

# **Bolton Council**

## **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**25<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

## **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, 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 at 7.00 p.m. when the following business is proposed to be transacted: -

**1. Tributes to the Leader of the Council Councillor David Greenhalgh**

**2. Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June and 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

**3. To appoint the Leader of the Council**

**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:-

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

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee (See Section E)

Joint Health Overview and Adult Social Care and Place Scrutiny Committee (See Section F)

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

(a) Motion in name of Councillor McGeown –

Council deplores the decision of the Government to remove the 'temporary' uplift in Universal Credit on 1st October.

Council agrees with the former Tory Leader and architect of Universal Credit, Sir Iain Duncan Smith, and five of his successors (Stephen Crabb, Damian Green, David Gauke, Esther McVey and Amber Rudd) that a failure to keep the uplift in place would 'damage living standards, health and opportunities for those that need our support most as we emerge from the pandemic, and that the extra £20 has been essential in allowing people to live with dignity.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to request that the uplift be incorporated permanently into Universal Credit.

(b) Motion in the name of Councillor McKeon -

On Sunday September 5, Bolton people will have an opportunity to take part in a memorial walk to remember the events of Sunday September 6 1896

when around 10,000 Bolton folk walked up Halliwell Rd, Smithills Dean and Coalpit Lane over the fields to Winter Hill and down into Belmont. They walked to reclaim a right of way closed by local landowner Col Ainsworth.

This Council commends the march to the people of Bolton and congratulates the organisers and their sponsors, Bolton Socialist Club, The Ramblers, The Woodland Trust and Bolton@Home.

The Council is also mindful, in our own times, of the need to protect open space and access to it. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 introduced a provision for a cut off of January 1 2026 for the registering of historic rights of way. The Ramblers have been undertaking surveys of public rights of way throughout England and Wales in an attempt to identify what they believe to be public rights of way that have not been included in the Definitive Map. The Ramblers 'Don't Lose Your Way' campaign tries to identify these paths. The Council expresses support for this campaign and commits its Public Rights of Way Team, albeit with its limited resources, to offer advice and support to volunteers who may be involved in this task locally. We owe it to our forebears, the working class walkers to Winter Hill, whose recognition of the importance of the accessibility of the countryside continues to be an inspiration.

(c) Motion in the name of Councillor Donaghy –

Following a 'call in' by the Labour Group on the decision to close Harvey Nursery, the issue finally came to a meeting of the Council on the 13th January 2021, when a resolution to refer the decision back to Executive Cabinet Member with a reference to exploring financial options, was passed by a majority of members.

Despite the fact that over 6 months later, no report has been taken to the Executive Cabinet Member, Council takes hope from the fact that the Conservative Group has not ignored the wishes of Council and gone ahead with closure, to date. (Council cites other called-in items that that were subsequently implemented against the wishes of the majority of the Council).

In view of this, and in view of the fact that the nursery is still operating (we understand with an increased attendance), Council resolves to ask the Executive Cabinet Member to consider a report as soon as possible that will inform her of:

- a. Additional work that has been carried out since January that aims to address the finances of the nursery.
- b. What new advertising strategies the council have explored and put in place in order to directly promote the nursery to town centre employers, the University and other local organisations in the catchment area.

Council commits itself yet again to Harvey Nursery being continued to be supported by the Council in every way possible to maintain its future sustainability and to the fact that unless these crucial pieces of work are carried out, the nursery could again go into decline, with a subsequent future report to the Executive Cabinet Member for again recommending closure.

- (d) Motion in the name of Councillor Silvester –

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

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

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

(e) Motion in the name of Councillor Haworth –

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

The pandemic has impacted health inequalities and wellbeing and it is imperative to avoid changes that will impact people's lives negatively going forward. If implemented, this charge of people from 60 to 66 years for prescriptions for physical and mental health needs in Bolton could easily roll back progress made in the start to tackling health inequalities and increasing wellbeing here.

We ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Minister for Public Health and the Minister for Mental Health, outlining the Council's concern that the raising of prescription charges on people of 60 to 66 years of age in England will have a marked effect on already problematic health inequalities in the Bolton Borough.

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



TONY OAKMAN  
Chief Executive  
Town Hall, Bolton

18<sup>th</sup> August, 2021

The proceedings of the Cabinet and Executive Cabinet Member Portfolio meetings from 14<sup>th</sup> June to 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2021, together with the Audit Committee, are included for information only in a separate volume.

**BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH**

**2021/2022**

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**23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2021**

Present - Councillors Mrs. Thomas (Mayor), Mrs. Fairclough (Deputy Mayor), Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challender, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

**8. PETITION**

A petition was received relating to the creation of a long term plan for the improvement of Chorley New Road and was referred to the Director of Place.

**9. MINUTES**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of Annual Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL – MAKING THE BLACKROD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

It was moved by Councillor Hewitt and seconded by Councillor Baines and agreed –

That it be agreed that the Blackrod Neighbourhood Plan should be made as a part of the statutory Development Plan, following the referendum which was held on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.

