is £33,384,000, supporting over 700 people. The current residential and nursing care contract is over 10 years old, and the Council have issued numerous contract variations over this time. Legislation pertaining to the contract has changed over the years and now seemed an ideal opportunity to revisit the current contract, incorporate all the previous variations and bring the legislative elements up to date. The new contract will be a 10-year contract, consisting of seven years plus three years, and is designed to give the Council and Providers more certainty in planning going forward.
5. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that the 7+3 year timescale was in line with standard contract monitoring by the Council including regular check-ins, KPIs monitoring, and performance assessments as well as regular collaboration to understand and mitigate challenges. Councillor Tariq advised that it would be about supporting provider and working with providers to improve, should there be issues, before removing the contract. The break clause after 7 years was also standard, for either party to step away should they need to.
6. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

BRADLEY FOLD TRADING ESTATE

7. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report setting out proposals for the redevelopment of Bradley Fold Trading Estate. Many parts of the estate are in a dilapidated condition and although this poses a risk to the Council, it also presents a regeneration opportunity. Investment in the estate will maximise the

sites' potential as a modern industrial hub but needed the right design and project management support to achieve. This report set out proposed action to mitigate the current risks and identify the potential for the site.

8. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that legal consistency would be needed between Bradley Fold and Bury Market leases, but they were different sites and presented different challenges and opportunities so deals would not necessarily be the same. Conversations with all tenants would take place regarding future proposals and which parts of the site need intervention sooner to give tenants as much time as possible to move. With regards to insurance, it was noted that currently the Council was self-insuring, and this would be part of the conversations to be held imminently with tenants to work with them individually.
9. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GREATER MANCHESTER JOINT MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN

10. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations, presented a report on the statutory Greater Manchester Joint Minerals and Waste Plan (GMJMWP) and next steps in the decision-making process. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that this Plan would not make it more difficult to introduce a garden waste tax as that would still be for individual Councils to decide, but that Bury was not currently considering this option.
11. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT HOUSING SERVICES - YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCOMMODATION & SUPPORT TENDER

12. Councillor Tamoor Tariq, Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report regarding the commissioning Neighbourhood Support Housing Services to reduce and prevent homelessness and sustain future tenancies. Members voiced their support for the service, and noted financial details would be provided under Part B.
13. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

14. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations presented a report which explained the mandatory requirement to establish a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS); set out the findings from the public consultation on the draft version; and summarised the content of the final version.
15. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour Act allowed for fines to be placed on those knowingly allowing invasive species to spread, but that this was a complex problem which transcends borough borders. It was also noted that no sites had been removed but that the map was much larger than core areas highlighted, which showed the potential for the future.
16. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CORPORATE CORE SENIOR STRUCTURE

17. Councillor Richard Gold, Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Communications and Corporate Affairs, presented a report setting out the actions resulting from a series of staffing changes within the Corporate Core during 2024/25, and seeking approval for a Voluntary Exit application and the creation of two new Chief Officer Posts. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that Councillor Gold had received assurance from officers regarding the model and the job offer, and the posts would be filled with the best people we could find.
18. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

EXTENSION OF COUNCIL CONTRACT FOR DELIVERY OF PARKING ENFORCEMENT

19. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations, presented a report which sought approval to extend the existing Contracts for the delivery of Parking Enforcement and IT Back Office Services.
20. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

2024-2025 FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT

21. Councillor Sean Thorpe, Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation, presented a report which provided an update on the council's final outturn position across the General Fund revenue and capital budgets, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and DSG (Dedicated Schools Grant).
22. The 2024/25 General Fund outturn position is an overspend of £4.365m, representing 1.94% of the net revenue budget. This compares to the last report to Cabinet at Quarter 3 which forecast an overspend of £2.660m. The increase was largely due to an increase in Adult Social Care, including additional demand and complexity of cases, as well as issues arising from data quality, and had been funded from budget stabilisation reserves which were now no longer sufficient to support the forecast funding gap past 2026/27. Members also noted that 93.88% of the approved savings as set out in the 24/25 budget had been delivered, collection of Business Rates and Council Tax arrears had improved as had the collection rate for in year debt.
23. The outturn position on the capital programme was slippage of £19.360m against the £79.174m approved delivery programme, the HRA showed improvement with an underspend of £0.201m, and the DSG showed an overspend due to increased demand in the high needs block, a trend being seen nationally.
24. Councillor Thorpe provided further detail on the data quality issue which had been identified as part of the year-end reconciliation process and effectively led to expenditure being netted off and understated by c.£4m. Members noted this issue was not widespread across the Council, the error had since been rectified and further staff training was in place.
25. In response to Members' questions regarding whether the data quality issue has fully resolved, it was noted that the next update would be the Quarter1 report in

September, but that the most significant date to know would be the refresh of the MTFS in November.

26. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CAR PARKING FEES

27. Councillor Alan Quinn, Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations, presented a report regarding proposed changes to the charges for Resident Parking Permits. He advised that the last increase in charges was approximately four years ago and these current changes reflected the growing pressures and costs on that service. In response to Members' questions, it was noted that residents' comments and suggestions were always considered wherever we could be better or fairer while in balance with the financial outlook and ensuring the service was covering its costs. With regards to specific family circumstances, Councillor Quinn gave assurances that discretion would always be used on a case by case basis for those in need.

28. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

HOUSING MAJOR WORKS PROGRAMME 2025/26

29. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report seeking formal approval of a number of contract awards, contract extensions and a budget approval which form part of the Housing Major Works Programme. In response to Members' questions regarding an omission in the February 2025 HRA Capital Budget of £750,000.00 it was noted that this had arisen as a result of errors in collating stock condition data which would be safeguarded against in the future through the stock condition survey carried out.

30. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2025

2025/26 CORPORATE PLAN - QUARTER ONE UPDATE

31. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member, Finance and Transformation presented a report providing a quarter one update on progress against the Corporate Plan. This demonstrated delivery and was subject to continued refinement to best monitoring impact. In response to Member questions, it was noted that Team Bury objectives reflected the work of all partners in Bury while this report focussed on the Council's efforts. Delivery was demonstrated from the Council but impact was not necessarily linear or guaranteed and would require a longer timeframe, combined efforts from all partners, and the right monitoring metrics.

32. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

2025-26 Q1 FINANCE POSITION

33. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member, Finance and Transformation presented a report providing the 2025/26 forecast revenue outturn (including an overspend of

£4.148m), forecast savings position, forecast capital outturn position, forecast Collection Fund position and forecast for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) position as at 30 June 2025, and the Prudential Indicators as at quarter 1. In response to Member questions, it was noted that the Council had demonstrated a strong track record over the last 12-18 months of achieving the target savings and internal frameworks were in place to provide assurance of savings moving forwards.

34. With regards to the non-service specific underspend, this related to treasury management with a higher than budgeted income and lower than budgeted capital financing costs resulting from the slippage in the capital programme. In response to a question regarding borrowing, it was noted that the treasury function looked at where best value could be achieved, evaluating opportunities to restructure financing where interest rates were changing and aligning with the medium term financial strategy as set in February. With regards to which Approved in Principle schemes were yet to be incorporated into the In-Progress Programme, this information was not to hand and would be circulated after the meeting. Members also discussed the underachievement of savings owing to delayed implementation of restructures, and noted that these transformations were now being monitoring through internal assurance boards and HR processes were being reviewed. Finally, in relation to highways budgets, it was noted that this was broader than just resurfacing, and these budgets were usually fully spent by the end of the year.
35. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

2024/25 TREASURY OUTTURN REPORT

36. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report outlining the financial position and providing an update on the Treasury Management function throughout 2024/25. In response to Member questions regarding the flexibility of investment periods, it was noted this depended on the terms of the investment vehicle and the required liquidity of assets.
37. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

OFSTED STANDARD INSPECTION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN BURY

38. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People presented a report summarising the result of the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Services and the resulting change in the type and frequency of future inspections. The Ofsted outcome was a move from the previous overall judgement in November 2021 of 'inadequate' to a new judgement that services 'require improvement to be good'. Members noted that the report praised the progress made and graded the leadership provided by the council and within Children's Services as 'good'.
39. Councillors extended their thanks to officers for their work, in particular senior officers Lynne Ridsdale and Jeanette Richards, as well as the cross-party support of the Childrens Improvement Board, Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and Members more widely. Councillor Smith was also thanked for her passion and leadership as Cabinet Member. In response to Member questions, Councillor Smith advised that the outcome would hopefully give staff confidence to know we were on

the right track and the validation to keep going. it was noted that the action plan would come before Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee at their next meeting, and was underpinned by service plans. Quarterly meetings with the DfE would continue along with a yearly inspection programme.

40. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ADULT SOCIAL CARE PERFORMANCE QUARTER ONE REPORT 2025/26

41. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report outlining the delivery of the Adult Social Care Strategic Plan, preparation for the new CQC Assessment site visit on the week commencing the 6th October, and reporting on the department's performance framework for Quarter 1. In response to Member questions, it was noted that 12 officers were coming through the workforce over a 2-year period and would contribute to the wider department. With regards to overdue reviews, this was cyclical in nature and in line with other authorities. Delays were reducing, owing to investment in the reviewing team, but work was ongoing in this area to make further improvements.

42. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

RE-TENDER OF SUPPORTED LIVING CARE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES AND/OR AUTISM

43. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report which sought permission to start the process to procure a new Supported Living contract in Bury, ultimately replacing existing contracts. In response to Member questions, it was noted that the law mandated that Councils give choice of provision which resulted in a number of out of borough placements. With regards to the large number of private care providers, this reflected the need for a diverse and vibrant market to ensure service quality was not dependent on a small number of providers. Members also discussed the long timescale and the plans to co-produce the service specification in parallel with public consultation, noting that this enabled feedback to be received, converted into an easy to read format, and taken back for public review. This meant the service specification could be produced incrementally, necessitating a long timescale which was reflected in the report.

44. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

IMPLEMENTATION OF LIVE WELL IN BURY

45. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report regarding the implementation of the GM Mayoral Live Well Programme in Bury and an opportunity to implement a Live Well Centre in Whitefield. In response to Member questions, it was noted that Whitefield had been chosen owing to the general lack of voluntary sector, town centre or leisure provision, as well as the level of inequality in the area and subsequent impact on life chances. With regards to cost, it was noted that GM Live Well transition funding of £676k would be split 50:50 with the VCSE, with the Council's half funding the refurbishment and backlog of maintenance on the site. An additional £100,000 had been identified in the Council's

- MTFS to address operational capacity and building management, which would ultimately be taken over by the voluntary sector groups working out of the building.
46. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

GINNEL BETWEEN MALTON AVENUE/SAWLEY AVENUE, WHITEFIELD. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (ALLEY-GATES)

47. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report outlining an application for an Alley Gating Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for the Ginnel between Malton Avenue/Sawley Avenue, Whitefield owing to criminal activity and anti-social behaviour.
48. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

ANNUAL COMPLAINTS PERFORMANCE AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2024/25 AND SELF ASSESSMENT

49. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report presenting the self-assessment against the Housing Ombudsman's Complaint Handling Code and the Annual Complaints Performance and Service Improvement Report for approval. This included a summary of areas of complaints, Ombudsman rulings, and the resulting changes and training.
50. In response to Member questions, it was noted that staff training, new complaint handlers, and improvements to ongoing monitoring were now in place. All comments and outcomes from Ombudsman rulings were implemented, with complaints being seen as opportunities to learn and improve the service. With regards to repairs, a review was underway on how these were carried out to ensure jobs are completed first time, including training provided to the Asset Management team regarding tenant profiles.
51. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

HOUSING MAJOR WORKS PROGRAMME 2025/26

52. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report which sought formal approval of several contract awards with contract extensions for window and door fittings which form part of the Housing Major Works Programme. In response to Member questions, it was noted Procure Plus was the recommended framework and the use of local suppliers secured additional social value for communities as part of contract delivery.
53. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SIX TOWN HOUSING RECOMMENDATION

54. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services presented a report providing a review of the options regarding the future of Six Town Housing Limited (STH) as an entity owned by Bury Council. Members noted that the recommendation was to close down STH, owing to the commercial and regulatory risks associated with the option to invest. This process would take at least 18 months with a £500k budget from STH reserves and the Housing Revenue Account balance. Members noted that the first

step will be to procure advisors for the project management legal and financial due diligence, and any financial decisions such as the options for the assets will be brought back to cabinet for decision and be subject to tenant consultation.

55. With regards to the regularisation of contracts, the matter was considered prior to the insourcing of management of the housing stock and all matters relating to the contracts will be resolved prior to the dissolution of STH. In response to Member questions, it was noted that all details such as recharging would be worked through as part of the close down process, with reports coming to Cabinet for decision as required.

56. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SIMISTER ISLAND DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER

57. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report requesting delegated authority in order to respond to all consultations and engagement as part of the Simister Island Development Consent Order. Members noted the opportunity for improving biodiversity, and the importance that Bury participates fully in the process.

58. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

APPROVAL TO DIRECT AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE DELIVERY OF FISHPOOL PHASE 2 AND PIMHOLE BEE ACTIVE TRAVEL SCHEMES

59. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Climate Change and Operations presented a report which sought formal approval to directly award a contract for the delivery of the Fishpool Phase 2 and Pimhole Bee Active Travel Schemes, under the Greater Manchester Highways Alliance Framework (Lot 7), and funded through the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF) and administered by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM).

60. In response to Member questions, it was noted that 'quiet streets' saw deliberate and physical interventions to prevent cut-through motor traffic while maintaining full access for pedestrians, cyclists, emergency services, and local car parking. They were only introduced where there was legitimate safety concerns and as part of wider schemes taking a neighbourhood approach, rather than isolated infrastructure changes. With regards to public consultation, it was noted that the scheme had started consultation in 2022 and community briefings had been undertaken earlier this year, resulting in a comprehensive assessment. Not all residents would be happy with the proposals but serious consideration had been given. The Leader encouraged Councillors to share continuing concerns, but no significant changes to designs could now be considered. Appreciation was given to the disruptive nature of roadworks, but these changes were not intended to make traffic worse, they sought to improve safety long term for cyclists and pedestrians, ensuring roads were not used as inappropriate cut-throughs.

61. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

APPOINTMENTS UPDATE

62. The Cabinet Member for Customer Service, Communications and Corporate Affairs presented a report which set out amendments to appointments made by Council as a result of political proportionality changes.
63. Cabinet noted the report.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2025

PRESTWICH VILLAGE REGENERATION SCHEME: PHASE 1A (TRAVEL HUB) – PROCUREMENT OF A THIRD-PARTY OPERATOR TO MANAGE THE TRAVEL HUB

64. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding the recommended operating model and strategy for procurement to acquire a Travel Hub operator to manage the Prestwich Village Travel Hub. Things were progressing well on-site, with competition anticipated for summer 2026. Options for the operation of the site were set out in the paper, but cost was a key consideration and the recommendation was for an external operator. It was noted that parking would be subject to a future report.
65. In response to Member questions, it was noted that performance management could be undertaken in the Council's usual way using experience of the multi-storey parking in the Millgate as well as third party parking enforcement and private sector partners in other areas (e.g. housing). With regards to tariffs, it was noted that the Council would still set these and the third party operator would manage the operation.
66. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SCHOOLS FINANCE TEAM PHASED REDUCTION

67. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report proposing to phase down the schools finance team through accepting voluntary early retirement applications and to incorporate the statutory/residual work into the Children's and Young People Finance Team, owing to the reduction in workload and loss of SLA income following academy conversions.
68. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

APPROVAL TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR CLEANING AND JANITORIAL PRODUCTS

69. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report which sought approval to award the contract for Caretaking and Janitorial Cleaning Materials to Alliance. It was noted that a comprehensive tender process had been conducted in collaboration with Oldham Council to ensure best value.
70. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

APPROVAL TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR THE MANDATED DRUG AND ALCOHOL PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SERVICES (ADULTS AND CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES LOTS) IN BURY, SALFORD, AND TRAFFORD

71. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report which sought approval to award contracts for the delivery of Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery services across Bury, Salford, and Trafford.
72. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

CARE AT HOME – REQUEST FOR CONTRACT EXTENSION AND RE-TENDER

74. The Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Public Service Reform presented a report regarding the extension and re-tender of the Care at Home service, which supports the vulnerable people of Bury with their assessed needs under the Care Act 2014. The extension was for 12 months, and that the service supported around 700 vulnerable individuals daily delivering approximately 10,000 hours of care weekly, including personal care, mobility assistance, nutrition, hydration, and medication.
75. In response to Member questions, it was noted that a change in procurement law meant a process that was started this year was reset and will be rerun so that it can comply with the new public procurement regulations. Under the initial work discussions were held with an interested party, but the Council took the opportunity to reconsider and it was decided that re-running the tender was the best decision longer term and ensure full compliance.
76. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE – ENFORCED SALE

77. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding the adoption of an enforced sale combined policy and procedure as an additional tool to assist with reducing the number of empty properties in the borough. In response to Member questions as to whether this could be applied to commercial properties, it was noted that depended on the charges that had been incurred by the property, as each case was considered on an individual basis, but that the policy was not typically used for commercial properties.
78. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

HOUSING MAJOR WORKS PROGRAMME 2025/26

79. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report which sought formal approval to appoint Liv Green Futures Limited to carry out energy works to Council properties on the Rainsough Estate Prestwich. It also requested to grant approval for a change of contractor for energy works at Stanley Close Whitefield and Freetown Estate Bury. Members welcomed the appointments and the schemes, and it was noted that officers would look into loft insulation being future-proofed to store solar energy.
80. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

SURESERVE COMPLIANCE NORTHWEST CONTRACT EXTENSION

81. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding the extension of the existing Contract for the delivery of Gas Compliance, Repairs, Smoke Detector Testing and Capital Boiler works within Housing Services and a call

off option within the contract being utilised by Facilities Management for the delivery of services in Corporate Buildings. It was noted that further consideration of additional compliance contracts would be forthcoming. In response to a Member request regarding heat pumps being offered to replace boilers, it was agreed that a report setting out views on longer term investments be provided at a future meeting.

82. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.

DEMOLITION OF GARAGES AT HAWK CLOSE

83. The Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth presented a report regarding the demolition of garages at Hawk Close, Bury. Members welcomed this report, as the garages have attracted anti-social behaviour and vandalism. It was noted that the future of the site was a key consideration, and the feasibility study would include views of local residents.
84. Cabinet approved the recommendations as set out in the report.