

Bolton Council

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

16th February 2022

SUMMONS AND AGENDA



BOLTON COUNCIL

Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held on Wednesday next, 16th February, 2022 at 7.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber when the following business is proposed to be transacted: -

1. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 24th November 2021 (Section A).

2. Recommendations to Council

Motion to be moved by Councillor Cox:-

To approve or otherwise the recommendations of the Cabinet made at its meeting on 7th February, 2022, (see Section C) relating to the fixing of the budget, the setting of the Council Tax and the determination of associated financial matters (see Section B for copy of the motion to be moved at the Council).

3. Changes in Committee Membership and Appointments to Other Bodies

4. Committee Proceedings

To approve the proceedings of the following Committees:-

Planning Committee (See Section D)

Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee (See Section E)

5. Scrutiny Committees

To receive and consider the proceedings of the undermentioned Scrutiny Committees:-

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee (See Section F) (enclosure and to follow)

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (See Section G)

Place Scrutiny Committee (See Section H)

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee (See Section J)



TONY OAKMAN
Chief Executive
Town Hall, Bolton

9th February, 2022

The proceedings of the Cabinet and Executive Cabinet Member Portfolio meetings from 15th November to 24th January, 2022 are included for information only in a separate volume, together with the minutes of the Constitutional Panel on 1st February, 2022.

BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

2021/2022

24TH NOVEMBER 2021

Present - Councillors Mrs. Thomas (Mayor), Mrs. Fairclough (Deputy Mayor), Adia, Allen, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Bullock, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Evans, Fletcher, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

42. HONORARY ALDERMAN PETER FINCH

Members observed a minutes silence for Honorary Alderman and former Mayor Peter Finch who had recently passed away.

43. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Council held on 6th October, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

44. CONSTITUTION – SCHEME OF DELEGATION

It was moved by Councillor Cox, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Fairclough and agreed –

That the amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation for 2021/2022, as circulated, be approved.

45. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL – CHANGES TO POLLING PLACES AND DISTRICTS

It was moved by Councillor Cox, seconded by Councillor Silvester –

That the changes to polling places and districts for May, 2022 elections, as detailed in the report now circulated, be approved.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 47 viz:

Councillors Allen, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Bullock, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Evans, Mrs. Fairclough, Fletcher, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0 viz:

Abstained, 0 viz:

46. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL - APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

It was moved by Councillor Peel and seconded by Councillor Haworth -

That the proposal to opt into the sector-led option through Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for the appointment of external auditors to principal local government and police bodies for five financial years from 1st April, 2023, as detailed in the report now circulated, be approved.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 46 viz:

Councillors Allen, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Bullock, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Evans, Mrs. Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0 viz:

Abstained, 0 viz:

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

47. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES

It was moved by Councillor Dean, seconded by Councillor Khurram and agreed -

That the following appointments and changes in membership be approved:-

1. That Councillor McKeon replace Councillor Haworth on the Planning Committee
2. That Councillor Cowen replace Councillor Hartigan on the Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee

48. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(a)

The following questions were asked under Standing Order 9(a) –

- (i) by Councillor Peel relating to the redevelopment of Crompton Place

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ii) by Councillor Peel relating to the Levelling Up Fund

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (iii) by Councillor Heslop relating to the payment of Area Forum Grants (this was withdrawn at the meeting)

- (iv) by Councillor Flitcroft relating to communal boiler systems

The Executive Cabinet Member for Strategic Housing and Planning replied to this question.

- (v) by Councillor Hartigan relating to the integrated rail plan for the North and Midlands

The Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport replied to this question.

- (vi) by Councillor Walsh relating to the Albert Halls

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (vii) by Councillor Walsh relating to Bolton College of Medical Science

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (viii) by Councillor Veevers relating to Barrow Bridge Road

The Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport replied to this question.

- (ix) by Councillor Sanders relating to policing and security across Farnworth Town Centre

The Executive Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities replied to this question.

- (x) by Councillor Hill relating to Remembrance Day parades

The Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care replied to this question.

- (xi) by Councillor McKeon relating to the disposal of land at Haslam Park

The Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration replied to this question.

- (xii) by Councillor Haworth relating to public information

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing replied to this question.

- (xiii) by Councillor Weatherby relating to Farnworth Market Precinct site

The Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration replied to this question.

- (xiv) by Councillor Donaghy relating to Harvey Nursery

The Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services replied to this question.

49. PLANNING COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Walsh, seconded by Councillor Dean and agreed –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 7th and 27th October and 11th November 2021 be approved.

50. LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION COMMITTEE

It was moved by Councillor Flitcroft, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Fairclough and agreed -

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee held on 13th October and 3rd November 2021 be approved.

51. SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Silvester, seconded by Councillor Veevers and agreed -

That the minutes of the meetings of the following Committees be approved:-

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee – 25th October 2021

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committees – 27th October 2021

Place Scrutiny Committee – 29th September and 20th October 2021

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 18th October 2021

52. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – CHANGES TO THE WAY PLANNING DECISIONS ARE MADE AT LOCAL LEVEL

It was moved by Councillor Silvester and seconded by Councillor Peel -

This Council believes that planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes.

This Council strongly disagrees with and criticises the Conservative Government's proposals to take away planning decisions from this Council and hand them to development boards appointed by Ministers in Whitehall. These new quangos are proposed to help zone areas for development. Residents living in areas zoned for growth would find that they no longer have an automatic right to object to individual planning applications on their own doorsteps; no right to object to oversized blocks at the end of the street; no right to object to concreting over precious green space, and no right to object to new developments that overburden local infrastructure such as roads, doctors' surgeries, schools or public transport.

This Council opposes such changes proposed by the Conservative Government and therefore calls upon the Secretary of State for Housing to protect the right of residents throughout the Metropolitan Borough of Bolton to object to individual planning applications.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 28 viz:

Councillors Adia, Allen, Ayub, Donaghy, Evans, Fletcher, Flitcroft, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Murray, Pattison, Peel, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0 viz:

Abstained, 18 viz:

Councillors Baines, Bullock, Connor, Cowen, Dean, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough, Galloway, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Morgan, Muslim, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Walsh and Warren.

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

**53. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –
QUALIFYING AGE FOR FREE PRESCRIPTIONS IN
ENGLAND FOR 60 TO 66 YEARS OF AGE**

It was moved by Councillor Haworth and seconded by Councillor Sherrington -

The Council is extremely concerned that there is a government consultation in England on a plan to move the qualifying age for free prescriptions in England from 60 to 66 years of age. Subsequently, thousands of 60 to 66 year olds in the Bolton Borough, in receipt of prescriptions for medicines and health care products, would be affected by this change.

The pandemic has impacted health inequalities and wellbeing and it is imperative to avoid changes that will impact people's lives negatively going forward. If implemented, this charge of people from 60 to 66 years for prescriptions for physical and mental health needs in Bolton could easily roll back progress made in the start to tackling health inequalities and increasing wellbeing here. We ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Minister for Public Health and the Minister for Mental Health, outlining the Council's concern that the raising of prescription charges on people of 60 to 66 years of age in England will have a marked effect on already problematic health inequalities in the Bolton Borough.

We also call on our local Members of Parliament to support the Council motion and reject the plan to have 60 to 66 year olds pay prescription charges.

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 27 viz:

Councillors Adia, Allen, Ayub, Donaghy, Evans, Fletcher, Flitcroft, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Iqbal, Jiva,

Khurram, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Murray, Pattison, Peel, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 19 viz:

Councillors Baines, Bullock, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough, Galloway, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Morgan, Muslim, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Walsh and Warren.

Abstained, 0 viz:

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

54. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – MISOGYNY

It was moved by Councillor McMulkin and seconded by Councillor Pattison -

Many people will have read in horror the events surrounding Sarah Everard's brutal murder; many will have been shocked by the events however for many women and those who work in women's aid organisations there was no sense of shock. The brutal attack and murder of women is a day-to-day occurrence that they deal with. Sarah's murder made front page news predominantly because the perpetrator was a serving police officer. Since the murder of Sarah Everard, more than 80 women have been killed - these women did not make the front page news.

Misogyny runs to the core of our society. We live in a society where women and girls are constantly subjected to inappropriate behaviour that is seen as the entitled right of men. Sexism is outlawed by the statute books and yet it is experienced by women on a daily basis.

The time for action is now. Each year, I attend a memorial walk in memory of the oldest known victim of domestic abuse, a young woman named Ellen Strange, who was

brutally murdered by her husband in 1761 on Holcombe Moor. Some 260 years later we wring our hands and prevaricate about change as each week more women are murdered and subjected to abuse.

I therefore call upon the Council to take urgent action to:

1. Convene a Women's Forum by March 2022, which will include groups such as YES Matters, Endeavour, REIGN, GMP, TFGM, Bolton University to name but a few; and
2. Formulate and implement a strategy from the measures agreed by the Forum that would make our Borough a safer place for women and girls

The Motion was then put to the vote when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 45 viz:

Councillors Adia, Allen, Ayub, Baines, Bullock, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Evans, Mrs. Fairclough, Fletcher, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Iqbal, Jiva, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

At this point, in accordance with Standing Order 7, the movers of the following motions withdrew their motions and agreed to resubmit them to a later meeting of the Council, viz:-

- Vaping Products – motion in the name of Councillor Baines;

A11

- Traffic Management at Remembrance Sunday Events – motion in the name of Councillor Heslop; and
- Debt Advice Provision – motion in the name of Councillor Challender.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 9.48 p.m.)

A12

NOTES

DRAFT SUBSTANTIVE COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION

- (i) That the following recommendations of the Cabinet on 7th February 2022 be approved:-
- (a) The Council be recommended to approve the Budget for 2022/23
 - (b) That the council tax for 2022/23 be increased by 3.12% comprising
 - The Adult Social Care Precept at 1.13%
 - The general levy at 1.99%
 - (c) The Council be recommended to approve the Capital Programme and Strategy for 2022/23
 - (d) The Council be recommended to approve the Investment and Prudential Indicators and Treasury Strategies 2022/23 to 2024/25
- (ii) It be noted that on 15th November 2021 the Cabinet calculated
- (a) the Council Tax Base 2022/23 for the whole Council area as 77,795 (item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the “Act”); and
 - (b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as:

Parish Councils

The Parish of Blackrod	1,987	Band D equivalents
The Parish of Horwich	7,611	Band D equivalents
The Parish of Westhoughton	8,702	Band D Equivalents

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year 2022/23 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

- (iii) Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council’s own purposes for 2022/23 (excluding Parish precepts) is £126,253,143
- (iv) That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2022/23 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act.

