

Bolton Council

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

23rd June 2021

SUMMONS AND AGENDA



BOLTON COUNCIL

Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council to be held in the Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, Town Hall on Wednesday next, 23rd June, 2021 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 meeting of the Council held on 17th March, 2021.

2. Recommendations to Council

Motion in the name of Councillor Hewitt -

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 6th May, 2021.

3. Changes in Committee Membership and Appointments to Other Bodies

4. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(a)

5. Questions under Standing Order No. 9(c)

6. Committee Proceedings

To approve the proceedings of the following Committees:-

Planning Committee (See Section B)

Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee (See Section C)

7. Scrutiny Committees

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

Corporate and External Issues Scrutiny Committee (See Section D)

Place Scrutiny Committee (See Section E)

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee (See Section F)

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

8. Motions under Standing Order No.4

(a) Motion in name of Councillor Sherrington –

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.

(b) Motion in the name of Councillor Murray -

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.

(c) Motion in the name of Councillor McKeon –

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 it's 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.

(d) Motion in the name of Councillor Hayes –

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.



TONY OAKMAN
Chief Executive
Town Hall, Bolton

16th June, 2021

The proceedings of the Cabinet and Executive Cabinet
Member Portfolio meetings from 8th March 2021 to 27th April
2021 are included for information only in a separate volume.

BOLTON METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

2021/2022

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

26th MAY 2021

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

1. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Greenhalgh, seconded by Councillor Peel and unanimously agreed –

That Councillor Mrs. Thomas be elected Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bolton for the Municipal Year 2021/2022.

2. APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR

It was moved by Councillor Peel, seconded by Councillor Greenhalgh and unanimously agreed –

That Councillor Mrs. Fairclough be appointed Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Bolton for the Municipal Year 2021/2022.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Council held on 17th March 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

4. APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

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

That Councillor Greenhalgh be appointed Leader of the Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May, 2022 or until such time as the Council removes him from office.

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

For the Motion, 31 viz:

Councillors Baines, Brady, Bullock, Connor, Cox, Dean, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Morgan, Muslim, Parkinson, Pattison, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Taylor-Burke, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 16 viz:

Councillors Ayub, Challenger, Donaghy, Hayes, Haworth, Heslop, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, Murray, Peel, Sherrington, Silvester, Veevers and Zaman.

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

5. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Greenhalgh and seconded by Councillor Cox -

That the Constitution of the Council (including changes to Standing Orders, Standing Orders relating to Contracts and the Council's Scheme of Delegation) and the Members Allowance Scheme be approved.

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

For the Motion, 47 viz:

Councillors Ayub, Baines, Brady, Bullock, Challender, Connor, Cox, Dean, Donaghy, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Haworth, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Iqbal, Jiva, Khurram, McKeon, Morgan, Murray, Muslim, Parkinson, Pattison, Peel, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Sherrington, Silvester, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson, Wright and Zaman.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 0

Whereupon, the motion was declared carried.

6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, PANELS, POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUPS, OUTSIDE BODIES AND THEIR POWERS AND DUTIES

It was moved by Councillor Greenhalgh, seconded by Councillor Dean –

- (i) That the memberships of the Committees/various bodies/outside bodies and their powers and duties as

set out in the circulated documents be agreed, (together with those members appointed to attend meetings of the Cabinet) and that the Leader of the Council be authorised to amend any of the GMCA/AGMA nominations, if required, before the annual meeting of the GMCA/AGMA Executive Board.

- (ii) That the Council agrees to waive political balance rules which apply to the YPO Joint Committee in accordance with section 17 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

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

For the Motion, 34 viz:

Councillors Baines, Brady, Bullock, Connor, Cox, Dean, Eckersley-Fallon, Mrs. Fairclough, Finney, Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Greenhalgh, Hartigan, Haslam, Hayes, Heslop, Hewitt, Hill, Hornby, Morgan, Muslim, Parkinson, Pattison, Radcliffe, Rimmer, Sanders, Taylor-Burke, Veevers, Walsh, Warren, Weatherby, T. Wilkinson and Wright.

Against the Motion, 0

Abstained, 13 viz:

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

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

7. DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2021/2022

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

(a) Meetings of the Council 2021/2022

Wednesday, 23rd June, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 18th August, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 6th October, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 24th November, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 19th January, 2022 at 7.00 p.m.
Wednesday, 16th February, 2022 (Budget Meeting Only) at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 16th March, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

(b) Mayor's Inauguration

Wednesday 18th May, 2022 (Mayor Making) at
11.15 a.m.

(c) Annual Meeting of the Council, 2022

Wednesday, 25th May, 2022 (Annual Council) at
7:00 p.m.

(The meeting started at 7.00 p.m. and finished at 7.50 p.m.)

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 18TH MARCH, 2021

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Hayes, Haworth, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall (as deputy for Councillor Wilkinson), Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington and Wright.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Wilkinson

40. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 4th March, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

41. 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.

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

09485/20

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

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
08452/20	Change of use of land from residential to light industrial and erection of 2 no. buildings comprising 6 no. units with parking and associated works at Open Gate Caravan Park, Belvoir Street	<p>Refused.</p> <p>1. The proposed development represents the introduction of a non-conforming use within a predominantly residential area which will lead to increased activity and noise in and around the site to the detriment of the living conditions enjoyed at nearby residential properties, contrary to Policy CG4 of Bolton's Core Strategy.</p> <p>2. The proposed development will give rise to increased traffic and result in on-street parking in the vicinity of the application site to the detriment of highway safety and the free flow of vehicles and is contrary to Policies P5 and S1 of Bolton's Core Strategy and the Accessibility, Transport and Road Safety SPD.</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p>

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		<p>Members voting for refusal of the application (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Haworth, Hayes, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and Wright.</p>
09485/21	Erection of 108 no. residential dwellings together with access, landscaping and associated works at Garnet Fold Farm, St Helen's Road	<p>That the decision be delegated to the Director of Place for approval.</p> <p>A motion to delegate the decision to the Director of Place for approval was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for delegation of the application to the Director of Place for approval (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Haworth, Hayes, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and Wright.</p>
09526/20	Change of use from C3 dwelling house to C2 residential unit at 152 Brodick Drive	<p>Deferred for further information.</p> <p>A motion to defer the application for further information was moved and seconded.</p>

		<p>Members voting for deferral of the application for further information (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Haworth, Hayes, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and Wright.</p>
10059/20	<p>Construction of tarmacadam surface and weld-mesh fenced multi-use games area to replace existing facility which will be restored as grassed parkland at Old Station Park, Chorley New Road, Horwich</p>	<p>Deferred for further information.</p> <p>A motion to defer the application for further information was moved and seconded.</p> <p>An amendment to approve the application, subject to conditions, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>The amendment was put to the vote.</p> <p>Members voting for the amendment to approve the application, subject to conditions (6);</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Connor, Hornby, Mistry, Sherrington and Walsh.</p> <p>Members voting against the amendment to approve the application, subject to conditions (10):</p>

		<p>Councillors Allen, Darvesh, Dean, Hayes, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders and Wright.</p> <p>Members abstaining (1):</p> <p>Councillor Haworth.</p> <p>The amendment was lost.</p> <p>The original motion to defer the application was then put to the vote:</p> <p>Members voting for deferral of the application (14):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Hayes, Hornby, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and Wright.</p> <p>Members voting against deferral of the application (2):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub and Mistry.</p> <p>Members abstaining (1):</p> <p>Councillor Haworth.</p> <p>The original motion was carried.</p>
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Tree Preservation Order	Bolton (Land off Medway Drive, Horwich)	<p>That the Tree Preservation Order be confirmed without modification.</p> <p>A motion to approve the Tree Preservation Order, without modification, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order, without modification (17):</p> <p>Councillors Allen, Ayub, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Haworth, Hayes, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and Wright.</p>
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42. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS

The Director of Place submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 25th February and 8th March, 2021

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.47pm)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 1ST APRIL, 2021

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Connor, Haworth, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall (as deputy for Councillor Hayes), Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Watters (as deputy for Councillor Dean), Wilkinson and Wright.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Darvesh, Dean and Hayes.

43. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 18th March, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

44. 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:-

Member of Council	Application Number	Nature of Interest
Councillor Newall	09526/20	She declared an interest in the application. She then addressed the Committee in her capacity as a Ward Councillor and then withdrew from the meeting and took no further part in the proceedings on the application.

Councillors Silvester and Brady, in their capacity as Ward Councillors, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of applications numbered 09801/20 and 08698/20.

Councillor Hayes, in his capacity as Ward Councillor, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 10199/21

Councillors Warren and Newall, in their capacity as Ward Councillors, attended the meeting and spoke in respect of application numbered 09526/20

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

08698/20

09801/20

10199/21

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

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
08698/21	Retrospective permission for erection of offices and extension to maintenance sheds, formation of hardstanding and HGV parking and wash areas together with gas/petrol pump and stone retaining walls on land to west of Makinson Lane between Montcliffe and Pilkington Quarries, Horwich	Refused. The proposed development, by reason of its scale and siting, represents inappropriate development within the Green Belt and the circumstances provided by the applicant are not considered to amount to very special circumstances. It is therefore considered that the proposed development would harm the purposes and openness of the Green

		<p>Belt, contrary to Policy CG7AP of Bolton's Allocations Plan and section 13 of the National Planning Policy Framework.</p> <p>A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for refusal of the application (14): Councillors Ayub, Connor, Haworth, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Watters, Wilkinson and Wright.</p> <p>Member abstaining (1): Councillor Walsh</p>
09526/20	Change of use from C3 dwelling house to C2 residential unit (additional information received) at 152 Brodick Drive	<p>Not Approved.</p> <p>1. By reason of it not responding to local need or demand, the proposal would fail to comply with Policy SC2 of Bolton's Core Strategy in that it would result in a community facility not located within the neighbourhood that it serves.</p> <p>2. By reason of the additional levels of activity caused by the</p>

		<p>arrival and departure of staff and visitors, the proposed use would have a detrimental impact on the living conditions of nearby residents and the amenity of the immediate area, contrary to Policy CG4 of Bolton's Core Strategy.</p> <p>3. By reason of it providing accommodation for children previously residing outside of the Borough, the proposal would not represent sustainable development as it would not limit the need for travel by staff and other visitors, contrary to paragraph 103 of the National Planning Policy Framework.</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 (6):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Haworth, Mistry, Peel, Sanders and Sherrington.</p>
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		<p>Members voting against approval of the application, subject to conditions (7):</p> <p>Councillors Connor, Hornby, Morgan, Radcliffe, Walsh, Watters and Wright.</p>
09801/20	<p>Variation of condition 14 on planning approval 97782/16 (introduction of an additional access to/from the site) at Montcliffe Quarry, Georges Lane, Horwich</p>	<p>Deferred for further information.</p> <p>A motion to defer the application for further information was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for deferral of the application for further information (15):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Connor, Haworth, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh, Watters, Wilkinson and Wright.</p>
10199/21	<p>Retrospective application for the erection of a raised patio and sun lounge at rear of 158 Markland Hill Lane</p>	<p>Refused.</p> <p>The proposed retained extension and raised patio would, by virtue of their design, height and siting be detrimental to the living conditions of neighbouring residents at 1, 3 and 5 Ripon Drive and 156 and 160 Markland Hill Lane by</p>

		<p>virtue of increased overlooking and reduced privacy and is contrary to Policy CG4 of Bolton's Core Strategy and contrary to guidance contained within the Supplementary Planning Document - "House Extensions" and paragraph 127 (f) of the National Planning Policy Framework.</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 Ayub, Connor, Haworth, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh, Watters, Wilkinson and Wright.</p>
Tree Preservation Order	Bolton (Land off Brantwood Drive) Tree Preservation Order 2021	<p>Confirmed without modification.</p> <p>A motion to confirm the Tree Preservation Order without modification was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order without modification (14):</p>

		Councillors Ayub, Connor, Haworth, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Newall, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh, Watters and Wright.
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45. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS

The Director of Place submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 9th and 23rd March, 2021.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 4.50pm)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

MEETING, 22nd APRIL, 2021

Present – Councillors Walsh (Chairman), Ayub (Vice-Chairman), Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Fletcher (as deputy for Councillor Allen), Haworth, Hayes, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington and Wright.

Councillor Walsh in the Chair.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allen and Wilkinson

46. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Committee held on 1st April, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

47. 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:-

Member of Council	Application Number	Nature of Interest
Councillor Wright	09862/20	He is a tenant of Irwell Valley who are one of the proposed social housing providers for the site.

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

09862/20

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

Application Number	Proposal and Location	Decision
09862/20	Reserved Matters application pursuant to outline approval 91352/14 - erection of 38 no. affordable residential dwellings and 78 no. affordable apartments together with associated	That the decision be delegated to the Director of Place for approval, subject to conditions and a Section 106 Agreement, as detailed in the report, and additional conditions regarding the provision of electric car charging

	<p>infrastructure works (access, appearance, landscaping, scale, layout) at Horwich Loco Industrial Estate, Chorley New Road, Horwich</p>	<p>points, enhanced landscaping to include a variety of mature trees and provision for birds and wildlife.</p> <p>A motion to delegate the decision to the Director of Place, subject to conditions and a Section 106 Agreement, as detailed in the report, and additional conditions regarding electric charging points, enhanced landscaping to include mature trees and provision for birds and wildlife, was moved and seconded.</p> <p>Members voting for the motion (16):</p> <p>Councillors Ayub, Connor, Darvesh, Dean, Fletcher, Haworth, Hayes, Hornby, Mistry, Morgan, Peel, Radcliffe, Sanders, Sherrington, Walsh and Wright.</p>
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48. PLANNING APPEAL DECISIONS

The Director of Place submitted a report which informed the Committee of the outcome of various planning appeals between 8th March and 9th April, 2021

Resolved – That the report be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.05pm)

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NOTES

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 9TH MARCH, 2021

Present – Councillors Mrs Fairclough (Chairman), Dean (Vice-Chairman), Flitcroft, Haworth, Mistry (as deputy for Councillor Khurram), Morris and Newall.

Councillor Mrs Fairclough, Chairman

22. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 1st December, 2020 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

23. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE (TRAFFIC MATTERS)

Resolved – That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee (Traffic Matters) held on 9th December, 2020 and 19th January, 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

24. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING SUB - COMMITTEE (SENSITIVE CASES)

Resolved – That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee (Sensitive Cases) held on 17th December, 2020 and 29th January, 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

25. 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.

**26. APPLICATION TO EXTEND A HACKNEY CARRIAGE
VEHICLE LICENCE. LER/01/21**

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application which had been received to renew a hackney carriage vehicle licence in March, 2021.

The applicant attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

It was moved by Councillor Dean and Seconded by Councillor Mistry that the element of the policy regarding the maximum 15 year age policy be not applied to the next application to renew the licence, finding that there are exceptional circumstances.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Mistry, Morris, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Newall and Flitcroft.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

**27. MISCONDUCT BY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER
LER/02/21**

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of alleged misconduct in relation to a driver licensed to drive private hire vehicles.

C3

The driver attended the meeting but explained that he had been unable to access the papers for the meeting, which had been emailed to him.

It was moved by Councillor Dean and Seconded by Councillor Mistry that consideration of the matter be deferred to enable the driver to adequately consider the paperwork and prepare his case .

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Mistry, Morris, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Newall and Flitcroft.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

28. MISCONDUCT BY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LER/02/21

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of alleged misconduct in relation to a driver licensed to drive private hire vehicles.

The driver and his Solicitor attended the meeting. The Solicitor explained that the driver had no knowledge of the offence listed as number two in the table. The Committee accepted this position and agreed to proceed on that basis.

It was moved by Councillor Mistry and Seconded by Councillor Newall that no action be taken regarding the licence to drive private hire vehicles but a warning letter be issued to the driver and kept on file regarding the need to act appropriately at all

C4

times in accordance with the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability for drivers.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Mistry, Morris, Dean, Mrs. Fairclough, Newall and Flitcroft.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.21 pm)

LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION COMMITTEE (TRAFFIC MATTERS)

MEETING, 23rd MARCH, 2021

Present – Councillors Fairclough (Chairman), Dean (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Flitcroft, Galloway, Haworth, Khurram, Morris and Newall.

Councillor Fairclough in the Chair

29. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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

30. MINUTES OF LICENSING (TRAFFIC) SUB – COMMITTEE

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing (Traffic) Sub-Committee held on 19th January, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

31. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve 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.

32. APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL AND MISCONDUCT BY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS

The Director of Place submitted a report which provided details of private hire and hackney carriage drivers who had been convicted of offences during the period of their licence.

Resolved:- **(i) LERC/4/21 – the driver attended the meeting.**

That in respect of report numbered LERC/4/21, the application to renew a private hire vehicle be refused on the grounds that the driver is not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence at this time.

In coming to its decision, the Sub-Committee was mindful of its duty to protect the public and the offence from June 2019 of breach of requirements as to control of the vehicle mobile phones etc resulting in a fine and penalty points is an intermediate traffic offence under the Council's policy.

The Sub-Committee was concerned that the driver had breached the conditions of his licence by failing to declare conviction numbered 4 in the report. He had only declared the offence when he was required to submit a self-certification form that had been introduced by the Licensing Unit during the pandemic as a temporary measure to enable licences to be extended. As a result, the conviction was declared 298 days late.

Due to the offence, the driver's licence had not been extended and had subsequently expired.

The driver had previously attended the Committee in May, 2014 and received a two week suspension for another offence and for non-declaration of that conviction. Members felt that he should have been aware of the need to declare future convictions and was not taking the conditions of his licence seriously.

Drivers have a duty of care to passengers and other road users and use of a mobile phone whilst driving is dangerous and could cause serious harm to other road users, passengers and himself.

Drivers have a duty to declare convictions in accordance with the conditions of their licence.

A motion to refuse the application was moved and seconded.

Members voting for refusal of the application (8):

Councillors Allen, Dean, Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Khurram, Morris and Newall.

Members voting against refusal of the application (1):

Councillor Haworth.

(ii) LERC/5/21 – the driver and his wife attended the meeting.

That in respect of report numbered LERC/5/21, a warning letter be issued to the driver reminding him of the need to adhere to speed limits at all times as exceeding them can be a real danger to the public.

In coming to its decision, the Sub-Committee was mindful of its duty to protect the public and the offence from February, 2020 of exceeding the statutory speed limit on a public road resulting in a fixed penalty is a minor offence under the Council's policy.

It was acknowledged that the driver had declared the conviction in accordance with the conditions of his licence. He had not been carrying passengers at the time of the offence.

Drivers have a duty to adhere to speeding limits at all times and exceeding them can be a real danger to the public.

There is therefore reasonable cause to issue a warning letter to the driver.

A motion to issue a warning letter to the driver was moved and seconded.

Members voting for the issue of a warning letter (9):

Councillors Allen, Dean, Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Haworth, Khurram, Morris and Newall.

(iii) LERC/6/21 – the driver attended the meeting.

That in respect of the report numbered LERC/6/21, a warning letter be issued to the driver reminding him of the need to adhere to speed limits at all times as exceeding them can be a real danger to the public.

In coming to its decision, the Sub-Committee was mindful of its duty to protect the public and the offence from March, 2020 of exceeding the speed limit on a motorway resulting in a fine and penalty points is a major traffic offence (due to the amount of points awarded), under the Council's policy.

It was acknowledged that the driver had declared the conviction in accordance with the conditions of his licence. He had also not been carrying passengers at the time of the offence and not had any other convictions in the last 12 years.

The driver explained that he had been on the motorway and that there had been a variable speed limit in place. He had been returning from a personal business trip and had not noticed the speed limit in place. He was extremely sorry for his actions and realised his mistake could have caused harm to members of the public.

Drivers have a duty to adhere to speeding limits at all times and exceeding them can be a real danger to the public.

There is therefore reasonable cause to issue a warning letter to the driver.

A motion to issue a warning letter to the driver was moved and seconded.

Members voting for the issue of a warning letter (9):

Councillors Allen, Dean, Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Haworth, Khurram, Morris and Newall.

(iv) LERC/7/21 – the driver attended the meeting.

That in respect of the report numbered LERC/7/21, the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be revoked with immediate effect, as the driver is not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence at this time.

In coming to its decision, the Sub-Committee was mindful of its duty to protect the public and the offence from January, 2020 of failure to give information as to the identity of the driver etc resulting in a fine and penalty points is a major traffic offence under the Council's policy.

The Sub-Committee was concerned that the driver had breached the conditions of his licence by failing to declare conviction numbered 4 in the report. He had only declared the offence when he was required to submit a self-certification form that had been introduced by the Licensing Unit during the pandemic as a temporary measure to enable licences to be extended. As a result, the conviction was declared 262 days late.

The driver had been interviewed by the Licensing Unit about the conviction. A copy of his statement was attached to the report at Appendix 3.

The Sub-Committee was also concerned that the driver had attended the Sub-Committee in November, 2016 for the same offence and had received a twelve week period of suspension. He had also attended the Sub-Committee in September, 2011 for the same offence and received a one week suspension.

Members were extremely concerned that this was the third time that the driver had been convicted of the same offence and felt that he was developing a serious pattern of behaviour that was not acceptable for a licence holder. He was not taking the

conditions of his licence seriously and was not learning from past mistakes.

Members were also concerned that the offence from January, 2020 had resulted in a substantial fine and six penalty points.

The driver attended the meeting and explained the circumstances surrounding the case. He stated that one of his family members had borrowed his car without his knowledge and committed a speeding offence. He had not managed to establish who had taken the keys and, although he had questioned everyone who had access to his car, no-one had admitted to speeding. As a result, he had not returned the necessary forms to the Police as to the driver of the vehicle at the time of the offence and had been convicted for not supplying the necessary information as to the driver.

The driver assured members that this would not happen again and had changed the insurance on his car so that no third party could drive it.

Members were extremely concerned that other members of the driver's family were able to have access to the car and drive it without the driver's knowledge. They felt that allowing an unlicensed driver to have access to and drive a licensed taxi posed a serious threat to the safety of the public and that the driver had been extremely irresponsible in allowing this to happen.

Drivers have a duty to maintain the safety of the public at all times and take the conditions of their licence seriously.

Drivers have a duty to declare convictions in accordance with the conditions of their licence.

There is therefore reasonable cause to revoke the licence with immediate effect in order to maintain the safety of the public.

A motion to revoke the licence with immediate effect was moved and seconded.

An amendment to suspend the licence for 10 weeks was moved and seconded.

The amendment was put to the vote.

Members voting for approval of the amendment (2):

Councillors Haworth and Khurram

Members voting against approval of the amendment (7):

Councillors Allen, Dean, Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Morris and Newall.

The amendment was declared lost.

The original motion to revoke the licence with immediate effect was then put to the vote.

Members voting for approval of the motion (7):

Councillors Allen, Dean, Fairclough, Flitcroft, Galloway, Morris and Newall.

Members voting against approval of the motion (2):

Councillors Haworth and Khurram.

The original motion was declared carried.

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

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 6TH APRIL, 2021

Present – Councillors Mrs Fairclough (Chairman), Dean (Vice-Chairman), Allen, Flitcroft, Galloway, Haworth, Khurram, Morris and Newall.

Councillor Mrs Fairclough, Chairman

33. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meetings held on 9th and 23rd March, 2021 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

34. 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.

**35. MISCONDUCT BY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER
LER/08/21**

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of alleged misconduct in relation to a driver licensed to drive private hire vehicles.

The driver attended the meeting.

The report set out details of the alleged misconduct.

It was moved by Councillor Haworth and Seconded by Councillor Galloway that the licence to drive private hire vehicles be suspended for a period of seven weeks.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Khurram, Morris, Galloway, Mrs. Fairclough, Newall and Flitcroft.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Councillor Allen

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

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

That the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be suspended for a period of seven weeks on the basis that the Committee are not satisfied that the driver is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

Following consideration of all the evidence, the Committee noted the complaints and the driver admitted losing patience. Drivers are in a position of trust and have a duty to conduct themselves in a lawful and professional manner at all times.

The Committee also took account of the following –

- The driver's caution for Public Order Section 4(1) Public Order Act 1986;
- The complain from a member of the public about the inappropriate behaviour of the driver and that he was carrying a hammer;
- The driver admitted losing patience and hammering on the wall but denied this was for 20 minutes and denied hitting the lady;

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

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 suspend the private hire drivers licence for a period of seven weeks.

36. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE LER/09/21

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application for the grant of a hackney carriage vehicle licence where the previous licence had expired.

The applicant and his representative attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Khurram and Seconded by Councillor Haworth that the application be granted, finding that there are exceptional circumstances.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Khurram, Morris, Dean, Galloway, Mrs. Fairclough, Newall, Flitcroft and Allen.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

**37. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY
CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE LER/10/21**

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application for the grant of a hackney carriage vehicle licence where the previous licence had expired.

The applicant and his representative attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Haworth and Seconded by Councillor Flitcroft that the application be granted as a renewal, finding that there are exceptional circumstances.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Haworth, Khurram, Morris, Dean, Galloway, Mrs. Fairclough, Newall, Flitcroft and Allen.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

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

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NOTES

**CORPORATE AND EXTERNAL ISSUES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 12th APRIL, 2021

Present – Councillors Silvester (Chairman), Adia, Dean, Gibbon (as deputy for Councillor Hornby), Hayes, Murray, Pattison, Peel, Veevers, Walsh, Wright and Zaman.

Augmented by Councillors Allen, Ayub, Brady, McKeon and Weatherby for minute 32.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Greenhalgh	Leader of the Council
Councillor Muslim	Executive Cabinet Member Stronger Communities Portfolio
Councillor Cox	Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leaders Portfolio
Councillor Mrs. Fairclough	Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Regulatory Services
Councillor Warren	Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Delivery Services
Councillor Haslam	Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport
Mr. T. Oakman	Chief Executive
Ms. S. Johnson	Deputy Chief Executive
Mr. G. Brough	Director of Place
Ms. H. Gorman	Borough Solicitor
Ms. E. Brook	Assistant Director Strategy and Partnerships
Mr. D. Cross	Programme Director Strategic Property and Regeneration
Mr. R. Holt	Robertsons
Mrs. V. Ridge	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Connor, Cunningham, Evans, Hornby, Radcliffe and Wilkinson.

Councillor Silvester in the Chair

30. MINUTES SILENCE

The Chairman referred to the sad passing of His Royal Highness The Prince of Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Freeman of the Borough Robert Howarth and former Mayoress Mrs Delyse Critchley.

Members observed a minutes silence in their memory.

31. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11th February, 2021 were submitted.

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

32. BANK STREET – UPDATE

The Director of Place and the Borough Solicitor gave a presentation which provided an update in relation to the Bank Street Demolition Contract.

Members were advised of the timeline for the contract which commenced in June, 2017 and which the contract sum in May, 2019 was £395,000. Since this time in June, 2019 authorisation was given to increase the contract sum to £443,276.40 to undertake previously unforeseen additional work and in February, 2020 further authorisation was given to increase the contract sum to £513,942.15, after negotiating a reduction of £38,589.86 in the contractors' initial variation amount. The Project Manager gave no indication that further variations were in the pipeline and Senior managers only became aware of these in June, 2020 when the contractors issued their final account in the sum of £895,929.23 Following detailed discussions with the contractor, a settlement agreement, which included legal costs, was reached in the sum of £775,000 and this was completed in October, 2020.

D3

Information was also provided on the steps and action which had been taken prior to the settlement agreement being completed.

In terms of the issues which had arisen with this contract these had been identified as:-

- Poorly defined brief and procurement based on lowest cost wins; and
- Inadequate budget failed to allow for potential abnormal/unforeseen costs.

With regards to the future and the lessons learned these were as follows, viz:-

- The Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) now required a two stage process which was
 - Concept and design by specialists; and
 - Procure a principal contractor based on the specialist design.
- The SAMP Policy and Principles:
Gateway Process –
 - Feasibility – Gate 1
 - Optional Appraisal – Gate 2
 - Strategic Business Case – Gate 3
 - Commit to invest Detailed Design – Gate 4
 - Procurement, Costing and Define Budget – Gate 5
 - Commit to Construct – Gate 5 and (Departmental Leadership Team/Corporate Leadership Team/Executive Cabinet Member)
- Estimated costs had been through approval stages before any contract and project budget was agreed using defined costs.

Mr. R. Holt, Robertsons also advised members that they had now put in place a robust process for dealing with budgets.

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

- Concerns were expressed about the management of the contract;
- Queried the delay from when the final contract amount was known to a report being submitted to the Executive Cabinet Member;
- Mismanagement of the contract;
- Potential for criminality;
- The public perception;
- Thanks to officers for their candid approach and transparency;
- There was an expectation that contract managers would know the legal position;
- Appreciated the frankness, openness and lessons learned from officers;
- The role of the contractors;
- The experience of the project manager;
- Robust processes should have been in place from the start;
- Some responsibility had to be attributed to officers;
- Had due diligence been undertaken;
- Concern was expressed regarding variations not being in writing and professional indemnity; and
- Concerns that the Council were not able to dispute the claims.

In response, the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader stated that this was a poorly put together contract and had been poorly administered. He was also not happy that lessons had to be learnt but assured members that there was no evidence of criminality. It was acknowledged that project management had been abysmal and compensation would be sought.

Resolved – That the position be noted and that officers be thanked for the presentation and that if any compensation is received this be reported back to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

33. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2020/2021

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which detailed the work programme for 2020/2021.

Resolved – That the Work Programme for 2020/2021 be noted.

34. COVID 19 AND FINANCES UPDATE

The Deputy Chief Executive gave a presentation to members which provided an update on Covid 19 and Finances since the last meeting.

Members were advised that the Council had received £26.7 million 'emergency' government support and the full year effect of costs/loss of income/unachieved savings was estimated at £27.3 million as at the end of February, 2021.

In terms of additional costs this stood at £9.3 million and with regard to income losses this currently stood at £18.0 million. A breakdown of which was provided at the meeting.

The Deputy Chief Executive also stated that £4.5 million of reserves would be used to balance the 2020/2021 budget for the impact of Covid-19. Furthermore, the impact of business rates and council tax which stood at £5.1 million would fall into the next financial year.

Members were also provided with information regarding the grants to businesses which were available, together with, the other types of grants which had been allocated to the Council.

Members discussed the financial implications of Covid-19 and, in particular, the true impact they had on the savings which needed to be achieved in the next year.

Resolved – That the presentation be noted.

35. NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT

Ms. E. Brook, Assistant Director Strategy and Partnerships gave a presentation which gave an update on Neighbourhood Management.

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

- How deprivation was measured;
- The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) which was made up of the following seven domains:-
 - Income – 22.5%
 - Employment – 22.5%
 - Education – 13.5%
 - Health – 13.5%
 - Crime – 9.3%
 - Barriers to Housing – 9.3%
 - Living Environment – 9.3%
- What the IDM could be used for;
- Bolton was ranked 34th most deprived local authority in the country (out of 317) and within Greater Manchester, Bolton was around average for the conurbation;
- Statistical information regarding the domains;
- LSOAs in Bolton compared to the highest levels of deprivation in England;
- The Neighbourhood Management Programme;
- Drivers for change;
- The Local Government Association – Member review;
- The eight design principles which were as follows
 - Engages and Empowers Communities;
 - Resources Communities;
 - Culture of Collaboration;
 - Reduces Inequality;
 - Prevention;
 - Intelligence Driven;
 - Strengths – Based; and
 - Stable and Sustainable.
- Next Steps.

With regard to the next steps members were advised that a revised model for area working would be developed and formal approval sought for implementation which would be a phased approach over two years. It was also intended to arrange members briefings to share the new arrangements.

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

- The LGA review sessions had been very useful and there had been positive cross party working;
- Deprivation and neighbourhood working was a one to two year plan;
- The term 'not working' had caused offence;
- Targeted funding for deprivation;
- The differences between area working and neighbourhood management;
- The review process had been good and there had been broad agreement on the way forward;
- Barriers to housing;
- In terms of the design concept needed to see measurable actions;
- Employment and training not really mentioned in the presentation; and
- Local authorities cannot tackle deprivation on its own it required other resources.

Resolved – That the position be noted and thanks be conveyed to officers for the presentation and the presentation be circulated to all members.

36. GREATER MANCHESTER PENSION FUND

Members were informed that Councillor Hayes had requested that an update be provided to this meeting on the Notice of Motion which was agreed by Council on 20th March, 2019 in relation to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund.

A copy of the Notice of Motion had been circulated to members, together with, a response which had been received from the Director of Pension.

Councillor Walsh, who had recently been appointed as the Council's representative on the Greater Manchester Pension Fund, advised that he would report back to this Committee on further developments following the local elections.

Resolved – That the update be noted.

37. MEMBERS BUSINESS

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

- (a) The Cabinet held on 8th March, 2021;
- (b) The Executive Cabinet Member Leader's Portfolio held on 5th, 9th and 29th March, 2021; and
- (c) The Executive Cabinet Member Stronger Communities Portfolio held on 9th March, 2021.

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

38. VOTE OF THANKS

Members of the Committee conveyed their thanks to the Chairman for the way in which he had conducted the meetings throughout the Municipal Year.

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 8.45 p.m.)

PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 23RD MARCH, 2021

Present – Councillor Bagnall (Chairman), Weatherby (Vice-Chairman), Ayub, Brady, Connor, Cunningham, Dean, Gibbon, McKeon, Parkinson, Peel, Radcliffe, Walsh and Zaman.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Cox	Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader
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
Mr. J. Dyson	Director of Place - Services
Ms. K. Hopkins	Assistant Director Neighbourhood and Regulatory Services
Mr. S. Warburton	Transport Strategy Director, TfGM
Ms. M. Black	Head of Logistics and Environment TfGM
Mr. N. Bellamy	Technical Director, Air Quality Consultants Ltd
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Evans and Hewitt – Executive Cabinet Member)

Councillor Bagnall in the Chair.

30. THE GM CLEAN AIR PLAN UPDATE

The Director of Place submitted a report and Mr. Simon Warburton, Transport Strategy Director, TfGM, Ms. Megan

E2

Black, Head of logistics and Environment, TfGM and Mr. Nigel Bellamy, Technical Director, Ari Quality Consultants Ltd gave a presentation which provided details of the progress that had been made on the development of Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan following a public consultation on proposals that were developed pre-Covid-19 and the link to taxi and private hire common minimum licensing standards.

The report in this regard had been considered by the Cabinet on 8th March, 2021 and recommendations had been made to a subsequent meeting of Council, as set out in the report.

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

- Covid-19: The Impact on Air Quality;
- Covid-19: Economic Impacts and Building Back Better;
- Progress on Clean Air since the last update;
- Clean Air Zone Preparatory Arrangements;
- Consultation process on Clean Air;
- The governance arrangements for Clean Air;
- Minimum Licensing Standards and the GM Clean Air Plan; and
- Consultation process on Minimum Licensing Standards; and
- The next steps.

The meeting was also informed of additional statistical information from Nigel Bellamy on the modelling of air quality in Bolton.

Members were also advised that it was proposed that the final Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan would be brought forward for decision makers as soon as it was reasonably practicable, and no later than summer 2021, and at this time the outputs of the Minimum Licensing Standards consultation would also be reported.

E3

Members in their discussions referred to the following –

- the number of consultation responses received being a small number;
- ANPR cameras and infrastructure and future length of role and staffing issues;
- The way HM Government had gone about introducing the direction;
- Investment in significant infrastructure (c£36m) for a relatively short period with clean air targets forecast to be achieved in 2026;
- Policy for the funding - funding could be diverted towards supporting those business sectors that needed to upgrade their fleet without introducing a system that created further financial hardship.
- Funding e.g. for buses and the practicalities of this;
- The Leeds experience as they had demonstrated that the introduction of a CAZ was not a necessary requirement;
- An expensive high energy system in place with enormous pressures on local transport especially when vehicles were improving all the time. We were seeing continuous improvements with respect to vehicle technology/green fleet and also had an end date for petrol/diesel engine manufacture by 2030.
- This being an enormous cost/investment for a short period of time (c2yrs) and other ways of encouraging clean air should be considered;
- The issue of opt out for Bolton where compliance was demonstrated;
- The reduction in tram travel during Covid and difficulties around needing a specific type of folding bike to get on a tram;
- Many strategies could be used to support clean air. Charges could be viewed as a punishment and people resist travelling into Manchester; and
- There must be something better than a charging scheme for the whole of GM. The proposal did not help/support businesses in Bolton and across GM as they begin to emerge from the pandemic.

Resolved – That the report and discussions be noted and that Messrs Warburton, Black and Bellamy be thanked for their detailed and informative presentation.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 7.33pm)

PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 14th APRIL, 2021

Present – Councillors Bagnall (Chairman), Weatherby (Vice-Chairman), Ayub, Connor, Dean, Peel, McKeon, Parkinson, Radcliffe, Walsh, Wilkinson and Zaman.

Also in Attendance

Councillor Cox	Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader
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
Mr. G. Brough	Director of Place
Mr. J. Dyson	Deputy Director of Place
Mr. K. Roberts	Head of Service Community Services
Mr. T. Alberts	Interim Waste Manager
Ms. J. Barber	Services for Schools Manager
Ms. J. Ivison	Head of Asset Management
Mr. D. Cross	Asset Management
Mr. K. Edwards	Clear Sustainable Futures
Mr. K. Questel-Lewis	Programme Manager
Ms. J. Pollard	Head of Finance

Mr. R. Holt

Robertsons

Mr. I. D. Mulholland

Deputy Democratic Services
Manager

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Brady, Cunningham, Evans and Gibbon and Councillor Hewitt as Executive Cabinet Member .)

Councillor Bagnall in the Chair.

31. TRIBUTES

The Committee undertook a minutes silence in memory of the Duke of Edinburgh who had recently passed away and also with regard to former Councillor and Mayor of Bolton, Norman Critchley and his former Mayoress Delsye Critchley and Robert Howarth, former Leader of the Council and Freedom of the Borough.

32. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Place Scrutiny Committee held on 23rd February, 2021 were submitted.

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

33. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received the updated work programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

Resolved – That the work programme be approved.

34. DELIVERY OF TRADED SERVICES DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

Mr. Kevan Roberts, Head of Service Community Services, Mr. Tom Alberts, Interim Waste Manager and Ms. Jane Barber, Services for Schools Manager gave a joint presentation on Traded Services and the post Covid Environment.

Members were advised of matters concerning the Albert Halls Complex which included a 670 seat theatre and function rooms which had been re-opened in 2017, following a refurbishment programme.

Members were advised that there were 6.17 FTE staff and that there had been significant loss of income due to the pandemic.

He also apprised members of details of the projected financial position for 2020/21.

In terms of going forward Mr. Roberts highlighted that a re-launch of the theatre programme was planned from August, 2021 and that new business model options would be explored.

With regard to Bolton Markets, members were reminded of the opening arrangements and that 16.45FTE staff were employed there.

Occupancy was currently 92%.

Details of the financial position for the period 2020/21 were also provided.

In terms of the recovery, the Committee was advised that the market remained open for essential supplies and a home / delivery click and collect service. Also, there had been a business grant support for traders in lockdown.

The submission of the Towns Fund bid of £22.9m included a potential £5.19m investment to upgrade / modernise Bolton Market.

Members were also advised of the position regarding Heaton Fold in terms of the garden centre, café and shop and work placements for adults with learning disabilities. 3.8FTE staff worked there. There had been significant loss of income due to the covid pandemic.

E7

Details of the financial position for the period 2020/21 were also provided.

It was planned to re-open the café in May/ June and the Artisan market in July and also to begin promoting the gift shop and garden centre.

The School meals service employed over 400 staff, mainly part-time, normally serving 17,000 meals per day but this had reduced to 8,300 during Covid.

Details of the financial position for the period 2020/21 were also provided.

Going forward a new menu had been prepared following a service review and promotion of the service would continue.

In terms of building cleaning, members were informed that the service provided standard and specialised cleaning to 100 Bolton Contracts and employed 200+ mainly part-time staff.

It was indicated that there had been a consistent level of income during the pandemic. The Service Review outcomes were being implemented.

Details of the financial position for the period 2020/21 were also provided.

With regard to trade waste, members were reminded that turnover exceeded £1.1m and involved around 6FTE and approximately 1500 customers in the Borough.

Covid had resulted in approximately £109k less income.

Details of the financial position for the period 2020/21 were also provided.

In terms of the recovery, it was explained that non-essential shops were now re-opening, new business opportunities were being sought and route optimisation matters explored.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- A tremendous job being done in difficult circumstances;
- Matters around the closure of the Northern Restaurant and future use of that space;
- The price of school meals and data on the effects;
- Albert Halls profitability since 2017;
- Heaton Fold profitability;
- The meals staff being at home;
- Trade Waste Service and profitability;
- Succession planning; and
- Congratulations to Peter Entwistle for gaining, Market Manager of the Year award from NABMA.

Resolved - That Messrs, Roberts, Alberts and Barber be thanked for their detailed presentation and that the position be noted.

35. CORPORATE PROPERTY SERVICES

Mr. Gerry Brough, Ms. Joanne Ivison, Head of Asset Management, Mr. Damien Cross, Asset Management, Mr. Keith Edwards, Clear Sustainable Futures, Mr. Keith Questel-Lewis, Programme Manager and Mr. Rob Holt, Robertsons gave a joint presentation on matters around Corporate Property Services.

By way of background information, members were reminded of the reason the Council needed to outsource Corporate Property Services and this included silo working, limited capacity to manage costs / safety compliance, a reactive approach and no strategic asset management plan.

The Committee was reminded why the Council had chosen Robertson's and Clear Futures as its property partners and also highlighted matters around service delivery requirements, strategic asset management plan, strategic property partnership and contracted projects and services.

The presentation went on to give specific details with regard to –

- A safe transfer of services;
- Looking after staff,
- Delivering an estate that was statutory compliant;
- Improving cost control and project delivery;
- Supporting the Council's strategic property management;
- Improving the school service;
- Delivering local economic benefits;
- Acting as a partner not as a contractor ;
- Implementing new property systems;
- Delivering financial benefits; and
- Delivering great services.

The meeting was also apprised of details of the Governance arrangements, which included the role of Scrutiny Committees.

Members were also informed that the asset value was £676m, a planned preventative maintenance budget of £1.3m, a reactive maintenance budget of £1.6m and a total backlog maintenance budget of £19.5m – based on known completed condition surveys.

The Committee was advised that there had been a £433k overspend in 2020/21 in the revenue Budget but an underspend of circa £1.3m on the Capital Budget.

In terms of the next steps, those included –

- Redevelopment of the service;
- Delivery of the 5 year plan;
- Strengthening of CF Professional Resource;
- Introduction of an Energy Manager and Customer Services Officer;
- A major capital projects programme;
- An improved school service;
- Further PPM development;
- A Post Covid response plan;
- Addressing an apprentices and construction skills gap; and
- Development of Local Community Company.

Members in their deliberations referred to –

- The need for systems to be in place to avoid another Bank Street situation;
- A good and detailed presentation;
- The construction work being undertaken;
- Supporting local small businesses to access work;
- Implementing systems in Place;
- Value for money; and
- State of the Council buildings.

Resolved – That Messrs Brough, Ivison, Cross, Edwards, Questel-Lewis and Holt be thanked for their detailed presentation and that the position be noted.

36. MEMBERS' BUSINESS

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

- Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader held on 15th and 31st March, 2021;
- Executive Cabinet Member Strategic Housing and Planning held on 9th March, 2021;
- Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Services Delivery held on 15th March, 2021;
- Executive Cabinet Member Highways and Transport held on 15th March, 2021; and
- Executive Cabinet Member Environmental Regulatory Services held on 15th March, 2021.

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

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 9.10 pm)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 29TH MARCH, 2021

Present – Councillors Iqbal (Chairman), Brady (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah, Ayub (as deputy for Councillor Khurram), Cunningham, Dean, Donaghy, Fletcher, Gibbon, McGeown, McMulkin (as deputy for Councillor Ismail), Murray, Newall, Radcliffe (as deputy for Councillor Connor) and Weatherby.

Co-opted Members

None Present

Also in attendance

Councillor Galloway	-	Executive Cabinet Member for Children
Ms B. Brown	-	Director of Children's Services
Mr P. Rankin	-	Deputy Director of Children's Services
Ms N. Murphy	-	Strategic Lead – Targeted Early Help
Ms J. Turner	-	Head of Service - YOT
Mrs S. Bailey	-	Principal Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Connor, Ismail, Khurram and Walsh and from Reverend Canon Dr Bracegirdle (Co-opted Member).

Councillor Iqbal in the Chair

26. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee held on 1st February, 2021 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

27. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2020/2021

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which detailed the Committee work programme for 2020/2021.

Resolved – That the Work Programme for 2020/2021 be noted.

28. EARLY HELP IN BOLTON

Ms N. Murphy gave a presentation on the delivery of Early Help in Bolton and recent developments.

Members were informed that a new structure for Early Help had been introduced from 1st January, 2021 which had involved the transition of staff from Targeted Youth Support, Families First Funded Posts and the Assessment and Contact Centre.

The presentation provided details of the demand for Early Help in Bolton and explained that, as per the agreed proposal, the Targeted Early Help Service would work with 30% of whole system Early Help Demand which was predominantly Targeted/Complex/step down. This meant that the Service would have the capacity to work with 1,371 children per year (family support) which equated to approximately 571 families and offered a 20 week programme of targeted support. There was also a Targeted Youth Support offer (40 weeks) with the staff currently in post.

The presentation contained various diagrams to demonstrate the Early Help process and how it was accessed. An Early Help Access Point would be contactable directly for queries and alongside this, the Early Help Access Point Team would jointly triage cases at the Integrated Front Door based at Castle Hill.

The services would be organised into three neighbourhood bases consisting of North (Tonge or Bright Meadows), South (Farnworth or Great Lever) and West (Oxford Grove or Winifred Kettle) Teams and based in Start Well Centres. These were yet to be formally decided and as an interim measure, and with such a small number of workers, they were currently based at

the Harvey Centre until the Service started to populate. Working from Start Well centres would encourage and enable partnership working, however, the long-term vision was local level integration, specifically with the 0-19 health service.

The teams would deliver front facing Family Support for Children and Young People 0-19yrs (25yrs SEND) and offer a range of methodologies including one to one support, group-based interventions and Targeted Youth Support utilising Evidence Based Programmes, consistently across the teams and aligning with partners. Evidence based programmes were currently being reviewed and once complete, there would be a targeted early help service 'curriculum' that outlined all the evidence best programmes that would be utilise and invested in, against the thematic areas of need.

During the Covid Pandemic, the Team had adapted to delivering virtual interventions although it had been possible to maintain some direct work with children in the school setting. Additionally, there had been social distanced doorstep welfare checks and some ability to meet outdoors in better weather for walk and talk, provision of vouchers during half term, support with resources home schooling/rainy day for non school age children.

Operationally, issues were being identified with CAM and partners undertaking assessment, and there had been an increase in referrals where a partner could do the work.

A Group based offer would be ideal once the Services were located in buildings as this would allow work with more families in one session and increased capacity. The Early Help offer was relatively small at the moment, but there was consistency of practice which was clear and accessible.

The presentation went on to provide details in relation to the Targeted Early Help Service and the schools that were currently engaged in phase 1.

Details of the Partnership Early Help response was also provided which currently worked with 2,550. This needed to rise to meet the demands across the Early Help system.

Details of ongoing work and future developments and initiatives were also provided.

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

29. PLAY AND YOUTH SERVICE

Mr P. Rankin gave a presentation on Play and Youth Service provision in Bolton.

The presentation informed members that the Youth Service currently worked with 500-700 children weekly and the Play Service with 700-800.

In relation to Childcare, members were advised that Schemes were currently offered at Castle Hill Young People's Centre, Tonge Moor and at Heywood Kids Club, Great Lever and provided play opportunities in a safe environment for children aged 4-12 years with parents paying for the sessions. Both schemes also offered places for children and young people with complex needs

Activities included arts, crafts, sports, games and outings were run all day from 8am-6pm. Drop-in sessions with stimulating activities for children and young people were also offered. All schemes were run by qualified and experienced staff and were Ofsted inspected.

With regard to Play Schemes, the presentation advised that there was a full programme of provision across the Borough in the North, South and West, with an extended offer in the school holidays. There were a variety of venues and sessions provided in Local Authority centres and community buildings and were free of charge for ages 4 to 12.

The schemes were offered 6 days a week and run by small teams of 3-5 staff. They were designed to meet the needs of children and young people with opportunities for acknowledgment of informal learning.

Provision was also provided by mobile teams across the Borough in areas where there was an absence of Children and Young People's Centres. The sessions were free to 4–12-year-olds and were offered 6 days a week, with an extended programme in the school holidays. They were mainly based outdoors using play areas, parks and green spaces with children under 8 being supervised by an adult.

Junior youth clubs for 9–12-year-olds provided a chance for older children and young people to meet and were run all year round in the evenings. Schemes were free and designed to meet the needs of this age group with a focus on relevant issues and aimed to bridge the gap between primary and secondary school.

The Authority also ran Play is for All SEND schemes at Harwood Young People's Centre (for young people aged 12-19) years, Barlow Park Young People's Centre (4- 7 years) and Horwich Young People Centre (8 -11yrs) for 6 days a week. Access to these schemes was by referral only from staying safe and complex needs. Staff were trained on how to adapt and involve all children in the activities and support medical and one to one care needs.

Youth clubs were managed by qualified Level 2 Youth Workers and offered daytime sessions (holidays) and evening youth club (year-round). They were run from centres with outreach work to engage young people with sessions that offered sports, arts and crafts, information and guidance and project work with a focus on informal learning. The sessions could be challenging.

The presentation went on to outline the role of the Council's Participation Team whose focus was to coordinate participation requests and to ensure that the voice of young people was vocal to service needs and delivery.

With regard to holiday activities and food, members were advised that the Council would receive £1.48m of DfE funding towards a programme of holiday activity schemes with lunch/dinner.

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

- the benefits of working in partnership with local leisure centres and private clubs to deliver youth and play programmes – Mr Rankin advised that work was ongoing with such groups to involve them in future ventures;
- whether there was any capacity for food without activities – Mr Rankin advised that the free school meals voucher had been extended to cover the Easter break however, it was still unknown whether this would be extended to cover the summer holidays and was dependent on Government funding; and
- gaps in provision in some areas – Mr Rankin advised that other groups were operative in these parts and that the Council was working closely with external groups to ensure there was as much coverage as possible throughout the Borough.

Resolved – That Mr Rankin be thanked for his informative presentation.

30. CHILD EXPLOITATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Ms J Turner gave a presentation on child exploitation and human trafficking and outlined the measures that had been put in place in Bolton to address this.

The presentation provided an explanation of the different forms of exploitation and types of grooming methods that were often used, particularly in relation to children.

Members were also informed of the signs that a child was being exploited, although some of these could be hard to identify or be hidden.

The presentation went on to outline the role of the Complex Safeguarding Team which aimed to identify, respond and disrupt the exploitation of children and young people through various methods. The Team was multi-agency and included Greater Manchester Police, social workers, support workers and a clinical psychologist. The Team had noted an increase in young people who were being criminally exploited and trafficked through county lines.

Although the case load altered dependant on referrals, there had been an evidential increase in Child Criminal Exploitation over the last 12 months. The increase in referral could be reflective of the training provided by the Council to social care staff in recognising the signs of exploitation. The Team also provided briefings and consultations to staff to raise awareness of both criminal and sexual exploitation.

Details of the cases currently open were as follows:

- Child Criminal Exploitation cases (18) - 17 males and 1 female
- Child Sexual Exploitation (11) - 10 females and 1 male

The Team offered intensive support to these children and young people, whilst working with GMP to disrupt any perpetrators identified.

The presentation went on to outline Bolton's response, which included:

- the Team working with the Partnership in order to respond to issues around exploitation, child trafficking, serious youth violence and county lines;
- the development of a violence, vulnerability and exploitation strategy by the Safeguarding Partnership, Violence Reduction Unit, Youth Justice, Children's Social Care, Health and Community Safety Partnership; and
- the VVE strategy would ensure that the response to complex safeguarding was coordinated across the Partnership from prevention to protection.

In addition, Bolton had recently recruited: -

- a safer schools officer;
- a serious youth violence worker;
- Bolton solidarity to undertake some work around a recent operation and support the Team;
- hospital navigator for when young people presented at hospital with an injury caused by a weapon; and
- clinical psychologist .

These posts had been funded through the Violence Reduction Unit supported by the Community Safety Partnership.

Members were also informed that Bolton had recently amalgamated its criminal prevention, youth justice and complex safeguarding services. This alignment would provide a streamlined approach to respond to the complexities around adolescent safeguarding and risk and ensure that the child or young person had the correct service to respond to their needs. The national referral mechanism also supported the de-criminalisation of young people who were trafficked or criminally exploited.

Following the presentation, members made various comments/observations:

- the increasing figures in Bolton and whether this could be attributed to better detection of cases – Ms Turner advised that the work undertaken to increase awareness using a multi-agency approach combined with a greater national awareness of exploitation of both girls and boys, had led to better recognition of abuse and increased referrals;
- the benefits of a facility where children could share experiences - members were advised of the work that was ongoing in schools to develop this;
- the importance of sharing intelligence between parties to identify perpetrators and cause disruption - members were assured that much work was ongoing in this regard; and

- the need to acknowledge the seriousness of child exploitation and to closely monitor the threat in Bolton.

Members referred to the worrying and serious threat of child exploitation in Bolton and agreed that regular updates should be provided to the Children's Scrutiny Committee to ensure its continued monitoring.

A motion was moved and seconded that a report relating to child exploitation be submitted to future meetings of the Children's Scrutiny Committee on at least two occasions during the Municipal Year and that written updates be provided to the Scrutiny Committee members on a quarterly basis.

The motion was put to the vote.

Members voting in favour of the motion (14):

Councillors Abdullah, Ayub, Brady, Cunningham, Dean, Donaghy, Fletcher, Gibbon, Iqbal, McMulkin, Murray, Newall, Radcliffe and Weatherby.

Members voting against the motion:

None

The motion was carried.

Resolved – (i) That update on child exploitation be submitted to future meetings of the Children's Scrutiny Committee on at least two occasions during the Municipal Year and that written updates be provided to the Scrutiny Committee members on a quarterly basis.

(ii) That Ms Turner be thanked for her informative presentation.

31. COVID-19 UPDATE

Mr P. Rankin gave an update on the Covid-19 pandemic as it related to schools.

Particular reference was made to the following:

- the ongoing testing across all schools;
- secondary pupils were undergoing twice weekly tests;
- pupils were in bubbles and would isolate if there was a positive test;
- ongoing maintenance of social distancing;
- continuous monitoring; and
- work with partners on plans for a way forward.

Ms Brown stated that it had been a very challenging time for all schools and that the scale of work involved to ensure the safety of children had been enormous. Staff had worked extremely hard and their efforts and commitment to ensuring that children could be safe and well and supported within their learning environment were to be commended.

Resolved – That the update be noted.

32. MEMBERS BUSINESS

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

- (a) the Executive Cabinet Member for Children held on 8th February and 8th March, 2021.

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

(The meeting started at 6.00 p.m. and finished at 7.20 p.m.)

HEALTH OVERVIEW AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEETING, 31ST MARCH, 2021

Present – Councillors Donaghy (Chairman), Pattison (Vice-Chairman), Bagnall, Connor, Cunningham, Dean, Eckersley-Fallon, Fletcher, Haworth, Peel (as deputy for Councillor Mistry), Radcliffe, Sherrington and Wright.

Also in attendance

Councillor Morgan	-	Executive Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care
Councillor Baines	-	Executive Cabinet Member for Wellbeing
Ms. R. Tanner	-	Managing Director ICP DASS
Ms. H. Lowey	-	Director of Public Health
Ms. S. Long	-	Chief Officer, Bolton CCG
Ms. F. Noden	-	Chief Executive Bolton FT
Ms. M. Maguinness	-	Director of Strategic Commissioning Bolton CCG/Bolton Council
Ms. T. Minshull	-	Assistant Director Social Care and Public Health Commissioning
Ms. R. Sutton	-	NHS Bolton CCG
Mr. R. Colton	-	Commissioning Manager (Learning Disabilities)
Mrs. V. Ridge	-	Democratic Services Manager

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mistry and Ms. S. Hilton.

Councillor Donaghy in the Chair.

27. RETIREMENT OF DR WIRIN BHATIANI – CHAIR OF THE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

The Chairman advised members that Dr Wirin Bhatiani had retired as Chair of the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) today and Dr Niruban Ratnarajah would be taking up the position as from 1st April, 2021.

Resolved – That this Committee conveys its thanks and appreciation to Dr Wirin Bhatiani for his contributions to the work of the CCG and this Scrutiny Committee and wishes him well in his retirement.

28. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3rd February, 2021 were submitted.

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

29. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME, 2020/2021

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

Resolved – That the work programme be noted.

30. COVID 19 UPDATE

Dr. Helen Lowey, Director of Public Health, Ms. Fiona Noden, Chief Executive of Bolton Foundation Trust, Ms. Rachel Tanner, Managing Director ICP DASS and Ms. Su Long, Chief Officer of Bolton CCG gave a joint presentation updating the Committee on the Covid 19 position.

Members were apprised of the public health data which highlighted that as at 26th March, 2021, the estimated

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Reproduction Rate for the north west was between 0.7 and 1.0 with a daily infection growth rate of -4% to 1%.

As at 19th March, 2021 there had been a total of 765 Covid-19 deaths in Bolton Hospital.

In terms of the testing model, the Council would continue to provide Covid-19 testing throughout 2021. It was expected that home testing would become the predominant route for residents' asymptomatic testing and access to asymptomatic testing was being expanded via the Community Collect offer.

Members were also advised of what the revised testing model would include.

Members were apprised of information regarding in patient peaks in waves one to three, capacity issues concerning the workforce, the opening of the Same Day Emergency Care and the restoration of elective services post wave 3. The biggest challenges included, staff fatigue, maintaining Covid safe pathways, delivering cancer and urgent elective patient pathways and the increase in demand for Urgent Care.

With regard to the community, members were advised that community demand levels had returned to pre Covid levels and the significant vaccination progress across Health and Social care was having a positive impact. Plans were also being put in place to step down some of the additional Covid capacity in the care sector with the ability to step back up if and when required.

In terms of the Covid-19 vaccination programme it was stated that cohorts 1-9 were now all being invited for their first dose and the announcement from NHS England of the date for the next cohort (aged 45-49) was awaited. As of 29th March, 2021, the total for Bolton registered patients was 127,638 first doses and 7,944 second doses. With regard to take up, areas of highest deprivation and ethnic diversity had the lower take up in Bolton which reflected the national pattern and plans to increase take up were being rolled out through engagement and in communities.

Members in their discussions referred to the following-

- The potential outbreak at Wingates Industrial Estate; and
- The Governments actions in respect of the lockdown for wave 3 and the preparations in place going forward.

