

## **Labour Group Amendment – 21 January 2026**

Motion in the name of Councillor Arif, Councillor Brown, Councillor Gartside, Councillor Harris, Councillor Hussain

### **Improving Road and Pavement Conditions Across Bury**

This Council notes the increasing number of concerns raised by residents across Bury borough regarding the condition of roads and pavements, including potholes, surface deterioration, and uneven footways in both residential areas and town centres. ~~This follows over a decade of austerity in local government under successive Conservative governments, during which time Bury was consistently underfunded for its roads leading to an estimated £100 million plus backlog.~~

This Council recognises that poorly maintained highways affect road safety, accessibility for pedestrians and disabled residents, public transport reliability, and the daily lives of motorists, cyclists, and businesses throughout Bury.

This Council acknowledges that residents in a number of local areas have reported repeated temporary repairs and ~~a lack of clarity about low levels of awareness amongst residents about when permanent repairs will be carried out.~~

This Council welcomes the work undertaken by council officers to maintain the borough's highways ~~but~~ and further notes that under the Labour administration, Bury Council has invested significantly in highways maintenance, borrowing £30 million since 2017 to plug the gap left by national funding.

This Council welcomes the news that Bury has been rated *amber* for overall road condition, *green* for spending, and *amber* for best practice in the first ever national traffic light rating of Local Highway Authorities, demonstrating that the Council is using funding effectively while continuing to improve its practices.

This Council further welcomes the Labour Government's investment of £7.3 billion over the next four years for local roads to improve road conditions and enable proactive, preventative maintenance rather than short-term fixes. This is on top of the Government's investment of £1.6 billion for this financial year, a £500 million increase compared to last year.

~~This Council~~ recognises the need for ~~greater~~ ongoing transparency and clearer communication with councillors and residents.

This Council therefore resolves to request that the Cabinet Member for Highways provides councillors with:

1. A ward-by-ward summary of planned road and pavement repairs across Bury for ~~this the remainder of the current and the next municipal year and the next municipal year as is consistent with previous communication to councillors;~~

2. An explanation of how reports of potholes and pavement defects are assessed, prioritised, and scheduled for permanent repair **in line with current practice**; and
3. Information on how **councillors can play their part in ensuring** residents can be ~~kept better~~ informed about timescales and outcomes following the reporting of highway defects.