



**13. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR COUNCIL**

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This document contains the following:

Agenda Item 3 - Apologies for Absence

Agenda Item 4 - Lord Mayor's Announcements

Agenda Item 9 - Report by the Leader of the Council

Agenda Item 10 - Questions to the Leader and Portfolio Holders  
Written  
questions together with respective answers

Agenda Item 12 - Amendments to Motions.

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**COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2022**

This document contains the following –

- Agenda Item 3** Apologies for Absence
- Agenda Item 4** Lord Mayor's Announcements
- Agenda Item 8** Membership of Committees and Joint Committees
- Agenda Item 9** Report by the Leader of the Council
- Agenda Item 10** Questions to the Leader and Portfolio Holders -  
Written questions together with respective answers

**Amendments to Motions (Green)**

Committee Secretariat  
Contact: Guy Close (07811) 503906

**COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2022**

- Agenda Item 3**      Apologies for Absence – An apology for absence has been received from Councillor Dale Smith.

Committee Secretariat  
Contact: Guy Close (07811) 503906



**CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF COUNCIL – TUESDAY 25 JANUARY 2022**

**ITEM 4 WRITTEN ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR**

**70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF H M THE QUEEN'S ACCESSION TO THE THRONE**

As many members will be aware, 06 February 2022 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Her Majesty The Queen's accession to the throne and the Platinum Jubilee celebrations will, of course, be taking place in the summer.

I have written to the palace, on behalf of the people of the district, to convey our warm good wishes and appreciation of Her Majesty's remarkable service and unwavering dedication to the people of this country and the Commonwealth across her seven decades as Sovereign.

**DEATH OF FORMER COUNCILLOR JOHN LAMBERT**

It is my very sad duty to report the death of former Councillor John Lambert, who has recently died at the age of 75.

John was a figure in the Bradford district whose larger than life impact and presence across the fields of entertainment, politics and education was known by many.

He was elected to this Council in 1980 and very ably represented the Bradford Moor ward until 1987. John brought great vigour, sincerity and energy to his work as a Councillor, which was doubtless aided by his innate communication skills and ability to rapidly establish a good and enduring rapport with all with whom he dealt. He took a keen interest in educational matters and was also involved in the transformational refurbishment which the Alhambra Theatre underwent during this period.

Ever a man of the theatre, John's many fine qualities saw fullest flower in his work in the arts and education. He was key in establishing opportunities in the performing arts for local young people, an interest which became a lifelong passion for him. He was a director, performer and founder of the Q20 community theatre project in Bradford and mounted stage productions throughout the county, as well as taking his distinctive theatre-in-education programme into many local schools. In 2013 he realised a personal dream and opened a community creative hub in Shipley, with which he was involved until his death.

John was never happier than when entertaining. His charitable work and colourful, fun and creative street performances across the district could bring sunshine on the greyest of days and he will be remembered, smilingly, by many local people.

I have written to John's widow and family to convey our sorrow at his death.

**DEATH OF FORMER COUNCILLOR MARGARET CHADWICK**

It is also with great sadness that I report the death of former Councillor Margaret Chadwick, who died on 19th October 2021.

Margaret was elected in 2007 and represented the people of the Bolton and Undercliffe Ward until 2012.

She drew great satisfaction not only from being able to help individual constituents, but also in helping improve conditions in her Ward. Margaret was well-respected for her diligence and the notable commitment she showed to those whom she served.

I have written to Margaret's daughter and family and extended our sympathy in their loss.

## **COVID-19 RELATED DEATHS**

I am sure Members will be aware that we have passed the very sad milestone of 1,500 deaths from COVID-19 related symptoms across our District.

Each death is a grievous blow to the individual's family and friends and I would like us to observe a minute's silence today in which we can reflect upon and remember the lives lost, as well as paying tribute to those former Councillors whose deaths it has also been my sad duty to report to Council this afternoon.

## **HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST**

In Her Majesty The Queen's New Year's Honours list, the work and service of a number of local people has been recognised. The Leader of the Council and I have written to those honoured and offered our warmest congratulations.

### *Commander of the Order of the British Empire*

Benjamin Rimmington, CBE	Lately Co-Director, Road Safety Standards and Services, Department for Transport For services to Transport during Covid-19.
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### *Members of the Order of the British Empire*

Professor Diana Anderson, MBE	Professor of Biomedical Sciences, University of Bradford. For services to Genetic and Reproductive Toxicology.
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Syima Aslam, MBE	Founder, Chief Executive Officer & Artistic Director, Bradford Literature Festival. For services to Literature.
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Michelle Dawn Blanchard, MBE	Lately Executive Principal, Dixons Academies Trust, Bradford. For services to Education.
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Sofia Buncy, MBE, DL	Founder, Muslim Women in Prison Project.
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	For services to Prisoners and the community in Bradford.
Arjmund Jabeen Butt, MBE	For services to HM Revenue and Customs and the BAME Community.
Kaneez Khan, MBE	Co-ordinator, Near Neighbours, West Yorkshire. For services to Interfaith Relations, particularly during Covid-19.
Irna Mumtaz Qureshi, MBE	Co-Founder, Bradford Literature Festival. For services to Heritage.
Mandip Kaur Sahota, MBE	Founder, Strategies and Stories. For Charitable and Public Service.
Kim Shutler, MBE	Chief Executive Officer, The Cellar Trust. For services to People with Mental Health Issues.

*Medallist of the Order of the British Empire*

Pamela Margaret Essler, BEM	Lay Chair, Individual Funding Requests Panel, Bradford District & Craven Clinical Commissioning Group. For Services to the NHS.
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**EMILE CAIRESS – SUCCESS IN THE VALENCIA 10K**

On 09 January 2022, Bradford-born runner Emile Cairess enjoyed the best race of his career at the 10km Valencia Ibercaja, where he clocked 27:44 – a thirty second lifetime best - to equal Mo Farah’s British record, which was set in London in 2010.

I am writing to Emile to convey our congratulations on his remarkable achievement and to invite him in to City Hall for a courtesy call hosted by me and the Leader of the Council.

**NATIONAL AWARDS SUCCESSES**

In September, the Council won a prestigious national Local Government award from the Municipal Journal for Innovation in Building Diversity, for its partnership work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In March 2020, together with the Centre for Applied Education Research, Bradford Teaching Hospitals and Bradford Institute for Health Research we brought together data, scientists and families to support an evidence-based response to the pandemic, which helped to address the challenges faced by vulnerable people and families across the district.



The partnership created its own Bradford SAGE – the Covid Scientific Advisory Group (CSAG) - to bring together its data to boost understanding of the local trends, issues and concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In awarding the partnership, the judges applauded the adoption of a systematic and integrated data-driven approach to understanding the needs of our diverse communities and highlighted our success at recruiting ethnically diverse participants to COVID-19 trials, which is of vital importance. The work of the partnership embraced community champions, health care practitioners, faith leaders, academics, youth workers and council ward officers engaging with local people. The hubs which were established helped to boost vaccine take-up in all of the district's diverse communities and to combat 'fake news'.

I wish to place on record our deep gratitude to all those who contributed to the work of the partnership and its achievements.

We also won a top award for our 'climate response' at the prestigious 2021 LGC Awards on 4<sup>th</sup> November and were highly commended in a further two other categories.

We were the winner in the Climate Response Award category with our integrated approach to reducing road transport emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases. The award recognises the work which has gone into implementing the Government-directed Clean Air Plan for Bradford.

This work, which includes upgrading our own vehicles to reduce emissions, creating a new park and ride facility and planning with our partners to introduce electric buses for key routes, is vital in terms of its environmental and health benefits and contributes to our ambitions for a sustainable district.

In the Community Involvement category, a 'Highly Commended' accolade went to the Council's Stronger Communities Team for the Bradford for Everyone's Ambassador Programme. The team works closely with residents to create 'a place where everyone feels safe, that they belong, are understood and are able to fully participate in the opportunities the district offers.'

In the Innovation Category, a further 'Highly Commended' award recognised the work of the Council's Breaking the Cycle project, a pioneering initiative which tackles the exploitation of children and young people. Our dedicated youth workers engage directly with children and young people who are risk of being criminally exploited, or becoming involved with serious organised crime, street gangs, county lines, drugs or weapons. The team also aims to educate parents in being vigilant about warning signs.

These are life-changing programmes and I know Members will wish to join me in congratulating all involved in this important work, especially over what has been a very difficult and demanding period. Being recognised on the national stage, in a competition celebrating the very best in Local Government, is hugely significant. Very well done, everyone.

*Distribution:*

Lord Mayor

Chief Executive

City Solicitor

Civic Affairs Manager/Joanne Gleeson

Committee Services Manager (Guy Close)

Principal Executive Officer, Chief Executive's Office (Nigel Smith)

PA to the Leader of Council

Policy Research Officer, Bradford Labour Group (Simon O'Hare)

G:\Democratic Services\Civic Affairs\2021-2022 Cllr Shabir Hussain\Miscellaneous\Council meeting - dates, pre-meetings and announcements\Announcements\25 January 2022\LM's Announcements - Council 25.01.22 Draft 1.docx

## **COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2022**

### **Agenda Item 8 – Membership of Committees and Joint Committees (Standing Order 4)**

The following membership changes have been submitted:

- Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Riaz Ahmed to replace Councillor Rachel Sunderland. Councillor Rachel Sunderland to replace Councillor Riaz Ahmed as an alternate.
- Regulatory and Appeals Committee – Councillor Margaret Alipoor to replace Councillor Paul Godwin as an alternate.

Committee Secretariat  
Contact: Guy Close (07811) 503906

## **Leader's Report January 2022**

### **Children's Services**

The Labour Group has submitted a motion for today's Full Council on Children's Services to enable this important subject to be debated in full. I will make a speech to the Chamber about this issue.

### **COVID - Omicron**

Nationally we have been at the bottom of the infection league table for months. However Omicron, which arrived in the country before Christmas, has obviously been a cause for great concern more recently. London infection levels have gone down. However here in West Yorkshire and Bradford district, Omicron has now reached its peak. Bradford district finds itself in the top 30 areas in the country with the infection now. I am advised that the infection rates seem to have plateaued in West Yorkshire and we hope to see them start to reduce soon. Our hospitals and our adult social care teams have done tremendous work over the last few weeks making sure that hospital patients can be discharged in a timely and safe fashion enabling the hospitals to keep functioning properly. Our partnership with the health system in this area is second to none and something which other authorities are seeking to learn from. Thank you to our adult social care teams for this tremendous work.

A new grant programme has been launched for hospitality and leisure businesses affected by the stronger health measures we have all been under since before Christmas. The grants arrived with the council on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January and started being despatched to businesses from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Transport Select Committee and the IRP**

The Transport Select Committee are reviewing the Government's Integrated Rail Plan (IRP). West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Leeds Council and ourselves in Bradford have all coordinated to submit responses to the call for evidence to this committee. As a result we are welcoming a visit from the Transport Select Committee next month so they can see the opportunity in Bradford for themselves.

To be able to deliver the growth in our district we need serious investment from Government in transport projects like Northern Powerhouse Rail. We think you can get more value out of the investment Government has promised for the electrification between Bradford and Leeds by spending the money differently. There are no short cuts to economic growth. There has to be the right investment in the right kind of connectivity programme.

## **Our hospitals**

All three of our major hospitals need significant investment to enable their re-building programmes to start. I wrote to the Secretary of State for Health in October asking him to give serious consideration to the investment required in our hospital estate and I have just received a reply.

Airedale Hospital in particular is a concern. Radical improvements are needed at Airedale, where 83% of the building – including walls, floors and ceilings – are made from aerated concrete. Airedale Hospital was built more than 50 years ago yet the type of aerated concrete it is built from – Siporex - had a ‘design life’ of just 30 years. Airedale is the most at-risk of all hospitals in the country built with this material, as the others do not have it in their floors.

As a health system we are therefore redoubling our efforts to make the case to Government for this investment. The Minister’s reply advises us that:

“The proposal for trusts to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to be one of the next eight [hospitals] closed on 9th September 2021. I can confirm that schemes for Airedale General, Lynfield Mount and Bradford Royal Infirmary submitted EOIs. This is the first of a two-stage selection process. It will be followed by a more detailed process for schemes that are selected for the long list. The Government aims to make a final decision in spring 2022.”

I would ask everyone in this Chamber to lobby Government to make sure the voice of the district is heard when Ministers are making decisions about hospital investment this quarter. The situation in Airedale and indeed in our other hospitals is not sustainable, even in the short term.

## **West Yorkshire Combined Authority - buses**

West Yorkshire Combined Authority under the leadership of Mayor Tracy Brabin continues to make the case to Government for investment in Bradford. Mayor Brabin is backing Bradford completely on NPR and is also making the case for more bus investment at national level. We are still waiting to hear the outcome of our BSIP (Bus Service Improvement Plan) bid to the Department of Transport and we continue to develop business cases for the CRSTS (City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements).

The BSIP includes financial support for new and existing bus services – the CRSTS investment in bus infrastructure, ticketing and information will help to ensure longer term viability of the bus network through increased levels of patronage. Bus patronage has come back quicker in West Yorkshire than in other regions post pandemic however the bus operator revenues are still depressed from what they were pre-pandemic which means that there is less money to run routes.

The Government is also starting to scale back their ambition to “bus back better”. The Prime Minister announced last year that £3 billion would be spent on new funding to level up buses across England to match London standards. However in a

letter received this month to Combined Authorities the Government makes it clear that this pot of funding for “transformation” has now shrunk to £1.4 billion for the next three years. It is estimated that the funding asks from all the Local Transport Authorities in this bidding round amount to £9 million.

### **Convention of the North**

The Convention of the North will take place in Liverpool on 8<sup>th</sup> February. This will be the first gathering of northern leaders since the pandemic and I've asked for Transport to be a feature of the programme. The Convention is cross party demonstrated both in the agenda for the day and in its planning. A coordinated Northern voice around the issues of transport, Levelling Up and clean growth is to be applauded. Bradford, at the heart of the North, is a strong partner in this collaboration.

## COUNCIL

25 January 2022

### MEMBER QUESTION TIME – PART 1

#### Questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12

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##### 1. Councillor Marcus Dearden

It's extremely welcome that this Labour council is committed to investing in parks and play areas in Bingley, an investment which is desperately needed for local families. I will be continuing to push for the best possible investment for the ward and for it to be delivered as soon as possible. Can the portfolio holder outline how much we are investing in the parks plan overall across the district and can I be assured that the funds will be directed to the parks and spaces where they are most needed?

##### Response

The Council has agreed £6.4 million budget for works to play areas across the district. This is made up of a commitment of £5 million from Council reserves with the remainder utilising section 106 funding allocated to play. The programme is aimed at refurbishing those play areas that have been highlighted in the Council's independent inspection reports. The programme has started with the replacement of Lister Park play area and work is just starting on phase two where 26 play areas are being refurbished in the next 12 months. The remaining play areas are all planned to be completed before 2025.

##### 2. Councillor Sally Birch

Given the increasing number of high profile organisations including The Equality and Human Rights Commission, the BBC, the Government's Equality Office and numerous Government Departments to name but a few, opting to withdraw from the highly controversial Stonewall Equality Index, what benefits does the Council believe will be achieved by continuing to pursue this "accreditation"?

##### Response

Bradford Council is committed to providing a workplace that is inclusive to all its staff. In consultation with the LGBTQ+ Staff Network, Champions and Senior Leaders both internally and across the District, the Council was encouraged to make a submission for the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index (WEI). The WEI is a benchmarking tool for organisations to measure their progress on lesbian, gay, bi and trans inclusion in the workplace.

We believe that the submission will secure positive change as part of our equality, diversity and inclusion commitment that will benefit the organisation, its employees and the public. It will assist us in our journey to a workplace that is fully inclusive of all staff irrespective of their gender, sexuality or any of the other

protected characteristics under the Equality Act. The feedback from the WEI will be used to inform our approach in achieving this using the benchmarking as a development framework to effect positive change through further insight into what we are doing well and where we can improve to build an inclusive workforce.

Strengthening the work, we do across the Council on LGBTQ+ issues is a priority area.

### **3. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

The Families First programme in Bradford has been placed on a 'Recovery Plan' and had increased Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government intervention and scrutiny due to not meeting its targets of the numbers of families being worked with in a whole family way and the number of family outcomes achieving significant and sustained progress.

How much money was lost to Bradford due to failure to meet targets?

#### **Response**

Bradford Council signed up to a five-year programme called Troubled Families. This programme was led nationally by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. The programme ran from 2015-2020 and Bradford was allocated resources to work with families who had multiple and complex issues within Early Help and Prevention and Children's Social Care.

Bradford's target of families it was allocated to work with in a whole family way (One family assessment, one family plan and one Lead Professional) was 6,070. For each family attached to the programme the LA could receive £1,000 attachment fee and if sustained and significant progress was achieved, there was a payment by results (PbR) of £800 per family.

Between 2015-2018, the programme team consisted of a part time analyst and a Team Manager whom had oversight. In terms of funding during this period:

- 3228 families had been attached - leaving £2842,000 unclaimed attachment fees;
- 222 successful PbR outcomes - leaving £4678,400 unclaimed PBR funding.

Due to this, in 2018 the MHCLG deemed Bradford as requiring a Recovery plan which finished in 2020.

In 2018, a new team consisting of 2 new full time analysts and a Practice Lead were employed to take over the performance of the programme which led to the following success:

Between 2018-2020 the team successfully attached an additional 2,842 families to the programme, resulting in ensuring all available attachment fees for the LA were achieved. During the same period, the team also submitted 2,338 PBR claims bringing in £1,870,400.



Overall, prior to 2018 - the LA had only achieved 3% of the PBR outcomes - in 2019 we completed 42%; and in 2020 we achieved 100%, we are currently on track to meet 100% again in 2021/22.

Notwithstanding the hugely improved position between 2018-2020, the poor performance between 2015 and 2018 still meant that overall outcomes achieved were 2,560 out of 6,070. Therefore, overall Bradford met 42% of its PbR target. This meant that Bradford received £2,048,000 in PbR but due to not meeting 100% of its earlier target, funding of £2,808,000 over 5 years was lost.

For national context, not all other LAs met 100% of their targets - the 2019 figures show there were 21/140 councils achieving a similar rate to Bradford or below.

#### **4. Councillor Matt Edwards**

Data from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs shows fly-tipping in Bradford is at its worst level since relevant records began - with 18,001 fly-tipping incidents reported to Bradford Council in 2020-21 – an increase of 12 per cent increase on 2020.

Does the portfolio holder agree that, whilst this is a national problem, exacerbated by the brutal budget cut under successive Conservative governments, that the Council's current approach does not appear to be working?

Would the Council consider setting up a task force to examine new ideas and look at what other Councils are doing to tackle the issue? – for example Wirral Borough Council has invested in new cutting-edge, wireless camera equipment which are easier to deploy and are more resistant to vandalism.

#### **Response**

The increase in our District is in fact less than the national average which also includes a lot of areas that are rural and do not have the same urban density that City authorities do.

Unfortunately, the trend is one that has been occurring for many years now nationally. Officers are still attending benchmarking workshops with Keep Britain Tidy and other local authorities to keep abreast of any examples of best-practice and always looking at innovative approaches to reduce fly-tipping.

As an example we have set up a project team known as The Environmental Task Force. A team is being established comprising a Programme Lead, Environmental Delivery Co-ordinator, Senior Enforcement Officers, additional Environmental Enforcement Officers and a small team to enhance the fly tipping response and a team to tackle long standing areas of environmental degradation such as snickets and overgrown land.

The role of the team is to establish and embed transformative ways of working to improve the environment. The team will develop resources and toolkits for

existing staff such as Neighbourhood Wardens, Parks and Street Cleansing staff, Enforcement Officers and Ward Officers to work more effectively with landlords, businesses, fast food takeaways, schools and community and faith-based organisations. The new team will train, support and increase the skills of existing staff to enable them to develop new ways of working that meet the needs of the communities they are working with.

The team will have a more practical arm and will be able to rapidly clear waste, protect land from future fly tipping and educate and enforce more quickly irrespective of land ownership.

There will be a greater emphasis on environmental enforcement with Senior Enforcement Officers responsible for increasing the use of CCTV and seizures of vehicles involved in fly tipping, actively targeting and disrupting illegal waste disposal operators and increasing the use of social media to engage with the public and help catch environmental criminals.

The Environmental Enforcement Team currently uses a range of CCTV cameras to detect fly tipping incidents. These include fixed CCTV, rapidly deployable stand-alone systems and more recently new cameras that use 4G mobile phone technology.

## **5. Councillor Carol Thirkill**

Can you outline the work undertaken by the council to reduce the number of empty homes in the district?

### **Response**

Empty Homes has been a key and successful area of work for the Council for some years.

The Council's Empty Homes Team works both reactively and proactively to bring empty properties back into use, dealing with short term issues affecting neighbourhoods caused by empty properties, often through enforcement of legislation, but also long term issues by working with empty property owners to provide support, advice and assistance. The most problematic long term empty properties, considered to be of a higher risk (following a risk assessment by officers), are targeted more intensely by officers for action. The team pursues compulsory purchase action where this is appropriate and justifiable as a last resort to return empty properties back into use.

The team also engages with multiple partners, such as Housing Associations and charities, other Council services, such as Environmental Enforcement and Building Control, and other agencies such as West Yorkshire Police to assist with tackling empty properties.

At October 2020 there were 4,091 long term empty properties (empty for over six months). This figure is updated annually and in October 2021 there were 3,526 long term empty properties – a reduction of 565.

To illustrate the longer term achievements, in 2009 there were 7,302 long term empty properties therefore the 2021 figure shows a reduction of 3,776 long term empty homes.

The Council is committed to bringing empty properties back into the housing market. The “Tackling Empty Homes in the Bradford District: Action Plan 2021 – 2025” outlines how the Council will contribute to the objectives in the Council’s Housing Strategy to increase the number of homes in the district. Both of these documents can be found on the Council’s website in the Housing pages.

The work of the Empty Homes Team has been recognised nationally for its work on empty homes. The Housing service has been responsible for the development of innovative loan products to assist empty homes owners to bring long term empty homes back into use and both the team and individual officers have been recognised for awards from the National Empty Homes Network.

## **6. Councillor Nussrat Mohammed**

The Council closed off Shay Lane in our ward as part of temporary road changes during the pandemic. I’ve been getting lots of feedback from residents on this issue, could the portfolio holder advise what’s going to happen next and whether residents’ voices will be heard?

### **Response**

Officers will be reviewing the status of the closure before the end of the financial year including consultation with ward members and other key stakeholders and consideration of comments received as part of the formal advertisement process. A decision to retain, modify or remove the closure will be made by the Strategic Director, Department of Place in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport.

