Classification Open / Closed	Item No.

Meeting:	Bury Health and Wellbeing Board
Meeting date:	10TH November 2026
Title of report:	Bury Homeless Strategy 2026 – 2029 and action plan 2026-2027
Report by:	Amanda Mullen
Decision Type:	**Decision**
Ward(s) to which report relates	**ALL**

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Homelessness Strategy 2026-2029 and accompanying Action Plan for consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Strategy provides a three-year framework for preventing and reducing homelessness across the borough and has been developed through extensive stakeholder engagement, co-production and input from people with lived experience.

The Board is asked to provide feedback on the proposed strategic priorities and to support the Health and Wellbeing Board acting as the strategic governance body for oversight of the Strategy's delivery, outcomes and performance.

Recommendation(s)

Note the development of the draft Homelessness Strategy 2026-2029 and accompanying Action Plan.

Provide feedback on the proposed strategic priorities, actions and outcomes.

Endorse the strategic direction of the draft Homelessness Strategy.

Approve the Health and Wellbeing Board as the overarching strategic governance body responsible for receiving progress updates and providing strategic oversight of the delivery of the Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan.

Key considerations:

Homelessness is a significant public health issue and has impacts across health, wellbeing, housing, community safety and social care.

The draft Strategy has been informed by a review of homelessness need, local data, stakeholder engagement, partner feedback and co-production with people with lived experience.

The Strategy seeks to strengthen prevention, improve access to accommodation and support, reduce rough sleeping and improve outcomes for vulnerable residents.

Effective delivery requires a whole-system approach across housing, health, adult social care, children's services, criminal justice and the voluntary sector.

Health and Wellbeing Board oversight will provide strategic leadership and accountability across the partnership.

Introduction/ Background:

Under the Homelessness Act 2002, local authorities are required to publish a Homelessness Strategy based on a review of homelessness and housing support needs within their area.

In March 2025, a project group was established to undertake a comprehensive review of Bury's Homelessness Strategy 2022-2026. This included a detailed assessment of homelessness need, demand trends, service provision, support pathways and emerging challenges across the borough.

The draft Homelessness Strategy 2026-2029 has been developed alongside the borough's wider Housing Strategy and provides a shared framework for partners to work together to prevent homelessness, reduce rough sleeping and improve outcomes for residents experiencing housing instability. The Strategy is underpinned by a comprehensive review of homelessness need and has been shaped through extensive stakeholder engagement, partnership workshops, co-production activity and the direct involvement of people with lived experience. This has ensured that the proposed priorities reflect local need, resident experiences and partnership ambitions.

The Strategy is supported by a detailed Action Plan and outcomes framework and has been developed in response to expectations from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for local authorities to publish an updated Homelessness Strategy, Action Plan and outcomes framework by 2 December 2026.

Given the strong links between homelessness, health inequalities and wider wellbeing outcomes, the Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider the proposed strategic priorities, provide feedback on the draft Strategy and support its role as the strategic governance body responsible for overseeing delivery, performance and outcomes across the partnership.

Key Issues for the Board to consider:

Development of the Strategy

The draft Homelessness Strategy has been informed by a comprehensive review of homelessness need, local data, national, regional and local literatures and current demand. It has been shaped through engagement with statutory partners, voluntary and community organisations, faith base organisations, housing providers, and people with lived experience the Strategy reflects local challenges and opportunities.

Strategic Priorities

The Strategy sets out four strategic priorities designed to strengthen homelessness prevention, safe and decent accommodation, reduce rough sleeping and improve outcomes for residents. The Board is invited to consider whether these priorities reflect the key challenges facing the borough and whether any further considerations should be included within the final Strategy.

Action Plan and Outcomes Framework

The Strategy is supported by a detailed Action Plan and measurable outcomes framework that will enable progress to be monitored and reported across the partnership. This will support accountability and demonstrate the impact of interventions over the life of the Strategy.

Strategic Governance and Oversight

Homelessness is closely linked to wider health inequalities and requires ongoing partnership leadership. It is proposed that the Health and Wellbeing Board provides strategic oversight of the Homelessness Strategy, receiving regular updates on delivery, performance and outcomes. This will ensure alignment with the borough's corporate priorities and key strategies, providing a clear golden thread across the partnership

Board Feedback

The Board is invited to provide feedback on the draft Strategy, agree the proposed priorities and governance arrangements, and identify any additional actions that may strengthen the borough's response to homelessness and rough sleeping.

Community impact/links with Community Strategy

Equality Impact and considerations:

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

> *A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -*
>
> (a) *eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
>
> (b) *advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
>
> (c) *foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*

The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

Equality Analysis	*Please provide a written explanation of the outcome(s) of either conducting an initial or full EA.*

**Please note: Approval of a cabinet report is paused when the 'Equality/Diversity implications' section is left blank and approval will only be considered when this section is completed.*

Legal Implications:

To be completed by the Council's Monitoring Officer

Financial Implications:

To be completed by the Council's Section 151 Officer

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Background papers:

Draft Homeless strategy 2026.pdf

Homeless Strategy Data Review v5 pdf.pc

Temporary accommodation 3 yea

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning