Labour Group Notice of Motion - Community Cohesion

This Council wishes to express its solidarity and deepest sympathy with our Jewish community following the horrific terrorist attack at Heaton Park Synagogue. In particular, our thoughts go out to the families of Adrian Daulby and Melvin Cravitz, who tragically lost their lives, and those who are still recovering from in the attack.

This Council also wishes to thank the public and emergency services who responded on the day and in the weeks following. The response was swift and comprehensive, giving much needed reassurance to our Jewish community, as well as providing wider support to all communities affected by the attack.

Bury is a proudly tolerant and diverse place but we must recognise that over the past few years the country has seen an alarming rise in antisemitism, Islamophobia and other hate crimes. In addition, there are increased fears that community cohesion is declining and, in some cases, being deliberately undermined.

It is clear we need to prioritise efforts to tackle this trend and strengthen our work around inclusion, cohesion and public safety.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Use our recently refreshed 'Stronger Together' community safety strategy as the guidance for our response, as part of the wider work under the Community Safety Partnership's priority "Supporting and safeguarding cohesive communities"
- Use our Bury Faith Forum to work with faith and community leaders to agree a comprehensive action plan to engage local communities about how we promote cohesion and tackle hate
- Collaborate across other Greater Manchester authorities around cohesion activities, recognising the reality of communities living across administrative borders, whilst reflecting specifics of Bury's neighbourhoods
- Utilise the Team Bury cohesion workshop outcomes to inform our whole borough response to the current challenges
- Foster and facilitate opportunities for social interactions that allow the development of tolerance and trust to develop a shared sense of pride and place in Bury
- Progress the 'Different Cultures, Same Horizons' element as part of our Culture Strategy, with intergenerational work based on heritage
- Encouragement of 'upstanding' calling out and reporting behaviour rather than bystanding and promote our Hate Crime reporting centres.