## **7. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

Could the Portfolio Holder for Healthy People and Places inform members of what the Council is doing to ensure that the health and social care needs of our district will be heard and taken into account in the proposed statutory Integrated Care System for West Yorkshire and will the new arrangements provide an opportunity for joint commissioning of services with the NHS?

### **Response**

The Health and Care Bill is progressing through Parliament and the implementation plan has been delayed to June 2022 to give time for further amendments. The West Yorkshire Integrated Care System was planning to run shadow arrangements from January 2022 and will proceed on that basis, to continue until the legislation is passed. The aims of the integrated care system and partnership will have four overarching aims:

- Improve outcomes in population health and healthcare;
- Tackle inequalities in outcomes, experience and access;
- Enhance productivity and value for money;

- Help the NHS support broader social and economic development.

These chime well in Bradford and District with our 'Act as One' approach to increase our focus and investment on prevention and early help. Meeting the health and social care needs of our district will be delegated down to our place-based partnership, our Health and Wellbeing Board will still be responsible for maintaining a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (led by Public Health colleagues) and local plans will flow from this. New place-based arrangements between the NHS, local authority, providers of health and care including the VCSE sector will work to integrated services and improve outcomes.

Bradford and District will operate a 'distributed leadership' model with senior leaders from our health and care system leading on different aspects of delivery on behalf of the system. Mel Pickup, CEO of Bradford Teaching Hospitals will act as our 'place lead' but other NHS CEOs will lead on strategy, finance, quality and partnerships. Kersten England will lead on the Inequalities Alliance and Iain Macbeath will lead on 'Integrated health and care' including NHS commissioning of the VCSE, care sector and independent providers. Plans for joint commissioning of services are being drawn up for 2022/23 now.

## **8. Councillor Taj Salam**

What more can we do to press the government to help with the transition to electric vehicles given the financial burden that people and businesses will face – in particular taxi and other vehicle operators? I'm concerned about the purchase price of EVs but also the cost of charging – surely the government should put in place a price cap on energy firms' excessive profiteering from charging EVs? Can't the government also offer better financial incentives to encourage the switch to EVs and reduce the charging costs for small businesses?

### **Response**

The council recognises that energy and fuel prices are a concern for all Bradford residents with prices rising rapidly and significantly over the last twelve months. Whilst running cars on electricity, even from pay as you go chargers, remains cheaper than petrol and diesel, these prices can be a significant element of cost. The council is committed to supporting the uptake in Electric Vehicles to improve our air quality, improve public health and reduce our district carbon emissions. Because of this the Council has secured an additional £1.7m in electric taxi funding and the revised grant programme was launched before Christmas, allowing grants of up to £10,000 for wheelchair accessible taxis and £6,000 for saloon taxis. These grant levels are the highest in the UK for electric vehicles. In addition, the council will seek reassurance from government that profiteering from the rates charged at EV charging points will not be tolerated.

## **9. Councillor Nazam Azam**

What are the next steps in Bradford's bid to be UK City of Culture?

## **Response**

The bid is to be submitted in the first week of February, with panel making a decision during March. That will take the shortlisted list from 8 to 4 cities. If we are one of the 4 shortlisted cities we will be expecting judges' visits during April, with the end of May scheduled for the announcement of the designated city for City of Culture 2025.

### **10. Councillor Bob Felstead**

We note that Bradford Council support the West Yorkshire Mayor's White Rose Forest scheme which seeks to remove carbon from the air and also to address the issue of natural flood management in the Aire Valley and should be grateful if the Leader of Council would guarantee a similar commitment to support the excellent work carried out by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, which will also remove CO2 from the atmosphere and also fulfils the Council commitments to improve natural flood risk management along the Wharfe Valley, which affects homes in the district.

## **Response**

As Lead Local Flood Authority, CBMDC works closely with partners across the Bradford District. For the River Wharfe Catchment we are engaged with adjoining local Authorities, the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust through the Wharfe Flood Partnership. We are engaged with the Dales to Vales River Network and associated organisations of which Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust is also a partner. Work extends to include community projects such as the Addingham 4 Becks group which secured Local Levy funding to better understand flood risk and wider environmental issues on local watercourses and build community resilience. Further funding bids are in progress for Sustainable Urban Drainage and Natural Flood Management Farm Plans through the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust. CBMDC are also undertaking Natural Flood Management works on Ilkley Moor as one of five Yorkshire Defra funded projects.

### **11. Councillor Brendan Stubbs**

Can the Portfolio holder please detail the current number of planning enforcement cases broken down by ward that remain unresolved? Further to this can the Portfolio Holder provide information on how many of these are awaiting a date in court following a failure to comply with an enforcement notice?

## **Response**

There are currently 1,862 open planning enforcement cases across the district. Work is ongoing to resolve these. Approximately 15 cases are currently with the courts and awaiting a court date.

### **12. Councillor Vanda Greenwood**

Can the portfolio holder outline the key points from the social care white paper and what it means for the people of our district? Also do you share my concern

that the government's approach shockingly puts the burden on the least well off and fails to deliver the real reforms we need?

### **Response**

On 7 September 2021, the Government announced £5.4 billion over 3 years for adult social care reform funded by an increase in National Insurance. At the Spending Review in October, it was announced that this investment will be used for the following areas.

£3.6 billion to pay for the cap on care costs, the extension to means test, and support progress towards local authorities paying a fair cost of care, which together will remove unpredictable care costs.

£1.7 billion to improve social care in England, including at least £500 million investment in the workforce.

The white paper describes the Government's priorities for investment in social care and describes where the money will be used. A cap on care costs is intended to remove the unpredictable care costs people can face, the proportion of the levy that is required to support investment in adult social care in England will increase. The detailed charging guidance of exactly how the cap on care will operate has yet to be published, but early indications showed that people in Bradford with moderate wealth i.e. owned their own home, would contribute a larger proportion of their wealth because of lower property values than people in the south of England where properties have increased more in value.

The white paper is also silent on the funding for a long-term workforce strategy including enhanced pay and conditions, parity with the NHS workforce and recruitment of additional workers to meet the demographic challenges we face.

The remainder of the document outlines a 10-year vision for adult social care followed by a summary of opportunities, set out in a number of policy chapters, covering areas such as:

- housing, technology and embedding innovation;
- how we can empower those who draw on support and care, unpaid carers and families;
- collaboration with the NHS.

### **13. Councillor Shakeela Lal**

Does the Leader join me in congratulating the University of Bradford's business school for being named best in the country at the Times Higher Education Awards?

### **Response**

I am delighted to be able to join Cllr Lal in congratulating the University on such a prestigious award, and I am sure all members of the Council would echo that too. The hard work, talent and innovation of the business school, its staff and students, and especially during the pandemic, is a real source of pride and

opportunity to the District. Following on from the recent Queens Anniversary Prize for its world-leading research in archaeological technology, and being ranked #1 in the English Social Mobility Index, this is another in a series of significant achievements for the University.

Our Council Plan is clear that education should be the “engine of opportunity” that maximises our children and young people’s talents and abilities to their fullest extent, and prepares them for successful transitions into work. Having a strong and welcoming University and Higher Education offer in the District, and an outstanding cohort of graduates who have the skills businesses need to thrive, is crucial to achieving that vision.

The University is very active in our communities, with a strong outreach programme and it is an active collaborator in all of our key strategic skills interventions. The pathways into Higher Education that we have worked on locally see a lot of our young people choosing to remain in our District to study. Their success, and that of the University, will be a key driver of clean and inclusive economic growth in Bradford.

#### **14. Councillor David Heseltine**

Given that young people want to feel safe and be able to use play facilities such as Skateparks and MUGAS in the dark days of winter, would it not be sensible, while upgrading our street lamps to LED, that BMDC consider lighting play facilities to allow them to be used for more of the year?

#### **Response**

The Smart Street Lighting project is intended to replace existing street lights only and not for the installation of additional units, also the lighting of MUGAS and other similar facilities are not in scope of the street lighting unit.

A few MUGAS do have lighting, primarily to light skate parks. To light MUGAS would require a significant capital investment and additional revenue for energy, maintenance and repair which is not available within the services. Officers would suggest that lighting of Skate Parks and MUGAS is something that could be considered on an individual basis, if need is identified, and if suitable capital and revenue can be provided.

#### **15. Councillor Nussrat Mohammed**

Double parking is an ongoing problem raised by a number of constituents and it is a worry that emergency vehicles could struggle to get past. Can the portfolio holder outline what powers local authorities have on this and what actions are we able to take to tackle the problem?

#### **Response**

Double parking can be enforced by Council Wardens under contravention 26: Vehicle parked more than 50cms from the Kerb. Council Wardens would have to

witness a contravention taking place to issue a PCN (Penalty Charge Notice). Council Wardens carry out regular patrols across the district and will issue PCNs. I can advise that 1525 PCNs have been issued for this contravention in the last 12 months. Where there is dangerous or obstructive parking or no TRO (Traffic regulation Order), such matters would be dealt with by the Police who have powers to uplift vehicles.

I would recommend that if double parking hotspots are identified that councillors liaise with their Area Office, Ward Officers and local Wardens to assess the issue and consider what enforcement action can be taken.

### **16. Councillor Taj Salam**

The government is finally catching up with Bradford Council's approach on EV charging points. The Prime Minister has announced plans for all new-builds to have EV charging points. Can the portfolio holder confirm how many years we've had this policy in Bradford and what successes it's achieved so far?

#### **Response**

The sustainable development policy that included the rules on EV charging points for new housing was adopted in early 2014.

Since being introduced in 2014 thousands of new homes have been built in this district with electric vehicle charging points, also benefitting from other carbon reducing measures such as better insulated dwellings.

### **17. Councillor Mike Pollard**

As a result of performance shortcomings in respect of years prior to 2020/21, the Council's delivery of the 'Families First' programme was placed on a 'Recovery Plan' with increased MHCLG (as then named) intervention and scrutiny, due to not meeting its targets of the numbers of families being worked with in a 'whole family' way and the number of family outcomes achieving significant and sustained progress. Could the Portfolio Holder please quantify the monetary resource lost to the Council over the period of the underperformance identified (the benchmark to be used in that calculation being the 100% achieved in 2020/21)?

#### **Response**

Bradford Council signed up to a five-year programme called Troubled Families. This programme was led nationally by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. The programme ran from 2015-2020 and Bradford was allocated resources to work with families who had multiple and complex issues within Early Help and Prevention and Children's Social Care.

Bradford's target of families it was allocated to work with in a whole family way (One family assessment, one family plan and one Lead Professional) was 6,070. For each family attached to the programme the LA could receive £1,000 attachment fee and if sustained and significant progress was achieved, there was a payment by results (PbR) of £800 per family.



Between 2015-2018, the programme team consisted of a part time analyst and a Team Manager whom had oversight. In terms of funding during this period:

- 3228 families had been attached - leaving £2842,000 unclaimed attachment fees;
- 222 successful PbR outcomes - leaving £4678,400 unclaimed PBR funding.

Due to this, in 2018 the MHCLG deemed Bradford as requiring a Recovery plan which finished in 2020.

In 2018, a new team consisting of 2 new full time analysts and a Practice Lead were employed to take over the performance of the programme which led to the following success:

Between 2018-2020 the team successfully attached an additional 2,842 families to the programme, resulting in ensuring all available attachment fees for the LA were achieved. During the same period, the team also submitted 2,338 PBR claims bringing in £1,870,400.

Overall, prior to 2018 - the LA had only achieved 3% of the PBR outcomes - in 2019 we completed 42%; and in 2020 we achieved 100%, we are currently on track to meet 100% again in 2021/22.

Notwithstanding the hugely improved position between 2018-2020, the poor performance between 2015 and 2018 still meant that overall outcomes achieved were 2,560 out of 6,070. Therefore, overall Bradford met 42% of its PbR target. This meant that Bradford received £2,048,000 in PbR but due to not meeting 100% of its earlier target, funding of £2,808,000 over 5 years was lost.

For national context, not all other LAs met 100% of their targets - the 2019 figures show there were 21/140 councils achieving a similar rate to Bradford or below.

## **18. Councillor Caroline Firth**

Can the leader explain what communication the council's emergency response team had from Northern Power grid after power was knocked out in various areas across the district due to Storm Arwen? What help did they put in place for residents and what offer of support was made to the council from Northern Power grid to aid our residents? What is the learning from this incident? Will she join me in thanking and praising residents and council staff who stepped up and helped those affected?

### **Response**

The Emergency Management Team (EMT) was first alerted to power outages by Cllr Firth, although the protocol is that Northern Powergrid (NPG) contact all the local authority EMT's during a major outage. This was a massive power cut affecting most of the North East of England. Due to the thousands of properties and businesses, affected the NPG Powergrid and their customer contact lines

couldn't cope with the number of enquiries. Although they did supply a dedicated email address for customers to get through and did contact vulnerable customers whom we identified to NPG. It was very challenging to get accurate up to date information right through the recovery period from NPG. All the power was restored across the Bradford district by Thursday, 2 December, some had been without power heat and light, from the previous Friday. The West Yorkshire Resilience Forum supported Bradford and Calderdale Councils who were the worst affected areas by coordinating the information flow from NPG which was a big help. We were not able to find out if any NPG welfare units were deployed over the week in the Bradford district.

The Council working with volunteer groups opened community and church centres where people could go to keep warm and have hot refreshments. Wardens and Emergency Planning Officers went out and door knocked all the outage locations we were aware of, to check on resident's welfare. Yorkshire Water did send welfare units out to those without water supplies as a result of Storm Arwen. West Yorkshire Resilience Forum along with the local authorities affected and NPG will hold a review and lessons learned debrief, the date for this is to be confirmed. Ofgen have announced there will also be a national enquiry.

We would like to thank all the good neighbours, volunteers, councillors and council staff who helped during this very difficult recovery from the storm.

#### **19. Councillor David Warburton**

Can the portfolio holder give an update on Wyke Sports Village?

#### **Response**

The works at the new Wyke Community Sports Village are progressing very well and are on course to be completed by the end of March this year. The majority of the external works have now been completed and the building is progressing to being water tight and secure. The final few weeks will be looking at the building fit out and the completion of external works.

#### **20. Councillor David Heseltine**

Further to the last Council meeting what progress has been made on the "priority" that is resolving the ventilation and now flooring problems, to allow Bingley Youth Cafe to open again and as Bingley Pool is destined to close due to Bradford Council being unwilling to offer up a serviceable facility for a CAT, what plans are there to ensure Bingley Youth Cafe has a permanent home in the town?

#### **Response**

Subject to the appropriate H&S checks, works for the ventilation are programmed to commence week beginning 24th January 2022, and will take approximately two weeks. Discussions are still ongoing about the long term future of the Bingley Pool building and clearly there may be implications for the Youth Café as a result.

These will be considered as proposals for the future of the building are progressed.

### **21. Councillor Kevin Warnes**

Would the Leader of Council agree to use her position as Chair of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Transport Committee to ensure that the committee's 'Forward Plan of Key Decisions' includes a comprehensive review of the carbon emissions implications of the transport projects being managed by the combined authority, bearing in mind that a review of this sort does not feature among the 51 items on the committee's published current plan despite WYCA's declaration of a climate emergency in June 2019? [see 'Forward Plan of Key Decisions from 1 December 2021 (01/01/2022 to 30/04/2022, Forward Plan of Key Decisions)].

#### **Response**

The published Forward Plan of Key Decisions lists all decisions to be taken by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority either through its committees or via delegated officer decision and must be published monthly by law WYCA - Modern Gov. The purpose of the Forward Plan is to offer the public the opportunity to have their say on key decisions before they are taken. Where decisions relate to transport projects and their progression through the Combined Authority's Assurance Process a key decision is published for that project 28 days prior to the decision being made. The report that is produced for project key decisions always has a section titled "Climate Emergency Implications" so that decision makers can fully consider the carbon impacts of the scheme. For information, transport schemes are usually considered by the Combined Authority Committee, Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee at the moment, not the Transport Committee. Notwithstanding that the Transport Committee did consider a 40 page report on Transport Decarbonisation at its meeting in September 2021 and will monitor progress on this issue regularly going forward.

### **22. Councillor Paul Godwin**

I welcome that the Leader has called on government to bring an end to the environmentally damaging practice of heather burning on our moorlands. Has the Leader had a response yet from government and what are the next steps?

#### **Response**

The Leader has not had a response from government to the letter sent last November. In the meantime, we will continue to manage our own moorlands for multiple benefits (carbon capture, air quality, biodiversity, flood mitigation etc) without burning. We will also work in partnership with other major moorland owners in the District such as Yorkshire Water to achieve the same objectives, as best we can.

### **23. Councillor Hassan Khan**

We have badly ageing hospital buildings in the Bradford district and yet we've not seen the same government grant funding here that other parts of the country have seen. I know the Leader has lobbied strongly on this and is supporting our district's bid for brand-new hospitals to replace Airedale, Lynfield Mount and the BRI. When will we hear back from government?

### **Response**

We have been advised that the Government is making a final decision on which hospitals will receive funding under the current bidding round in April/May 2022.

### **24. Councillor Kyle Green**

Could the Portfolio Holder for Healthy People and Places advise when the council will look to invest in Ilkley Pool and Lido to provide adequate family changing facilities, modern equipment including gym facilities?

### **Response**

The Council has invested a significant amount in Ilkley Pool and Lido over recent years, including a new roof, new windows, a new hot water system, retiling the indoor pool, and refurbishing the Lido tank. I am pleased to inform fellow councillors that further investment is planned at Ilkley Lido for next financial year including improvements to the indoor changing facilities and the Lido café. Providing fitness and leisure facilities for the benefit of health and enjoyment is important, however Ilkley Pool and Lido are on an area that is affected by flooding. Several gym options have been examined for Ilkley Pool, however an affordable and accessible fitness facility has not so far been possible.

### **25. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

The Government has announced a workforce retention fund. Has the Council received any funding and what are the Council's plans to ensure it reaches the pay packets of staff?

### **Response**

Bradford Council has received £4,426,913 funding from the Workforce Recruitment and Retention Funds (WRRFs) launched by the Government in October 2021.

Every penny of this funding has been 'passport' directly to our Care Home and CQC-registered Care Providers to be used for direct-to-staff incentives. Providers have been able to claim £445 per staff member for use for retention bonuses, pay premiums (for overtime, or working over the holiday period etc.), welcome payments or other similar financial incentives to support staff and recognise the important work they do.

In addition to this, Bradford and Craven CCG, as part of a West Yorkshire Integrated Care System project, is funding an early pay uplift for all frontline care staff working in care homes or CQC-registered community services. The funding enables providers to bring forward the uplift they were intending to pay in April

2022 in response to the increased National Living Wage, to 1 December 2021 – giving care workers an additional 4 months at higher pay.

When claiming both the WRRF and Early Uplift Funding Providers have been required to confirm that they will only use the money for the intended purpose and that the funding will be passed on to staff.

Providers have also received funding from the latest round of Infection Control and Testing Fund (ICTF). Providers can use this funding for a range of measures, including ensuring that staff receive full pay when having to isolate, and payment for time spent testing and attending vaccination appointments. Providers are required to report to us on how they have used the funding.

Bradford Council has also made use of the WRRF to support wider workforce issues in the District, including funding Skills House to support recruitment of care staff from across different communities in Bradford, improving access to training and supporting Bradford Care Association in the work they do to promote recruitment and retention of care staff.

When receiving new funding we always seek to get the money out to Providers quickly and always consult with the Bradford Care Association on the best and most straightforward ways of getting the funding out for its intended purpose.

## **26. Councillor Zafar Iqbal**

What actions are we taking together with the police to help women stay safe on nights out and in other public spaces?

### **Response**

The partnership approach to helping women keep safe at night is overseen by the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Board. Both partnerships involve the council, police, other relevant statutory agencies and third sector and community groups. We know that the West Yorkshire Combined Authority will shortly set its priorities in a Police and Crime Plan, after a period of consultation, and that the safety of women and girls will be one of the key priorities. As a consequence of this a lot of activity has already been seen at both a Bradford district level and a West Yorkshire level.

It should be noted strategically that in April last year the CSP agreed a new domestic abuse and sexual violence strategy that focused partnership resources on prevention and early intervention. This means that through education, training, communications and community response we are looking to make Bradford feel and be a safer place for women and in fact all residents. The strategy can be found here: <https://saferbradford.co.uk/resources/childrens/domestic-abuse-and-sexual-violence/>

Bradford Specific Initiatives

Safe Spaces

A quality assured approach to creating safe spots in the Bradford district where people can go to find a trauma informed response to domestic abuse and sexual violence. The purpose is to create a network of organisations across the district that offer this response. An interactive map will confirm where and when safe spots are open. They will support people to access our specialist services through the provision of a confidential space and access to a room. We are currently training a number of partners and will formally launch in the New Year.

#### Co-production/Consultation

Both in relation to domestic abuse and sexual violence and around the wider women agenda hearing and responding to the voices of residents of Bradford is key to ensuring that services, policy and partnership response is directed in the right way. The strategy referred to above has a commitment to coproduction. Forums will be launched later this year and will be available for survivors/residents to help ensure that they feel safe and that response is directed and responsive to need. This will build on the current ad hoc approach to build consistency. One example of current practice is the issues recently raised by the University students that have resulted in some planned days of action by the council and police to target behaviours raised and a commitment by the University to raise more issues through the police's intelligence portal.

#### Communications

We currently have some dedicated resource to support the comms messages we need to share with professionals, organisations and the public. This is extremely important to building trust, confidence and knowledge on the issue of violence against women and girls and how organisations and people need to support the movement for change.

#### Ask for Angela

Bradford Council and West Yorkshire Police launched the 'Ask for Angela' initiative across the district on the 25th November 2021 This coincided with the UN International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November and is just one of a thousands of initiatives which took place across the world as part of the 16 Days of Action Against Domestic Abuse. The licensing departments from both the local authority and the police have jointly adopted the 'Ask for Angela' campaign which is designed to help anyone feeling uncomfortable, threatened or unsafe when on a night out.

The idea is that anyone out on a date or on a night out who feels unsafe, vulnerable or threatened can discreetly seek help by approaching venue staff and asking them for 'Angela'. This will indicate to staff that they need help and a member of staff will support and assist. Licensed premises support the scheme by displaying 'Ask for Angela' posters. This shows their staff know what to do if someone asks if they can speak with 'Angela'. Staff can then assist the person safely getting home or away from a difficult situation.

Information about the Ask for Angela campaign can be found on Bradford Council's website <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/business/licensing/ask-for-angela/>

'Safety of Women at Night' and 'Safer Streets Three' – projects Supporting Women and Girls Safety in the Public Realm

Below is a summary of the concurrently running Safer Streets Fund 3 and Safety of Women at Night Fund projects. Both funding bids were co-ordinated by the West Yorkshire Policing and Crime Team, built in partnership with Bradford Community Safety Partnership and women and girls groups who operate in the District, as well as wider WY partners. They are Home Office funded, to be completed by end of March '22.

Safety of Women at Night Fund (Transport) – £215K across West Yorkshire – Delivery by March '22.

Objective: Support women and girls safety and sense of safety on WY's transport system, including active travel and taxis, with a focus on the night time economy.

WY wide projects that will benefit Bradford:

- Transport safety behaviour change campaign and accompanying anonymous bus safety reporting / survey tool. Undercover police operations on problematic routes from the resultant reporting tool data.
- Active upstander training for Night Time Economy workers in WY, starting before busy Christmas period.

Bradford specific:

Pilot Scheme for Taxi Marshalls

- This pilot project will enhance the safety of women and Girls by providing an "official" presence at taxi ranks to support vulnerable people in the city centre, prevent illegal pickups (by fake taxi) and take preventative action to defuse situations as they arise.
- This will reduce incidents of disorder and enhance the safety of females by ensuring that they are protected by a capable guardian and not being coerced by a potential offender.
- It will minimise any crime that may occur in or around the taxi ranks and enhance the feeling of safety.
- It will have a positive impact on the experience of those using taxis in Bradford City Centre during the evening and night-time economy.

Bradford Pub Watch

- Pub watch prevents VAWG by ensuring that premises are providing an effective door staff and developing that offer. It ensures that suspects are prevented from entering premises thereby enhancing the security of women and

girls and it disseminates intelligence quickly across the NTE network ensuring that Licensee's are able to take positive action to prevent crime.

- This project will re-establish and rejuvenate Bradford's Pub Watch scheme through increasing the hours of the current Bradford BID NTE Coordinator.
- In addition we will be harnessing the support of Licensee through schemes such as Best Bar None and Ask for Angela and putting into place the Sentrysis Intelligence System and start identifying and taking remedial action against people who are a risk of perpetrating VAWG to ensure that they are prevented from being able to enter premises in the first instance through a barred from one pub barred from all scheme.

#### Extension to the existing Bradford Safe Space scheme

This project will extend the provision of the locally referred to Safe Space scheme until the end of March 2022.

- The Safe Space scheme is a safe space where people who are intoxicated can go to / be referred to in order to sober up in a safe environment that protects them from exploitation by offenders or from accidental harm. This facility is particularly effective at ensuring the safety of vulnerable women effected by intoxication.
- This Bradford pilot has been in place since June 2021 and will cease to exist on 7th January 2022. This will now be extended to March 2022 as a result of SOWN funding.
- If a person is identified as vulnerable by door staff or by the police, they can be referred to the Safe Space scheme where facilities are available to ensure their welfare until they are recovered sufficiently to get home.
- In the first eight weeks that the Safe Space scheme project has been in place they have supported 24 people – in particular the scheme was key in supporting a woman whose drink had been spiked. She was kept safe and a police investigation commenced. Without this facility, the woman may have become victim of life changing criminal offences.

#### Ask for Angela scheme

- £6,000 will be made available to Bradford to relaunch and renew their promotion of Ask for Angela within their NTE's, starting with bars and clubs.
- Once the scheme has been re-established, WYP will run a test purchase operation to identify how effective the roll out has been and how the licensed venues in our county promote and deliver on its aims and intended outcomes.

Safer Streets Fund 3 (Parks) -- Delivery by March '22.

Objective: Supporting women and girls safety in 10 x parks in West Yorkshire.

Target parks in Bradford: Eccleshill Park & Horton Park (£46K total grant)



£10K per park for look and feel improvements

To include basic infrastructure repairs, clearing, tree cutting, graffiti removal etc to make the parks somewhere pleasant to be and proud of, in advance of a Launch Day event to reclaim the parks.

£10K per park for building the park as a community asset for women and girls

To hold organised activity groups for those who identify as female (such as Yoga, Drama & Performance, Running couch to 5k, Dog Walking, gardening etc) for a period of 6 – 8 weeks, as determined by consultation, to give confidence to be in the park, as part of a likeminded group, becoming a more familiar space and thereby encouraging independent use outside and after the organised group activities.

£6K to pay for a role to kick start and drive the work of Deliverable Two.

Active Upstander Training for Parks related staff and volunteers

Providing Park Wardens and 'Street Scene' staff with knowledge and confidence to recognise VAWG and be able to confidently challenge and report it, giving them skills to de-escalate situations. This will also be available to volunteers from 'Friends of' groups etc. Offered as one-day training sessions with selected supplier with a 'train the trainer' approach to ensure ongoing legacy. Provision of 30 spaces per district.

Safer Streets Fund 3 - (Higher Education / Further Education)

Objective: Driving male behaviour change in 10 x HE / FE institutions.

Bradford based partner institutions: Bradford University / Bradford New College / Bradford College.

- Consent training aimed at young men and boys – 50 students per institution. Train the trainer approach for institution staff.
- Active upstander training for peers – 54 students per institution. Increase the number of capable guardians in the public realm who are skilled to challenge unacceptable behaviour in a safe way.
- Personal safety & conflict management techniques training – 50 students per institution. To support the confidence and skills of people to challenge and deescalate situations where they feel threatened or unsafe.
- Male behaviour change campaign supported by £5K per institution for local campaign.
- Safespot / SafeRoute programme in Bradford. Student Safe Spot scheme is designed to aid students seeking refuge when experiencing a distressing situation. Businesses, shops and hospitality venues can be accredited to support students that might need to seek refuge when in public places. 25 venues per route per district.

## **27. Councillor Mohsin Hussain**

Does the portfolio holder have an update on timescales for delivery of the Towns Fund projects in Keighley?

### **Response**

Business cases for four of the projects have been submitted to Government for appraisal. These are:

- Capital Assistance to Business Growth
- Keighley Creative Community Arts Hub
- Women Employment Project
- Keighley Art and Film Festival.

We anticipate full approval of these in March 2022 although this is dependent on the government and not within our control.

The Community Grant Scheme is due for submission in April and the remaining schemes will be submitted in June 2022. Schemes for June submission are:

- Town centre and Infrastructure Improvements
- Keighley Skills Hub
- The Manufacturing, Engineering and future Technologies Hub
- Keighley Community Art and Wellbeing Centre.

Presuming all projects are approved by government we will then need to understand the timescales for receiving the funding so organisations can deliver the schemes as agreed.

Ultimately all projects will be delivered by 2025 though clearly some will be delivered much sooner than that depending on their complexity.

## **28. Councillor Rebecca Whitaker**

Please can the Portfolio Holder confirm what strategic plans are being put in place to resolve fixing the numerous street lights which are not working across the Bradford District? What conversations are being held with Northern Power grid to speed up the process in situations where they are involved? The current position is becoming increasingly more concerning. In particular, for residents in Silsden who have had to spend the last few months navigating the new road changes at the bottom of Keighley Road including negotiating the unlit islands and those crossing the notoriously busy and dangerous A629 in such poorly lit conditions that it is putting public safety at risk. Please can you provide a definitive date when the street lights will be fixed?

### **Response**

The Principal Engineer for the street lighting team is in communication with Northern Powergrid and arranging weekly meetings to facilitate better information exchange in the timescales for fault repairs. If this is not productive we will be reporting the performance issues to OfGEM.

Due to the supply chain issues around the purchase of SOX Lamps and LED SOX replacement lamps there are delays in the repair of some faults, which are outside the control of the Council. As a result, we are having to resort to the replacement of luminaires (the whole lighting unit including all components) where the lamp cannot be replaced which is both expensive and time consuming.

With regards to Keighley Road, Silsden, the street lighting team is working to establish a way forward to repair the lights some of which are due to lamp unavailability and a Northern Powergrid (NPG) section fault. Until we receive further information from NPG it is impossible to determine a repair date. The team will keep Cllr Whittaker informed of any progress.

### **29. Councillor Taj Salam**

As we are in the cold winter months will the portfolio holder outline our current actions to support rough sleepers off the streets and into accommodation.

#### **Response**

The Cold Weather provision is a multi-agency partnership that provides emergency bed spaces in Bradford to rough sleepers on freezing winter nights, commissioned by Bradford Council and operated by Humankind.

The service operates between 1 October and 30 April and opens when the predicted temperature for the upcoming evening is due to fall to zero or below. The Cold Weather partners provide emergency beds for clients in communal rooms, so no-one has to sleep on the streets on nights when the temperature is predicted to be zero degrees. To date the service has been activated on eight occasions this winter.

The cold weather provision forms part of our No Second Night Out service that is open 365 days a year and offers a range of services to rough sleepers including outreach work, assessments and advice as well as co-ordinating the delivery of the Cold Weather provision for rough sleepers. They can also provide short term emergency accommodation when people have nowhere else to stay. Following the recommissioning of this service in 2021, we have now increased our capacity to 32 beds over two hostels in Bradford.

### **30. Councillor Aneela Ahmed**

Can the portfolio holder give an update on how the Darley Street Market and Bradford Live regeneration schemes are progressing and how many jobs they are expected to create?

#### **Response**

In respect of Bradford Live, the refurbishment and conversion of the former Odeon Cinema into the Bradford Live music arena is progressing well. The local contractor, RN Wooler, is performing very well, sensitively working around the existing building as well as focusing on the extension. Once completed, the new venue should directly create approximately 80 new jobs, stimulate the creation of 500 jobs more widely and attract 300,000 visitors to the district.

In respect of Darley Street Market, the demolition of the remainder of the empty shop units will be completed in February 2022 and construction of the new development will begin immediately thereafter. The project remains on track to be ready to open to trade in October 2023. The project expects to create up to 400 jobs in the market itself and by helping to bring surrounding units back into economic use.

You can view the latest drone footage showing the demolition progress on [YouTube](#).

### **31. Councillor Debbie Davies**

Would the Leader of the Council inform colleagues why, instead of spending £27.5m on One City Park for 56,000 square feet of office space, the council doesn't just buy The Interchange building which is £4.2m for 60,000 square feet of Grade A office space and available now?

#### **Response**

The "Interchange building" has been marketed as 'Latitude' since becoming vacant in 2019 and although described as Grade 'A' accommodation technically will not achieve that standard without the completion of proposed extensive refurbishment works by the owner, at an additional cost. The building is some 30 years old, and even if the proposed improvement works are completed the building has failed to attract any new corporate occupiers and would still fall short of the quality and specification proposed for One City Park.

Delivering a building of the proposed high quality of One City Park is essential if Bradford is to be able to compete with neighbouring cities to attract high quality inward investing companies.

There have been discussions with at least one major international business who considered locating a significant proportion of their workforce in Bradford previously, who have looked at Latitude and found it didn't meet their requirements. Ultimately they chose to locate elsewhere in the country, underlining the need for a premium quality commercial offer in the city centre.

However, the Council's professional commercial property agency advice is that One City Park's location and proposed specification will be as good as any building available in the North of England, which is essential to be competitive, to retain existing corporate businesses, and to attract inward investment to the city, of the quality required to create the critical mass of business activity needed to generate the business growth, job creation and user footfall needed to deliver a

truly economically sustainable city centre in accordance with the Council's Economic Strategy.

### **32. Councillor Mohammed Shafiq**

Can the portfolio holder update me on the progress made in children's services?

#### **Response**

In order to accelerate the improvement Ofsted require in key areas, the improvement plan has been revised to make it more outcome focused and more streamlined so that better outcomes for children and young people can be seen. There are now seven outcomes that we aim to evidence progress over the past 3 and next 3 months:

Priority 1: Children and young people will recognise Bradford Council and its partners as good corporate parents.

Progress:

- Corporate Parenting Panel has been refreshed and a draft CPP Strategy has been written with involvement from CYP.

Priority 2: Caseloads across all social work teams, including fostering, continue to be safe and manageable.

Progress:

- A review is underway to ensure that caseloads across all of Children's Social Care, including Fostering, are safe and manageable.

Priority 3: We will have a sufficient fostering workforce to look after children and young people in Bradford.

Progress:

- Recruitment of foster carers is being relaunched to ensure that increased numbers of interested families complete successfully the training and assessment.
- In addition, we are promoting fostering as a career development opportunity for all existing foster carers.

Priority 4: Fewer children will be coming into care as our Edge of Care strategy is effective.

Progress:

- Be Positive Pathways is aligning more closely with our Early Help offer so that we can support more families in a responsive and more targeted way.

Priority 5: The Implementation of a workforce plan that will lead to the increased retention of ASYEs, and provide progression opportunities for all social workers.

Progress:

- The microsite for recruiting Social Workers at all levels has been launched.
- Benefits of working for Bradford have been clearly identified and are articulated in the recruitment for Social Workers.
- Managers have received information on ensuring that all new staff have a proper induction period.

Priority 6: The Sufficiency Strategy is fit for purpose, iterative and responsive to the changing demographic of C&YP in our care.

Progress:

- Work is underway with partners to gain commitment towards supporting increased numbers of children looked after to remain in the District in both fostering and residential placements.
- Work is underway to identify suitable housing accommodation to enable us to increase the number of residential placements within the District.

Priority 7: Leaders (all of DMT) have greater understanding of the quality of social work practice.

Progress:

- Regular staff briefings and DCS Drop in Sessions are in place to enable staff to share views and provide feedback to senior leaders. These sessions are very well attended.
- There is also a dedicated 'Talk to DMT' inbox for staff.
- We have an audit tool which has been reviewed by senior leaders to ensure that it is accessible.
- Regular performance monitoring is in place and discussed at the Departmental Management Team Meeting on a weekly basis.
- The views of children and young people are regularly sought by senior leaders via the creation of the 'Talk to Mariam' inbox for children looked after.

In addition, other key projects have been completed regarding Leaving Care, Early Childhood Services and the Integrated Front-door.

### **33. Councillor Nussrat Mohammed**

Will the portfolio holder give an update on how we are progressing with delivery of the new streetlights programme, the main benefits in terms of maintenance, cost savings and the environment and how it's being rolled out across the district?

### **Response**

To date there have been 7,151 new LED luminaires installed. Work has progressed in Bierley, Tong, Homewood, Low Moor, Buttershaw, Wibsey, Great Horton, West Bowling and Laisterdyke.

Upon completion of all the works the energy savings are projected to be around £2m per annum and a maintenance saving of £500,000 per annum, the maintenance will also dramatically reduce leaving far fewer faults than previously with the old lighting.

The project is also forecast to reduce CO2 emissions by 6,046 tonnes per annum.

### **34. Councillor Sally Birch**

In Bingley Rural we are working with local schools, the polices and parish councils to reduce parking issues and residents' complaints due to school parents struggling to access free and safe parking. In Wilsden there is a car park which used to offer 30 minutes of free parking. This is no longer the case. Wilsden Primary School have asked if they could be offered a small number of "Parents Parking Permits" which would allow a 30-minute free parking slot in the car park on Main St both at the start and end of the school day. They would only allocate these passes to parents who live the furthest from the school and have little option but to use their car each day. Can this be considered as a scheme which would reduce traffic congestion near the school, allow those parents who have to use their car to have free access to safe parking and would be administered by the school?

### **Response**

I would like to thank Councillor Birch for raising the particular issues in relation to parents of pupils attending Wilsden Primary School.

The suggestion of 'Parent Parking Permits' is something we have looked at before for other areas with similar problems, along with 'Park and Stride'/'Walking Bus' programmes for schools. I have asked officers to engage with members and the school to look at options for Wilsden.

Supporting these types of measures fits together with our other work on School Streets, 20mph zones and No Idling programmes across the district and all serve to improve the health of our school pupils and improve the environment for everyone around schools, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times.

### **35. Councillor Rebecca Whitaker**

As it is becoming increasingly apparent that the various Council Enforcement Teams are struggling with onerous workloads resulting in huge backlogs of work, making it increasingly difficult to be effective when reacting to complaints from members of the public, can the Portfolio Holder explain what immediate measures are being put in place to assist the Enforcement Officers to execute their work in a more effective, timely fashion?

### **Response**

The Department of Place carries out enforcement activities in a number of different areas of operations:

- Environmental Enforcement
- Housing Operations
- Highway Enforcement
- Building Control
- Environmental Health Service

Government has reduced the council's spending power by half over the last 10 years and it would be naïve of any councillor to think that this wouldn't have any impact on all our services including enforcement. Additionally there is a challenge with attracting and retaining staff in local government given that our sector has not seen anything like the same pay increases as seen in other public services, let alone the private sector.

Our staff work with councillor encouragement to enforce infringements wherever they are seen and will continue to do so.

### **36. Councillor Alun Griffiths**

Of the 582 cut down lighting columns listed in the answer to my question at the last council meeting, how many have been replaced in the 15 weeks since then? How many of the 19 in Idle and Thackley Ward?

In addition, can the Portfolio Holder please provide details of the number of streetlights awaiting bulb replacement or repair (excluding the cut downs) broken down by ward? Please can the portfolio Holder also provide current waiting times for these street lights to be restored to full working order?

### **Response**

There has been a change of contractor on these works which has meant that the replacement of cut down lighting columns has slowed. This has been further frustrated by an outbreak of Covid 19 within the workforce after Christmas. A new subcontractor will be commencing the works next week. According to our records there have been four of the 19 replaced.

The repair periods are currently around four weeks assuming that replacement lamps can be obtained, there has been a significant supply chain shock to the



electronic components market which is affecting LED replacement SOX lamps causing delivery schedules around six weeks.

The breakdown of outstanding faults by ward is shown below – these are all faults since October in all wards, so some of these may only be days old.

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Faults</b>
Baildon	160
Bingley	249
Bingley Rural	206
Bolton and Undercliffe	168
Bowling and Barkerend	126
Bradford Moor	86
Clayton and Fairweather Green	191
Craven	221
Eccleshill	146
Great Horton	122
Heaton	120
Idle and Thackley	140
Ilkley	228
Keighley Central	179
Keighley East	198
Keighley West	148
Little Horton	102
Manningham	153
Queensbury	177
Royds	117
Shipley	177
Thornton and Allerton	117
Toller	165
Tong	76
Wharfedale	107
Windhill and Wrose	140
Worth Valley	171
Wyke	114

### **37. Councillor Matt Edwards**

Following the Schools Street Pilot, can you provide a breakdown of each school site and whether the pilot has been deemed to have succeeded or requires improvements, or indeed has failed?

#### **Response**

The scheme was largely successful at all sites when initially introduced (prior to the summer break) and was positively received by children, parents and schools. It has however been noted that it is reliant on a physical presence on site to encourage compliance, and the early success was by virtue of significant presence for Wardens and Highways staff.

Sadly, we have not been able to maintain the level of resources at the pilot school sites since the September restart although we have had feedback that the current situation still represents an improvement on before the pilot started. Officers are now looking further at ways in which we could potentially sustain the School Streets system including discussions with other local authorities and Sustrans to determine best practice. The nine sites in the pilot are: Girlington Primary, Grove House Primary, High Craggs Primary, Ley Top Primary, Newhall Park Primary, Shipley CE Primary, St Matthews CE Primary, St Stephens CE Primary and Westminster CE Primary.

### **38. Councillor Debbie Davies**

During to the easing of Covid 19 related restrictions, most libraries in the district re-opened significantly earlier than Baildon Library, which continued for some time with a click and collect service, purportedly because of structural problems with the building, yet it somewhat later re-opened for limited visitors, despite Council Officers having confirmed that there have been no material changes to the condition of the building, thus can the Portfolio Holder confirm that it was not kept closed unnecessarily for six months?

### **Response**

Although there have been no material changes to Baildon Library a new risk assessment considering fire safety of the library was prepared and the mitigations put in place were considered sufficient to permit partial re-opening with limited numbers of the public to a maximum of 10 persons.



# SAFE SPOT

**Safe Spot is a district-wide programme which offers an empathetic and supportive response to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence. It is a place where someone in need can have access to a private room and a phone so they can contact either local or national helplines for support, or to speak confidentially to their family and friends.**

Our hope and our ask is that your organisation will join others already supporting this project, and consider being a Safe Spot. You too can help provide a lifeline for victims across the Bradford District.

As you're reading this now (and we thank you that you are), there will be someone we don't yet know about, living, breathing and fearing domestic abuse from their partner, ex-partner or family member. The time might come when a victim simply can't take any more; a time when they have the courage to go to a safe place to access the support they so desperately need. A Safe Spot could be the place they choose to go to for that help.

Back to our ask of you and how we can make your organisation a Safe Spot .

## **The really important part.**

We are not expecting you or your staff to become experts in supporting victims of domestic abuse. That is not what this project is about and it's not possible. This project would, however, involve you and your staff committing to the Safe Spot pledge.

**PTO**



## THE PLEDGE

### **A Safe Spot should promise:**

- For your staff to attend a short and free information session that we will run so they are aware of what domestic abuse and sexual violence is and how to respond to a victim who asks to use your Safe Spot. This includes a commitment to train future staff as your team changes.
- For all staff to know that if someone comes into your organisation and asks for a Safe Spot, they know instantly what that person is asking for and will respond in a kind and caring manner.
- That your organisation will have a designated Safe Spot ambassador(s) who will be responsible for embedding this project in your organisation; feedback to our Project Manager with any suggestions on how to improve this service and attend a meeting every six months.
- That you will provide a private room with free access to a phone.
- That you will display information that we will provide on domestic abuse and sexual violence for the victim.
- That you will promote that your organisation is a Safe Spot – we will provide the posters, you'd just need to put them up please.
- That you consent to be listed as a Safe Spot on our literature and website, and to commit to an annual review of your involvement.

**If this is something you are interested in becoming, please contact us on [Domestic.Abuse@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:Domestic.Abuse@bradford.gov.uk)**

**COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2022**

**Agenda Item 12 – Notices of Motion (Standing Order 17)**

Amendments submitted by political groups (please refer to the following pages for details of the amendments)

Committee Secretariat  
Contact: Guy Close (07811) 503906

### **Motion 2 – Children’s Services**

To be moved by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and removal of the necessary words, the Motion be amended to read as follows:

#### **Council notes:**

- that the report of the Commissioner into Bradford Children’s Services has been delivered to the Minister of State and we await the outcome that will be brought back to Full Council to debate, at the earliest opportunity.

### Motion 2 – Children’s Services

Moved by: Councillor Brendan Stubbs

Seconded Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

With the deletion and addition of words to read:

#### **This Council notes**

- The murder of Star Hobson was a tragedy both shocking and deeply upsetting and worse still it might have been prevented. The serious case review, when published will set out the failing of Bradford Council, Police and Health Services. No apology this Council makes can start to make up for the loss of a young life.
- Since first failing an OFSTED Inspection in October 2018, the Children's Service Department has failed to deliver on its improvement plan, it has repeatedly failed subsequent inspections and has seen the replacement of three senior management teams within the department.
- In reports from OFSTED over the last three and a half years the following phrases have summed up this Council's improvement plan failure. 'Dither and delay' and 'lacking focus and direction'
- The reduction in the budget for Early Help services has been revealed to be one of the worst budget decisions this Council has made. Failure to report Families First work in the district has further cost the Council considerable funding in an area that desperately needs it.
- That Wakefield Council, having been considered to have a failing Children's Service Department in 2018, has recently been judged to provide a good level of service to their children. Their improvement demonstrates the benefit for children in that district that a fast acceptance of failings and full focus on improvement can deliver.
- The Government appointed commissioner has completed his review of Children's Services and submitted his report to the Government Minister for their consideration.

#### **This Council resolves to**

- Commit to immediately implementing all recommendations from the Safeguarding Practice Review once published.
- Work with the Government, the Commissioner and the Improvement partnership to deliver substantial, sustained and rapid improvement in Children's Services even if that requires the Council to step back to allow external expertise to ensure delivery.

- Fully support all staff and partner at every levels to deliver the improvements set out in the new improvement plan.
- Regularly review progress and step in when necessary to ensure there is no delay or backsliding in the delivery of improvements. Commit to resource the service to deliver sustained improvement with a greater focus on the early stage intervention for children and families.
- Ensure that Social Workers in Bradford are fully supported to complete their work to the highest standard and enabled to raise concerns and be confident that they are both listened to and that issues are resolved.
- Provide training and direction to staff across all departments of the Council to ensure a wide understanding of the work of children's services, skills and tools to help spot those children who need help and instilling a culture of professional curiosity across the whole Council.
- Ensure that the welfare of the child is the primary focus of all assessments. Vulnerable and abused children can be found in all communities, down any street and in every part of society.
- Demand that every elected member of this Council is compelled to speak up or step aside if it is what is required to ensure that every child in this district is safe, health and cared for.



### Motion 6 – Children’s Services – Our Number One Priority

To be moved by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and removal of the necessary words, the Motion be amended to read as follows:

Council notes that:

- Once the Star Hobson Safeguarding Practice Review is published this Council will hold an urgent debate over the findings. As neither this report or the Commissioners report into Children’s Services are not yet available, we await the details before discussing the impact on the Council and Children’s Services and what steps have to be taken to ensure that we protect children across the District.
- The murder of Star Hobson and the suffering inflicted on her was shocking and deeply upsetting. The Council, the Police and Health partners have all come together to say how sorry we are for her death and have agreed that we let down Star and the people who loved her. The Bradford Partnership (all agencies in the district involved in the protection of children) has commissioned an independent Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review which is due to be published soon. It is essential that all agencies, including the council, immediately implement any improvements set out in the review so that children are kept safe now and into the future.

Council resolves to:

- Discuss the findings from the Star Hobson Safeguarding Practice Review at Full Council when the report is published and commit to immediately implementing all recommendations from the Safeguarding Practice Review once published.
- Be resolute in our determination to accelerate the speed of improvements to services for our children and to ensure that every child and young person in the Bradford district receives the excellent care and support they need and deserve.
- Work with Government, the Commissioner and the Government Chair of the Improvement Partnership to ensure that improvements are made quickly in Children’s Services.
- Fully support the Director of Children’s Services with the speedy implementation of the new Improvement Plan for Children’s Services which, when achieved, should mean that:
  1. Children and Young People will recognise the Council and its partners as good corporate parents.
  2. Caseloads across all teams continue to reduce.
  3. Retention and progression opportunities for foster carers will reduce the use of Independent Fostering Agencies.
  4. An effective Edge of Care Strategy results in fewer Children in Care.
  5. The workforce plan increases retention and progression.

6. Sufficiency Strategy is effective and responsive to changes/needs.
  7. Leaders have greater understanding of the quality of social work practice.
- Make sure that social workers in the Bradford district are supported to do their best work here.
  - Continue to commit the resources required to enable Children's Services to deal effectively with the growing demographic and cost pressures.
  - Work closely with our partners to improve our practices, data sharing and communication to ensure effective, efficient and compliant processes are in place.
  - Ensure that all assessments are centred on the risks to the child or young person notwithstanding the protected characteristics of the adults involved, recognising that child abuse can happen in every part of society.
  - Enable and encourage professional curiosity in our staff at all times.

### Motion 6 – Children’s Services – Our Number One Priority

Moved by: Councillor Brendan Stubbs

Seconded by: Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

With the deletion and addition of words to read:

This Council notes

- The murder of Star Hobson was a tragedy both shocking and deeply upsetting and worse still it might have been prevented. The serious case review, when published will set out the failing of Bradford Council, Police and Health Services. No apology this Council makes can start to make up for the loss of a young life.
- Since first failing an OFSTED Inspection in October 2018, the Children's Service Department has failed to deliver on its improvement plan, it has repeatedly failed subsequent inspections and has seen the replacement of three senior management teams within the department.
- In reports from OFSTED over the last three and a half years the following phrases have summed up this Council's improvement plan failure. 'Dither and delay' and 'lacking focus and direction'
- The reduction in the budget for Early Help services has been revealed to be one of the worst budget decisions this Council has made. Failure to report Families First work in the district has further cost the Council considerable funding in an area that desperately needs it.
- That Wakefield Council, having been considered to have a failing Children's Service Department in 2018, has recently been judged to provide a good level of service to their children. Their improvement demonstrates the benefit for children in that district that a fast acceptance of failings and full focus on improvement can deliver.
- The Government appointed commissioner has completed his review of Children's services and submitted his report to the Government Minister for their consideration.

This Council resolves to:

- Commit to immediately implementing all recommendations from the Safeguarding Practice Review once published.
- Work with the Government, the Commissioner and the Improvement partnership to deliver substantial, sustained and rapid improvement in Children's Services even if that requires the Council to step back to allow external expertise to ensure delivery.
- Fully support all staff and partner at every levels to deliver the improvements set out in the new improvement plan.
- Regularly review progress and step in when necessary to ensure there is no delay or backsliding in the delivery of improvements. Commit to resource the service to deliver sustained improvement with a greater focus on the early stage intervention for children and families.
- Ensure that Social Workers in Bradford are fully supported to complete their work to the highest standard and enabled to raise concerns and be confident that they are both listened to and that issues are resolved.

- Provide training and direction to staff across all departments of the Council to ensure a wide understanding of the work of children's services, skills and tools to help spot those children who need help and instilling a culture of professional curiosity across the whole Council.
- Ensure that the welfare of the child is the primary focus of all assessments. Vulnerable and abused children can be found in all communities, down any street and in every part of society.
- Demand that every elected member of this Council is compelled to speak up or step aside if it is what is required to ensure that every child in this district is safe, health and cared for.

### Motion (1) – Healthy Homes and Places

To be moved by: Councillor Debbie Davies

Seconded by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

With the addition and removal of the necessary words, the Motion be amended to read as follows:

#### Council notes that:

- The powerful evidence which demonstrates the link between people's homes and their health, wellbeing and life chances.
- That the COVID-19 emergency has reinforced the need for healthy environments which provide space for recreation, children's play and walkable streets.
- That well-designed homes that meet all our resident's needs over their lifetimes can radically reduce costs to NHS and social care budgets.
- That people have a basic right to live in environments free from unacceptable levels of air and noise pollution.
- That homes must be affordable to heat.
- This is a climate emergency. Houses in the UK account for 30 per cent of the UK's total energy use, 27 per cent of UK carbon dioxide emissions and around 24 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. It is therefore more important than ever that new houses are built to zero carbon standards wherever possible.
- That current government policy of permitted development rights allows the conversion (with some restrictions including a minimum floor area and adequate natural light) of disused (for at least three months) retail and office buildings in order to provide much needed housing and to keep our high streets alive in a changing world.
- 

**This council also notes** that these are the Healthy Homes Principles, as promoted by the Town and Country Planning Association:

- all new homes must be safe in relation to the risk of fire;
- all new homes must have, as a minimum, the liveable space required to meet the needs of people over their whole lifetimes, including adequate internal and external storage space;
- all main living areas and bedrooms of a new dwelling must have access to natural light;
- all new homes and their surroundings must be designed to be inclusive, accessible, and adaptable to suit the needs of all;
- all new homes should be built within places that prioritise and provide access to sustainable transport and walkable services, including green infrastructure and play space;
- all new homes must secure radical reductions in carbon emissions in line with the provisions of the Climate Change Act 2008;
- all new homes must demonstrate how they will be resilient to a changing climate over their full lifetime;
- all new homes must be built to design out crime and be secure;
- all new homes must be free from unacceptable and intrusive noise and light pollution;

- all new homes must not contribute to unsafe or illegal levels of indoor or ambient air pollution and must be built to minimise, and where possible eliminate, the harmful impacts of air pollution on human health and the environment, and;
- all new homes must be designed to provide year-round thermal comfort for inhabitants.

**This Council resolves to:**

- Follow the guidelines set out in the Council document “Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home, A Place to Thrive 2020-2030 “which was approved by Full Council in January 2020.

### Motion (1) – Healthy Homes and Places

To be moved by: Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw

Seconded by: Councillor Sarah Ferriby

That with the addition of the following words the motion be amended to read as follows:

This Council notes:

- The powerful evidence which demonstrates the link between people's homes and their health, wellbeing and life chances.
- That the COVID-19 emergency has reinforced the need for healthy environments which provide space for recreation, children's play and walkable streets, reflected in this Council's budget investment of £250,000 in repairing and maintaining our footpaths and rights of way, investing the £1.5m Towns Fund Accelerator Funding in our parks and green spaces, £4m renaturalisation of Bradford Beck project and the integration of blue/green infrastructure in wider transport and landscape schemes such as Transforming Cities and Shipley Streets for People.
- The Healthy Homes Principles, as promoted by the Town and Country Planning Association, cover a wide range of areas including safety and fire risk, quality living space standards, access to natural light, accessibility and adaptability, sustainable transport infrastructure, energy efficiency and climate adaptability, noise, light and air pollution and anti-crime design.
- That current government policy to deregulate planning is creating thousands of substandard homes through conversion of existing buildings into homes without planning permission.

This Council also notes:

- The work undertaken by our Housing team, working with Public Health and Planning colleagues in producing the Housing Strategy (2020-30), which addresses poor quality housing stock, the health impacts from poor quality housing and space standards in new housing.
- The ongoing achievements of our Housing Standards team, working with Public Health, Planning and Building Control as well as partners such as the West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service, to improve the standards of our existing housing stock.
- The Homes and Neighbourhoods Design Guide, produced by Planning working with a wide range of partners and stakeholders including Public Health, Housing, Born in Bradford and Bradford Civic Society, which promotes the creation of sustainable and healthy communities with high design and quality standards.
- The emerging Local Plan includes a new Strategic Policy, 'Creating Healthy Places', developed with colleagues in Public Health as well as a wide range of policies on climate change, green spaces, housing standards, space and accessibility standards as outlined in the Healthy Homes and Places principles.
- The need for Councillors to engage with the Local Plan on more than just housing numbers, to understand the wide range of policy areas it covers including those mentioned in this motion.

This Council resolves to:

- Review the Healthy Homes and Places principles against the existing policies already proposed in the emerging Local Plan for these areas to ensure they align wherever possible.
- Approve the creation of a cross-party Local Plan Reference Group to allow more in-depth discussion of the Local Plan development process beyond the simplistic debate about housing numbers.