B2

- | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--|----------|---------|---------|----------|--------------|----------|
| (a) | £250,422,467 | being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils. | | | | | | |
| (b) | £123,739,740 | being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act. | | | | | | |
| (c) | £126,682,727 | being the amount by which the aggregate at (iv)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (iv)(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act). | | | | | | |
| (d) | £1,628.41 | being the amount at (iv)(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T ((ii)(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts). | | | | | | |
| (e) | £429,584.00 | being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, each individual parish precept being: | | | | | | |
| | | <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Blackrod</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£73,847</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horwich</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£204,559</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westhoughton</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£151,178</td> </tr> </table> | Blackrod | £73,847 | Horwich | £204,559 | Westhoughton | £151,178 |
| Blackrod | £73,847 | | | | | | | |
| Horwich | £204,559 | | | | | | | |
| Westhoughton | £151,178 | | | | | | | |
| (f) | £1,622.89 | being the amount at (iv)(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (iv)(e) above by Item T ((ii)(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for | | | | | | |

B3

dwelling in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates.

(g)	Part of the Council's Area	Parish of Blackrod	£1,660.06
		Parish of Horwich	£1,649.77
		Parish of Westhoughton	£1,640.26

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (f) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned at (e) above divided in each case by the amount at (ii) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

(i) Part of the Council's Area

Valuation bands	Parish of Blackrod	Parish of Horwich	Parish of Westhoughton	All other parts of the Council's area
A	£1,106.70	£1,099.84	£1,093.50	£1,081.92
B	£1,291.17	£1,283.17	£1,275.77	£1,262.26
C	£1,475.60	£1,466.45	£1,458.00	£1,442.56
D	£1,660.06	£1,649.77	£1,640.26	£1,622.89
E	£2,028.95	£2,016.37	£2,004.75	£1,983.52
F	£2,397.87	£2,383.01	£2,369.27	£2,344.18
G	£2,766.76	£2,749.61	£2,733.76	£2,704.81
H	£3,320.12	£3,299.54	£3,280.52	£3,245.78

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (f) and (g) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands

- (v) That it be noted that for the year 2022/23 the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and the Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services) have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

B4

Precepting Authority

Valuation Bands	Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services)	Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept
A	£68.63	£152.20
B	£80.07	£177.56
C	£91.51	£202.93
D	£102.95	£228.30
E	£125.82	£279.03
F	£148.70	£329.76
G	£171.58	£380.50
H	£205.90	£456.60

(vi) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (iv), (f), (i), and (v), the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2022/23 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

(i) Part of the Council's Area

Valuation bands	Parish of Blackrod	Parish of Horwich	Parish of Westhoughton	All other parts of the Council's area
A	£1,327.53	£1,320.67	£1,314.33	£1,302.75
B	£1,548.80	£1,540.80	£1,533.40	£1,519.89
C	£1,770.04	£1,760.89	£1,752.44	£1,737.00
D	£1,991.31	£1,981.02	£1,971.51	£1,954.14
E	£2,433.80	£2,421.22	£2,409.60	£2,388.37
F	£2,876.33	£2,861.47	£2,847.73	£2,822.64
G	£3,318.84	£3,301.69	£3,285.84	£3,256.89
H	£3,982.62	£3,962.04	£3,943.02	£3,908.28

(vii) That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2022/23 at an increase of 3.12% is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(viii) That the Deputy Chief Executive be delegated authority to collect revenues and disburse monies from the relevant accounts.

(ix) That it be noted that the Government have set a National Non-Domestic Rate of 49.9p in the pound for small businesses and 51.2p in the pound for larger businesses for the financial year 2022/23.

(x) That the Council's current policy in respect of discretionary relief for charitable organisations, as approved by the Cabinet on the 7th February 2022, be reaffirmed and that the Deputy Chief Executive be delegated authority to determine applications for such relief.

(xi) That War Disablement Pensions and War Widows' Pensions be disregarded for the purposes of the Council Tax Support Scheme.

(xii) That Council approves the following definition for the 'minimum occupancy period' for Council Tax Discount Class C properties, to apply from 1st April 2022:

"For the purposes of Discount Class C, in considering whether a dwelling has been vacant for any period, any one period, not exceeding six weeks, during which it was not vacant shall be disregarded".

(xiii) That the minutes of the proceedings of the undermentioned Scrutiny Committee regarding their consideration on the budget be noted:-

Corporate Cultural and External Issues 10th February 2022

B6

NOTES

EXTRACT

THE CABINET

MEETING, 7TH FEBRUARY, 2022

Councillor Cox	Leader's Portfolio
Councillor Mrs. Fairclough	Deputy Leader's Portfolio
Councillor Haslam	Highways and Transport
Councillor Dean	Stronger Communities
Councillor Muslim	Environmental Service Delivery
Councillor Morgan	Adult Social Care
Councillor Baines	Wellbeing
Councillor Galloway	Children's Services
Councillor Hewitt	Strategic Housing and Planning

Other Members in Attendance

Councillor Radcliffe
Councillor Walsh
Councillor Peel
Councillor Jiva (as deputy for Councillor Zaman)
Councillor Donaghy
Councillor Haworth
Councillor Hayes
Councillor Sanders
Councillor Brady

Officers

Mr. T. Oakman	Chief Executive
Ms. S. Johnson	Deputy Chief Executive
Dr. H. Lowey	Director of Public Health
Ms. H. Gorman	Borough Solicitor

Mr. T. Powell	Head of Audit and Risk Management
Mr. T. Glennon	Head of Finance - Corporate
Mrs. V. Ridge	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allen, Connor, Eckersley-Fallon, Warren and Zaman.

Councillor Cox in the Chair.

26. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 10th January, 2022 were circulated and signed as a correct record.

27. BUDGET REPORT 2022-2023

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which provided members with the following:-

- The consolidation of service budgets to provide the Council's overall 2022/2023 budget;
- Options to inform Council Tax setting for 2022/2023; and
- The Financial Arrangements account for 2022/2023.

Members were reminded that, at the Council budget meeting on 8th February, 2021, a two-year budget was prepared covering the financial years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 which included a savings target of £36.5 million, £31.6m in 2021/2022 and £4.9 million in 2022/2023, in order to set balanced budgets.

It was stated that the local government settlement for 2022/2023 was a one-year settlement with no indication of local government funding from 2023/2024 onwards. However, it was announced that next years would be a three-year settlement and the key points to note for the 2022/2023 settlement were detailed in the report.

C3

In terms of the savings programme for 2021-2023, members were informed that the additional funding allocations received in Children's and Adults Social Care had provided the opportunity for some of the original savings requirements in those areas to be reduced. As a result, the following changes to the savings targets were proposed, viz:-

Savings and Efficiencies £'000s	Adults	Children's
Transformation of Older Adults and Learning Disability Day Care	965	
Review of staffing in the Adults portfolio	820	
Review of Intermediate Tier provision	500	
Review of all contracts and grants	29	
Review of delivery model of Integrated Equipment Stores	87	
Review of Housing Services – protection of homeless and vulnerable people	130	
Review of staffing within the commissioning and support services		100
Review of resources within staying safe		1,000
Total Grant for S&E	2,531	1,100
Grant towards Fees	369	
Total	2,900	1,100

Furthermore, of the current 2021-2023 savings programme, almost 70% had now been achieved and details of this were provided in the report.

The report also outlined a number of pressures which impacted on the current financial year and 2022/2023.

Members were also reminded that the Council has had to find significant savings over the last ten years which totalled around almost £225 million by the end of 2022/2023. It was also stated that beyond 2021/2022 there were some key funding issues yet to be confirmed which could impact further on the Council which were as follows:-

C4

- Fair Funding Review (FFR) – as part of the 2016/2017 finance settlement it was announced that there would be an FFR of authorities' funding needs, initially to be implemented in 2019/2020. This was subsequently deferred by one year to 2020/2021 and the Brexit debate pushed this further back to 2021/2022. However, the Covi-19 pandemic had now pushed this back further to 2023/2024; and
- Business Rates – the government had announced that from 2023 business rates retention would be 49%, 1% of this being passed to the Fire Authority and 50% to central government. However, this had been deferred to 2023/2024. Furthermore, the business rates reset initially intended to be implemented in 2021/2022 had also been deferred until at least 2023/2024. As a result this made forecasting business rates beyond 2022/2023 extremely difficult to do. In addition, it was not possible to project what the council could receive in some form of re-distributed grant from any potentially available funds.

In terms of Manchester Airport, members were advised that the Airport trading had started to pick up in the Autumn of 2021 as restrictions were relaxed, but then subsequently worsened as a result of the Omicron variant. There was no intention to pay a dividend in 2022/2023 and loan interest continued to be accrued until payments resume.

The report also provided an updated expenditure forecast for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024. This forecast was based on the assumption that Council Tax would increase by 1.13% for Adult Social Care and 1.99% for the general levy for 2022/2023. It was explained that the level of Council Tax would be determined by the Council at its meeting on 16th February, 2022 following a recommendation from the Cabinet.

In terms of reserves, the council estimated its reserves balance to be £145 million at the end of 2021/2022 excluding the DSG and Collection Fund balances and details of this were provided in the report. Appendix E to the report also provided some information of the implications of not holding these reserves.

Currently it was estimated that available balances as at 31st March, 2022 would be £10.66 million and the Deputy Chief Executive recommended, as a minimum, balances of £10 million or higher should be maintained based upon her understanding of the risks and financial issues facing the Council over the next three years and the proposals around the budget, as identified in the report.

The individual parish precepts were also detailed in the report and as required by the Local Government Finance Act 1982 these needed to be added to Bolton's budget requirement.

With regard to the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services), it was explained that this was set by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. The proposed increases in the Mayoral Precepts, which were still to be confirmed, were as follows:-

- For the Mayoral General (including Fire Services) a £12/13.2% increase; and
- £10/4.6% increase for the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept.

It was stated that should the final decisions of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority be different, this would be reported to members at the meeting.

With regard to Business Rates, whilst the Council was part of the Greater Manchester 100% pilot, it should be noted that the Government determined the rates to be collected and had set these at 49.9p in the pound for small businesses and 51.2p in the pound for larger businesses.

In terms of setting the Council Tax, it was explained that based upon the Adult Social Care precept being set at 1.13% for 2022/2023 plus a 1.99% general levy increase for Council Tax for Bolton Council for 2022/2023 (i.e. excluding Parish and Mayoral precepts) this was the equivalent to an additional 63p per week for Band A properties which were more than 40% of the overall tax base. A Draft Substantive Council Tax Resolution was set out in Appendix H to the report.

Resolved – That the Cabinet recommend to Council:-

- (i) The budget for 2022/2023 as set out in the Budget Report.**
- (ii) That the Council Tax for 2022/2023 be increased by 3.12% represented by a 1.13% increase for Adult Social Care and a 1.99% general increase.**
- (iii) That the Council Tax figures included in the report for the Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner Precept and Mayoral General Precept (including Fire Services) are the recommended provisional amounts pending their formal approval.**

28. CORPORATE CAPITAL AND ONE-OFF FUNDING 2022-2025

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report that proposed a Capital Strategy, Corporate Capital and Revenue Programme, a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy and Capital Prudential Indicators for the next three years.

Members were advised that from 2019/2020 CIPFA's Prudential Code required local authorities to produce a capital strategy to demonstrate that capital expenditure and investment decisions were taken in line with service objectives and took account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability.

The Capital Strategy was a key document for the Council and formed part of the authority's integrated revenue, capital and balance sheet planning. It provided a high level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contributed to the provision of services and provided an overview of how associated risk was managed and the implications for future financial sustainability. It also included an overview of the governance processes for approval and monitoring of capital expenditure. Appendix 1 to the report detailed the Capital Strategy for 2022-2025.

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Members were advised that the significant reductions in the Council's revenue budget had meant that the maximisation of capital funding had become a vital part of ensuring the Council could continue to pursue its key objectives. In recent years, capital monies had been allocated to support the strategic road network across the Borough and to enable the developments in the town centre. The current funding position for 2021-2022 onwards was as follows:-

	Current Capital Programme 2021-2025
	£m
Corporate Supported Borrowing	51.2
Corporate Revenue	9.4
Corporate Capital Receipts	8.6
Service Supported Borrowing	0
Service Revenue	19.4
Government Grants	120.8
Other Contributions	3.0
Total	212.4

As part of the appraisal of the capital programme the proposals had been assessed for their anticipated impact on the Council's VAT recovery position.

Full VAT recovery was only permitted where less than 5% of VAT recovered related to activities which were exempt from VAT (largely land transactions, paid for education, markets and cremation). Where the 5% limit was exceeded no VAT recovery on VAT exempt activity was permitted unless the 7 year average was below 5%.

Members were advised that if the proposed programme was approved the exempt input tax proportion was estimated as follows:-

	%
2020/2021	2.96
2021/2022	2.44

2022/2023	2.70
2023/2024	2.86

The detailed calculations were set out in Appendix 3 to the report. The 7 year average was 3.20% and was therefore within the HMRC limit.

The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations 2008 required the basis on which the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) was calculated for future years to be approved by Council. This was the amount Councils were required to set aside for debt repayment each year.

The report also provided details in relation to Capital Prudential Indicators.

Resolved – That, subject to Council’s approval:-

- (i) The Capital Strategy for 2022/2025 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.**
- (ii) The Corporate Programme (Capital and Revenue one-off schemes) for 2022-2025, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, be approved.**
- (iii) The Minimum Revenue Provision policy as set out in section 5 of the report be approved.**
- (iv) The Capital Prudential Indicators as set out in Section 6 of the report be approved.**

29. TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGIES FOR 2022/2023 TO 2025/2026

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report that outlined the Council’s prudential indicators for 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 and set out the expected treasury operations for this period.

The report fulfilled two key legislative requirements:-

- (a) The treasury management strategy statement which set out how the Council’s treasury service would support the capital programme, the day to day treasury management**

and the limitations on activity through treasury prudential indicators; and

- (b) The investment strategy which set out the Council's criteria for choosing investment counterparties and limiting exposure to the risk of loss. This strategy was in accordance with the CLG Investment Guidance.

Resolved – That, subject to the approval of Council, the Treasury Management Strategy 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 and the treasury limits on activity contained within this report; the Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator and the Investment Strategy 2022/2023 contained in the treasury management strategy be approved.

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NOTES

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 9th DECEMBER, 2021

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Brady (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Ayub, Dean, Galloway (as deputy for Councillor Morgan), Hayes, Hill (as deputy for Councillor Finney), Iqbal (as deputy for Councillor McKeon), McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer (as deputy for Councillor Connor), Sanders, Sherrington and T. Wilkinson.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Connor, Finney, McKeon, Morgan and D. Wilkinson

19. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th November, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

20. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered certain applications, as set out in the report submitted by the Director of Place (Development), for permission to undertake developments, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act.

The following Councillors declared interests in the undermentioned items of business:-

Member of Council	Application Number	Nature of Interest
Councillor Hayes	95081/15	He knows the applicant and has had discussions on the application. He left the meeting during the consideration

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		and determination of the application.
Councillor Sherrington	11950/20	She has previously had links with Deane Golf Club but has none at present.

Councillor Morgan, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 10173/21.

Members of the public addressed the Committee in relation to the following applications:

09775/20	10173/21	10023/20
11950/21	95081/15	

Resolved - That the various planning applications submitted by the Director of Place (Development) be dealt with, as follows:-

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
09775/20	<p>Erection of dwellings on two sites:</p> <p>1. Land at former Creams Mill site including land off Mytham Road, with associated works including: internal access, landscaping and infrastructure including a two-way bridge and provision of woodland walks.</p> <p>2. Land south of Hall Lane and west of</p>	<p>Refused, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Hill, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer,</p>

	<p>Newbury Road with associated works including: new access from Hall Lane, associated landscaping, internal access and infrastructure including: paths along canal frontage and path linking Moses Gate Country Park.</p> <p>Repair to canal breach and restoration works including: re-lining of the Manchester, Bolton and Bury canal and restoration of canal towpath.</p> <p>On land at Mytham Road, Prestolee Road, Boscow Road, Hall Lane and Newbury Road, Little Lever.</p>	<p>Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
10023/20	<p>Demolition of existing building and erection of 1 no. 4 storey building consisting of 4 no. self-contained flats at 172 St George's Road</p>	<p>Approved, subject to conditions.</p> <p>The amended design, scale and siting of the proposed development would be compatible with the site and the surrounding area whilst providing sufficient</p>

		<p>internal bin storage, secure living and privacy for future residents and would be in relative close proximity to off site amenity space which offsets the lack of available private amenity space within the development. The proposal would therefore comply with Core Strategy policies CG3, CG4, S1 and RA1.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (9):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Dean, Hill, Iqbal, Mistry, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, and T. Wilkinson.</p> <p>Members voting against the application (8):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Brady, Galloway, Hayes, McMulkin, Radcliffe Sherrington and Walsh.</p>
10173/21	Partial demolition of existing building and the erection of a two-storey front extension, raising of roof height	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, and that the determination of additional conditions regarding security, trees,</p>

	<p>and rear dormer together with the change of use from 1 no. retail unit at ground floor with 2 no. retail units at ground floor, 2 no. flats at first floor and 2 no. flats at second floor at 284 and 286 Wigan Road</p>	<p>cycle rack, front curtilage and additional fenestration be delegated to the Director of Place (Development) in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and Ward Councillors.</p> <p>The amended design, scale and siting of the proposed development would assist in improving the character and appearance of the site and the wider area, including making a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Deane Village Conservation Area together with ensuring that the living conditions of future residents would not be compromised. The proposal would comply with Core Strategy policies CG3, CG4 and OA4.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (17):</p>
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		Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Hill, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
11950/21	Outline application for the erection of up to 12 no. dwellings and associated infrastructure works (access details only) on land at Armadale Road	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Hill, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
12542/21	Provision of 3 no. external air source heat pumps supplementing existing mechanical services to buildings at Ladybridge High School, New York	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (17):</p>

		Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Hill, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
12586/21	Provision of 2 no. new air source heat pumps (ASHP) supplementing existing mechanical services to building together with the provision of acoustic screens at Thicketford Care Centre, Thicketford Road	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Hill, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
95081/15	Change of use from industrial unit to community and function space at Units 1 and 3, St Paul's Mill, Barbara Street	<p>Refused, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (16): Councillors Allen, Ayub,</p>

		Brady, Dean, Galloway, Hill, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
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21. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS

The Director of Place (Development) submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 3rd November and 1st December, 2021

Resolved – That the report be noted.

22. INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING STATEMENT 2020/21

The Director of Place submitted a report which provided members with the Infrastructure Funding Statement for 2020/21 which detailed the Section 106 income and expenditure over that period.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

23. FIVE YEAR HOUSING LAND POSITION STATEMENT AND HOUSING DELIVERY TEST – DECEMBER 2021 POSITION STATEMENT

The Director of Place (Development) submitted a report which provided an update on the current housing land position at December, 2021.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 4.15pm)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 6th JANUARY, 2022

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Brady (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Ayub, Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan (as deputy for Councillor Radcliffe), Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington and T. Wilkinson.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Radcliffe and D. Wilkinson.

24. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 9th December, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

25. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered certain applications, as set out in the report submitted by the Director of Place (Development), for permission to undertake developments, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act.

Councillor Galloway, in her capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 11445/21

Councillor Donaghy, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 12429/21.

Members of the public addressed the Committee in relation to the following applications:

12372/21

11445/21

12429/21

Resolved - That the various planning applications submitted by the Director of Place (Development) be dealt with, as follows:-

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
11438/21	Regrading of the site up to Station Road with new landscape proposal at Horwich Loco Industrial Estate, Station Road, Horwich	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report, and additional condition regarding a traffic management plan be approved by the Director of Place (Development) in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward Councillors.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (16):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Hartigan, Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
114455/21	Change of use from (C3 dwelling house) to (C2 residential home) with on site care at 119 Regent Road, Lostock	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p>

		<p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (10):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Brady, Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington and T. Wilkinson.</p> <p>Members voting against approval of the application (7):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Connor, Dean, Finney, Morgan, Hartigan and Walsh.</p>
12372/21	Retention of alterations (increase in flat roof height) to approved planning application 10204/21 at 26 Kensington Drive, Horwich	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean,</p>

		Finney, Hartigan, Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
12429/21	Erection of a first-floor extension at front together with the siting of a dome and minaret at Alvia Mosque, 29 Bromwich Street	<p>Approved, subject conditions and additional condition regarding replacement and retention of trees with the details being agreed in consultation with the Council's tree officer and applicant.</p> <p>The extensions to the mosque would assist in improving the appearance and the facilities offered to users of the mosque whilst mitigating against the harm to the character and appearance of the site and wider area by the provision of two replacement trees to ensure compliance with Core Strategy policy CG1 and RA1. The proposal complies with policy and was granted planning permission.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded. Members voting for approval of the application (17):</p>

		Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan, Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
12715/21	Re-location of the existing waste compound area for the market at Bolton Market, Ashburner Street	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (16):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Hartigan, Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
12778/21	Creation of an altered vehicular access road into Bolton Market from Moor Lane at Bolton Market, Ashburner Street	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (16):</p>

		Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Hartigan, Hayes, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
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26. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS

The Director of Place (Development) submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 2nd and 21st December, 2021

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 4.25pm)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 20th JANUARY, 2022

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Brady (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Ayub, Connor, Dean, Donaghy (as deputy for Councillor McKeon), Galloway (as deputy for Councillor Morgan), Hayes, Hill (as deputy for Councillor Finney), McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Finney, McKeon and Morgan.

27. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 6th January, 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

28. PLANNING APPLICATION – LAND AT AND ADJACENT HULTON PARK, MANCHESTER ROAD, OVER HULTON – 12218/21

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered planning application 12218/21, as set out in the report submitted by the Director of Place (Development), for permission to undertake developments, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act.

Resolved – That application 12218/21 be dealt with as follows:

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
12218/21	<p>Land at and adjacent Hulton Park, Manchester Road, Over Hulton:</p> <p>PART A: a full planning application for restoration works to Hulton Park and various existing structures and heritage assets within it, including the pleasure grounds, dovecote, walled garden and lakes; the demolition of various existing buildings and structures; the development of a golf resort, including an 18-hole championship-grade golf course, clubhouse, golf academy (comprising driving range, practice course, adventure golf course and academy building with sports and learning facilities, a golf</p>	<p>Deferred to allow members to consider the additional information provided.</p> <p>A motion to defer the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for deferral of the application (18):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Donaghy, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Hill, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.</p>

	<p>shop and cafe), a hotel with adjoining spa and conference facility, and other ancillary buildings, structures and engineering and landscape works including a maintenance building, highway accesses, internal access roads, highway underpass, various bridges, boundary treatments, external lighting, parking areas and new and replacement landscaping and open space; highways infrastructure; and, where applicable, the re-routing, upgrading and extension of the public rights of way network and the creation of new public rights of way, footpaths and trails.</p> <p>PART B: an outline application for the residential development of up to 1,036 dwellings; a village centre; village hall; community allotments; primary school; short stay holiday accommodation, comprising the conversion of home farm cottage and the construction of a mews building, cabins and</p>	
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	lodges; and a range of other retail, leisure, recreation, community and food & drink-related uses; highways infrastructure; the regrading of land to accommodate the golf course and staging and subsequent regrading for residential development; and, where applicable, the re-routing, upgrading and extension of the public rights of way network, and the creation of new public rights of way, footpaths and trails, with all matters reserved except for (in part) access, and in respect of the short stay holiday accommodation, layout.	
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(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 2.10pm)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 3rd FEBRUARY, 2022

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Brady (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Ayub, Connor, Dean, Galloway (as deputy for Councillor Cowan), Hayes, Iqbal (as deputy for Councillor McKeon), McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cowan, Finney and McKeon.

29. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 20th January, 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

30. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered certain applications, as set out in the report submitted by the Director of Place (Development), for permission to undertake developments, in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act.

Councillor Haworth, in her capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 11570/21

Members of the public addressed the Committee in relation to the following applications:

11570/21

09549/20

12191/21

Resolved - That the various planning applications submitted by the Director of Place (Development) be dealt with, as follows:-

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
09549/20	Outline planning application (all matters reserved) for mixed use development comprising up to 269 apartments together with ground floor commercial floorspace (Class E), car parking and ancillary facilities on land at Bradshawgate	Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report. A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.

		<p>Members voting for approval of the application (18):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.</p>
11060/21	Erection of 28 no. residential dwellings with associated works on land at Woodland Close	<p>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (18): Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.</p>

11570/21	Erection of one 3-storey block comprising 8 no. apartments and 2 no. 5-bed multiple occupancy units and two 4-storey blocks comprising 16no 5-bed multiple occupancy units together with associated access and parking on land at Minerva Road, Farnworth	<p>Refused.</p> <p>The proposed development would, by virtue of its scale, height and siting appear as an overbearing development which would have a detrimental impact on the character and appearance of the area and is contrary to policies CG3 and RA2.14 - RA2.16 (inclusive) of Bolton's Core Strategy and guidance contained within Supplementary Planning Document - "General Design Principles".</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Galloway, Hayes, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray,</p>
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		<p>Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.</p> <p>Members voting against refusal of the application (1):</p> <p>Councillor Dean</p>
12191/21	<p>Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 1 no. residential dwelling at Knowles Farm, Fleet Street, Horwich</p>	<p>Refused, as recommended in the report.</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (18):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Galloway, Hayes, Iqbal, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh, D. Wilkinson and T. Wilkinson.</p>

31. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS

The Director of Place (Development) submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 22nd December, 2021 and 1st February, 2022.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.20pm)

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 25th NOVEMBER, 2021

Present – Councillors Flitcroft (Chairman), Dean, Galloway, Haslam, Haworth and Jiva.

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Taylor-Burke, Grant and Khurram)

Councillor Flitcroft, Chairman

22. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meeting held on 3rd November, 2021 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

23. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – That, under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 3 (financial and business affairs) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act; and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in its exemption outweighs the public interest in its disclosure.

**24. APPLICATION FOR A STREET TRADING CONSENT
LER/23/21**

(Councillor Dean declared an interest in the following item as he knew the applicant and left the meeting taking no part in the debate)

The Director of Place Services submitted a report which sought which set out details of an application for a street trading consent where alleged offences of dishonesty had occurred.

The applicant attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Haworth and Seconded by Councillor Flitcroft that the application be refused.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Jiva, Galloway, Haslam and Flitcroft.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Whereupon the motion was declared carried and it was specifically resolved that -

the application for a street trading consent be refused as the Committee is not satisfied that the applicant is not a suitable person to hold a licence.

The Committee also took account of –

- The applicant has been repeatedly warned about trading without consent by the Police and the Licensing Team throughout much of 2020 and has two prosecutions pending in this regard;
- The applicant was previously found guilty of trading in his ice cream van without consent in 2013 and fined £425.00 (costs of £150.00 award and a victim surcharge of £85) and so would be aware of the consequences; and
- The Committee's concern at the pattern of not following the rules.

The Committee's primary duty is of concern for the safety and well-being of the public.

There is therefore reasonable cause to refuse to grant the street trading consent.

**25. APPLICATION TO EXTEND A HACKNEY CARRIAGE
VEHICLE LICENCE LER/25/21**

The Director of Place Services submitted a report on an application which had been received to extend a hackney carriage vehicle licence.

The applicant had asked for the matter to be deferred.

It was moved by Councillor Dean and Seconded by Councillor Jiva that consideration of the application be deferred.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Jiva, Dean, Galloway, Haslam and Flitcroft.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

(The meeting started at 2.00 p.m. and finished at 2.40 p.m.)

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 12th JANUARY, 2022

Present – Councillors Flitcroft (Chairman), Mrs. Fairclough, Galloway, Grant, Haslam, Haworth, Jiva, Khurram and Taylor-Burke.

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Dean.

Councillor Flitcroft, Chairman

26. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meeting held on 25th November, 2021 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

27. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – That, under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 3 (financial and business affairs) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act; and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in its exemption outweighs the public interest in its disclosure.

28. APPLICATION TO EXTEND A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE LER/24/21

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application which had been received to extend a hackney carriage vehicle licence.

The applicant attended the meeting.
It was moved by Councillor Grant and seconded by Councillor Khurram that the application be refused -

For the Motion, viz –

Councillors Mrs. Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Haslam, Jiva, Khurram and Taylor-Burke.

Against the Motion, viz –

Councillor Haworth

Whereupon the motion was declared carried and it was specifically resolved that -

The Committee noted that the licence had already been extended for a twelve month period in 2020 and felt that there were no exceptional circumstances to deviate from the current policy again.

**29. APPLICATION TO EXTEND A HACKNEY CARRIAGE
VEHICLE LICENCE LER/25/21**

The Director of Place Services submitted a report which set out details of an application which had been received to extend a hackney carriage vehicle licence.

The applicant attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Galloway and seconded by Councillor Khurram that the application be refused -

For the Motion, viz –

Councillors Mrs. Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Haslam, Jiva, Khurram and Taylor-Burke.

Against the Motion, viz –

Councillor Haworth

Whereupon the motion was declared carried and it was specifically resolved that -

E6

The Committee noted that the licence had already been extended for a twelve month period in 2020 and felt that there were no exceptional circumstances to deviate from the current policy again.

(The meeting started at 2.00 p.m. and finished at 2.55 p.m.)

**CORPORATE AND EXTERNAL ISSUES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 13th DECEMBER, 2021

Present – Councillors Silvester (Chairman), Veevers (Vice-Chairman), Connor, Cowen, Jiva, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Walsh, Wright and Zaman.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Cox	Leader of the Council
Councillor Dean	Executive Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities
Councillor Hartigan	Council's Representative on the Greater Manchester Pension Fund
Ms. S. Johnson	Deputy Chief Executive
Ms. H. Gorman	Borough Solicitor
Mr. G. Brough	Director of Place - Development
Mr. L. Fallows	Assistant Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development
Mr. E. Brook	Assistant Director Strategy and Partnerships
Ms. R. Albrow	Principal Consultation and Research Officer
Mrs. V. Ridge	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allen, Ismail and McMulkin.

Councillor Silvester in the Chair

21. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25th October, 2021 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be signed as a correct record subject to it being noted that Councillor Jiva had not been notified about the meeting and therefore was not in attendance.

22. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2021/2022

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which detailed the proposed work programme for 2021/2022.

Resolved – That the Work Programme for 2021/2022 be approved and that with regards to the item on Policing this should include how the staffing structure will provide continuity across the borough.

23. COVID 19 AND FINANCES UPDATE

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that, since the last meeting, there was no further detrimental impact on the budget due to Covid 19.

Members were also advised that the financial situation at Manchester Airport was due to be reported to the next meeting of the Audit Committee but could also be considered at a future meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.

Following the update, members made the following comments/observations:-

- What representations were being made to Central Government with regards to providing financial support to the hospitality industry;
- The financial impact on public health in terms of the roll out of boosters; and
- An update on the final guidance which was being awaited from the Department for Work and Pensions on some additional funding be circulated to members of this Scrutiny Committee once available.

Resolved – That the position be noted.

24. EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Ms. E. Brook, Assistant Director Strategy and Partnerships, Mr. L. Fallows, Assistant Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development and Ms. R. Albrow, Principal Consultation and Research Officer, gave a presentation to members which provided details in relation to the Equalities Strategy 2021-2025 which had been approved by the Executive Cabinet Leaders Portfolio on 7th December, 2021 and also endorsed by the Trade Unions.

Information was provided in relation to the following areas, viz:-

- The Public Sector Equality Duty;
- The Equality Objectives which were contained within the Strategy;
- The key actions which were undertaken during Spring 2021;
- The key actions which were undertaken during Summer 2021;
- The key actions which were undertaken during Autumn/Winter 2021; and
- The next steps in terms of the Action Plan for 2022 which included:
 - Review activity undertaken throughout 2021;
 - Formalise Action Plan for 2022 in partnership with the Trade unions
 - a. Review accessibility of intranet and website;
 - b. Review current EIA process – challenges and best practice;
 - c. Equalities Allies Network; and
 - d. Review of 2021 Census data.

Following the presentation, members made the following comments/observations:-

- What consultation had taken place with other stakeholders, including elected members;
- Who would monitor the performance of the objectives and measures contained within the Strategy;
- Concerns regarding workforce data and that previously

black and ethnic minority employees was approximately 10% of the workforce and the aim was to reflect the local community, however, it was noted that this figure had now decreased;

- Concerns were also expressed regarding the statistical data of the workforce for LGBT and those with a disability, however, it was acknowledged that these figures might not reflect the actual position; and
- Information on the public workforce was due in March, 2022 which could then be considered by this Scrutiny Committee in April, 2022.

Resolved – That the presentation be noted and that an item on public workforce be included on the Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for the meeting in April, 2022.

25. GREATER MANCHESTER PENSION FUND

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee had raised a number of questions to be answered by the Council's representative on the Greater Manchester Pension Fund in response to a Notice of Motion which was approved by Council in 2019.

A copy of the questions had been circulated in advance of the meeting, together with, the approved Notice of Motion.

In response, the Borough Solicitor circulated information which she had received from the Director of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund.

Under Standing Order 16 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Chairman invited Councillor Hayes to address the Committee to outline his concerns regarding the lack of response and information from the Greater Manchester Pension Fund.

Councillor Hartigan, the Council's representative on the Greater Manchester Pension Fund, advised that he had attended his first meeting of the Fund on 10th December, 2021 and he had submitted the questions raised to officers but was still awaiting a response.

Members expressed their disappointment with regard to the information provided and were of the opinion that someone from the Pension Fund should attend this Committee to address the concerns. They were also of the view that this should be considered further at the next meeting of the Committee and that a representative from Fossil Free GM be invited to attend to evidence that the Pension Fund had actually increased its investments in fossil fuel companies, and also on what other Pension Funds had managed to achieve.

Resolved – (i) That issues and concerns raised regarding the Greater Manchester Pension Fund be further considered at the next meeting of this Committee.

(ii) That a representative from Fossil Free GM be invited to attend the next meeting of this Committee to provide evidence that the Pension Fund had actually increased its investments in fossil fuel companies, and also on what other Pension Funds had managed to achieve.

(iii) That the Leader of the Council be requested to consider the questions and provide answers in relation to the work being undertaken by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

26. CROMPTON PLACE

The Director of Place – Development gave a presentation to members which outlined the situation with regards to the Crompton Place Levelling Up Bid.

The presentation provided information on the process for submitting the bid; how the bid was submitted; and the reasons given by the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government as to why the bid had been unsuccessful.

It was also stated that work was still ongoing to fully understand what happened with the bid.

In conclusion, members were advised that unsuccessful first round bids could be re-submitted as second round bids and,

therefore, work undertaken to produce a first round bid could still be used to produce a viable second round bid.

Following the presentation, members made the following comments/observations:-

- Which necessary signed documentation was not received until the morning of 18th June, 2021;
- What level of political leadership was involved and what was their role;
- What plan was in place to ensure the bid was submitted on time;
- The Governance arrangements;
- A request to be informed of the external contributors;
- Issues around the ownership of the asset; and
- Concerns that it was not known which documents were missing.

In response, the Director of Place – Development, advised that a meeting had been set up with the MHCLG and any further updates would be submitted to a future meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.

Resolved – (i) That the presentation be noted.

(ii) That any further updates from the MHCLG be submitted to a future meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.

(iii) That information regarding the external contributors be circulated to members of this Scrutiny Committee.

27. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The following questions were submitted by Councillors Allen and Silvester in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Place - Development.

Q1.

Question - £100 million Loan – Councillor Allen

Back in 2017 the council secured a £100 million loan to kickstart the £1 billion town centres developments. Since then other government grants have been won to support the wider regeneration of the borough. This is ultimately public money and councillors should be appraised of expenditure against these loans and grants.

I would therefore ask the following question –

Could we please see an income and expenditure account for the £100 million and subsequent grants? The account should show the various incomes and a quantified breakdown of spending against each loan or grant. Where grants are ring fenced could we also have a note clarifying what the grant is to be used for?

A.

In 2017, the Council borrowed £100m to facilitate the regeneration of the Town Centre.

	Project	Actual Amount Spent £'m
Acquisitions	M&S	12.74
	Victoria Plaza	3.55
	Crompton Place plus leases	23.06
	Church Wharf	2.02
	Central Street/Deansgate	1.06
	156-180 Bradshawgate	0.16
	Chadwick Street	1.30
	Bus Station/Queens Street/Magistrates Court	2.14
Wider Town Centres initiatives	Octagon	5.80
	Albert Halls Restaurant	0.17
	Le Mans Hotel	0.07

F8

	Town Centres	2.19
	Town Centre Enforcement Team	0.08
	Town Centre Team - Staffing	1.26
	Public Realm	2.32
	Farnworth Health Village	0.04
	Developer Guarantees	5.71
	Digital Quarter	0.09
	Free Parking/Economic Recovery	0.86
	Metroshuttle	0.13
External Advice Site Investigation and Demolition Development Costs Other revenue costs	Across all areas	1.18
	Across all areas	1.75
	Across all areas	0.63
	costs	1.27
Total		69.59

Since 2017, the Council has made bids for additional funding.

The table below provides details of the funding applied for.

Grant Name	Grant awarded	Amount Received	Spent to Date
Towns Fund Accelerated Funding	£1m	£1m	£105k
Towns Fund	£22.9m	£1.145m	Nil
Future High Street Fund	£13.27m	£3.893m	£1k to date, £500k pending

F9

Brownfield Land Fund:	£11.837m		
<i>Church Wharf</i>	£1.84m	£1.239m	£1.239m
<i>Trinity</i>	£2.16m	£0.563m	£0.563m
<i>Bark St</i>	£0.85m		Grant paid direct to developer
<i>Central St</i>	£3.625m		Paid direct to developer
<i>Moor Lane</i>	£2.222m		Paid direct to developer
<i>Farnworth</i>	£1.14m		Paid direct to developer
Housing Infrastructure Fund	£12m	£0	Nil
Levelling Up Fund – BCMS	£20m	£0	Nil

Q2.

Question – City Status – Councillor Silvester

The Government announced in the summer of 2021 that a Civic Honours competition had been launched to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and that Her Majesty would grant the prestigious and rare civic honour of 'city status' by selecting a number of worthy towns in United Kingdom.

Bolton Council has previously submitted applications for city status in the 1992, 2000, 2002 and 2012 Civic Honours competitions.

The present Civic Honours competition was open for applications between 8th June 2021 and 8th December 2021. Has Bolton Council submitted an application for the present city

status Civic Honours competition and if not, is it because the 8th December 2021 closing date deadline was missed ?

A2.

Submitting a bid for city status involves a considerable amount of officer time and resource from the Council. On this occasion, following discussion with the Council Leader and other relevant Executive Cabinet Members, it was decided not to submit a bid so we could prioritise the Council's core services and response to the on-going pandemic. Whilst we do not rule out submitting a bid in the future, we are rightly proud of our status as one of the largest towns in the country which has given us some advantages.

With regard to question 2, members felt that more effort should be made to promote Bolton as a big town and also queried why other elected members had not been informed about this decision.

The Committee also received the extracts of minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee:-

- (a) The Cabinet held on 15th November, 2021;
- (b) The Executive Cabinet Member Leader's Portfolio held on 12th October and 16th November, 2021; and
- (c) The Executive Cabinet Member Stronger Communities Portfolio held on 16th November, 2021.

Resolved – That the minutes of the various meetings be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 8.15 p.m.)

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 14TH DECEMBER, 2021

Present – Councillors Khurram (Vice-Chairman), Challender, Eckersley- Fallon, Fletcher, Grant, Hartigan, Haworth, McMulkin, Radcliffe, Rimmer and Sherrington,

Lay Members

Ms. A. Schenk	-	Health Watch Bolton
Ms. B. Gallagher	-	Bolton and District Pensioners Association

Also in attendance

Councillor Morgan	-	Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Councillor Baines	-	Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing
Ms. R. Tanner	-	Managing Director Bolton Integrated Care Partnership
Ms. S. Long	-	Chief Officer, Bolton CCG
Ms. L. Donkin	-	Consultant in Public Health
Ms. L. Hardman	-	Head of Primary Care Development
Mr. N. Smith	-	Independent Safeguarding Chair
Mr. M. Robinson	-	Safeguarding
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	-	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Pattison, Bagnall and Ibrahim and Fiona Noden, Bolton FT, Suzanne Hilton (Age UK), Dr Helen Lowey, Director of Public Health and Dr Ratnarajah (Chair Bolton CCG).

Councillor Khurram in the Chair.

17. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 27th October, 2021 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be agreed and signed as a correct record.

18. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2021/22

The Committee received a report which set out details of the updated work programme.

Resolved – (i) That the updated work programme be noted.

(ii) That an item be added to the March, 2022 meeting of this Committee regarding some evidence from the ,Big Conversation,(service users, carers, residents) that people with newly diagnosed dementia feel not well supported, feel sympathy or empathy is lacking and they would like more support from the community services and voluntary groups.

19. BOLTON SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

The Interim Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Board submitted a report which updated members of the partnership during the year 2020/21 in relation to Adult safeguarding in Bolton.

The report outlined the statutory functions of the Board, one of which was to produce an annual report.

Members were informed that the annual report demonstrated that there had been continued commitment from the partners to safeguarding adults in Bolton with many achievements and developments across agencies.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- Domestic abuse / violence – incidents in older people;

- Victims of scams and contact information; and
- Engagement with the elderly regarding scams.

Resolved – That the annual report be noted.

20. ICP BUSINESS PLAN AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PROGRESS (HEALTH INEQUALITIES)

Ms. Rachel Tanner, Managing Director Bolton Integrated Care Partnership gave a presentation which outlined details of the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Business Plan for 2021/22.

Members were advised that in February, 2020 the ICP became an Alliance of key providers to deliver integrated place based health and care services and improve outcomes for people in our neighbourhoods.

The CCG, Council and Foundation Trust agreed to deploy their staff as part of an integrated operational directorate enabling joined up delivery and the FT as host organisation would provide infrastructure and support the Partnership.

The Managing Director was Rachel Tanner and Independent Chair, Sally McIvor and they were appointed to lead and drive those arrangements working across the integrated care system.

The Committee were apprised of –

- details of the ICP's first year of operation;
- the outcomes and priorities for 21/22;
- the high level measures used to judge performance over the next year;
- Aligned to local plans including the Vision 2030 and developed in the context of regional and national developments e.g. Health and Care Bill;
- Neighbourhood Model Update; and
- Opportunities and challenges in the year ahead.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- The neighbourhood wards make up and the practicalities of this;
- Investment in health and social care; and
- The neighbourhood teams and their operation.

Resolved - That Rachel Tanner be thanked for her detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

21. VACCINATIONS AND FLU CAMPAIGN

Ms. Lesley Hardman, Head of Primary Care Development and Deputy Lead of the Covid Vaccination Programme in Bolton gave a presentation on the position regarding flu vaccinations and the flu campaign.

Members were informed of details of the priority groups for flu vaccinations which included those aged over 65, frontline health and social care staff, those aged 16-64 and clinically at risk, pregnant women and children aged 2-3.

The flu vaccinations were undertaken at 49 GP surgeries and at 68 community pharmacies and vaccinations started in September.

The Committee was informed of the flu vaccination take up from 1st September to 21st November, 2021 and also information relating to care homes. Also referred to were the local strategies to increase flu vaccine take up using the data to identify low take up in specific cohorts / areas.

In terms of the Covid vaccination take up, the Committee was informed of the data as at 7th December, 2021 – first and second jabs and the booster. In conclusion members were advised of local strategies to increase Covid vaccine take up.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- The danger of flu;
- Pregnancy and jabs;

- Take up for the flu vaccine and compared to the covid vaccine take up;
- Congratulations on the flu roll out;
- Vaccination rates in ward areas;
- Resistance to vaccinations from some health professionals;
- Transmissibility;
- Discharge and urgent care staff and vaccinations;
- Matters around the army helping with vaccinations in Bolton; and
- NHS planning for vaccination decisions and future impacts.

Resolved – That Lesley Hardman be thanked for her detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

22. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The Committee received the extracts of minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee:-

- (a) Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing held on 15th November, 2021.
- (b) Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care held on 15th November, 2021.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 7.40 p.m.)

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 2ND FEBRUARY, 2022

Present – Councillors Khurram (Chairman), Fletcher, Grant, Hartigan, McMulkin, Peel (as deputy for Councillor Challenger), Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington and Taylor-Burke.

Lay Members

Ms. B. Gallagher - Bolton and District Pensioners Association

Also in attendance

Councillor Morgan - Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Councillor Baines - Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing

Mr. P. Lee - Director of Operations, Social Care and Health

Ms. T. Minshull - Assistant Director Commissioning and Integration

Mr. A. Wolstenholme - Integration and Improvement Manager

Mr. I. D. Mulholland - Deputy Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Challenger and T. Wilkinson and Fiona Noden, Bolton FT, Suzanne Hilton (Age UK), Ann Schenk (Health Watch Bolton), Dr Helen Lowey, Director of Public Health and Dr Ratnarajah (Chair Bolton CCG).

Councillor Khurram in the Chair.

23. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 14th December, 2021 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be agreed and signed as a correct record.

24. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2021/22

The Committee received a report which set out details of the updated work programme.

Resolved – That the updated work programme be noted.

25. SOCIAL CARE TRANSFORMATION – DEMAND STRATEGY AND MARKET SHAPING

Mr. Paul Lee, Director of Operations Social Care and Health and Ms. Tracy Minshull, Assistant Director Commissioning and Integration gave a presentation on the adult social care demand management strategy 2021-2023.

Members were advised of the reasons that demand for social care was changing and those included –

- Population and life expectancy increases;
- Large numbers now more likely to need some social care in retirement;
- Advances in healthcare enabled people with chronic conditions to live longer;
- More working age adults with disabilities lived longer and with more complex needs; and
- The highest unit costs were associated with supporting people with a learning disability.

The meeting was also apprised of the service demand trends and the priority evidence base information.

In terms of the demand management strategy, 2021-23, there were 6 priorities –

- Neighbourhoods and strengthening partnerships;
- Embracing new technologies;
- Integrated partnership approaches and practice;
- Market sustainability;
- Supporting the most vulnerable; and
- Supporting carers.

The risks associated with the strategy were also referred to.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- The 2040 date;
- Living wills and talking to those who are 50 – quality of life, e.g. those with dementia;
- Reducing demand as it's expensive;
- Getting those with learning disabilities into work and how many does Bolton Council and the NHS employ;
- People being pushed into using technology – older people like to talk to a human being; and
- Supporting vulnerable people and what that means.

Resolved – (i) That Mr. Paul Lee and Ms. Tracy Minshull be thanked for their detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

(ii) That members of the Committee be furnished with details of the employment statistics regarding those with learning disabilities working for the Council and the NHS.

26. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The Committee considered two members questions and their answers which had been submitted in accordance with standing order 36, viz –

The following question was submitted by Councillor Haworth in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by the Fiona Noden, Chief Executive of the Bolton NHS FT.

Q.

Question on Miscarriage Matters

To ask Bolton GP Federation, Bolton NHS Foundation Trust including senior nurses, how they might respond in Bolton, to the relevant part of the Miscarriage Matters Campaign set out in The Lancet in April 2021, highlighting that miscarriage was common, affecting one in ten women in their lifetime. Despite

this, the impact and consequences of miscarriage were underestimated, resulting in an attitude of acceptance of miscarriage, a system of care which could be fragmented, and care for women that could be of poor quality.

A.

Bolton had a clear focus on and was committed to improving the care pathway for women experiencing miscarriage and to standardise care for all women suffering pregnancy loss.

Our Consultant Lead was co-author of the Regional Northwest 2nd trimester pregnancy loss and Integrated Care Pathway which provided guidance to standardise care across the region and gave us a clear plan with regard to follow up of women suffering pregnancy loss.

During the Covid Pandemic in 2020 Bolton NHS Foundation Trust extended our early pregnancy assessment services from the hours of 8am – 8pm and had a dedicated 24hour assessment unit for women suffering with symptoms of miscarriage.

We had been committed in the provision of a 24/7 triage nurse who was the point of contact for early pregnancy for self, GP and emergency department referrals, who provided both clinical and emotional support and advice to ensure that women received appropriate care in the appropriate setting.

Our services provision included an Early Pregnancy streaming pathway so women who attended the Emergency Department experiencing symptoms in early pregnancy were fast tracked to EPAU (Early Pregnancy Assessment Unit), avoiding delays and providing the specialised compassionate and clinical care required, in the most appropriate setting.

When women experienced a miscarriage they were offered appropriate choices regarding miscarriage management to suits their needs and preferences, including expectant, medical and surgical options and we ensured treatments were scheduled as expediently as possible.

Bolton EPAU signposted all women to information about miscarriage and resources to address their physical and mental health needs following pregnancy loss including counselling and ways to optimise their health for future pregnancy. This included patient support-groups such as Cradle, Miscarriage Association, Beyond Bea and 4 Louis.

All our EPAU nursing and support staff had been trained in bereavement support by Miscarriage Association and some also by Beyond Bea. There was a plan to roll this out to medical staff.

Bolton EPAU Senior Nurses were trained or in training as Non-medical prescribers to ensure women were provided the necessary treatment without delay.

We were over 90% compliant with Nice Guidance for the management of ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage.

The following question was submitted by Bernie Gallagher, Lay Member in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by Rachel Tanner, Managing Director Integrated Care Partnership

Q.

Bolton & District Pensioners recognised the many benefits provided by Personal Assistants, not least the ability to employ someone they knew and trust who would understand their personal needs either culturally, religious, language or other specific need.

However, it came as a surprise to our members that Personal Assistants were not regulated as with other social care staff.

This might or might not be a problem in Bolton but a recent radio 4 programme on the topic stated that vulnerable people with a Personal Assistant were more likely to be the victim of financial abuse.

Could the Cabinet members for Social Care provide the following information to the Scrutiny Committee:

1. How many people were on Direct Payments?
2. What oversight did the council have where individuals employed a PA directly?
3. were there any statistics from the Adult Safeguarding team regarding investigations / outcomes?

A.

1. How many people were on Direct Payments?

1133 adults were in receipt of direct payments on 31st December 2021

2. What oversight did the council have where individuals employed a PA directly?
Bolton Council was committed to the health and wellbeing of its residents through the provision of flexible interventions that allowed people to exercise choice and control in the way their care and support needs are arranged.

Direct Payments were available to:

- people aged 16 or over with eligible care and support needs under the Care Act 2014.
- carers aged 16 or over (including people with parental responsibility for a disabled child)
- parents of children who had eligible assessed needs under the “Children Act 2004”.

Direct Payments were cash payments made to adults who preferred this method to meet some or all of their eligible care and support needs. It enabled the person to take ownership of their own care planning by choosing how and when they received support instead of Bolton Council arranging services on their behalf. The legislative

context for Direct Payments was set out in the Care Act, Section 117(2C) of the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Care and Support (Direct Payments) Regulations 2014. The Care Act provided a power to enable Direct Payments to be made to the adult in need of care and support, or a nominated/authorised person acting on their behalf if the adult with care and support needs so requested.

The Care Act, 2014 made clear that service users had choice and it was not lawful to demand that the money be spent on preferred providers of care and support. That would risk the challenge of negating choice, as this was the point of the direct payment scheme. Saying 'you cannot use any provider who was not approved' would be unlawful. Instead, in support of potential safeguarding concerns, there was a condition that provided for exclusion of named providers, but no condition allowing a council to prescribe any particular specific provider. The same applied to individuals chosen by the service user to provide their care and support.

Nonetheless, ensuring that service users were supported and protected was a key priority of the Department. Any financial abuse was treated very seriously. The Local Authority and partners provided oversight as follows:

- Social workers reviewed all cases on at least an annual basis
- The finance team audited direct payments within the first six months and annually thereafter
- Use of the Brokerage Service was encouraged to provide technical oversight such as HR, financial management, DBS, etc.
- Partners were trained to spot financial abuse and know to report it to the Safeguarding Team in the first instance

- The Safeguarding Team investigated if financial abuse was suspected. The police would be notified if judged necessary.

3. Were there any statistics from the Adult Safeguarding Team regarding investigations / outcomes?

In the period 2020/21, 19 service users in receipt of a direct payment were referred into the Safeguarding Team where it was suspected that financial abuse had occurred. Of those individuals 9 investigations concluded that financial abuse had occurred with one relating directly to the management of the direct payment. The remainder related to other concerns.

The Committee also received the extracts of minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee:-

- (c) Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing held on 6th December, 2021.
- (d) Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care held on 6th December, 2021.

Resolved – (i) That the members questions be noted.

(ii) That the minutes of the meeting be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 6.36 p.m.)

G14

NOTES

PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 8th DECEMBER, 2021

Present – Councillors Bagnall (Chairman), Weatherby (Vice-Chairman), Ayub, Brady, Conner (as deputy for Councillor Finney), Hartigan, Heslop, Hill, Mckeen, McMulkin (as deputy for Councillor Ismail), Peel, Sherrington, Walsh and Zaman.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Haslam	Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport
Councillor Muslim	Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services Delivery
Councillor Hewitt	Executive Cabinet Member Strategic Housing and Planning
Councillor Warren	Executive Cabinet Member Regeneration
Mr. G. Brough	Director of Place Development
Mr. J. Dyson	Director of Place Services
Mr. P. Whittingham	Assistant Director Economic Development and Regeneration
Mr. J. Kelly	Assistant Director Highways and Engineering
Mrs. J. Pollard	Head of Finance
Mr. S. Walsh	Senior Engineering Manager
Mr. R. Woods	Principal Engineer
Ms. T. Tatman	Policy and Projects Manager
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Finney and Ismail and Mrs. Fairclough as Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader)

Councillor Bagnall in the Chair.

19. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Place Scrutiny Committee held on 29th September, 2021 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be agreed and signed as a correct record.

20. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report which set out details of the updated Committee work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

Resolved – That the work programme be approved.

21. CROMPTON PLACE

This item was withdrawn.

22. BUDGET SAVINGS – PROGRESS, PERFORMANCE AND MEASUREMENT

Mr. Gerry Brough, Director of Place Development, Mrs. Janet Pollard, Director of Finance and Ms. Tammy Tatman, Policy and Projects Officer gave a joint presentation on budget savings, performance matters and measurement in the Place Department.

By way of background information, members were reminded of the 2021/ 2023 savings programme progress in terms of that which was already approved, that which was in consultation and still to come forward.

Members were reminded of the links to the Corporate Plan and the Vision 2030 and informed of the current performance measures for the 'Development' side and the 'Services' side.

It was also explained that work was currently taking place on the new Directorate plan for the next two years and it was likely there would be four priority themes –

H3

- Business resilience;
- Infrastructure,
- Sustainability;
- Growth and innovation.

Officers provided an indication of the type of performance measurements that might be adopted to monitor performance in each of the above four areas Those measures would be captured and reported on using a new performance reporting plan.

In terms of the Capital Programme for 2021/22, members were reminded that this was £77.8m and this was broken down in terms of its use across the Borough and in specific wards etc.

In conclusion, members were advised of the amount of covid funding utilised by the Directorate of Place and the significant areas of impact that had received the funding.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- Key performance indicators and the period covered – employment rate;
- Example performance monitoring – how performance information was made available e.g. monthly or annually;
- Narrow band of Corporate Plan KPI's for Place Services;
- Cleaner and greener equivalent and use across the Borough;
- Spending in the town centre and district centres;
- Climate change and linking it with all areas of the Council;
- The statistics pre-covid and now;
- It being a good thing that the KPI's are being reviewed ;
- The waste generated at home, recycling and benchmarking issues;
- Home working and the waste sites being closed in lockdown and the impact on household waste arisings;
- The last finance table on the slides needing an update; and
- Income generation areas and impact.

H4

Resolved – That Mr. Gerry Brough, Mrs. Janet Pollard and Ms. Tammy Tatman be thanked for their detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

23. HORWICH AND LOSTOCK FLOOD INVESTIGATION

Mr. John Kelly, Assistant Director Highways and Transport gave a presentation on the extreme weather event that took place on 16th May, 2021 which resulted in localised flooding.

Rainfall radar indicated that 60mm of rain fell within four hours over Horwich on Sunday 16th May, 2021. The average Monthly rainfall for the whole of the month of May was around 70mm.

The event was estimated as being a 'one in a 100 year' occurrence.

Members were apprised of details of the effect of the flooding and the response which included –

- Civil contingencies co-ordination;
- Highways team deployed to the site in terms of gully cleansing and road closures and cleaning debris screens on culverts;
- Neighbourhood Services cleaning highways;
- The Environment Agency clearing main river debris screens;
- Bolton Council Flood Risk Officers door knocking, data gathering and identifying vulnerable residents.

The flooding impacted internally on many residential and commercial premises and three schools suffered internal flooding.

In terms of emergency works, members were advised that those included cleaning of carriageways and footways, gully cleaning, safety inspections visiting and advising residents where flooding had taken place.

The recovery was being led by Civil Contingencies and a Flood Recovery Group had been established to co-ordinate this.

Recommendations were made to various bodies by the Lead Local Flood Authority and members were advised of the key points.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- Response of the emergency services;
- The problem of blocked gullies and the planned maintenance programme;
- It being a good report;
- Whether over-development was a factor;
- Potential impacts of development on the golf course and planning around this;
- Advice to the institutions flooded and advice for the flooding at the Tesco junction;
- The effect of building on reservoir land in Horwich;
- The effect of a reduced revenue budget;
- The annual problem areas;
- The damage the flooding caused to surfaces;
- It being a small snapshot of what was a national problem; and
- Matters around it being a 1 in 100 year event.

Resolved - That Mr. John Kelly be thanked for his detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

24. BOLTON AT HOME MONITORING REPORT

The Bolton at Home, Our Journey Ahead, Our Plan 2021-2026 document was circulated to members of the Committee.

Members were reminded of the objectives of Bolton at Home which were-

- To meet the housing needs of all current and future customers;
- To support customers to be more independent and healthy and the communities flourish; and
- To ensure the business was run well, responsible and financially secure.

Resolved – That the report be noted and that if members had any questions on the document then they should direct those to Ian Mulholland in Democratic Services.

25. MEMBERS' BUSINESS

The minutes of various meetings relevant to the remit of this Committee were also submitted, viz –

- Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader held on 22nd November, 2022;
- Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport held on 18th October and 22nd November, 2022;
- Executive Cabinet Member Regeneration held on 19th October and 22nd November, 2021; and
- Executive Cabinet Member Strategic Housing and Planning held on 16th November, 2021.

Resolved – That the position be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 8.10pm)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 6TH DECEMBER, 2021

Present – Councillors Iqbal (Chairman), Grant (Vice-Chairman), Hartigan (as deputy for Councillor Finney), Hornby, Mistry (as deputy for Councillor Adia), Murray, Pattison, Peel (as deputy for Councillor Donaghy), Radcliffe (as deputy for Councillor Connor), Rimmer, Sherrington (as deputy for Councillor Abdullah) and Walsh (as deputy for Councillor Taylor-Burke).

Co-opted Members

None in attendance

Also in attendance

Councillor Galloway	-	Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services
Ms B. Brown	-	Director of Children's Services
Mr P. Rankin	-	Deputy Director of Children's Services
Ms G. Whitehead	-	Assistant Director – Inclusive Education and Learning
Mrs V. Ridge	-	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Abdullah, Adia, Connor, Donaghy, Finney, Hill and Taylor-Burke and from Canon Bracegirdle.

Councillor Iqbal in the Chair.

18. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved - The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee held on 18th October, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

19. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

The Borough Solicitor submitted the Committee Work Programme for 2021/22.

Resolved – That the 2021/22 Committee Work Programme be noted.

20. SEXUAL HEALTH CURRICULUM

Ms G. Whitehead gave a presentation on relationships education, relationships and sex education and health education.

The Committee was advised that new guidance issued by the Department for Education governing the sexual health curriculum was originally due to come into effect from September 2020. However, implementation had been delayed until summer term 2021 due to COVID.

The guidance included:

- Relationships Education in primary schools;
- Relationships and Sex Education in secondary schools; and
- Health Education in primary and secondary schools.

The guidance related to all schools whether maintained or non-maintained including academies and free schools, non-maintained special schools, maintained special schools, alternative provision including pupil referral units and Diocese and other faith representatives. It was also a reference for other local authority staff.

The presentation advised that schools would already have already developed and reviewed and subsequently updated their policy to reflect the new guidance in consultation with parents. The DfE advised that schools should ensure that the policy would meet the needs of pupils and parents and reflected the community they serve.

The DfE guidance clearly defined what should be included in this policy, as follows:

- primary schools - relationships education:

- families and people who care for me
 - caring friendships
 - respectful relationships
 - online relationships
 - being safe

- secondary schools - relationships and sex education

- families
 - respectful relationships, including friendships
 - online and media
 - being safe
 - intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health

With regard to health education - primary and secondary, physical health and mental wellbeing education was now statutory. These subject areas were split into the following 8 themes:

- mental wellbeing
 - internet safety and harms
 - physical health and fitness
 - healthy eating
 - drugs, alcohol and tobacco
 - health and prevention
 - basic first aid
 - the changing adolescent body

The decision of how and when the statutory topics should be taught had been allocated to individual schools but the content was compulsory for all primary schools.

These themes are statutory and parents could not withdraw their child from these lessons.

Parents could not withdraw their child from aspects of relationships and sex education/relationships education which were covered as part of the statutory science curriculum.

A good understanding of pupils' faith backgrounds and positive relationships with school and local faith communities helped to create a constructive context for the teaching of the subjects.

In all schools, when teaching these subjects, the religious background of all pupils must be taken into account when teaching these subjects and when planning teaching so that the topics that were included in the core content were appropriately handled.

The presentation advised that sex education was not statutory in primary schools. Many primary schools already chose to teach some aspects of sex education and would continue to do so, although it was not a requirement.

Where a maintained primary school chose to teach aspects of sex education (which went beyond the national curriculum for science), the school was required to set this out in their policy and all schools should consult with parents on what was to be covered.

Primary schools that chose to teach sex education must allow parents a right to withdraw their children. The guidance refers to this as granting an automatic right for parents to withdraw their child from sex education lessons.

With regard to secondary schools, parents had the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory relationships and sex education.

Schools were advised to meet with the parents individually to discuss why they wished to withdraw their children from sex education. Once those discussions had taken place, except in exceptional circumstances, the school should respect the parents' request to withdraw the child, up to, and until, three terms before the child turns 16.

With regard to LGBT, the guidance stated that schools should ensure that their teaching was sensitive and age appropriate in approach and content.

At the point at which schools consider it appropriate to teach their pupils about LGBT, they should ensure that this content was fully integrated into their programmes of study for this area of the curriculum rather than delivered as a stand-alone unit or lesson. Schools were free to determine how they did this and there was an expectation that all pupils would have been taught LGBT content at a timely point as part of this area of the curriculum.

In secondary schools, pupils should be taught the facts and the law about sex, sexuality, sexual health and gender identity in an age-appropriate and inclusive way.

All pupils should feel that the content was relevant to them and their developing sexuality. Sexual orientation and gender identity should be explored at a timely point and in a clear, sensitive and respectful manner.

Pupils should be well informed about the full range of perspectives and, within the law, should be well equipped to make decisions for themselves about how to live their own lives, whilst respecting the right of others to make their own decisions and hold their own beliefs.

The presentation went on to focus on the work that had been undertaken in Bolton schools which included:

- consultation with parents, staff, governors, pupils
- engagement with wider school community
- communications through school platforms
- open door policy for individual concerns/queries

The presentation concluded that the overarching rationale from the DfE guidance was to:

- embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, pupils need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships and to build their self-efficacy.

These subjects represented a significant opportunity to help children and young people develop.

Following the presentation, members made the undermentioned observations/comments:

- what the approach of the Authority would be if a parent chose to withdraw their child – Ms Whitehead advised that the parent would be invited into school to establish what their concerns were with the aim of reassuring them – if they still chose to withdraw then the child would receive some sexual education via science lessons which were compulsory;
- the importance of teaching children how to respect each other particularly in the light of recent abusive incidents against women – Ms Whitehead assured members that Head Teachers were aware and had established panels to further develop this;
- the need to provide children in primary schools with awareness of social media even though this was not a compulsory element – members were advised that the primary school curriculum did contain an on-line bullying aspect; and
- the value of recording and logging incidents of bad behaviour in schools, particularly those that were abusive in nature, and the benefits of analysing such data periodically– Ms Whitehead advised that although this was not a statutory requirement, it was general good practice in schools to log such incidents and the Council had various software programmes in use for that purpose;

Resolved – That Ms Whitehead be thanked for her informative presentation.

20. CALL IN – HARVEY NURSERY REVIEW

The Committee was advised that the decision in relation to the report regarding the Harvey Nursery Review had been called in by Councillor Donaghy at the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services held on 22nd November, 2021, in accordance with Article 5 of the Council's Constitution.

The Committee had previously been circulated with a copy of the report considered at the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member held on 22nd November, 2021 together with the minutes of the meeting and the procedural options available to the Committee following consideration of the matter.

It was moved by Councillor Peel and seconded by Councillor Murray that –

That the Scrutiny Committee refer the decision to close Harvey Nursery to a meeting of the full Council, with a view to referring the decision back to the Executive Cabinet Member to ask for the following:

1. That the Executive Cabinet Member explain why no action has been taken improve the financial viability of the nursery since the previous call in.
2. That the Executive Cabinet Member immediately re-convene the Collaborative Working Group to explore all and any options that may be available to improve the financial viability of the nursery, as per previous instructions by full Council.
3. That the Executive Cabinet Member ask the relevant Children's Services officers, to afford all assistance that can be given to the nursery in order to promote this excellent facility to the wider population.

Members voting for approval of the motion (7):

Councillors Grant, Iqbal, Mistry, Murray, Peel, Pattison and Sherrington

Members voting against the motion (4):

Councillors Hartigan, Rimmer, Radcliffe, Walsh

Members abstaining (1):

Councillor Hornby

The motion was declared carried.

Resolved – That the item be considered at the meeting of the Council on 19th January, 2021.

22. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The Committee received the minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee:-

- Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services held on 22nd November, 2021.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.15pm)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 31ST JANUARY, 2022

Present – Councillors Iqbal (Chairman), Grant (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah, Adia, Connor, Donaghy, Hartigan (as deputy for Councillor Taylor-Burke), Hill, McGeown, Radcliffe (as deputy for Councillor Finney), Rimmer and Sherrington (as deputy for Councillor Murray).

Co-opted Members

Reverend Canon Dr Bracegirdle – Church of England Diocese Representative

Also in attendance

Councillor Galloway	-	Executive Cabinet Member – Children’s Services
Ms B. Brown	-	Director of Children’s Services
Mr P. Rankin	-	Deputy Director of Children’s Services
Mr I. Walker	-	Assistant Director Children’s Social Care and Early Help
Ms S. Gilman	-	Consultant in Public Health
Mr J. Cooke	-	Head of Complex Safeguarding and Youth Justice
Chief Inspector Russell	-	Greater Manchester Police
Mrs V. Ridge	-	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Finney, Hornby, Murray and Taylor-Burke.

Councillor Iqbal in the Chair.

23. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved - The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Children’s Services Scrutiny Committee held on 6th December, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

24. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22

The Borough Solicitor submitted the Committee Work Programme for 2021/22.

Resolved – That the 2021/22 Committee Work Programme be noted.

25. COUNCIL AND PARTNERS - PREVENTION RESPONSE TO YOUTH CRIME, DRUG USE AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN THE TOWN

Ms Brown gave a presentation on the work of the Youth Justice Service Targeted Prevention Team in Bolton.

The presentation provided an overview of Team and its main aims and objectives in terms of diverting children away from the criminal justice system.

The presentation provided definitions in terms of prevention and identified the following key phrases used by the Team:

- Prevention - support and intervention with children (and their parents / carers) who may be displaying behaviours which could indicate underlying needs or vulnerability;
- Youth Justice Prevention - aims to keep young people away from crime and the criminal justice system;
- 'Early' Prevention - support for children (no linked offence or arrests to address needs); and
- 'Targeted' Prevention - support for children who had had some contact with criminal justice services.

Members were informed that 70% of crimes where a child was named as a suspect were closed without obvious sign of referrals to Prevention Services.

Data from GMP suggested that as of 16th December, 2021 in Bolton, there were:

- 95 Children currently released and under investigation;
and
- 21 Children on Police Bail.

Between 1st September and 1st December, 2021, 485 children had been released with no further action.

Youth Justice Service officers currently identified on average, one or two siblings of children on their caseloads who they

were concerned about becoming involved in offending/anti-social behaviour.

The presentation went on to outline the plans for future working which involved:

- further refinement/analysis of the data;
- a prevention co-ordinator;
- focus of the justice service on referrals from Greater Manchester Police and Community Safety (Anti-Social Behaviour Pathway) to provide 'targeted' prevention;
- Early Help Service to focus on referrals from other agencies in respect of 'early' prevention and predictive ACEs;
- close working between YJS/IFD/EH to ensure all children/families who needed it received 'whole family' support;
- key focus on trauma and ACEs; and
- to build on existing resources – Safer Schools and Community Officer, Youth Diversion Support Worker, Team Around Schools, Early Help Targeted Support.

The presentation then went on to focus on the Let's End the Hurt Knife Crime Prevention Training. This was delivered as a Partnership between Bolton Council, secondary heads and Greater Manchester Police and involved a one-day training programme (Phase 1) to raise awareness amongst young people of the growing incidence and implications of knife crime.

The training had been delivered to approximately 20,000 students in the Authority's 20 mainstream secondary schools in July, 2021.

The training also provided young people with strategies to prevent involvement in knife crime as either a perpetrator or victim and the serious implications of handling knives together with the medical Implications of being stabbed. It also aimed to debunk the "grassing" myth and encourage talking.

The Training Programme had been created and delivered by Bolton Police and delivered on each school site by Greater

Manchester Police officers together with PCSOs using a training video created by GMP together with other resources and a facilitated question and answer opportunity for students. It also provided an informal opportunity for students to meet GMP officers and PCSOs.

With regards to future training, members were informed that a strategy meeting had been held in January, 2022, between GMP, Bolton Council and secondary special school headteachers. Delivery of the training to new Year 7 students had started in secondary schools and bespoke training programmes were being developed for each secondary special school for delivery by February half term 2022 in each school.

Following the presentation, representatives from the multi-disciplinary Team and GMP provided additional information and specific examples and answered members' questions and queries.

Following the presentation, members made various comments/observations:

- outcomes and indicators as to the effectiveness of the training – Ms Brown advised that it was too soon to identify results, although early indicators were positive with 96% of children who had received the training stating that it had been beneficial;
- it was encouraging to see that knives had been surrendered following some of the training sessions;
- the purpose and use of dispersal orders;
- prevention and engagement to deter perpetrators travelling to the Bolton from other areas;
- the use of Borough wide statistics rather than individual Ward issues;
- making use of good practice from other organisations;
- identifying adverse childhood experiences as an important aspect of prevention;
- the difficulties in measuring outcomes of this nature; and
- building on the success of the training and extending it to other areas such as drug use.

Resolved – That Ms Brown and other representatives be thanked for their attendance at the meeting and their informative presentation.

26. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The Committee received the minutes of other meetings of the Council relevant to the remit of this Committee:-

- Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services held on 6th December, 2021 and 10th and 24th January, 2022.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.05pm)

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NOTES