

# **Bolton Council**

## **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**18<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

## **SUMMONS AND AGENDA**





## **BOLTON COUNCIL**

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Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Town Hall on Wednesday next, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 at 7.00 p.m. when the following business is proposed to be transacted: -

**1. Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 (Section A).

**2. Constitution**

That the amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation for 2022/2023, as circulated, be approved.

**3. Recommendation to Council**

Motion to be moved by Councillor Hewitt –

That the updated Planning Validation Checklist, as circulated, be approved and that the Checklist be brought into effect for use on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

**4. Changes in Committee Membership and Appointments to Other Bodies**

**5. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(a)**

**6. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(c)**

**7. Committee Proceedings**

To approve the proceedings of the following Committees:-

Planning Committee (See Section B)

Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee (See Section C)

## **8. Scrutiny Committees**

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

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee (See Section D)

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

Place Scrutiny Committee (See Section F)

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee (See Section G)

## **9. Motions under Standing Order No.4**

(a) Motion in the name of Councillor Atcha –

Research commissioned by the Fair Tax Foundation has revealed that between 2014-2019, a huge 17.5% of UK public procurement contracts were won by businesses with connections to a tax haven. Those contracts were worth a combined value of £37.5bn.

Furthermore, the UK loses an estimated £17bn in corporation tax revenues as a result of profit shifting alone.

Profit shifting is a tax avoidance strategy whereby multinational firms exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift income and profits to low or no-tax locations.

Councils should do what they can to encourage fair tax practices amongst supplier companies when buying goods and services, and be given more powers to tackle tax dodging.

Tax plays a positive role in our society and Councils can be a key part of ensuring high tax standards are applied to businesses.

Bolton Council does have an Ethical Procurement Policy agreed in March 2021 which does include Criminal and non-Criminal conduct regarding tax abuse and compliance.

Many other councils have signed up to the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration including Oldham and Trafford in Greater Manchester.

Bolton Council therefore resolves to also sign up to the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration so that we may highlight that we are standing by our own Ethical Procurement Policy.

(b) Motion in the name of Councillor Silvester –

Council notes that in 2016 the Labour council stated that it would not allow exploratory drilling or infrastructure associated with fracking on land it controls or owns. It further stated that it will “rigorously scrutinise” any planning applications for fracking.

Council notes that the Government temporarily banned fracking in 2019, but then changed its mind recently, and fully supported the practice, which clearly breached its manifesto promises.

Council further notes that this U Turn was firmly supported by the Conservative Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services, during the meeting of the Council on September 7th 2022, and therefore expresses its concern that the current

Council policy on fracking is in danger of being abandoned by the Conservative led Council.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. reiterate its policy of not allowing any activity associated with fracking to take place on land it controls or owns.
2. To write to the Secretary of State to outline our opposition to fracking and to disagree with his statement that “fracking is in the national interest”.
3. To seek clarification from the Secretary of State as to how local support for fracking (which he says will be needed before the practice can go ahead) will be measured.

(c) Motion in the name of Councillor Mort –

Council believes that football, the national game in the UK, is currently in crisis.

COVID-19 has devastated the revenue of many lower-league clubs, with the loss of some notables, and dozens more clubs teetering on the brink of survival. Frequently bad management has gone unnoticed or ignored and clubs are run unsustainably, putting at risk all the history, heritage, and economic benefit they bring to an area – often in pursuit of short-term gain.

Council believes that football clubs are not ordinary businesses; they are historic sporting institutions that are both a civic and community asset, and a source of pride and unity, in their hometown or city.

Council therefore supports Fair Game, a national campaign that seeks radical reform of the way football is managed and run, specifically its call for:

- An independent regulator for the sport.
- A refocus on ‘values’ rather than profit.

- The establishment of a Sustainability Index, which will reallocate the payments made to clubs to reward those which are run well, respect equality standards and properly engage with their fans and their community.
- Fans to be given the final say on any proposed change to a club's 'crown jewels', including the club's name, nickname, colours, badge and the geographical location from where the club plays.
- Council also notes that former Sports Minister Tracey Crouch MP has published a Government-commissioned fan-led review into football governance and that a vast majority of its findings mirror Fair Game's aspirations.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Declare its support for the Fair Game manifesto, 'Solutions for our National Game', and calls on other councils to join us in our support.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Sport, our local Members of Parliament, and the Chair of the Local Government Association Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, asking them to support and work towards implementing Fair Game's manifesto and the findings of the fan-led review led by Tracey Crouch MP.
- Ask the Council's representatives to encourage other like-minded councils to support Fair Game.

(d) Motion in the name of Councillor T. Wilkinson –

Bolton Council recently received funding as part of the government's Mental Health Recovery Action Plan to tackle the mental health impacts on businesses.

The Council acknowledges the need to challenge the taboos of mental health and the importance of being aware of the signs and symptoms, understanding the questions to ask someone and sharing knowledge of what help is available.

In December 2021, Bolton Council announced free mental health training to anyone who worked or volunteered within the borough. Due to the demand and limited capacity these courses book up extremely quickly.

Mental health can impact anyone at any time. The council makes a firm commitment to ensure that elected members and council employees who are in public-facing roles, are provided with courses and strongly encouraged to attend Mental Health First Aider training, so they are sufficiently equipped to be able to support our residents.

(e) Motion in the name of Councillor Sanders -

In the 2019 Budget, the Council committed to £4million of new capital receipts to be “principally” invested into Farnworth - of which, since 2021, can be redirected by the Farnworth Town Centre Steering Group into viable schemes in Kearsley. An example being the £200,000 improvements to the public space and free carpark at Kearsley Precinct.

During the upcoming introduction period for the new leadership within the Place Department, and considering the impact that global and economic events have had on our high streets since the current town centres strategy was introduced in 2018, Council sees this as an opportune time to set-up a Policy Development Group to review:

- 1) The Council’s 2018 strategy in light of current challenges and potential opportunities facing high streets and town centres.



- 2) The inclusivity and fairness of the current town centres strategy and funding.
- 3) Placing Kearsley and Blackrod firmly within town centres policy.

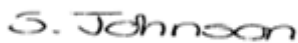
(f) Motion in the name of Councillor Veevers –

Council congratulates the Labour Party on finally coming to the realisation that Britain needs a system of fair votes for UK General elections.

Council looks forward to seeing this measure included in the Labour Party manifesto for the next General Election.

(g) Motion in the name of Councillor Heslop –

This Council has no confidence in the Leader of this Council and resolves to remove the Leader from this position.



SUE JOHNSON  
Chief Executive  
Town Hall, Bolton

11<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

The proceedings of the Cabinet and Executive Cabinet Member Portfolio meetings from 21<sup>st</sup> November to 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2022, together with the Chief Officers Appointments Panel, are included for information only in a separate volume.



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**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF BOLTON METROPOLITAN  
BOROUGH**

**2022/2023**

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**30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

Present - Councillors Zaman (Mayor), Mrs. Thomas (Deputy Mayor), Abdullah, Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Baines, Challender, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Fletcher, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Murray, Muslim, Newall, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

**55. AFFILIATION OF 820 NAVAL AIR SQUADRON**

It was moved by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Donaghy and approved –

To agree the affiliation of 820 Naval Air Squadron with the Borough of Bolton

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and finished at 7.10pm)

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**MEETING OF BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH**

**2022/2023**

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**30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**

Present - Councillors Zaman (Mayor), Mrs. Thomas (Deputy Mayor), Abdullah, Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Baines, Challender,

Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Fletcher, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Murray, Muslim, Newall, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

## **56. MINUTES**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

## **57. PETITION – SPEED CAMERAS ON SMITHILLS DEAN ROAD**

A petition was received relating to the installation of speed cameras on Smithills Dean Road and to encourage the Police to prioritise the road for speed monitoring and enforcement and to investigate and fund any suitable physical measures to reduce speeds on this road and was referred to the Director of Place.

## **58. CONSTITUTION – SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

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

That the amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation for 2022/2023, as circulated, be approved.

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

For the Motion, 51 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Baines, Challender, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Fletcher, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort,

Murray, Muslim, Newall, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

## **59. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL - POLLING DISTRICT CHANGES**

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

That the polling district changes resulting from Local Government Boundary Commission changes to ward boundaries, as circulated, be approved.

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

For the Motion, 51 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Baines, Challender, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Fletcher, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Murray, Muslim, Newall, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

## **60. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES**

It was moved by Councillor Dean and seconded by Councillor Khurram –

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

That Councillors Allen and Grant be removed from the membership of the Constitutional Panel

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

For the Motion, 51 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Baines, Challender, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Fletcher, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Murray, Muslim, Newall, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

## **61. PETITION – FARNWORTH SUPER HEALTH CENTRE**

A petition was received from Ms P Owen representing the residents of Bolton relating to Farnworth Super Health Centre –

To request Council to consider the need for a Farnworth Super Health Centre to serve the local community.

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In line with the petition scheme, as the petition had more than 2,500 signatures, the petitioner addressed the council for 5 minutes and outlined the views of residents.

A motion was then put forward from Councillor Baines and seconded by Councillor Sanders –

That this item be referred to the informal Cabinet for further discussion.

Whereupon, an amendment was then put forward by Councillor Haworth and seconded by Councillor N. Ayub –

That this item be referred to the Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee for further discussion.

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

### For the Amendment, 28 viz:

Councillors Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Challender, Donaghy, Fletcher, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Mistry, Mort, Murray, Newall, Peel, Priest, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

### Against the Amendment, 23 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Baines, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Galloway, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Meehan, Morgan, Muslim, A. Patel, S. Patel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Taylor-Burke, Walsh and Warren.

### Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the amendment was declared carried and became the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote, when the voting was as follows:-

For the Motion, 51 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Baines, Challenger, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Fletcher, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Murray, Muslim, Newall, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the substantive motion was declared carried.

**62. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(a)**

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

- (i) by Councillor Hartigan relating to Citizens Advice Bureau

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ii) by Councillor Newall relating to Disabled Facilities Grant

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

- (iii) by Councillor Haworth relating to the Albert Halls

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to this question.



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- (iv) by Councillor Khurram relating to the new licensing application process

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to question.

- (v) by Councillor Haworth relating to Christmas Festivities

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (vi) by Councillor Priest relating to grit bins

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

- (vii) by Councillor Silvester relating to planning applications

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

- (viii) by Councillor Heslop relating to additional train services in Kearsley

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

- (ix) by Councillor Mort relating to Women's Forum

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing replied to this question.

- (x) by Councillor Fletcher relating to Warm Hubs

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing replied to this question.

- (xi) by Councillor Silvester relating to the floral display for the new Mayor in Queens Park

The Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services Delivery replied to this question.

- (xii) by Councillor Veevers relating to zebra crossing on Chorley Old Road

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

- (xiii) by Councillor Veevers relating to funding of Adult Social Care

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

- (xiv) by Councillor Hayes relating to the response received from Borough MPs in relation to the opposition to the relaxation of planning regulations

The Chief Executive replied to this question.

- (xv) by Councillor Hayes relating to fast fibre in Bolton

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

- (xvi) by Councillor Hayes relating to Cyber Attacks

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (xvii) by Councillor A. Patel relating to the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police

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

- (xviii) by Councillor S. Patel relating to Place for Everyone and a Local Plan for Bolton

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

- (xix) by Councillor Cowen relating to the night time economy

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (xx) by Councillor Finney relating to night time economy

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (xxi) by Councillor Mrs. Thomas relating to Adult Social Care Reforms

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

- (xxii) by Councillor Mrs. Thomas relating to Ukrainian Families residing in Bolton

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

- (xxiii) by Councillor Sherrington relating to Permitted Development Rules

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

- (xxiv) by Councillor Newall relating to illuminating Ringley Old Bridge and St. Saviours Clocktower

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (xxv) by Councillor Sanders relating to the driveway into Farnworth Cemetery

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

(xxvi) by Councillor McGeown relating to the number of GPs

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing replied to this question.

**63. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(c)**

A question was asked by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and the Spokesperson for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service replied to this question.

**64. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Walsh, seconded by Councillor M. Ayub and agreed –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 be approved.

**65. LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Councillor Khurram, seconded by Councillor Taylor-Burke and agreed –

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 be approved.

**66. SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

It was moved by Councillor Donaghy, seconded by Councillor Grant and approved –

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

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committees – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Place Scrutiny Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> October and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022

At this point in the meeting, the Chief Executive advised that due to the time, no motions would be debated this evening and, therefore, The Mayor asked the movers of the motions if they wished for their motion to be voted on without debate or withdraw and resubmit to a future meeting. Consequently, the following motions were then voted as follows:-

**67. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING**

Councillor T. Wilkinson withdrew this motion and advised that she would resubmit it to a future meeting of the Council.

**68. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN THE PRIME MINISTER**

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

This Council has no confidence in the ability of the current Prime Minister, nor the Government to deal with the serious economic issues and the cost of living crisis that is badly affecting the people of this Borough.

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

For the Motion, 27 viz:

Councillors Atcha, M. Ayub, N. Ayub, Challender, Donaghy, Fletcher, Haworth, Hayes, Heslop, Hornby, Khurram, McGeown, Mistry, Mort, Murray, Newall, Peel, Priest, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 23 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Baines, Connor, Cowen, Cox, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Galloway, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Meehan, Morgan, Muslim, A. Patel, S. Patel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Taylor-Burke, Walsh and Warren.

Abstained, 1 viz:

Councillor Grant.

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

**69. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –  
FRACKING**

Councillor Silvester withdrew this motion and advised that he would resubmit it to a future meeting of the Council.

**70. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – FAIR  
GAME MANIFESTO**

Councillor Mort withdrew this motion and advised that she would resubmit it to a future meeting of the Council.

**71. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – SYSTEM  
OF FAIR VOTES FOR UK GENERAL ELECTIONS**

Councillor Veevers withdrew this motion and advised that he would resubmit it to a future meeting of the Council.

**72. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – TOWN  
CENTRE STRATEGY**

Councillor Sanders withdrew this motion and advised that he would resubmit it to a future meeting of the Council.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 10.30 p.m.)

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**NOTES**



## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub (Vice-Chairman), Brady, Connor, Dean (as deputy for Councillor Radcliffe), Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders (as deputy for Councillor T. Wilkinson), Sherrington and D. Wilkinson

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

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

### **14. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

### **15. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered various planning 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:-

<b>Member of Council</b>	<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
Councillor Sanders	14368/22	He declared an interest in the application. He then addressed the Committee in his capacity as Ward Councillor and then withdrew from the

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		meeting and took no further part in the proceedings on the application.
Councillor Walsh	14368/22	He has knowledge of the developer

Councillor Hayes, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the Committee and spoke in respect of applications numbered 13209/22 and 13329/22.

Councillor Sanders, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, addressed the Committee in respect of application numbered 14368/22.

Members of the public addressed the Committee in respect of the following applications:

13209/22	13329/22	12615/21
14368/22		

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

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Proposal and Location</b>	<b>Decision</b>
08141/20	Erection of 17 two-bedroom apartments together with other associated works including landscaping and 22 car park spaces on land at rear of Roka Restaurant, 122 Bradshaw Brow	<p><b>Refused.</b></p> <p><b>The proposed development fails to make reasonable provision or contribution towards the cost of appropriate physical, social and green infrastructure required by the proposed development and/or to</b></p>

		<p><b>mitigate the impact of the development, contrary to Policies IPC1, A1.4 and SC1.3 of Bolton's Core Strategy and Supplementary Planning Documents "Infrastructure and Planning Contributions" and "Affordable Housing".</b></p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (16): Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson.</p>
12615/21	Variation of Condition 4 (restrict occupancy to no more than 225 customers shall be within the restaurant at any time) on application 08815/20 at 486 Blackburn Road	<p><b>Refused.</b></p> <p><b>Insufficient information has been submitted by the applicant, in the form of an updated Transport Statement and Parking Accumulation Study, to demonstrate that the proposed increase in customers at the restaurant would provide sufficient curtilage and on street parking without compromising on-street</b></p>

		<p><b>parking or without having a detrimental impact on the residential amenity of local residents through increases in noise and disturbance, including residents on Birley Street and Newnham Street, contrary to Core Strategy policies P5 and CG4.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>An amendment to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>The amendment to refuse the application was put to the vote.</p> <p>Members voting for the amendment to refuse the application (11):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Finney, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson</p> <p>Members voting against the amendment to refuse the application (5):</p>
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		<p>Councillors Dean, Grant, Mort, S. Patel and Sanders</p> <p>The amendment was declared carried and became the substantive motion.</p> <p>The substantive motion was put to the vote.</p> <p>Members voting for the substantive motion to refuse the application (11):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Finney, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson</p> <p>Members voting against the substantive motion to refuse the application (5):</p> <p>Councillors Dean, Grant, Mort, S. Patel and Sanders</p> <p>The substantive motion was carried.</p>
13209/22	Demolition of bungalows and erection of 43 dwellings comprising four storey block of 35 flats and 8 houses together with associated access	<p><b>Refused.</b></p> <p><b>1.The proposed four storey apartment building, by reason of its siting, height, scale and appearance, would not be in keeping with the</b></p>

	<p>and parking, parking, landscaping and retaining wall to south west boundary on land at Grizedale Close</p>	<p><b>character and appearance of the area, and would appear incongruous from surrounding viewpoints and the public rights of way that adjoin the site, contrary to Policies CG3 and OA5 of Bolton's Core Strategy.</b></p> <p><b>2.The proposed development would result in the unacceptable loss of trees and hedgerows from the site and fails to sufficiently safeguard and enhance biodiversity, contrary to Policy CG1.2 of Bolton's Core Strategy.</b></p> <p>A motion to refuse the application on grounds 1, 2, 3 and 4 was moved and seconded.</p> <p>An amendment to refuse the application on grounds 1 and 2 was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for the amendment to refuse the application on grounds 1 and 2 (9):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Connor, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Peel, Sanders and Sherrington</p>
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		<p>Members voting against the amendment to refuse the application on grounds 1 and 2 (7):</p> <p>Councillors Brady, Dean, Finney, Newall, S. Patel, Walsh and D. Wilkinson.</p> <p>The amendment was declared carried and became the substantive motion.</p> <p>Members voting for the substantive motion to refuse the application on grounds 1 and 2 (16):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson</p> <p>The substantive motion was declared carried</p>
13329/22	Listed Building consent for replacement windows at 35 Fourth Street	<p><b>Deferred for further information.</b></p> <p>A motion to defer the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for the motion to defer the application (16):</p>

		Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson
14368/22	Prior approval application for the proposed installation of a 30m high, multi-user monopole, supporting 6 antennas, 2 300mm diameter transmission link dishes, 6 equipment cabinets, 1 electricity meter cabinet in the fence line, a 2.1m high security fence, 2 cable ladders and ancillary development thereto on land at Century Mill. George Street, Farnworth	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions.</b></p> <p><b>Members considered that on balance the benefits of providing a replacement monopole within the site represents a visual improvement on the existing telecommunication equipment sited on the existing chimney, together with the monopole being partially screened by existing trees and vegetation and the distant views from the closest existing residential properties outweighs the harm caused to any existing or future residents in the local area.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application, subject to conditions, was moved and seconded.</p>



		<p>Members voting for approval of the application (14):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Walsh and D. Wilkinson.</p> <p>Members voting against the motion to approve the application, subject to conditions (1):</p> <p>Councillor Sherrington</p>
14448/22	Erection of 3 storey primary healthcare facility incorporating a pharmacy together with associated parking and landscaping at Horwich Leisure Centre, Victoria Road, Horwich	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application, subject to conditions, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application, subject to conditions (16):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson</p>

## **16. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS**

The Director of Place (Development) submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 9<sup>th</sup> August and 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

Resolved – That the report be noted.

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

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## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub (Vice-Chairman), Finney, Grant, Meehan (as deputy for Councillor Connor), Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington and T. Wilkinson

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Brady, Connor and D. Wilkinson

## **17. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

## **18. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered various planning applications, as set out in the report submitted by the Director of Place 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:-

<b>Member of Council</b>	<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
Councillors Finney, Meehan, S. Patel, Radcliffe and Walsh	13835/22	The applicant is a member of the Bolton Conservative Party
Councillor S. Patel	14055/22	He is a member of the Bolton at Home Board
Councillor Mort	14791/22	She is a Governor at the Nursery

Councillor Heslop, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the Committee and spoke in respect of application numbered 09055/20.

Members of the public addressed the Committee in respect of the following applications:

14055/22                      09055/20

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

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Proposal and Location</b>	<b>Decision</b>
09055/20	Removal of condition 3 on application 82111/09 for a temporary period of 12 months at 524 Manchester Road, Kearsley	<b>Approved, for a temporary period of 12 months, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report, and amended condition regarding dimming of external lighting between 10.00pm and 7.00am.</b>

		<p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>An amendment to approve the application, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report, and amended condition regarding dimming of the external lighting between 10.00pm and 7.00am, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>The amendment was put to the vote.</p> <p>Members voting for the amendment (12):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Finney, Grant, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington and Walsh</p> <p>Members voting against the amendment (2):</p> <p>Councillors Newall and T. Wilkinson</p> <p>The amendment was declared carried and became the substantive motion.</p> <p>Members then voted on the substantive motion.</p>
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		<p>Members voting for the substantive motion (12):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Finney, Grant, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington and Walsh.</p> <p>Members voting against the substantive motion (2):</p> <p>Councillors Newall and T. Wilkinson</p> <p>The substantive motion was declared carried.</p>
11471/21	Retention of 3 modular free-standing canopies at Ladybridge High School	<p><b>Approved, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (13):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson</p>
13835/22	Variation of Condition 04 on application 12322/21 to increase width and height of	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommend in the report.</b></p>

	first floor extension at 80 Somerton Road	<p>A motion to approve the application, subject to conditions as recommended in the report, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application, subject to conditions (13):</p> <p>Councillors Finney, Grant, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson</p> <p>Member abstaining (1):</p> <p>Councillor M. Ayub</p>
14055/22	Erection of 44 dwellings with associated access, parking and landscaping on land at Avenue Street	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application, subject to conditions as recommended in the report, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application, subject to conditions as recommended in the report (14):</p>

		Councillors M. Ayub, Finney, Grant, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson
14791/22	Erection of a modular classroom building at Susan Isaacs Nursery, Vernon Street	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application, subject to conditions as recommended in the report, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report (14):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Finney, Grant, Meehan, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson</p>

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.30pm)

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## PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2023

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah (as deputy for Councillor Radcliffe), Brady, Connor, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders (as deputy for Councillor T. Wilkinson), Sherrington and D. Wilkinson

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

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

## **19. HONORARY ALDERMAN ERIC JOHNSON**

The Chairman referred to the recent death of Honorary Alderman Eric Johnson.

The Committee observed a minute silence in his memory.

## **20. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

## **21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered various planning applications, as set out in the report submitted by the Director of Place 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:-

<b>Member of Council</b>	<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Nature of Interest</b>
Councillor Sanders	13772/22	His parents live near to the application site. He withdrew from the meeting during



		consideration and determination of the application and took no part in the proceedings thereon.
Councillor Sanders	13911/22	Close friends are direct neighbours to the application site. He withdrew from the meeting during consideration and determination of the application and took no part in the proceedings thereon.

Councillor Baines, in her capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the Committee and spoke in respect of application numbered 14098/22.

Councillor N. Ayub, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 13911/22

Members of the public addressed the Committee in respect of the following applications:

13911/22

13772/22

14965/22

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

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Proposal and Location</b>	<b>Decision</b>
13683/22	Siting of a modular building at Blackrod Primary School, Manchester Road, Blackrod	<b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b>

		<p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded;</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (15):</p> <p>Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and D. Wilkinson</p>
13772/22	<p>Erection of a 2/3 storey building comprising 8 x 1-bedroom self-contained assisted living apartments together with associated works to include external amenity space, landscaping, bin storage and car and cycle parking on land on east side of Dorset Close, Farnworth</p>	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application (14):</p> <p>Councillors Abdullah, M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Walsh and D. Wilkinson.</p>

		<p>Members voting against approval of the application (1):</p> <p>Councillor Sherrington</p>
13911/22	<p>Conversion of existing dwellinghouse into a 7 bedroomed house of multiple occupancy (HMO) together with the erection of a single storey extension to rear at 140 Lower Rawson Street, Farnworth</p>	<p><b>Refused, for the following reasons:</b></p> <p>1. Inadequate and inappropriately located provision is proposed for the storage of domestic waste for the number of occupants, leading to either harm to the character and appearance of the application site and the area or a reduction in the already limited external amenity space proposed, contrary to Policies RA2, CG3 and CG4 of Bolton's Core Strategy.</p> <p>2. Inadequate off-road parking provision is proposed for the development which would lead to on-road parking within the immediate vicinity of the site in an area that is already subject to</p>

		<p>high demand for such provision, to the detriment of the nearby road network, contrary to Policies S1 and P5 and the parking standards appendix of Bolton Core Strategy and the Accessibility, Transport and Road Safety SPD.</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (15):</p> <p>Councillors Abdullah, M. Ayub, Brady, Connor, Finney, Grant, Mistry, Morgan, Mort, Newall, S. Patel, Peel, Sherrington Walsh and D. Wilkinson</p>
14098/22	<p>Reserved matters application pursuant to approval 07046/19 for the erection of 1 residential detached dwelling (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale details) on land north of 13 Boardman Street, Blackrod</p>	<p><b>Deferred for further consideration.</b></p> <p>A motion to defer the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for deferral of the</p>

		<p>application (16):  Councillors Abdullah,  M. Ayub, Brady,  Connor, Finney,  Grant, Mistry,  Morgan, Mort, Newall,  S. Patel, Peel,  Sanders, Sherrington,  Walsh and D.  Wilkinson</p>
14965/22	<p>Erection of a new  household and business  storage facility (use class  B8) and associated  access, parking, and  landscaping on land at  Lower Bridgeman Street</p>	<p><b>Approved, subject  to conditions, as  recommended in the  report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve  the application was  moved and  seconded;</p> <p>Members voting for  approval of the  application (15):</p> <p>Councillors Abdullah,  M. Ayub, Brady,  Connor, Finney,  Mistry, Morgan, Mort,  Newall, S. Patel,  Peel, Sanders,  Sherrington, Walsh  and D. Wilkinson</p> <p>Members voting  against approval of  the application (1):</p> <p>Councillor Grant</p>

## **22. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS**

The Director of Place (Development) submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 8<sup>th</sup> November and 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2022

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.50pm)

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION  
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Khurram (Chairman), Taylor- Burke (Vice-Chairman), Dean, Galloway (as deputy for Councillor Cowen), Haworth, McMulkin, Meehan and Mistry.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cowen, Allen, Newall, Hornby, Hill and Jiva.

Councillor Khurram, Chairman

**18. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

**19. 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.

**20. MISCONDUCT BY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER  
LER/21/22**

The Director of Place Services submitted a report which set out details of misconduct allegations against a driver licensed to drive private hire vehicles.

## C2

The applicant did not attend the meeting but sent a letter to be read out that he was not attending and that he expected to be suspended. The Committee noted that the driver had not asked for consideration of the matter to be deferred and agreed to continue to consider the case in his absentia.

The report set out details of the alleged misconduct.

It was moved by Councillor McMulkin and Seconded by Councillor Dean that the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be revoked.

### For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Dean, Galloway, Haworth, Khurram, McMulkin, Meehan, Mistry and Taylor-Burke.

### Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

### Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried and it was specifically resolved –

That the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be revoked on the basis that the Committee are not satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

The Committee also took account of the following –

- Matters concerning the conviction for driving or attempting to drive with alcohol level above limit from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2022 and his driving disqualification. The Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability indicates that where less than five years has elapsed since the conviction, the person applying for a licence would normally have their application refused.



The policy also states that a serious view will be taken on a conviction for driving or being in charge of a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

Driving whilst under the influence of alcohol is unacceptable under any circumstances and puts not only the driver, but passengers and other road users at risk. Such irresponsible behaviour is not conducive with the responsibilities of a private hire or hackney carriage driver.

Other criminal behaviour involving drunkenness, such as being 'drunk and disorderly' also tends to suggest that a person does not have the appropriate temperament for the role.

- The driver also failed to inform the licensing team of two arrests for drink driving, the second of which he is due to appear in court in January, 2023.

Members of the public, the elderly, infirm and children or vulnerable adults entrust their personal safety and wellbeing to private hire drivers whenever they take a journey. Passengers often travel alone and are vulnerable to inappropriate behaviour.

The Committee's primary duty is of concern for the safety and wellbeing of the public.

There is therefore reasonable cause to revoke the private hire drivers licence.

## **21. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LER/22/22**

The Director of Place Services submitted a report which set out details of an application for a licence to drive a private hire vehicles.

The applicant attended the meeting.

The report set out details of the application and included details of alleged misconduct.

It was moved by Councillor McMulkin and Seconded by Councillor Mistry that the application for a licence to drive a Private Hire Vehicle be refused.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors, Dean, Galloway, Haworth, Khurram, McMulkin, Meehan, Mistry and Taylor-Burke.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried and it was specifically resolved –

That the application for a licence to drive a private hire vehicle be refused on the basis that the Committee are not satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

The Committee also took account of the following –

- The conviction from 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 relating to failure to disclose information to make gain for self/another or to cause loss to other / expose other to loss. The applicant explained that he had been convicted in relation to claiming Carers Allowance for a period of 29 weeks whilst his father was out of the country. He estimated that he had wrongly claimed over £2000. The Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability indicates that a serious view is taken of any offences of dishonesty. Where a person has a conviction for an offence related to dishonesty and the date of the conviction is less than five

years, then a person applying for a licence would normally have their licence refused. Furthermore, a driver of a private hire or hackney carriage vehicle is expected to be a person of trust. It is comparatively easy for a dishonest driver to defraud the public by demanding more than the legal fare and in other ways. Passengers may include children, young persons and vulnerable people. Members of the public entrust themselves to the care of a driver both for their own safety and for fair dealing.

- The Common Assault Caution from 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. At the meeting the applicant admitted assaulting his wife in 2019 but denied strangling her. During the meeting, the applicant became aggressive when asked questions by Committee members. The Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability indicates that an extremely serious view is taken where a person has been convicted of any offence of violence. A person would normally be refused a licence where the person has been convicted of common assault and the date is less than five years.

Members of the public, the elderly, infirm and children or vulnerable adults entrust their personal safety and wellbeing to private hire drivers whenever they take a journey. Passengers often travel alone and are vulnerable to inappropriate behaviour.

The Committee's primary duty is of concern for the safety and wellbeing of the public.

There is therefore reasonable cause to refuse to grant the private hire drivers licence.

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**NOTES**

**CORPORATE AND EXTERNAL ISSUES SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Silvester (Chairman), Heslop (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah (as deputy for Councillor Brady), Atcha (as deputy for Councillor Jiva), Cowen, Mistry, A. Patel (as deputy for Councillor Rimmer), S. Patel, Peel, Mrs. Thomas, Veevers, Walsh, Weatherby and Wright.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Cox	Executive Cabinet Member Leader Portfolio
Councillor Dean	Executive Cabinet for Stronger Communities
Miss. S. Johnson	Chief Executive
Mr. P. Rimmer	Assistant Director Revenues, Benefits and Customer Services
Ms. H. Gorman	Borough Solicitor
Chief Superintendent Stephanie Parker	Greater Manchester Police
Mr. R. Martinez	Head of Community Safety
Mrs. V. Ridge	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Brady, Hornby, Jiva and Rimmer.

Councillor Silvester in the Chair

**23. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 were submitted.

Further to minute 14 of the previous meeting, the Chairman advised that he had sent a letter to Chris Green MP regarding the costs associated with the setting up of a public meeting a

copy of which had been circulated to members. A response had also been received back from Chris Green MP which had been circulated to members.

With regards to the response from Chris Green MP, a query was raised in relation to his comment that the Council chose to hold the public meeting which was not what members were led to believe at previous meetings when they had been told that Chris Green MP had requested the meeting.

A further question was raised in relation to how the motion which had been agreed at the previous meeting had been communicated to the 3 MPs and officers of the Council.

Concern was also raised regarding the cost of the room hire which was £695 and members requested the Chief Executive to advise Chief Officers that, in future, if they were asked to hold public meetings then consideration should be given to the cost of the hire of the venue.

Resolved – (i) That the minutes of the previous meeting be noted.

(ii) That the motion approved at the previous meeting be conveyed to the 3 MPs and officers of the Council.

(iii) That the Chief Executive be requested to advise Chief Officers that, in future, when looking at venues for public meetings consideration should be given to the cost of the hire of the venue.

#### **24. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2022/2023**

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which detailed the proposed work programme for 2022/2023.

Resolved – That the Work Programme for 2022/2023 be noted.

## **25. POLICING OPERATIONS IN EACH WARD OF THE BOROUGH**

Chief Superintendent Stephanie Parker, Greater Manchester Police, gave a presentation which outlined the policing operations which were currently being undertaken in various wards within the Borough.

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

- North of the Borough
  - Little Lever – issues associated with anti-social behaviour around the Dovebank Estate and public facilities;
  - Operation Camenca which related to off road bikes; and
  - Recent increase in commercial burglary and burglary dwellings in the Bromley Cross/Egerton area.
- South of the Borough
  - Begging in the Town Centre was a continuous problem;
  - Anti-social behaviour associated with the Bus Interchange; and
  - Issues associated with the Traveller's site.
- West of the Borough
  - Anti-social behaviour at the Middlebrook Retail Park (Operation Bauble);
  - Bolton Wanderers Football Club regarding the fixtures over the next month; and
  - Issues with youth violence in Westhoughton.

In relation to each of the issues identified above Chief Superintendent Parker also outlined the measures which were being taken to address the problems.

Members were also informed of other initiatives which were taking place district wide and were as follows:-

- Operation Portman – speeding operation;

- Operation Overspill – night time economy in the Town Centre.

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

- How did the Police distinguish between beggars and genuine homeless people in the Town Centre;
- Reference was made to the Pound off the Street initiative which was introduced in 2019 but had not progressed;
- The increasing number of youths congregating outside the Bolton News; and
- How could the Council, as a Licensing Authority, help and assist the police with improving the early morning economy in the Town Centre.

Resolved – That Chief Superintendent Stephanie Parker be thanked for her informative and detailed presentation and the position be noted.

## **26. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - UPDATE**

Mr. R. Martinez, Head of Community Safety, gave a presentation to members which provided an update in relation to the work being undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership.

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

- The priorities for the Partnership for 2022-2025 which were around keeping people safe; reducing harm and offending; and strengthening communities and places;
- The Summer Violence Engagement Programme;
- Preventing Serious Youth Violence;
- The Domestic Abuse theme;
- Violence against Women and Girls and night-time Economy Safety;
- The 16 days of activism against gendered based violence/white ribbon campaign;
- Safeguarding against radicalisation: PREVENT which was a statutory function;



- Responding to begging; and
- Future developments.

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

- The involvement of schools in the white ribbon campaign;
- What were the reasons why The Hope for Change campaign was not being fully developed and what public relations plans were in place to improve this; and
- What progress had been made with regards to the establishment of a Women's Forum.

Resolved – (i) That Mr. R. Martinez be thanked for his informative and detailed presentation and the position be noted.

(ii) That information regarding the Hope for Change campaign and any potential barriers towards its success be circulated to members of this Scrutiny Committee.

## **27. HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUNDING/COST OF LIVING UPDATE**

Mr. P. Rimmer, Assistant Director Revenues and Benefits and Customer Services gave a presentation which outlined Bolton's Response to the increases in cost of living.

Information was provided in relation to the following:-

- Representatives on the Cost of Living Strategic Group;
- Representatives on the Cost of Living Operational Group;
- Key themes/workstreams;
- The support provided from the Household Support Fund Round 2 between April – September, 2022;
- The Household Support Fund Round 3 guidance;
- Examples of support which had been provided;
- The proposals agreed by Cabinet;

## D6

- The cost of living events which were held in November, 2022;
- The cost of living micro site on the Council's website;
- The publicity campaign;
- The Warm Spaces initiative; and
- The progress which had been made.

Members were reminded that as part of the Household Support Fund Round 3 Bolton had been awarded £2.780 million and this covered the period 1st October, 2022 to 31st March, 2023.

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

- In terms of Warm Spaces, where there any glaring gaps within the Borough especially in deprived areas which members needed to be aware;
- With regards to the recent cost of living events held in November at Bolton Town Hall did the Council know where the 200 residents who attended lived in the Borough;
- The offer needed to enhanced and include in community centres a social element such as reading materials, biscuits etc; and
- The criteria being used for Warm Spaces was quite challenging for small community groups who did not tick all the boxes and therefore there was a need to consider more flexibility to accommodate such groups.

Resolved – (i) That Mr. Rimmer be thanked for his informative and detailed presentation and the position be noted.

(ii) That information in relation to the location of Warm Spaces in the Borough be circulated to members of this Scrutiny Committee.

## **28. MEMBERS BUSINESS**

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

- (a) Cabinet held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2022;
- (b) The Executive Cabinet Member Leaders Portfolio held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022; and
- (c) The Executive Cabinet Member Stronger Communities Portfolio held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

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

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 7.15 p.m.)

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**NOTES**

## **HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Haworth (Chairman), T. Wilkinson (Vice-Chairman), N. Ayub, Bullock, Hartigan, Khurram, Meehan, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Mrs. Thomas and Wright.

### Also in attendance

Councillor Morgan	- Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Ms. R. Tanner	- Managing Director, Bolton Integrated Care Partnership DASS
Mrs. K. Kenyon	- Assistant Director Social Care and Housing
Ms. L. Donkin	- Interim Director of Public Health
Ms. J. Haworth	- Clinical Screening and Immunisation Manager, Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership
Ms. F. Noden	- Chief Executive, Bolton NHS FT
Ms. T. Minshull	- Assistant Director Commissioning
Mrs. V. Ridge	- Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Challender, Fletcher, McGeown and Taylor-Burke and Councillor Baines, Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing and Bernie Gallagher, Bolton and District Pensioners Association and Suzanne Hilton, Age UK Bolton.

Councillor Haworth in the Chair.

### **23. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 were submitted.

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

## **24. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2022/23**

The Committee received a report which set out the work programme items for consideration during the Municipal Year.

The Chairman advised members that, due to significant changes in Parliament, the item on Social Care Transformation which was scheduled to be discussed at this Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2023 would now be removed from the Work Programme.

The Chairman also stated that going forward she would include some narrative on the items contained within the Work Programme so officers were clear as to what members wanted.

Resolved – That the updated work programme for 2022/2023 be approved.

## **25. HOUSING SERVICE UPDATE**

Mrs. Karen Kenyon, Assistant Director Social Care and Housing gave a presentation to members which provided an update on the work being undertaken by Housing Services.

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

- The areas which were covered by Housing Services;
- Asylum dispersal including national/regional comparison;
- Home Office/SERCO property procurement and standards;
- Housing standards and conditions of Private Rent stock (Private Rented Sector) and the Secretary of State's letter following the tragic death of Awaab Ishak in Rochdale and the implications for Bolton; and
- Cold weather/winter provision for rough sleepers.

Members in their discussions referred to –

### E3

- With regards to the provision for asylum seekers from Serco what attempts can be made by the Authority to not accept any further asylum seekers due to the impact on other services and the fact that Bolton was above the national average;
- Housing within the borough was very old stock and there had been very little regeneration;
- One of the problems was the volume of asylum seekers over a significant period of time, and the impact this was having on the ability of services/infrastructure to support adequately and, in particular, the pressure on schools;
- Serco not listening to the local authority about the difficulties on the ground;
- The closure of the Halliwell UCAN which assisted Asylum Seekers and its impact;
- No regulation for private landlords;
- Issues associated with housing asylum seekers who had been granted asylum and therefore were no longer the responsibility of Serco but still needed to be rehoused;
- 26.9% of properties had been identified as having damp and mould what are the local authority doing to address this;
- How does the local authority check that properties acquired by Serco are in good condition;
- Concern that vulnerable people who received higher rates of housing benefits were not well looked after and sometimes taken advantage of by unscrupulous landlords and was there anything the local authority could do about this;
- Housing and health related issues associated with problems with faulty equipment such as fire alarms/carbon monoxide alarms and buildings and fittings which were broken; and
- Traveller sites and the issues associated with these and the involvement of housing services.

Resolved – That Mrs. Karen Kenyon be thanked for her detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

## **26. CHILDHOOD IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME**

Ms. Lynn Donkin, Interim Director of Public Health and Ms. J. Haworth, Clinical Screening and Immunisation Manager Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership gave a joint presentation on the Childhood Immunisation Programme.

Information was provided in relation the following, viz:-

- The importance of Childhood Immunisation;
- Childhood Immunisation was a key element of the Healthy Child Programme;
- The complex system to commission, deliver and assure childhood immunisations;
- The role of the Greater Manchester Screening and Immunisation Team;
- Statistical information across Greater Manchester in relation to the take up of Hexavalent (6-in-1) Primary Course at 1 year;
- Statistical information across Greater Manchester in relation to the take up of Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis) booster at 5 years;
- Statistical information across Greater Manchester in relation to the take up of MMRI at 2 years;
- Statistical information across Greater Manchester in relation to the take up of MMR2 at 5 years;
- The areas which were doing well;
- The improvement plans/next steps;
- Conclusion and call for action; and
- Reference slides were provided in relation to the National Childhood Immunisation Programme and which organisations did what to ensure programme delivery.



Members in their deliberations referred to –

- Could the location of health centres have an impact on the take up of childhood immunisations;
- Was feedback received on why people did not take up childhood immunisations and what support was available for children who had additional needs for immunisations;
- The need to get the message across to the BAME Community of the importance of childhood immunisations;
- An acknowledgement that Bolton was doing well both at a Greater Manchester and national level;
- The approach taken with schools regarding the immunisation of asylum seekers/international new arrivals;
- Was the health questionnaires for 10, 11, 12 and 13 year olds school based and how was it carried out; and
- The Bolton Health Protection Board to look at the nine neighbourhoods and to monitor inequalities.

Resolved – That Ms. Lynn Donkin and Ms. J. Haworth be thanked for their detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

## **27. SOCIAL CARE MARKET AND QUALITY ASSURANCE UPDATE**

Ms. Tracy Minshull, Assistant Director Commissioning gave a presentation to members which provided an update on the Social Care Market and Quality Assurance.

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

- The work force pressures;
- The increases in demand and complexity pressure areas and those areas which had seen positive increases;

- The Winter Pressure Schemes for 2022/2023;
- The current situation with regards to the implementation and support for local authorities in moving towards paying providers a fair cost of care;
- Bolton's position in relation to the Real Living Wage and the current position;
- Key Market Shaping Developments in 2022/2023;
- Quality Assurance and Improvement (Providers);
- Provider Engagement and Co-designing Developments;
- Bolton's Integrated Partnership All Age Carers Strategy;
- Life Opportunities; and
- The Housing Care and Support Prospectus 2023-2033.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- The operation of Bolton Cares and access to day care services and was this being utilised by the company in relation to direct payments;
- The current situation with Winnifred Day Care Centre and the levels of demand;
- Extreme disappointment was expressed with regards to the lack of progress made with regard to the Real Living Wage for care workers despite assurances being given by the Leader of the Council that this would be implemented by April, 2023.

Resolved – That Ms. Tracy Minshull be thanked for her detailed and informative presentation and the position be noted.

## **28. MEMBERS BUSINESS**

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

- (i) Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing held on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022; and
- (ii) Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care held on 14<sup>th</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2022.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meetings be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 8.00 p.m.)

E8

**NOTES**

## **PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Veevers (Chairman), M. Ayub, Brady, Donaghy, Grant, Iqbal, Newall (as deputy for Councillor Heslop), Meehan, A. Patel, S. Patel, Peel (as deputy for Councillor Haworth) and Walsh.

### Also in Attendance

Councillor Haslam	Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport
Mr. D. Lowe	Assistant Director Highways and Engineering
Mr. S. Walsh	Senior Engineering Manager
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Atcha, Eckersley-Fallon, Hartigan, Haworth, Heslop and Weatherby and the Executive Cabinet Members – Councillors Mrs. Fairclough, Hewitt, Muslim and Warren)

Councillor Veevers in the Chair.

### **18. CALL IN OF HIGHWAYS AND ENGINEERING SAVINGS PROPOSALS 2021/23**

The Committee was advised that the decisions in relation to the report, Highways and Engineering Savings Proposals 2021/23, had been called in following the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport held on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 by at least six members of Council, in accordance with the Council's rules of Procedure, Section E, Scrutiny Procedure Rules: Paragraph 17.

The Committee had previously been circulated with a copy of the report considered at the meeting of Executive Cabinet Member, the minute in this regard and procedural matters around the options available to the Committee following consideration of the matter.

The Executive Cabinet Member explained to the meeting that he would, at his next meeting, rescind the decision that he had previously made, following the identification of monies to support the winter maintenance budget. This meant that the winter maintenance budget and routes treated would remain unaltered and retain the present levels of funding.

Included in the deliberations were –

- Maintaining road safety
- The wider social consequences of the decision, including the impact on buses, emergency vehicles, essential food deliveries and home care workers;
- Significant reductions in roads treated;
- The challenge of making dangerous cuts;
- Matters around the issue of future reviews and the possibility of a policy development group to look at this;
- The risk-based approach undertaken to consider the reductions; and
- Gritting was already at a minimum level.

It was moved by Councillor Grant and seconded by Councillor Peel that the Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport be recommended to rescind his previous decision taken on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2022 owing to the wider detrimental social consequences including the effect on buses, emergency vehicles and home care workers.

Whereupon the voting was as follows, viz-

For the Motion, viz –

Councillors M. Ayub, Brady, Donaghy, Grant, Iqbal, Meehan, A. Patel, S. Patel, Veevers, Walsh, Peel and Newall.

Against the Motion, viz –

Nil

Abstain, viz-

Nil

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.35pm)

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## **PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Veevers (Chairman), Weatherby (Vice-Chairman), Atcha, M. Ayub, Donaghy, Grant, Hartigan, Heslop, Mistry (as deputy for Councillor Haworth), Meehan, A. Patel, S. Patel, Silvester (as deputy for Councillor Iqbal) and Walsh.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Mrs. Fairclough	Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader
Councillor Haslam	Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport
Councillor Hewitt	Executive Cabinet Member Strategic Housing and Planning
Councillor Muslim	Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services Delivery
Councillor Warren	Executive Cabinet Member Regeneration
Mr. J. Dyson	Director of Place
Mr. P. Whittingham	Assistant Director Development and Regeneration

Mr. D. Lowe	Assistant Director Highways and Engineering
Mr. M. Kay	Head of Planning
Mrs. V. Ridge	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Haworth and Iqbal

Councillor Veevers in the Chair.

## **19. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Place Scrutiny Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> October and 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 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.

Resolved – That the updated work programme position, as outlined be agreed.

## **21. ROAD SAFETY**

Mr. D. Lowe, Assistant Director of Highways and Engineering gave a presentation which outlined issues associated with road safety in the Borough.

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

- Killed and Seriously Injured performance data;
- Statistical information in relation to casualty trend from 2010 including annual data to March, 2022 and projection to 2030 in Bolton;
- The National Highways and Transport Network Survey;



- GM Strategy – Road Danger Reduction Action Plan;
- GM Safer Roads Group;
- Vision Zero;
- The key interventions which were as follows
  - Engagement – campaigns; school ambassadors; crucial crew; safe pass; traffic cadets; and driver education
  - Enforcement – speed
  - Engineering

In terms of the priorities for 2023/2024 and beyond these were as follows, viz:-

- GM Road Danger Reduction Action Plan
  - Tackle repeat offenders, anti-social driving and recruit more road police officers; and
  - Council plan to develop action plan to deliver upon GM Strategy
- Investment in infrastructure:
- TFGM:
  - Safety camera upgrades which include speeding, red light running and speed on green;
  - Average speed cameras – considering opportunities on key routes;
  - Streets for all – people centred approach to street design and reduce speed and provide safe crossings and connections
- Council:
  - Funding for Zebra Crossings – 10 near to schools;
  - Investigating camera enforcement of anti-social driving

Members in their discussions referred to –

- The difficulties in getting officers to respond to requests for the erection of safety signs around the Borough for which funding had been agreed;
- Poor lighting for pedestrians;

- Traffic Regulation Orders submitted to highways but not getting a response and this was the situation across the Borough;
- How were decisions made in relation to identifying intervention areas;
- The need to increase and improve enforcement, in particular, around schools;
- Why were the Council installing zebra crossings rather than pelican crossings;
- Opportunity to have road safety competitions in schools;
- The criteria used to identify the locations for zebra crossings;
- Appropriate sentencing for drivers who were convicted of road traffic accidents;
- The need to educate cyclists;
- Lack of police enforcement;
- How camera enforcement of anti-social driving would operate;
- Disappointed and frustrated with the progress made on road safety and hope that this could be improved;
- The school ambassador programme which had a very good uptake;
- Where did the funding for zebra crossings come from; and
- The involvement of the colleges and the University to educate young people.

Resolved - (i) That Mr. Lowe be thanked for his detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

(ii) That the rota for mobile enforcement officers be circulated to members of the Scrutiny Committee and that concerns over a lack of response to requests for Traffic Regulation Order's be investigated.

## **22. PLANNING SERVICES**

Mr. M. Kay, Head of Planning gave a presentation which updated members on the work being undertaken within the Planning Service.

Members were reminded that the Planning Service was made up of 4 main workstreams supported by a Technical Support Team:-

1. Development Management – consideration and determination of planning applications;
2. Enforcement – regularisation of breaches of planning control;
3. Building Control – administration of Building Control; and
4. Strategy – contribution to GM Strategic Plan – Places for Everyone and policy support.

Members were also advised that progress had been made in a number of areas since 2021 and these were detailed as follows, viz:-

- Service improvements;
- Validation Checklist;
- Premium Services;
- Software;
- Open cases;
- Workload;
- Open applications by type;
- Work in Progress;
- The number of applications received annually;
- Headlines;
- Complaints and Enquiries;
- Enforcement;
- Building Control;
- Strategy; and
- The overall current position.

Members in their discussion referred to –

- How many cases were still overdue;
- How many posts within the service were still vacant;
- The current situation with staff working from home/the office;

- The public were unhappy with the planning service and how it was performing;
- Statistical information on the performance of the planning service to be a standard item on the work programme;
- The planning portal was a lot more stable and the members inbox was very useful;
- Enforcement of breaches in conservation areas;
- How many retrospective planning applications were received and was there an extra charge for being retrospective;
- Key Performance Indicators should be readily available;
- The length of time taken to make a decision on an application and how long do outstanding applications go back;
- How do Planning Officers monitor Section 106 Agreements;
- Could the backlog be outsourced;
- The situation with agency staff;
- The presentation was welcomed; and
- A lot of the problems were historical, however, the approach which was now being taken was very pragmatic.

A motion was then moved and seconded which stated that statistical information on the planning service in relation to the following be a standing item on the work programme for this Committee, viz:-

- Key Performance Indicators;
- Outstanding applications;
- The oldest applications;
- Those applications which had been resolved; and
- The number of cases waiting to be allocated.

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

For the Motion, 14 viz:-

Councillors Atcha, M. Ayub, Donaghy, Grant, Hartigan, Heslop, Mistry, Meehan, A. Patel, S. Patel, Silvester, Veevers, Walsh and Weatherby.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

Resolved – (i) That Mr. Kay be thanked for his detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

(ii) That a standing item in relation to Planning service performance indicator information (to be determined by the officer team in consultation with the Executive Cabinet Member for Strategic Housing and Planning, Chair of the Planning Committee and Chair of this Scrutiny Committee) be included in the work programme for this Scrutiny Committee.

## **23. MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

The following Members Questions were submitted by Councillor Silvester in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by the Director of Place in consultation with the Executive Cabinet Member.

### **Mayoral Floral Display in Queens Park**

Q1.

The Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Service Delivery, Cllr. Muslim in answer to a question from myself at the full meeting of the Council on the 30th November, stated that the cost of ending the Mayoral floral display in Queens Park amounted to £5000.

Could a breakdown of each individual cost element and these amounts associated with the make-up of the total £5000 amount be provided so that it is understood how this £5000

was arrived at and what each component cost amount of this was for.

A1.

In response to the above question, the savings value for the Mayoral Floral Decoration was calculated as:

- Supply of Crest InstaPlant Carpet Bed Size: 5.64m wide (max) x 5.33m high (max) £4,000  
(based on 2020 actual cost of £3,995 rounded)
- Site Preparation and Installation Cost Estimate £1,000  
(labour, transport, plant hire & materials).

Total Projected Saving £5,000

#### Additional information

The design (drawn up on a CAD grid system) was pre-grown by the supplier and delivered as 'tiles' in trays which then had to be laid and pegged/pinned in location after the ground had been rotovated and prepared (on a slope). The installation estimate allowed for a team of 4 for one day - further information is provided in the attached quotation (dated 2020).

In addition, it should be noted that there have also been 'time' savings associated with the routine maintenance (clipping 4 weekly) and repair (the floral display was susceptible to vandalism damage) but these were not 'cashable' savings.

#### **Body Armour for Security and Response Staff**

Q2.

To protect our Security and Response staff quite rightly from any potential violence or attack, body armour was recently purchased for them to wear whilst on duty.

Security and Response staff were wearing this body armour before the full meeting of the Council on the 30th of November. Protection of our staff is of paramount importance.

This follows an incident inside Oldham Civic Centre before the full meeting of that Council on the 2nd of November after members of the public forcibly tried to enter that Civic building.

What was the cost of this body armour and was this amount taken from the main Security and Response budget or was this taken from a reserve budget or another directorates budget with the purchase being unexpected?

A2.

The cost of the body armour for all Security and Response staff who could / do come in to contact with the public was approximately £9k.

The cost of providing body armour was contained within the Security and Response budget.

Councillor Silvester stated that he was happy that the cost of providing body armour was contained within budget and wanted to place on record his thanks to the Security and Response Team for keeping members, staff and the public safe in all of the civic buildings.

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

- (i) Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport held on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2022;
- (ii) Executive Cabinet Member Regeneration held on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2022;
- (iii) Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader held on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2022; and
- (iv) Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services Delivery held on 25<sup>th</sup> October and 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2022.

F12

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

(ii) That the minutes be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 8.10 p.m.)



## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Donaghy (Chairman), Grant (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah, Connor, Finney, Murray, Mort, Priest, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington, Silvester (as deputy for Councillor McKeon), Taylor-Burke and Walsh (as deputy for Councillor Hill)

### Co-opted Members

None in attendance

### Also in attendance

- |                     |   |                                                                              |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Councillor Galloway | - | Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services                               |
| Ms G. Whitehead     | - | Assistant Director of Children's Services – Inclusive Education and Learning |
| Mrs. V. Ridge       | - | Democratic Services Manager                                                  |

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Hill, McGeown, McKeon and Sanders and from Reverend Canon Dr Bracegirdle (Co-opted Member)

Councillor Donaghy in the Chair

## **17. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved - The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

## **18. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23**

The Borough Solicitor submitted the Committee Work Programme for 2022/23 which had been formulated following the informal meeting of this Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 and which would guide the work of the Committee over the course of the Municipal Year.

Members expressed an interest in receiving an item on the identification of pre-school SEND and agreed that this would be added to the Work Programme.

Resolved – That the 2022/23 Committee Work Programme, as now submitted, be noted, and that an item on the identification of pre-school SEND be added for future consideration.

## **19. SEND GREEN PAPER – SAFETY VALVE PROGRAMME**

Ms G. Whitehead gave a presentation on the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Green Paper and the Safety Valve Programme.

By way of background, members were advised that

- numbers of Educational Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) had been rising every year and had increased by 101% to 2,522 since 2010;
- numbers on SEN support had declined slightly each year between 2010 and 2013 but began to increase from 2014 onwards with a small dip between 2018 and 2019; and
- overall, the number of children and young people with SEND had increased by 160% to 8,590 since 2010;

This increased demand mirrored that of the national picture. In 2021/22 2,137 or 3.8% of Bolton pupils had an EHC Plan compared to 355,566 or 4% nationally. A further 6,464 (11.5) of Bolton pupils were receiving SEN Support compared to 1,129,843 or 12.6% nationally.

It was noted that the increased demand was largely attributed to the 2014 SEND Reforms which extended provision from birth to 25 years and introduced ECH Plans.

The presentation went on to outline the main components of the SEND Green Paper:

- a system where every child and young person could access the right support in the right place at the right time
- commissioned by the Government in September, 2019 as a response to the widespread recognition that the system was failing to deliver improved outcomes, that parental confidence was in decline and that despite additional investment, the system has become financially unsustainable;
- fundamental principles that underpinned the 2014 reforms continued to be broadly supported - co production, joint working, 0 25 child centred approach;
- the review sought to understand what was creating these challenges and set out a plan to deliver improved outcomes, restore parent/carers confidence and secure financial sustainability;
- to be considered in response to the parallel consultation on the Independent Review of Children's Social Care;
- whole system response to address challenges and deliver better outcomes, improved experiences and financial sustainability;
- far more Children and Young People should be able to access the support needed in their local mainstream setting without the need for an EHCP/specialist provision;
- strong specialist sector for those with the most complex needs; and
- clear vision for an improved Alternative Provision system that offers upstream support as well as placements.

The thirteen-week consultation process had closed on 1st July, 2022 and a national SEND delivery plan was expected to be published setting out the Government's response to the consultation and how change would be implemented.

The presentation then went on to outline the new Draft Area Send Inspection Framework which would provide an independent, external evaluation of the effectiveness

of the local area partnership's arrangements for children and young people with SEND aged between 0-25 years of age who had an SEN Support and Education Health and Care Plan. It would also include children and young people who lived in Bolton, including those who attended an education

setting, or received services outside of the Authority's geographical boundaries. It would also include the commissioning and oversight of Alternative Provision for all Children, not only those with SEND.

There would be a three-week process led by an HM Inspector from Ofsted, Children's Services inspectors from the Care Quality Commission and Education and social care inspectors from Ofsted.

Members were informed of the purpose of the Safety Valve which was a DfE led programme to stabilise Local Authority High Needs budgets and manage historic deficits.

Bolton High Needs cumulative deficit was £18.2m (2021/22 outturn) and Bolton was in the third wave of the programme. The DfE would provide financial assistance subject to Bolton working towards a balanced budget. This would include details of:

- how the deficit would be controlled and an in year balance would be reached (as a minimum) on the DSG, and how quickly - this should also indicate any planned block transfer requests which would be handled through the safety valve programme where required.
- how the Authority would contribute to the reduction of the historic deficit through use of DSG surpluses, in addition to reaching an in-year balance
- how the Authority would ensure that the plan was deliverable and how it would be managed as it was

implemented and how this plan would continue to ensure the appropriate support for children and young people with SEND.

- a clear explanation of the financial support needed from the DfE to eliminate the historic deficit over the period of the agreement. This could include, if necessary, a request for some funding to help implement the proposal, as well as funding to eliminate the deficit directly, although the DfE would not expect this to constitute a significant element of the total financial support requested.

The presentation outlined Bolton's approach which would involve quantifying demand, design solutions, model solutions – cost and impact and develop plans and governance for delivery. Full details of the proposed process and timescales were outlined and it was anticipated that notification would be received in December, 2022 with any plans made in 2022/23 being published by the DfE in March 2023.

The presentation also provided of the proposed Governance arrangements which would involve the establishment of a Safety Valve Programme Board comprising representative of the Schools Forum and SEND Executive and Programme Manager and to be chaired by the Chief Executive of Bolton Council. Full details of the proposed governance structure were provided.

Quarterly monitoring reports would be required to ensure the Authority was on track to meet the deficit control or reduction targets. If there was any doubt that the proposals set out in the agreement were not being delivered, the DfE could withhold payment or reduce future instalments that had been agreed.

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

- where the greater need had arisen – Ms Whitehead advised that a change in legislation some years ago now required the Authority to continue to look after young adults from 16 until they were 25;

- concerns at the deficit – Ms Whitehead stated that the monies from the DfE would provide the opportunity to clear the historic deficit and put measures in place to identify needs earlier and address them; and
- the submission of quarterly monitoring reports was welcomed.

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

## **20. MEMBERS BUSINESS**

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

- the Executive Cabinet Member for Children's Services held on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

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

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.30pm)

(This meeting is for information only, it was approved by Council on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.)

## **HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2022

Present – Councillors Haworth (Chairman), T. Wilkinson (Vice-Chairman), N. Ayub, Bullock, Fletcher, Grant (as deputy for Councillor Wright), Hartigan, McGeown, Meehan, Radcliffe, Sherrington (as deputy for Councillor Challenger), Taylor-Burke and Mrs. Thomas.

### 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
Ms. R. Tanner	- Managing Director, Bolton Integrated Care Partnership DASS
Ms. S. Gilman	- Consultant in Public Health
Ms. F. Noden	- Chief Executive, Bolton NHS FT
Mr. N. Smith	- Bolton Safeguarding Adults Board
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	- Deputy Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Challenger, Rimmer and Wright and Anne Schenk- Health Watch, Bolton and Suzanne Hilton - Age UK Bolton.

Councillor Haworth in the Chair.

## **17. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 31st August, 2022 were submitted.

Mention was made of whether justice had been done to the primary care access item and the possibility of it being added back onto the work programme. Also the Health and Care Select Committee had published information on access to GP's.

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

(ii) That Councillor Haworth, as Chairman, meets with Bernie Gallagher to discuss matters around the primary care access item.

## **18. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2022/23**

The Committee received a report which set out the work programme items for consideration during the Municipal Year.

It was suggested that, with a full work programme, the joint meeting with Children's Scrutiny Committee, be held in the next Municipal Year.

Also, that consideration be given to the four items scheduled for the December, 2022 meeting.

Matters around inviting experts, as appropriate, to the meeting was mentioned.

Matters around continuity of care was referred to and the possibility of this being considered further.

Resolved – (i) That the updated work programme be approved and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman give consideration to the practicalities of the December meeting in consultation with officers.



(ii) That the joint meeting with Children's Scrutiny Committee be held in the next Municipal Year.

(iii) That protocols in terms of inviting experts to attend this meeting, as appropriate, be discussed with officers.

## **19. SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Neil Smith, Bolton Safeguarding Adults Board and Ms. Rachel Tanner, Managing Director of Bolton Integrated Care Partnership gave a presentation on matters around the Bolton Safeguarding Adults Board.

It was explained that in Bolton, they were committed to ensuring that every adult at risk and their carers were safe, well, able to meet their full potential and live happy, healthy and independent lives.

The core duties were to develop and publish a strategic plan, to commission safeguarding adult reviews and publish an annual report detailing how effective the work had been.

It was explained that a new Board had been established with a new independent Chair that aimed to expand the capacity of the Board to achieve its aims.

In terms of making a difference, the following was referred to –

- Maintained or improved the good or outstanding ratings;
- Reviewed and refreshed the safeguarding policy;
- Promoted another successful eyes wide open campaign;
- Developed a persons in a position of trust policy;
- Provided intensive support via the ICP;
- Continued to develop the close links established during the pandemic;
- Provided 6031 adaptations, equipment and telecare products;
- Work with approximately 700 vulnerable households;
- Supported over 400 people with care partners;
- Given over 190,000 covid vaccines;

- Had 385,000 community health contracts;
- Supported over 2000 people via Bolton at Home Careline Service; and
- Delivered training to 900 staff.

In terms of the progress against the strategic priorities, members were informed of matters concerning domestic violence and abuse, reduction in the prevalence of self-neglect inclusive hoarding and raising the profile of safeguarding in Bolton.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- People at risk and the working out of the risk factors;
- Targets in relation to the above;
- Efforts to get people home from hospital;
- Care homes and the CQC;
- Matters around the centre for autism being branded inadequate;
- 1/5 of dementia care homes sub -standard;
- Un-regulated accommodation for vulnerable people; and
- Matters around scams and where do people go about this.

Resolved – (i) That Mr. Neil Smith and Ms. Rachel Tanner be thanked for the presentation and that the position be noted.

(ii) that the full Safeguarding report be circulated to members of this Committee.

(iii) That information regarding scams and actions regarding this be provided to members of this Committee.

## **20. SUPPORTING PEOPLE AT DISCHARGE**

Ms. Fiona Noden, Chief Executive, Bolton NHS FT and Ms. Rachel Tanner, Managing Director, Bolton Integrated Care Partnership DASS gave a joint presentation on supporting people home at discharge.

Members were informed that the aims and ambitions included wanting the best for all patients and to support people to be discharged safely as soon as they were medically well enough. A home first approach was taken and the promotion of independence.

Prolonged stays in hospital were not good for patients especially those who were frail or elderly and can be associated with increased risks of falling, sleep deprivation and catching infections.

The meeting was advised of the national context in relation to discharge and the Pathway assessment model was referred to. Furthermore, in relation to Greater Manchester, it was indicated that people who no longer met the clinical criteria for being an inpatient should be discharged as soon as possible. The ambition for Bolton was that there should be no more than 60 patients who meet the criteria residing in the Royal Bolton Hospital at anyone time. The current position in the Hospital was also referred to and the challenges in this regard in relation to the Pathway model.

The Committee was also informed of matters around how the Partnership was doing including –

- Home pathways and partnership working to embed across the locality via the pathway;
- Winter system planning to create additional capacity over winter to support Hospital flow;
- Focus on flow across the community services;
- Improved engagement with people with lived experiences;
- Improving communications with relatives and carers; and
- Communication campaigns to raise awareness.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- Darley Court closure and the future intermediate care beds provision;

- More funding needed to get people out of hospital;
- Prescriptions from on-site pharmacies and the practicalities;
- GM's integrated care system and discharge matters and set criteria;
- The explanation of home being better and the information available;
- When the discharge assessment came in;
- The effect of the pandemic and isolation and previous earlier support; and
- Delays regarding discharge due to additional aids.

Resolved – That Ms. Fiona Noden and Ms. Rachel Tanner be thanked for their detailed and informative presentation and that the position be noted.

## **21. HEALTHWATCH ANNUAL REPORT**

Members of the Committee had been provide with a copy of the annual Healthwatch Bolton annual report for 2021/ 22, entitled, championing what mattered to you.

The report highlighted the vision of a world where all could get the health and care we needed and the mission of making sure people's experiences helped make health and care better.

It was indicated that 820 people had shared their experiences of health and social care and 343 had given Healthwatch advise and information on topics such as mental health and Covid.

The five reports that had been published were referred to about making the improvements people would like to see.

The report also highlighted about the experiences that had been listened to, the advice and information given by Healthwatch, the work of the volunteers and matters around funding.

It was explained that the lay member from Healthwatch was unable to attend this meeting but that any questions should be directed to Healthwatch via Ian Mulholland.

Resolved – That the annual report be noted.

## **22. MEMBERS BUSINESS**

The Committee considered the following members questions and their answers in accordance with Standing Order 36, viz –

**The following questions were submitted by Bernie Gallagher, Lay Member representing Bolton and District Pensioners Association in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by Dr Stephen Liversedge, Clinical Director Primary Care and Lynda Helsby, Associate Director Primary Care.**

On behalf of Bolton & District Pensioners Association I would like to ask the following questions relating to Patient Participation Groups:

Q. How many GP practices had a Patient Participation Group?

What was the average number of patients in the group?

Was there any monitoring of age demographics and other protected characteristics of members of the PPG?

How was the information collated from PPGs used?

A.

- **Overview of PPGs – national perspective**

There was guidance available for practices from the Patient's Association UK. This was the link to the guidance:

<https://www.patients-association.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=3a099b36-93af-4582-a267-d4806ddb1f8>

This guidance helped practices to understand the importance of having a PPG, and what the aims were.

The Patient's Association UK stated there should be no set way for these groups to work. This should depend on local need. The main aim was to make sure the practice put the patient and their health improvement at the heart of everything.

- **How many GP practices in Bolton had a Patient Participation Group?**

49 – every practice in Bolton

It was a requirement of the Bolton Quality Contract that every practice had a PPG. The BQC stated that PPGs could be held either virtually or F2F, or a combination of both.

However, during the pandemic practices were advised that all PPGs should be organised as virtual meetings. Current advice was still the same - keep everyone safe, and organise those as a virtual meeting.

The original requirement was for a practice to have at least 2 meetings per year. During the pandemic, to address the unprecedented demand facing general practice, the requirement for a PPG was reduced to at least one per year (including the current year)

- **What was the average number of patients in the group?**

The membership of practice PPGs was variable. The range being from 208 members to 3 members.

The median number of members for a PPG in Bolton was 9.

- **Was there any monitoring of age demographics and other protected characteristics of members of the PPG?**

Practices were not monitored on factors such as the above.

However, a practice was advised that members of the PPG should reflect the demographics of the practice population – and all adult patients should be given the opportunity to participate if they wanted.

Basically, a PPG should be made up of:

- Volunteer patients
- The Practice Manager
- One or more GPs

- **How was the information collated from PPGs used?**

The information from PPGs should be used to develop new services for the practice population, and to improve existing services for the benefit of patients.

**The following questions were submitted by Councillor Haworth in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by Dr Stephen Liversedge, Clinical Director Primary Care and Lynda Helsby, Associate Director Primary Care.**

Q. Question - Vaccine Access in Farnworth and Kearsley .

Since September enquiries showed that flu vaccination for those adults eligible was available from residents GP practices and from pharmacists. However, in regards to Covid 19 vaccination for those eligible the only place listed when last checked in Farnworth and Kearsley was a Covid vaccine clinic running at Kearsley Medical Centre and it was for anyone eligible who was registered with the practice.

Residents in Farnworth were in touch asking for access to Covid 19 vaccination in Farnworth. People at Plodder Lane searched for a booking and complained that the booking availability was for Brightmet. Their complaint centred around the fact that they had a car and would travel at little inconvenience and did not mind for themselves but people who lived near them did not have a vehicle and this annoyed them and they felt the offer was not right. People in Farnworth wanted more of their own quality health care provision and wanted access to vaccinations in their town.

What was the plan going forward for Covid 19 vaccine access for people who lived in Farnworth and Kearsley?

Could the service at Kearsley Medical Centre be expanded at all so other patients could get access to vaccines there?

Could arrangements be made for a base in Farnworth to have a Covid 19 vaccination offer?

A.

**The current provision for patients registered with the 4 practices in F&K was as follows:**

- Stonehill Medical Centre – pop-up clinics were available only for patients registered with this practice – good availability of vaccine – patients could ring the practice to access the vaccine.
- Kearsley Medical Centre – several pop-up clinics had been available over the last 2 weeks for patients registered with this practice – however, there was only a small supply left, and this would



only be used for registered patients – patients could ring the practice to access a vaccine.

- Fig Tree Practice & Farnworth Family Practice – vaccine was being made available specifically for those practices via the GP Federation –sites include Market Place Bolton, Pikes Lane Centre and Avondale Health Centre.

Bolton residents could also access vaccination at other Bolton walk-in sites – Horwich RMI, Hootons (BWFC) and Breightmet Health Centre.

The latest information advertising availability in Bolton – these posters were updated weekly on a Friday.

### **Future provision for Farnworth & Kearsley (F&K)**

Stonehill Medical Centre - was considering opening as a walk-in site for any Bolton residents to access the covid vaccine – however, it was early days and the service needed to be fully scoped. This would offer a convenient site for all F&K residents.

Kearsley Medical Centre - had no plans to open up the vaccine offer to other F&K residents other than those registered with the practice.

In addition, the GP Federation had secured funding from the GM Health Inequalities and Access fund. They were in the process of organising dedicated sessions in areas of high deprivation in order to specifically address covid vaccine health inequalities. Their offer would include access to residents from F&K. These sessions would be advertised as soon as they are operational.

**The following questions were submitted by Councillor Haworth in accordance with Standing Order 36 and the response was prepared by Dr Stephen Liversedge, Clinical Director Primary Care and Lynda Helsby, Associate Director Primary Care.**

Q. Question - Patient online view of new entries to GP health record.

It was publicised that from 1 November, 2022, most patients aged 16 and over with an online account (such as through the NHS App or other patient online apps) would automatically be able to view new entries in their GP health record. An NHS news bulletin said that feedback from early adopters was that it took four to six weeks to prepare.

How did patients who wished to see their records for the time period before 1st November 2022 go about it?

How was this new system to be rolled out in the Bolton Borough?

Would patient experience vary from one GP practice to the next on this at all?

A.

Patients with an existing online account would automatically be given access to future (prospective) entries to their patient record, including free text, letters and documents when a new system of access was implemented. This would come into effect for EMIS and TPP (clinical systems) practices from 1st November 2022, arrangements for access for GP practices who use Vision as the clinical system were under discussion. NHS Digital were providing supporting resources and webinars ahead of the introduction.

For new entries after launch, a patient would be able to access free text, letters and documents. GPs and practice staff would need to consider the impact of each entry, including documents and test results, as they added them to a patient's record. Patients would not see their historic, or past, health record information unless they had already been given access to it by their GP practice. NHS England/Improvement were aiming to

enable patients to request their historic coded records in 2023 through the NHS App.

If a patient asked to amend or correct information they could see in their record the GP considering the request could refer to published guidance on the circumstances in which they could amend medical records and how to safely amend medical records.

There were exceptions to this access and data protection legislation said access could only be limited or denied if:

- it would be likely to cause serious harm to physical or mental health of the data subject or another individual - except for information of which the patient was already aware
- it gave information about a third party, other than healthcare professionals involved in the treatment, unless that other person consents, or it was reasonable in all the circumstances to disclose without the third party's consent.

Excerpt from the General Medical Services (GMS) Standard Contract was also provided in support.

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

- Q. I had been advised that Bolton had a collaboration with Wigan for Urology 'same day/urgent' referrals from GPs. It was not clear how the arrangement worked in terms of timings – which days or weeks but if the referral was a 'Wigan' 'day' then patients had to travel to Wigan and because Wigan did not have the same separate diagnostic facilities as Urology at Bolton those patients had to present to Wigan A & E and that the department then decided if they were sent on to the Wigan Urology Department.

The majority of patients that were referred on this basis to Urology tended to be older people with a higher proportion of men. According to the mid-2020 population estimates, 29% of the Bolton population (84,237 people) was aged 55+. Urology referrals to secondary care had risen by nearly 20% over the last 20 years and now accounted for 5% of all outpatient appointments (NHS Digital, 2017).

Was this a temporary measure or was this a permanent commissioning arrangement? If the latter how long was the contract and was this considered a really good service for our more vulnerable residents?

A.

The Urology on-call model with Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh (WWL) was a joint scheme across both Trusts allowing us to work differently with our system partners to deliver safer and better quality of care within small surgical specialties.

There was a national shortage of Consultant Urologists and as a consequence, smaller departments like Bolton and WWL found it more difficult to recruit to those roles. Working in partnership with WWL enabled us to deliver out of hours care using a larger joint workforce, which had helped improve both our ability to recruit and retain Urology Consultants. As a consequence of this new way of working Bolton had been able to recruit one new Consultant Urologist. Should this model not had been created, the Trust would have been in the position where we would not had been able to safely staff the service for patients to provide a standalone Urology service here at Bolton.

The move towards collaborating with our partners through a network model was in line with the 2018 Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT - a national programme designed to improve the treatment and care of patients through in-depth review of services, benchmarking, and presenting a data-driven evidence base to support change) report which stated:

“A further example was the need to develop Urology networks, made up of clusters of adjacent urology departments (Urology Area Networks). It was clear that comprehensive, high-quality urology services could not be provided across a geographical region without a more structured approach to interdepartmental cooperation.”

As part of the implementation of the pilot model we had sought and continued to collate patient feedback to understand the impact this change was having on our patients. The feedback had been mixed and a theme from the initial data was concerns from patients around waiting times, due to patients attending at two different Emergency Department and the waiting times for transport. Whilst we understood that the transfer to WWL could be an inconvenience for some of our patients, our intention was to work to improve the quality and safety of Urology care offered to Bolton residents by making it more robust and ensure it was fit for the future and this model would support in delivering this.

To ensure that patients got to the right hospital and did not have to make more than one Emergency Department visit , we were working with our GP partners to improve the pathway from GP referral into hospital with a Urology condition and ensure that patients attended the open site first time. We had also contracted a private ambulance service to support with inter-site transfers to reduce delays for patients waiting in an Emergency Department.

We were committed to continuing to collate patient feedback and continuously reviewing and improving the new partnership arrangement with WWL, to ensure that Bolton residents continued to receive safe care for their urology concerns.

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

- (i) Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2022; and

- (ii) Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care held on 12<sup>th</sup> September and 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2022.

Members discussed matters around the grant for each Ukrainian guest and housing issues and the Healthwatch contract and democratic accountability.

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

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

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 7.58 p.m.)