Resolved- That Dr. Lowey, Ms. F. Noden, Ms. R. Tanner and Ms. S. Long be thanked for the detailed presentation and that the position be noted.

31. SUPPORT TO UNPAID CARERS

Ms. T. Minshull, Assistant Director Social Care and Public Health Commissioning, gave a presentation to members which provided information in relation to the support available for unpaid carers.

Members were advised that, at the last estimate, there were about 40,000 unpaid carers in Bolton, of whom over 1,200 were young carers. It was the Council's aim to continue to publicise and raise awareness for the support that could be provided which included carers assessment and the potential to receive Carers Direct Payments.

The presentation gave information about who the Carers Strategy was aimed at and also stated that listening to and acting on the voice of carers was critical.

Statistical information was also provided in relation to the data we had on carers in Bolton.

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

- The Council's current commitment to our carers;
- The current position and an update on recent progress;
- The tailored support for young carers;
- Additional support for our carers during Covid;
- The outcomes that the Council was looking to achieve for our carers; and
- Next steps.

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

- The support required for isolated carer groups and how could the strategy support them;
- The age brackets for young carers and older carers;
- The introduction of an exit strategy for those people who were no longer carers to seek their views on the system;
- A top priority should be to aim to have no young carers; and
- Thanks to Ms. Minshull and her team and also to all carers in the Borough.

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

32. LEARNING DISABILITY STRATEGY AND COVID RESPONSE

Mr. R. Colton, Commissioning Manager (Learning Disabilities), gave a presentation to members which provided an update on the Learning Disability Strategy.

By way of background, members were advised that Bolton currently had approximately 4,000 residents with a learning disability, with over 900 having a moderate or severe learning disability. In terms of the future, it was predicted there would be a 10.8% increase in the number of people aged between 18-24 with moderate and severe learning disabilities by 2030. It was also stated that over 770 people were supported by the integrated Community Learning Disability Team across a wide range of ages and the majority of these people lived:-

- With their family/friends: approximately 46%;
- With support in a care setting, primarily supported living services, care homes and shared lives: approximately 34%; or
- In other mainstream housing.

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

- The Learning Disability Strategy which Bolton Council, the Integrated Care Partnership, Clinical Commissioning Group and other partners were collaboratively delivering the 10 strategic priorities in the co-designed GM Learning Disability Strategy;
- The progress which had been made for 2020/2021 on the Learning Disability Strategy;
- The Council and CCG Commissioning response to Covid-19;
- Social care and health support response to Covid-19;
- Learning Disability Nursing response to Covid-19;
- Primary care response to Covid-19;
- Vaccinations response to Covid-19; and
- Strategic Development and Innovation Plans.

A question was raised in relation to the transition of young people to adults, its effects and support mechanisms.

Resolved – That the position be noted and Mr Colton be thanked for his very informative presentation.

33. MEMBERS BUSINESS

The following questions were submitted by Councillor Haworth in accordance with Standing Order 36:-

Q1.

The progressing Integrated Care System ICS in Greater Manchester involves the ending of Clinical Commissioning Groups CCGs and so a profound change to the commissioning of health and care for the Bolton Borough. Will there be any robust local systems for accountability for this commissioning here in the Borough? Will there be any influence on this commissioning at a local level here in the Borough? How further, will the public of the Borough, need to be informed about these changes in health and care and are there stand out changes the public need to be informed about?

A.

The NHS White Paper "Integration and innovation: working together to improve health and social care for all" was published 11 February 2021. It outlines intentions for legislation to establish a statutory Integrated Care System (ICS) at Greater Manchester Level. CCGs will cease at end March 2022 and the ICS at Greater Manchester level would take on the statutory functions of CCGs. including resource allocation to the NHS and strategic planning. The proposals will also allow for the ICS NHS Body to delegate significantly to place level (ie Borough level) and to provider collaboratives.

Greater Manchester, as a devolved system, has already developed a strong partnership across NHS organisations and Local Authorities and the intention is to build on this. The strong integration within Bolton, with pooled budgets and joined up decision making is a model that is intended to continue with expectation of delegation of responsibilities from the ICS. Existing NHS legislative rules have led to some cumbersome governance arrangements in order to bring decision making for health and social care together. The stated intention of the legislation is to "remove these barriers and streamline and strengthen the governance for this type of decision-making."

On Friday 26 March 2021, the Greater Manchester Health and Care Board received and discussed an update on the work being undertaken across partner organisations to design the GM ICS level and place level arrangements for the future. This described place-based working as a cornerstone of ICS, with person centred models of service delivery in neighbourhoods a key building block. It is expected that place representatives will continue to have a strong part to play in Greater Manchester level decision making.

In terms of the impact of changes, NHS England are referring to the coming year as a year of transition. The expectation is that staff continue to carry out their valuable work and move into the new arrangements without too much disruption. There will not be a CCG making decisions on NHS resources in Bolton from April 2022, but the intention is that there will be a

Locality Board in each borough of Greater Manchester which aligns local leadership (combining organisational, political and clinical) and sets strategy for health and care locally.

Local people will be informed as plans develop through meetings held in public and more concerted engagement once the legislative changes are confirmed.

Q2.

Figures released by Bolton NHS Foundation Trust show that in February 2020 there were 11 patients waiting more than a year for surgery. In February 2021 there are 2,600 patients who are waiting more than a year for surgery. This is a reflection of the large volume of backlog demand there is in the Borough for health services. It is also reported that there is new demand for health services such as for mental health brought about under the Covid-19 pandemic. What can the Bolton CCG and others involved in the commissioning of health and care services do to respond to this urgent demand situation?

A.

As a result of the impact of Covid-19, routine elective capacity was significantly reduced to allow NHS resources to be focussed on the urgent healthcare response. Then, in Autumn 2020, there was a national mandate to totally cease the provision of non-urgent elective care as a result of the significant additional pressures across the NHS because of the ongoing pandemic.

This has unfortunately meant that there has nationally and locally been a large increase in the number of patients waiting for treatment, with an increasing proportion waiting a significant length of time.

Bolton CCG has been working with Bolton FT and other providers across the locality to ensure that patients are treated in clinical and chronological priority (in this order). All providers are working very hard to ensure that patients are not subject to any clinical risk as a result of these delays. Resources have been ring-fenced throughout the pandemic to ensure that

cancer patients and clinically urgent patients receive their treatment in a timely way. Bolton CCG and Bolton FT have worked within the GM system to ensure that the additional capacity in NHS and independent sector providers is used effectively to keep waiting times as low as possible and to ensure that urgent patients are prioritised.

Bolton CCG and Bolton FT have proactively encouraged patients not to delay in contacting local healthcare services and to seek care when they need it. During the first 10/11 months of the pandemic, we saw a marked decrease in the number of referrals but these are now starting to return to pre-covid levels. Bolton CCG and Bolton FT are now working collaboratively to restart elective activity as part of the national and GM recovery programme. This will involve continued use of all available capacity including at independent sector providers as clinically appropriate.

Bolton CCG has been working closely with Greater Manchester Mental Health Trust (GMMH) and wider emotional wellbeing providers across the voluntary sector to support additional demand which has been seen during the pandemic. Whilst there has been pressures due to increased numbers of both known and unknown patients presenting at A+E resulting in high demand for acute mental health beds, the Mental Health Liaison Service have worked hard to ensure people are dealt with promptly and where appropriate signposted to onward provision. The mental health ambulatory care area on the Royal Bolton site has helped to reduce waits in A+E, and the established links with Bolton Samaritans has provided important follow up calls for anyone who has presented across mental health services. Work continues around crisis care alternatives and the development of a listening lounge model which will provide a clinical and voluntary sector support offer. The GMMH help line has also been extended for both existing and new patients and has been well utilised. Alternatives to admission such as clinical and non-clinical accommodation based support have been well utilised and additional roles such as housing support have been established within in-patient settings to address those with complex housing needs to avoid long admissions.

Community services such as talking therapies and counselling have offered increased virtual and telephone appointments across extended hours to help with access, and additional resources have been put in place which has significantly reduced waiting times. The CCG are working with local and GM wide partners to ensure there are a range of new and existing support options to meet the emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of the Bolton population. Secondary care services provided through the Community Mental Health Teams (CMHT) have continued to offer direct support and despite Covid pressures, staff have continued to work hard under very challenging and pressured conditions to ensure there is capacity to safely deliver services.

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

- (a) Executive Cabinet Member Wellbeing held on 8th February and 1st March, 2021; and
- (b) Executive Cabinet Member Adult Social Care held on 8th February and 8th March, 2021.

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting be noted.

34. VOTE OF THANKS

The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, thanked all members for their participation together with officers and partners during this Municipal Year.

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