### Motion (3) – Elections Bill

To be moved by: Councillor Kyle Green

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and removal of the necessary words, the Motion be amended to read as follows:

Council notes that:

- Between 2010 & 2019 allegations of Electoral Fraud increased by 127%, whilst due to a relative lack of awareness about whether activity might involve electoral fraud offences, reluctance to report allegations of electoral fraud and the difficulty of collecting enough evidence to successfully prosecute suspects, the total number of recorded cases of alleged electoral fraud reported is not an accurate reflection of the scale of electoral fraud in the UK.
- In 2005, having sat through four weeks of evidence proving that thousands of votes were used fraudulently, resulting in the election to Birmingham City Council, of six councillors who were subsequently convicted and disqualified, Mr Richard Mawrey QC, Deputy High Court Judge condemned the then government for being in denial regarding systems allowing “electoral fraud that would disgrace a banana republic”.
- In September 2010, five Bradford men including two former members of Bradford MDC were jailed for a failed attempt to affect the outcome of the election of a Parliamentarian for the Bradford West constituency, via postal vote harvesting.
- In 2014 more than a tenth of the country's electoral fraud allegations came from Bradford, with 15 reports made to police about election-related crimes, including postal vote fraud, assault and intimidation.
- In a 2015 Tower Hamlets election court judgment, Mr Richard Mawrey QC, Deputy High Court Judge, disqualified the Elected Mayor for a number of corrupt and illegal practices, with Former Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Sir Eric Pickles MP, former Leader of Bradford MDC asked to prepare a report on improving the integrity of and public confidence in the conduct of elections.
- In 2016 figures from the Electoral Commission showed that nearly one in five alleged cases of British election fraud the previous year was recorded in West Yorkshire, with Bradford, Keighley and Huddersfield emerging as areas at “higher risk of allegations of electoral fraud”, with the total of incidents across the three centres being higher than London and the West Midlands combined. The commission found that across the country, personation had more than doubled in the previous two years and recommended that “a proof of identity scheme should be developed and implemented for polling station voters in Great Britain to “address the current absence of effective checks against personation and improve public confidence”.
- International organisations such as the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights within the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which observe elections across the world have raised concerns about trust-based

electoral systems and the vulnerabilities to fraud they have seen in the UK's systems.

- In August 2016, Former Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Sir Eric Pickles MP, former Leader of Bradford MDC, published his report containing 50 recommendations to prevent voter registration fraud and error, postal voting fraud, impersonation, intimidation, bribery, treating and undue influence etc.
- Concerns that the introduction of [Individual Electoral Registration](#) would increase exclusion from the electoral register proved unfounded, instead transforming the registration system, increasing its accuracy and performance at the same time as seeing record levels of registration. The introduction of measures contained in the Electoral Integrity Bill, including voter Photo-ID requirements will build on this success, ensuring that the electoral register is as complete and accurate as possible, with the provision for Photo-ID being made readily available for those who do not have a passport, driver's license etc, offering an important protection from exclusion from the democratic process, whilst upholding its integrity.
- Council appreciates the continued, commendable work of Bradford's Electoral Services Department, in its efforts to expand the electoral register by pro-active contact with hard to reach groups.

#### Council resolves

- To urge any local MPs who are not yet supporting the Electoral Integrity Bill to do so, in order to improve public confidence in the accuracy of Municipal and Parliamentary Elections held within the Bradford District and reduce the need for criminal investigations through the prevention of such crimes.

### Motion (3) – Elections Bill

To be moved by: Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe

Seconded by: Councillor Abdul Jabar

That with the addition of the following words the motion be amended to read as follows:

This Council notes that the Elections Bill has passed its third reading in the House of Commons and will now move forward to the Lords. The Bill proposes the introduction of mandatory voter ID, gives government ministers new powers over the independent Electoral Commission and introduces first-past-the-post voting for elected mayors. The government's calculations suggest the scheme will cost the taxpayer up to an additional £180 million per decade to put in place.

Council notes with concern the fears expressed by voters' rights groups that the Bill as drafted will disproportionately exclude poorer and marginalised people from being able to vote. The government's own commissioned research found that those with severely limiting disabilities, the unemployed, people without qualifications and those who had never voted before were all less likely to hold any form of photo ID. Similar research in the US has found that the wealthier you are, the more likely you have ID.

Council believes we should be seeking to increase, not hinder, democratic engagement while maintaining robust, free and fair elections. The maintenance of a properly funded, independent Electoral Commission with power to prosecute is in Bradford's interest as a large local authority, whereas making the Commission subservient to a House of Commons committee controlled by the party of government would seriously undermine the Commission's credibility and capacity to regulate elections.

Council notes the report published in December by the House of Commons Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee which urged the government to pause the passage of the Bill with a view to making it more fit for purpose.

The Council commends the work of Bradford's Electoral Services Department in its efforts to expand the electoral register by proactive contact with hard to reach groups who would be most likely to be discouraged from voting should the Bill become law.

The Council congratulates the police for all the good work they have done in ensuring free and fair elections in Bradford in previous years and continue our good working partnership with them, ensuring all citizens in the district feel confident to vote according to their will.

The Council requests Group Leaders write to the District's MPs expressing these concerns and to members of the House of Lords resident in the Bradford district, urging them to resist the Bill if it should be remitted to peers for approval.

### Motion (4) – Resident Parking Permit Reform

Moved by: Councillor Alun Griffiths

Seconded by: Councillor Brendan Stubbs

with the deletion and addition of words to read:

#### **The Council notes:**

- That the current system of Resident's Parking Permits is in parts not fit for purpose and has caused some residents significant anxiety, stress and concern.
- The current system is cumbersome in certain situations and doesn't provide simplicity for the individual needs of some residents.
- Under the current system contractors or health care visitors etc are needlessly inconvenienced.

#### **The Council resolves:**

- To increase support for those applying for permits, who do not have ready access to the internet, those who are infirm or who have a disability, including offering easy access to paper Parking Permits for residents and visitors.
- To review the application system to make it easier for residents to apply and to simplify provision for contractors and visitors.
- To automatically issue permits to health care workers (community nurses, doctors etc) for use when making domiciliary visits.

### Motion (4) – Resident Parking Permit Reform

To be moved by: Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw

Seconded by: Councillor Abdul Jabar

That with the addition of the following words the motion be amended to read as follows:

The Council notes:

- Virtual permits are increasingly common in Local Authorities across the country and the vast majority of Local Authorities have online application systems.
- The virtual permit system for Bradford Council has been in place for 18 months and the online application process for nearly five years with over 95% of applicants submitting applications and managing their permits online.
- Virtual permits have a number of benefits for the resident including the fact they cannot be lost or stolen and cannot fall off the windscreen resulting in a Penalty Charge Notice that has to be appealed. They are also simpler to enforce so when residents request enforcement activity it is easier and quicker to do.
- There is a full process in place for Health Care Visitors and Contractors and many such workers already have permits. These have been in place for some time and predate the move to virtual permits.
- Digitally restricted residents are supported through the process and can manage their permit via the telephone. To make the process as simple as possible they are allowed ten active visitor registration numbers to be listed, though only one may be at the property at any time as per the wider visitor policy, which is common in many other Local Authorities.
- Residents who have questions or who are concerned about the permit process are encouraged to contact Parking Services direct on 01274 434300 and select 'Option 4' to speak to an operator, who will assist them.

The Council resolves:

- Review the literature issued to residents when a permit scheme is being consulted on and implemented to ensure commonly asked questions are addressed in plain English.
- Review the Parking Services website to ensure the information provided on the different types of permit available is clearly laid out with FAQs and Step by Step guides to aid residents and different users in applying for the relevant permit.

### Motion (5) – Home – School Transport

To be proposed by: Councillor Imran Khan

Seconded by: Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe

Council notes:

- Safeguarding is always our number one priority.
- The Passenger Transport Service (PTS) comprises two discrete service delivery areas: the contracted service and the core fleet service. The contracted service uses 53 approved operators and it commissions 437 home to school contracts transporting approximately 1,200 children with special educational needs and/or physical disabilities every day of the school year. It also commissions 410 social care contracts every day. It is responsible for delivering approximately 475,000 journeys per year, every year.
- The Service supports the mobilisation of the district's most vulnerable and those with the most complex special educational needs and disabilities.
- All staff employed by the service are subject to DBS checks and pre-recruitment checks in line with the statutory guidance 'Keeping children safe in education 2021'.
- Enhanced checks are carried out including spot checks, driver checklist checks, Covid-19 compliance checks, operator base checks and outbound customer service calls are made to 30 families at random every month.
- Immediate and robust action is taken in response to any risk or potential risk that is identified.

Council resolves:

- The Strategic Transport Manager to produce a briefing paper for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee setting out how safeguarding is monitored and managed within home-school contracts.
- The Strategic Transport Manager to produce a paper for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the impact of the changes to the Personal Transport Assistance Budget.
- The PTS to carry out an annual survey as a useful means of gaining more parental views and engagement on the provision of Home to School Transport.

### **Motion (7) – Bradford – Britain’s Biggest Levelling Up Opportunity**

To be moved by: Councillor Rebecca Poulsen

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and removal of the necessary words, the Motion be amended to read as follows:

Council notes that:

- Across Bradford District there is immense potential for growth with a young entrepreneurial workforce ready to embrace opportunity.
- Part of the growth plan involves improving transport links including a plan for a through station on Northern Powerhouse Rail from east to west, which would bring over £167 billion of annual economic output to within a 35 minute journey from central Bradford.
- The West Yorkshire Devolution Deal unlocked more than £1.8 billion for investment in West Yorkshire including better transport and the council is extremely disappointed that the plan for a new Bradford station was not included in the £96 billion Integrated Rail Plan.
- Residents use transport in different ways and want reliable affordable public transport. A number of transport improvements are needed including electrifying the Calder Valley Line and opening up the Skipton to Colne line as well as a new East-West line.
- Proposed plans to improve ticketing and reducing journey times between Leeds and Bradford are welcomed as short term improvements.

Council resolves:

- To work with partners at regional and national levels to investigate funding options for all transport improvements including NPR and a new Bradford station.
- To deliver economic opportunity across the District by fully utilising all regeneration funding including the Towns Fund and Levelling Up.
- Ensuring the workforce across the District has opportunities to gain skills to grasp the regeneration opportunities.

### Motion (8) – Gambling

To be moved by: Councillor Geoff Winnard

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Pollard

With the addition and removal of the necessary words, the Motion be amended to read as follows:

Council notes:

- That over the past 18 months Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee has looked into the issue of gambling-related harm as part of an informal review process.
- Gambling is a leisure activity for many people, with nearly half of adults gambling each month and that the right of adults to decide how to spend their money on legal activities should be respected.
- The gambling industry also makes significant contributions to the economy, employing nearly 100,000 people paying circa £3 Billion pounds in taxes to the UK Government
- That much of the gambling industry is regulated at a national level through the Gambling Act 2005
- In December 2020 the Government launched a national call for evidence on a review of gambling legislation to make sure that it is fit for the digital age, including looking at how to ensure there is an equitable approach to the regulation of the online and high street based gambling.
- The date of the formal national call for evidence in the gambling review expired in March 2021 and any recommendations to government regarding national policy should have been submitted before, not after the deadline
- That there are essential public health elements to any discussion of problem gambling and welcomes that the Department for Health and Social Care is working to expand and improve the treatment of gambling-related harms and addiction.
- The continued importance of regulations and other initiatives aimed at preventing exploitation of vulnerable people and children and families from effects of gambling-related harm and crime.
- Government estimates that rates of problem gambling in the UK has reduced from 0.6% to 0.3% over recent years.
- The Government will publish a White Paper, setting out its next steps, in due course.

Council resolves to:

- Await publication of the White Paper, then decide on any appropriate local policies etc. to be worked up by officers to compliment national policy.