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

For the Motion, 47 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challenger, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

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

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

1. That Councillor Mistry replace Councillor Adia on the Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee
2. That Councillor Adia replace Councillor Khurram on the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee
3. That Councillor Khurram replace Councillor Mistry on the Health Overview and Adult Services Scrutiny Committee
4. That Councillor Taylor-Burke replace Councillor D Wilkinson on the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee
5. That Councillor Heslop replace Councillor Allen on the Place Scrutiny Committee
6. That Councillor Heslop replace Councillor Zaman on the Standards Committee

7. That Councillor Evans replace Councillor Brady on the Standards Committee
8. That Councillor Hornby replace Councillor Fletcher on the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee
9. That Councillor Hornby replace Sherrington on the Standards Committee

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

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

- (i) by Councillor Pattison relating to Bolton NICE

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ii) by Councillor Ayub relating to the frequency of street cleaning

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

- (iii) by Councillor Ayub relating to road markings

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

- (iv) by Councillor Donaghy relating to a local enquiry into the effects of the Covid pandemic

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (v) by Councillor Hayes relating to the budget amendment

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (vi) by Councillor Hayes relating to the Government's Planning White Paper

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

- (vii) by Councillor Veevers relating to the management of allotments

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

- (viii) by Councillor McGeown relating to the Kickstart Scheme

The Deputy Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (ix) by Councillor McGeown relating to mental health services

The Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing replied to this question.

- (x) by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to gully cleaning

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

- (xi) by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to Daisy Hill Railway Bridge

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

- (xii) by Councillor Wright relating to affordable places for Voluntary Groups

The Leader of the Council replied to this question.

- (xiii) by Councillor McKeon relating to the flooding in Horwich

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

- (xiv) by Councillor D. Wilkinson relating to free advice for developers

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

### **13. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 be approved.

### **14. LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION COMMITTEE**

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

That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 be approved.

### **15. SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

It was moved by Councillor Iqbal, seconded by Councillor Brady and agreed –

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

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Place Scrutiny Committee – 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Councillor Donaghy made a comment in respect of minute 30 of the meeting of the Health Overview and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021.

**16. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – CARE WORKERS PAY**

Councillor Morgan declared an interest the undermentioned motion and left the meeting during consideration and determination thereof.

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

This Council recognises and applauds the vital work that is being carried out by frontline care workers across Bolton, during the Covid 19 pandemic, looking after and protecting some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

Council is resolute in its view that decent care work cannot be done on the cheap, and that the Government should challenge the culture of low paid staff who often feel undervalued, by leading a new national strategy in investment in pay, training and support.

Council therefore calls upon the Government to invest £1.4 billion into care workers pay, meaning that these staff who serve a vital function in society receive a 'real Living Wage' of £9.30 per hour, outside of London and £10.75 in London.

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

For the Motion, 46 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challenger, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

**17. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 –  
COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH INITIATIVES**

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

This Council expresses its serious concern about the issue of speeding cars and reckless driving within our Borough, which is continually leading to needless loss of life resulting in devastating damage to families and communities.

Council accepts that cuts to police budgets has led to a reduction in the ability for the police to effectively enforce speed restrictions. In addition, since the start of the Covid 19 pandemic, police resources have been further stretched.

Council notes that one method by which the issue of speeding cars can be tackled is to tap into the willingness of community groups to organise Community Speedwatch Initiatives, and notes the successful, but informal, pilot that has been operating in Ainsworth Lane, Tonge with the Haulgh Ward. Whilst accepting that CSI's are not a panacea to the problem, Council is nevertheless

disappointed that in reply to a question from a member, the GM Neighbourhood Roads Policing Manager did not offer any reassurance of a full roll out of these initiatives.

Council believes that the issues raised by GM police can be solved in partnership with Bolton Council.

Accordingly, Council asks that early talks be opened between Officers of the Council, the Police and the GM Mayors Office in order to resolve any obstructions that are preventing the roll out of Community Speedwatch Initiatives.

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

For the Motion, 45 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Challender, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Hewitt, Hill, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Peel, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

#### **18. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY BILL**

It was moved by Councillor McKeon and seconded by Councillor Abdullah -

That building on the decision of the Council to declare a Climate Emergency and the significant amount of work currently in train to make that declaration a reality, this

Council expresses, in a vote, its support for the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill currently before the House of Commons. Furthermore, the Council agrees to contact the three MPs who represent the borough to urge them to support the bill.

Next year the UK is to co-host the 26th Climate Change Conference and thus has an opportunity to show leadership in combating what is possibly the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced. The evidence of the catastrophic effects of climate change is now too obvious to enumerate. The related ecological disaster is only too apparent with the decimation of species the most egregious example.

The objectives of the bill are to ensure that the UK plays its fair and proper role in limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees C and actively conserving the natural world by protecting and restoring the UK's ecosystems.

It also calls for a temporary Citizens Assembly to help the Government and Parliament to decide on the measures to include in the strategy necessary to achieve the objectives.

This Council, on behalf of the people of Bolton, who we represent, expresses its support for a bill which contains measures which are potentially lifesaving for ecosystems, species and humanity.

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

For the Motion, 25 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Bagnall, Brady, Challender, Donaghy, Flitcroft, Grant, Hayes, Haworth, Jiva, Khurram, McGeown, McKeon, Mistry, Murray, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 19 viz:

Councillors Baines, Connor, Cox, Dean, Finney, Galloway, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Morgan, Muslim, Parkinson, Rimmer, Taylor-Burke, Walsh, Warren and Wright.

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

**19. MOTION UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 4 – ACTION PLAN FOR GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE**

It was moved by Councillor Hayes and seconded by Councillor Veevers -

Council considers that the majority of members of Greater Manchester Police perform their duties with a high degree of dedication and professionalism and wishes to thank them for their work during such hard times.

Council recognises that Government cuts to the Greater Manchester Police budget of £215 million over 10 years, which resulted in cuts of 2,000 officers and 1,000 support staff, has inevitably led to a reduction in the standard of service provided to the residents of Greater Manchester and Bolton. However, the recent report by the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) indicates that the performance of Greater Manchester Police is far worse than that of the majority of other forces. HMICFRS found that over 80,000 crimes had not been recorded in the year ending on 30th June and the force was placed in 'Special Measures'.

Council considers that the recent damning HMICFRS report indicates a serious lack of organisation and leadership in Greater Manchester police, for which senior officers must be held largely responsible.

Council notes however, that the role of Elected Mayor for Greater Manchester incorporates the responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner, with responsibility to ensure efficient and effective policing in the area. The existing Elected Mayor appointed a Deputy Mayor to carry out this role on his behalf. Council is concerned that despite warnings from HMICFRS in 2016, 2018 and earlier in 2020, no action appears to have been taken by either the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to deal with the very real concerns, and believes that they have seriously let down the residents of Bolton and Greater Manchester as a whole by their inactivity.

Council resolves to request that the Mayor prepares a detailed report to Bolton Council indicating the action plan to return policing in the Borough to an efficient and effective level.

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

For the Motion, 30 viz:

Councillors Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Cox, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Hewitt, Hill, McGeown, Morgan, Muslim, Parkinson, Rimmer, Sanders, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 14 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Challender, Donaghy, Haworth, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, Mistry, Murray, Peel, Sherrington, Silvester and Zaman.

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Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 10.20 p.m.)

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**BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH**

**2021/2022**

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**28<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

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

**20. PLACES FOR EVERYONE PUBLICATION PLAN 2021**

It was moved by Councillor Hewitt and seconded by Councillor Walsh -

That, subject to Cabinet approving the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 and supporting background documents for publication), the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021, as now circulated, be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for examination following the period representations.

Whereupon as an amendment, it was moved by Councillor D. Wilkinson and seconded by Councillor McGeown -

That the motion be amended as follows –

Council notes with concern that Cabinet has approved the ‘Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021’

Council also notes

- a) that the proposals will remove hundreds of acres of Green Belt land from the Wingates and Four Gates areas:
- b) that Policy JP-Strat 8 commits this Council to support the restoration of Hulton Park, and the provision of a Ryder Cup standard golf course and associated leisure and tourism facilities (this not being stated as conditional on the Ryder Cup being obtained);
- c) lead to considerable loss of natural areas and wildlife habitat;
- d) that the Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State are adopting a ‘rubber stamp’ attitude towards the current Hulton Estate approval and the recent Wingates Estate approval

Council resolves that urgent talks should commence with potential developers of the West of Wingates site to ensure maximum retention of natural areas and habitat.

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

For the Amendment, 6 viz:

Councillors Allen, Bagnall, Hayes, McGeown, Veevers and D. Wilkinson.

Against the Amendment, 43 viz:

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Baines, Brady, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Haworth, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Ibrahim, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders,

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Sherrington, Silvester, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby,  
T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Abstained, 1 viz:

Councillor Bullock.

Whereupon, the amendment was declared lost.

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

For the Motion, 46 viz:

Abdullah, Allen, Ayub, Bagnall, Baines, Brady, Connor,  
Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough,  
Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes,  
Haworth, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Ibrahim, Jiva,  
McGeown, McKeon, McMulkin, Mistry, Morgan, Murray,  
Muslim, Parkinson, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer,  
Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers, Walsh, Warren,  
D. Wilkinson, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 1 viz:

Councillor Bullock

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 7.55 p.m.)

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2021

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

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allen, Ismail, Morgan, Radcliffe and D. Wilkinson.

### **1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 22nd April, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

### **2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered certain 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.

Councillor Haslam, in his capacity of Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 10212/21.

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

10212/21      10613/21      09616/20      10453/21

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

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
09616/20	Outline planning application for demolition of existing structures and erection of up to 132 no. residential dwellings with associated public open space (access details only) at former Tarmac Building Materials Ltd, Stopes Road, Little Lever	<p><b>That the decision be delegated to the Director of Place for approval, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to delegate the decision to the Director of Place for approval, subject to conditions, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for the delegation of the application to the Director of Place for approval, subject to conditions (15):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan, Haworth, Hayes, Hill, Mistry, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson</p> <p>Members voting against the delegation of the application to the Director of Place for approval, subject to conditions (0):</p> <p>None</p>
10212/21	Retrospective change of use to mixed use to accommodate residential and	<b>Approved, on a temporary basis for two years, subject to conditions, as</b>

	<p>educational use along with temporary permission for two years for a two storey educational facility at Heyhead Farm, Bowstone Hill Road</p>	<p><b>recommended in the report, and additional conditions regarding the use being solely for the purpose specified in the application, the centre opening times being limited to 195 days per year (which is the situation applicable in schools) and that the permission for the change of use and the building is made personal to the applicant.</b></p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (6):</p> <p>Councillors Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan, Hayes and Walsh.</p> <p>Members voting against refusal of the application (10)</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Brady, Haworth, Hill, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington and T. Wilkinson.</p> <p>The motion was lost.</p>
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		<p>A motion to approve the application on a temporary basis for two years, subject to conditions as recommended in the report, and additional conditions regarding sole use of the site for the purpose specified in the application and limited opening times and the change of use/building permission being made personal to the applicant, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of the application and the aforementioned conditions (16):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan, Haworth, Hayes, Hill, McMulkin, Mistry, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p> <p>Members voting against approval of the application and the aforementioned conditions (0):</p> <p>None</p>
10453/21	Erection of two storey porch extension and alterations to roof at front, application of render to front	<p><b>Approved.</b></p> <p><b>The proposed development would be in character with the area</b></p>

	<p>elevation, bi-fold doors to rear and dropped kerb at 2-4 Greystoke Drive</p>	<p><b>and would comply with Policies CG3 and OA5 of Bolton's Core Strategy and guidance contained within the Supplementary Planning Document - "House Extensions".</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 Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan, Hayes, Hill, Mistry, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson</p> <p>Members voting against approval of the application (0):</p> <p>None</p> <p>Members abstaining (1):</p> <p>Councillor Haworth</p>
10613/21	<p>Variation of condition 7 (open storage) and removal of condition 9 (wood fuel) on application 80569/08 at Markland Farm, Grimeford Lane,</p>	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report.</b></p> <p>A motion to approve the application, subject to</p>

	Blackrod	<p>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 (15):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Brady, Connor, Dean, Finney, Hartigan, Haworth, Hayes, Hill, Mistry, Peel, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p> <p>Members voting against approval of the application, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report (0):</p> <p>None</p>
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(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 4.35pm)

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## PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 22<sup>nd</sup> JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant (as deputy for Councillor Brady), Haworth, Hayes, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington and T. Wilkinson.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allen, Brady (Vice-Chairman), Ismail and D. Wilkinson.

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

### **4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Under the approved delegation arrangements, the Committee considered certain 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 Morgan	11316/21	The application was in relation to his property.  He left the meeting during the consideration and determination of the application.

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

10852/21

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>
10852/21	Erection of a building for use as a builder's merchant (storage, distribution, trade counter, offices and ancillary retail sales) on land off Manchester Road	<p><b>Approved, subject to conditions, as recommended in the report now submitted.</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 Ayub, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
10936/21	Change of use of land to car parking at 32 Albion Street, Westhoughton	<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 Ayub, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Radcliffe,</p>

		Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.
11316/21	Erection of a single storey extension at rear at 34 Corner Brook, Lostock	<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 Ayub, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Mistry, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>
Tree Preservation Order 2021	Bolton (Land at Gorses Road and Bembridge Drive, Bolton) Tree Preservation Order 2021	<p><b>Confirmed.</b></p> <p>A motion to confirm the Tree Preservation Order was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for approval of confirmation (15):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Connor, Dean, Finney, Grant, Haworth, Hayes, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and T. Wilkinson.</p>

## **5. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS**

The Director of Place submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 12<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 2.50pm)

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION  
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2021

Present – Councillors Mrs Fairclough (Vice-Chairman), Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Haslam, Haworth, Jiva, Khurram and D. Wilkinson.

Councillor Mrs Fairclough, Chairman

**1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

**2. 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.

**3. APPLICATION TO EXTEND A HACKNEY CARRIAGE  
VEHICLE LICENCE LER/11/2021**

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

The applicant and his representative attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor D. Wilkinson and Seconded by Councillor Galloway that the application be granted, finding that there are exceptional circumstances.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Khurram, Jiva, Galloway, Haslam, Mrs. Fairclough, D. Wilkinson, Flitcroft and Grant.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

**4. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LER/12/2021**

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application for the grant of a private hire drivers licence.

The Licensing Officer explained to the meeting that the applicant had requested that the matter be deferred to the next meeting owing to a health matter.

It was moved by Councillor Khurram and seconded by Councillor Haslam that consideration of the matter be deferred to a future meeting.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Khurram, Jiva, Galloway, Haslam, Mrs. Fairclough, Flitcroft and Grant.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Councillor D. Wilkinson

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 2.41pm)

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**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION  
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Mrs Fairclough (Vice-Chairman), Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Jiva, Khurram, Mistry (as deputy for Councillor Haworth) and Taylor-Burke.

Councillor Mrs Fairclough, Chairman

**5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

**6. 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.

**7. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO OPERATE  
PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LER/13/2021)**

The Director of Place submitted a report which gave details of an application which had been received to operate private hire vehicles.

The report set out details of the application which included a request to vary the terms and conditions to reflect the applicant's business model.

The applicants attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

The Licensing Officer gave verbal evidence.

It was moved by Councillor Khurram and Seconded by Councillor Haslam that the application be granted and approval be given to vary the terms and conditions, as set out in the report.

For the Motion, Viz –

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

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

**8. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO OPERATE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LER/14/2021)**

The Director of Place submitted a report which gave details of an application which had been received to operate private hire vehicles.

The report set out details of the application which included a request to vary the terms and conditions to reflect the applicant's business model.

The applicants attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

The Licensing Officer gave verbal evidence.

It was moved by Councillor Grant and Seconded by Councillor Jiva that the application be granted and approval be given to vary the terms and conditions, as set out in the report, subject to the number of passengers recorded at the point of booking being kept as a condition.

For the Motion, Viz –

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

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

**9. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LER/15/2021)**

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application for a licence to drive private hire vehicles where the driver had numerous previous convictions.

The applicant attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Haslam and seconded by Councillor Grant that the application for a licence to drive private hire vehicles be refused.

Where upon the Motion was put to the vote and the voting was as follows, viz -

For the Motion, Viz –

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

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil

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

That the application to drive private hire vehicles be refused as the Committee is not satisfied that the driver is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

The Committee also took account of –

- The litany of offences which included multiple offences of dishonesty, licensing offences, motoring offences and also offences of violence; and

## C7

- Matters around the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

Members of the public and in particular, 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 well-being of the public.

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

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 3.40 pm)

C8

**NOTES**

## **HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Pattison (Chairman), Haworth (Vice-Chairman), Dean, Donaghy, Finney (as deputy for Councillor Eckersley- Fallon), Grant, Khurram, McMulkin, Peel (as deputy for Councillor Ibrahim), Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sherrington and Taylor-Burke.

### Lay Members

Ms. S. Hilton - Age UK (Bolton)  
Ms. A. Schenk - Health Watch Bolton

### Also in attendance

Councillor Morgan - Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care  
Councillor Baines - Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing  
Ms. R. Tanner - DASS / Managing Director ICP  
Dr. F. Noden - Chief Executive Bolton NHSFT  
Mr. I. D. Mulholland - Deputy Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Eckersley-Fallon, Ibrahim, Fletcher and Bagnall and Helen Lowey, Director of Public Health.

Councillor Pattison in the Chair.

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

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021 were submitted, together with the minutes of the informal meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

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

## **2. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2021/22**

The Committee received a report which set out details of the proposed work programme items for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Members also referred to the issue of a standing Covid item and it was explained that all items being presented would have a covid thread. Mention was made of having a specific Covid item as needed.

Resolved – That the work programme be approved and that two items be added to the list, viz –

- Update on meals on wheels service; and
- Matters around qualified nurses and the numbers staying in Bolton.

## **3. ACUTE CARE BUSINESS PRIORITIES – URGENT CARE AND ELECTIVE RECOVERY**

Dr. Fiona Noden, Chief Executive of Bolton NHS Foundation Trust gave a presentation which focused on the effect of Covid 19 on acute care business priorities which included urgent care, cancer, surgery/elective care and planning for summer, autumn and winter.

Members were advised that attendance at urgent care was rising and in July, 2020 daily attendances of over 420 patients to the Emergency Department were recorded. Mention was also made of the age groups attending and the areas with the most attendances were located close to the hospital site. The increased numbers were not linked to covid but rather a change in culture and there was a similar position around the country.

The effects of this included overcrowding and longer waiting times.

### D3

The proportion of attendances resulting in admission to a ward started to reduce and remained steady from mid-March at around 23%, with a further slight decrease since the start of June.

In terms of actions undertaken, the Committee was advised of:

Investment of over £12m capital –

- New minor injuries;
- Expanded resuscitation facilities;
- Expanded majors capacity;
- Ambulance drop off capacity; and
- New 19 trolley Same day Emergency Care facility.

Investment in staffing of over £2m –

- 5 new consultants;
- Increased GP support; and
- Increased nursing and AHP support.

In terms of Elective Services members were advised that even though referrals were 21% above pre-pandemic levels, cancer performance had been recovered.

Statistical information relating to the numbers of patients waiting – incomplete pathways - over 18 weeks was also provided, as was the detail of the numbers waiting for surgery.

Members were also informed that this winter it was expected that viral infection rates would soar:

- Covid will remain - with surges;
- Bronchiolitis season that impacted children in November already started – and was expected to be 20-100% worse than usual;
- Flu is expected to be worse; and
- Norovirus was likely to be worse than usual.

In terms of next steps, the Committee was informed by Fiona of the following -

Redesigned triage service, with senior decision maker at the front to stream patients away from Emergency Department GP (on site and their own with booked appointment):

- Mental Health;
- Same day emergency care;
- See and treat services;
- Recruitment across the board both substantive and temporary for all staff;
- Review Estate to increase infection control capacity; and
- Restrictions on visiting and enhanced infection control measures will stay in place for the foreseeable future.

Members in their discussions referred to:

- Staff workload, the fantastic work they did and looking after staff;
- Roll out of flu vaccines;
- Children and young people numbers to A&E;
- GP's and possible rise in consultations when things got more back to normal;
- Numbers of patients waiting for treatment;
- Access to services;
- Recruitment of staff;
- Pressures on Emergency Departments;
- Re-development of the hospital site;
- Resources;
- The offer in local areas;
- Delivery of a better NHS offer;
- Mental health investment;
- Support in place for staff;
- Thanks to the staff for their work; and
- Assessment of waiting lists.

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

#### **4. MEMBERS BUSINESS**

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

D5

- (a) Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing held on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 4<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2021; and
- (b) Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care held on 12<sup>th</sup> April and 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting be noted.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 7.25 p.m.)

D6

**NOTES**

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Grant (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah, Connor, Dean, Donaghy, Hill, Hornby, Jiva (as deputy for Councillor Adia), McGeown, Murray, Pattison and Rimmer.

Co-opted Member

Reverend Canon Dr Bracegirdle – Church of England Diocese Representative

Also in attendance

Councillor Galloway	-	Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services
Ms B. Brown	-	Director of Children's Services
Mr P. Rankin	-	Deputy Director of Children's Services
Mrs. V. Ridge	-	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Adia, Iqbal (Chairman), Ismail and Taylor-Burke,

Councillor Grant in the Chair.

**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Resolved - The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

**2. MINUTES OF INFORMAL MEETING**

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of the informal meeting of the Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 were submitted and noted.

### **3. PROPOSED COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2021/22**

The Borough Solicitor submitted the proposed Committee Work Programme for 2021/22 which had been formulated following the informal meeting of this Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.

If approved, the Programme would guide the work of the Committee over the course of the Municipal Year.

Resolved – That the 2021/22 Committee Work Programme, as now submitted, be approved.

### **4. COVID-19 – EFFECT OF PANDEMIC AND MEASURES IN PLACE**

Ms B. Brown and Mr P. Rankin gave a presentation on the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on children and young people and outlined the leadership response and measures put in place to mitigate this.

The presentation provided details of the Council led system response which had become effective as soon as the national Lockdown commenced in March, 2020. This had coincided with the co-location of social care staff at Castle Hill whilst other staff were deployed to the humanitarian response to support the most vulnerable and to get vulnerable children back into school. There was a flexible approach to supporting vulnerable staff with a visible leadership within Council Offices and Schools and continued support for young people.

Members were informed that there had been four waves of the virus in Bolton and the Authority's social care teams had carried on providing their services throughout. It was noted that Bolton children had lost more face-to-face teaching than in any other Local Authority.

The presentation also advised that there were currently 452 children in elective home education, with 104 (23%) stating that COVID-19 was the reason.

Members were also shown a diagram which demonstrated how various agencies had worked together to provide a response and how information had been shared and reported and the flow of communication. Main points of action were highlighted, as follows:

- linked to schools pastoral teams;
- letters to heads clarifying reporting expectations for most vulnerable;
- communication;
- daily meetings;
- keeping in touch – leaving care offer;
- foster carer support;
- role of the humanitarian hub; and
- system response to tragedy – kinship and financial support.

As of March, 2021, the following data regarding impact was available:

- 59 open cases (114 children);
- 19 cases (32.2%) with delay which was assessed to have impact on the child - of which:
  - 23.7% (14 cases) had a delay which could be mitigated
  - 8.5% (5 cases) had a delay with a severe impact on the child;
  - 10.2% of cases reported 'Expert Evidence' as the most common reason for delay in Bolton; and
  - 42.4% (25) of cases had exceeded 26 weeks in Bolton with all of the cases with severe delay having exceeded 26 weeks.

In relation to regional and national communication and coordination, members were advised that it had comprised:

- Ofsted Regional Director;
- National and Regional School Commissioners;
- Education Unions – National Secretaries;;
- Cabinet Office; and
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

## E4

Members were also provided with examples of how the response worked in practice, as follows:

- supporting schools with high mortality within the community;
- decision making – facemasks and transition;
- local decision making that is timely and focused on the right thing for Bolton children;
- managing emotional wellbeing across the system – providing resilience;
- humanitarian system response;
- Delta Variant – community vaccine delivery and surge testing on school sites with military support;
- Children’s Commissioner visit; and
- Brave Leadership.

Finally, the presentation focused on overall actions taken by Bolton during the Pandemic and how all agencies had pulled together to continue to deliver services to children with:

- emotionally intelligent and compassionate leadership;
- resilient leadership;
- coproduction and collaboration at the heart;
- system leadership at pace – responsive;
- Trade Unions engagement and support; and
- celebrating The Bolton Family success in complex times.

Following the presentation, the Committee commended Ms Brown and Mr Rankin and all the staff in the Children’s Department for their response during an unprecedented period.

The Team had provided an outstanding service to all schools and played a proactive role in ensuring that children could continue to learn in a safe environment with as much normality as possible.

It was acknowledged that Bolton had been one of the worst affected areas and the Team had risen to the challenge with outstanding leadership, dedication and commitment to putting the needs of children and young people at the forefront.

Members also commended the work that the Team had undertaken in supporting the communities of Bolton during the pandemic and the way in which staff had adapted their skills to meet changing needs.

Resolved – That Ms Brown and Mr Rankin be thanked for their informative presentation and that this Committee acknowledges the huge impact of Covid-19 on schools and children and the outstanding response of the Children's Services Department, and that all staff be thanked for their continued efforts during the Pandemic and beyond.

#### **5. IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH**

Resolved – That this item be deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 to enable a representative from the CCG to attend the meeting.

#### **6. 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 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April, 14<sup>th</sup> June and 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

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

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.50pm)

E6

**NOTES**

**JOINT PLACE AND HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT  
SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 19<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Bagnall (Chairman), Ayub, Challender, Connor (as deputy for Councillor Eckersley – Fallon), Dean, Donaghy, Finney, Fletcher, Grant, Haworth, Heslop, Hill, McKeon, McMulkin, Pattison, Parkinson (as deputy for Councillor Hartigan), Peel, Radcliffe, Sherrington, Taylor-Burke, Walsh and Zaman.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Mrs Fairclough	Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Regulatory Services
Councillor Haslam	Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport
Councillor Warren	Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services Delivery
Councillor Hewitt	Executive Cabinet Member Strategic Housing and Planning
Councillor Baines	Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing
Councillor Morgan	Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care
Mr. T. Oakman	Chief Executive
Ms. H. Gorman	Borough Solicitor
Ms. H. Lowey	Director of Public Health
Ms. C. Greenan	Environmental Health Officer
Mr. S. Warburton	Transport for Greater Manchester
Ms. S. Kelly	Transport for Greater Manchester
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Brady, Eckersley-Fallon, Hartigan, Rimmer, Ismail and Khurram and Councillor Cox as Executive Cabinet Member)

Councillor Bagnall in the Chair.

## **1. THE GM CLEAN AIR PLAN**

The Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services Delivery and the Director of Place - Services submitted a report which set out the proposed Greater Manchester Final Clean Air Plan (GM CAP) and policy following a review of all the information gathered through the GM CAP consultation and wider data, evidence and modelling work which was to be agreed by the ten Greater Manchester authorities and also sought approval of the proposed plan as set out in the recommendations contained in the report. It was explained that this matter would be presented to the meeting of the full Cabinet on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2021 for decision.

Members were reminded that in Greater Manchester, the ten GM local authorities, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), collectively referred to as 'GM' had worked together to develop a Clean Air Plan to tackle NO<sub>2</sub> Exceedances at the Roadside, referred to as GM CAP.

The report set out the progress made on the GM Clean Air Plan and the report was supported by the following documents which were proposed and subject to approval by the ten GM local authorities, viz:-

- Appendix 1 – GM CAP Policy following Consultation;
- Appendix 2 – GM CAP Equality Impact Assessment following Consultation;
- Appendix 3 – AECOM Consultation Report;
- Appendix 4 – Response to consultation;
- Appendix 5 – Impacts of Covid-19 Report;
- Appendix 6 – Air Quality Modelling Report following Consultation and with Covid-19 impacts;
- Appendix 7 – Economic Implications of CAP following Consultation and with Covid-19 impacts;
- Appendix 8 – Update on Other Cities' Clean Air Plans;

- Appendix 9 – Compliance with the Secretary of State’s Direction; and
- Appendix 10 – Clean Air Zone ANPR and Signage Locations.

Members were advised that the final GM Clean Air Plan set out final proposals for the following, viz:-

- The boundary, hours of operation, management of the scheme, discounts, exemptions and daily charges of a Clean Air Zone;
- The amount of supporting funds for each vehicle type; and
- Other supporting measures.

The report also stated that in relation to the Clean Air Zone (CAZ), this covered the operation and management of the GM CAZ and the anticipated implementation date of the charging CAZ was 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 when the charges would apply to non-compliant buses, HGV’s and Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles licensed outside of Greater Manchester. With regards to non-compliant LGVs, minibuses and coaches and GM licensed Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles these would be subject to the charges from 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2023 when a temporary exemption expired.

The boundary of the CAZ would cover the whole of Greater Manchester, excluding the strategic Road Network which was managed by Highways England and the daily charges remained the same as at consultation.

Members were also advised that feedback from the consultation and consideration of the impact of Covid-19 on Greater Manchester had been used to better understand the requirements of those businesses, individuals and organisations who most needed the support to upgrade. It was therefore proposed to amend the support funds from consulted upon and the final proposed policy increased the funding per vehicle for Private Hire Vehicles, coaches, HGV’s and vans whilst remaining the same for other types of vehicle types.

There were also more options for replacement and retrofit for hackney carriages, Private Hire Vehicles, minibuses and vans.

The report stated that the proposed final GM Clean Air Plan did not include a Hardship Fund, however, Government had confirmed that they wished to ensure that Clean Air Funds could be adapted if necessary and that they would continue to work with GM to understand the situation, including the funding position, if the impacts proved to be more severe than forecasted. The final plan also explained the next steps with the charging infrastructure and the Try Before You Buy Hackney Carriage scheme.

The report also summarised the Air Quality Modelling of the final CAP package and, taking into account the impacts of Covid-19, concluded that the proposed final plan would achieve compliance with the legal limits for Nitrogen Dioxide within Greater Manchester in the shortest possible time and by 2024 at the latest as required by the Ministerial Direction.

The report also provided information in relation to the following, viz:-

- The key findings of consultation;
- Highlights from the proposed GM response to the consultation report;
- The findings of the impact of Covid-19 research, which looked at the potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the potential economic and behavioural changes that might occur;
- The key findings of the GM CAP Equality Impact Assessment following consultation; and
- The latest position on Government funding, an update on the bus retrofit fund and progress on the GM Clean Air Zone, which included signage and governance.

In conclusion, members were informed that making the charging scheme was desirable to facilitate the achievement of the local transport policies of the 10 GM local authorities and the GMCA, in particular policy 8 of the 2040 Transport Strategy

and the GM CAP had been developed in line with the 2040 Transport Strategy principles and vision.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- Enforcement;
- Effect of implementation;
- Light goods vehicles;
- Cameras in the Borough;
- Major health issues to be addressed;
- The hit to sole traders;
- Funding matters;
- Combatting pollutants and the effects of climate change;
- Returns in fines;
- The Government's plans;
- Local Authorities not been given the freedom to act;
- The effect on the lowest earners in the Borough;
- The benefits outweigh the negatives;
- The timescales and rushing it does not work;
- Plans for electric vehicles and the practical charging plans;
- Protection for families; and
- Presented with a fait accompli - the Government should have had a national strategy.

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

The joint scrutiny committee accepts that Bolton Council, along with the other 9 GM Councils, has been placed in an unacceptable position by Central Government in relation to the directive that places a legal duty on this authority to reduce harmful Nitrogen Dioxide levels 'in the shortest possible time'.

Whilst accepting that it is right and proper for the health of our residents that these dangerous particulates must be removed from the air we all breathe, we express our dissatisfaction with the Government on the following grounds:

1. That there is no overriding national strategy to tackle this issue. There is no initiative led and promoted by HM

Government on what is such a serious issue. Instead HM Government have, over several years, cherry picked the 'worst' polluted areas and instructed the geographically relevant local council to take action. This ignores many other urban areas who whilst currently 'compliant' on clean air, could in due course receive a directive.

2. A proper national strategy on clean air should have been formulated around the provision of adequate funding for a national vehicle scrappage and retrofit scheme for all non-compliant vehicles.
3. By instructing individual councils to formulate their own plans, (or even when they have chosen to work as group, as in the case of GM) the opportunities for a national capital scheme have been lost, leading to the capital being offered by HM Government being inadequate to meet the needs of most vehicle owners, who are often low paid, such as private hire and hackney drivers, and self-employed 'white van' drivers.
4. We contend that the quickest method by which harmful emissions can be reduced is through a generous national vehicle scrappage scheme rather than punitive charging measures, which will cause harm to innocent self-employed and employed people, who are guilty of nothing more than making the same vehicle purchase choices as everyone else.

The Government directive is placed on Bolton Council (among others), not on the GM Combined Authority, TFGM, or the office of the Mayor of GM. However, we note that Bolton Council has worked in partnership with the other councils in GM, and we commend and congratulate the political leadership of the GM authorities for continuing to push HM Government for the best possible deal for GM residents. The Government response has been, however, inadequate.

This joint Scrutiny Committee asks that the Cabinet:

1. Express, via the Leader of the Council, in a formal letter to HM Government in the strongest possible terms, the wording of this resolution.
2. Continue to work collaboratively with the other 9 GM authorities to explore other opportunities of mitigation against the worst financial aspects that Clean Air Charging will place on Bolton residents.

Where upon an amendment was moved by Councillor Walsh and seconded by Councillor Finney that –

The joint scrutiny committee accepts that Bolton Council, along with the other 9 GM Councils, has been placed in an unacceptable position by Central Government in relation to the directive that places a legal duty on this authority to reduce harmful Nitrogen Dioxide levels 'in the shortest possible time'.

Whilst accepting that it is right and proper for the health of our residents that these dangerous particulates must be removed from the air we all breathe.

We move that Bolton Council approves the GM Final Clean Air Plan and policy as laid out in the report.

It is noted that the LA is legally bound by Ministerial Direction to achieve compliance via set targets for Nitrogen Dioxide emissions in the shortest possible time and by 2024 at the latest. The largest environmental risk to public health is air pollution and the GM CAP deals with the NO<sub>2</sub> emissions from mainly diesel vehicles. In addition the acceleration of the switch to greener transport which the GM CAP will deliver is vital to achieving our net carbon targets.

It is noted that to comply with the Ministerial Direction the LAs in GM decided to work together in 2018 to develop a Clean Air Plan. GM considered a range of options to deliver compliance and the submission to Government of the Outline Business Case in March 2019 was for a GM wide Clean Air Zone, class C, with additional measures.

It is noted that the Government has addressed the concerns raised by the LA's and in the GM consultation over mitigating the economic impact on all those who will be affected by the GM CAP.

It is noted that the requests for supporting funding to assist businesses, individuals and organisations to upgrade or retrofit non-compliant vehicles has been met almost in full, more options have been given for replacement and retrofit and there has been more time given to groups of vehicles to upgrade before they are legally bound to be compliant under the GM CAP.

It is noted that the Government will review the need for further financial assistance if there is hardship arising out of compliance. We must ensure that this is upheld and if further resources and funding is required that this is delivered.

It is noted that the government have supplied over £120 million support to upgrade non-compliant vehicles, funding will be open from November 2021, eligible operators of registered bus services are able to apply now, and this council must engage and support those eligible to access and utilise this funding.

It is noted that when the clean air plan is initiated, which is expected Monday 30th May 2022 temporary exemptions for Light Goods Vehicles, taxis and private hire vehicles and coaches registered in Greater Manchester would be in place until 31st May 2023.

Where upon the amendment was put to the vote and the voting was as follows, viz -

For the amendment, Viz –

Councillors Connor, Finney, Parkinson, Hill, Walsh, Dean, Radcliffe and Taylor-Burke.

Against the amendment, Viz –

Councillors Ayub, Challenger, McKeon, Peel, Zaman, Donaghy, Haworth, Sherrington, Bagnall, Pattison, McMulkin, Fletcher, Grant and Heslop.

Abstain, Viz –

Nil

Whereupon the amendment was declared lost.

Whereupon the original motion, moved by Councillor Peel and seconded by Councillor Zaman was put to the vote and the voting was as follows, viz-

For the motion, Viz –

Councillors Connor, Finney, Parkinson, Hill, Walsh, Dean, Radcliffe and Taylor-Burke, Ayub, Challenger, McKeon, Peel, Zaman, Donaghy, Haworth, Sherrington, Bagnall, Pattison, McMulkin, Fletcher, Grant and Heslop.

Against the motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

F10

**NOTES**