

# Public Document Pack



## 16. **ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR COUNCIL**

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This document contains the following –

**Agenda Item 4** – Lord Mayor’s Announcements

**Agenda Item 10** – Report by the Leader of the Council

**Agenda Item 11** – Questions to the Leader and Portfolio Holders -  
Questions together with respective answers

**Amendments to Motions** (Green)

THIS AGENDA AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER

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**COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2022**

This document contains the following –

- Agenda Item 4** Lord Mayor’s Announcements
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Questions together with respective answers

**Amendments to Motions (Green)**

Committee Secretariat  
Contact: Guy Close (07811) 503906

**CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**MEETING OF COUNCIL – TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2022**  
**ITEM 4 WRITTEN ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR**

**VISIT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING**

I am sure that, like me, many across the district were proud and delighted that His Majesty King Charles III visited Bradford on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

This visit, so early in the new monarch's reign, was hugely welcome and provided the opportunity to show Bradford in its very best light.

Crowds greeted His Majesty's arrival in Centenary Square, which had been heralded by the stirring and distinctive Bradford sounds of the City of Bradford Brass Band and Punjabi Roots Academy playing the dhol drums.

In City Hall, the King met a number of exceptional local young leaders who are excelling in the fields of business, media and culture, sport and in community work and the interaction was wonderful to witness.

I would like to thank everyone across the Council who contributed to ensuring the visit was the great success that it was, especially given that the arrangements were made at very short notice, with contracted timescales.

**ENGLAND'S T20 CRICKET WORLD CUP WIN**

I would like to offer our congratulations to Adil Rashid and Harry Brook on their part in England's T20 Cricket World Cup win on Sunday 13 November 2022.

Keighley-born Harry who grew up in Burley-in-Wharfedale and Adil from the Heaton area of the city, played a crucial part in England's victory over Pakistan in the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia.

Both are also outstanding role models for our young people and our communities right across the Bradford District.

**ANNUAL CITY CAROL SERVICE**

The very popular annual Carols for the City service is to take place on Monday 19th December 2022 at 6:00pm in Bradford Cathedral.

This is a wonderful, festive gathering in the splendid surroundings of the Cathedral, with the service led by the organ and choir of Bradford Cathedral and the City of Bradford Brass Band.

The event is free to book and you are invited to give a donation as you leave. Please use this link <https://bradfordcathedral.churchsuite.com/events/ubbluy3t> , or visit the 'What's On' page on the Cathedral website, to reserve your place(s).

## **SEASON'S GREETINGS**

I would like to extend warm greetings of the season to all Members and Officers of the Council. I wish you a Christmas filled with comfort, joy and hope and, lying ahead, a happy and healthy New Year.

I am enormously grateful for the support given by elected Members and Officers to the Lord Mayor's Appeal during our first six months.

Might I also remind you that if Father Christmas' deliveries this year fail in any way to live up to your expectations, my Lord Mayor's Appeal office will be very happy to 'recycle' your unwanted items by way of tombolas, raffles and auctions in the New Year. Our Appeal Co-ordinator, Emma Walker, will be very pleased to receive any items which are surplus to your requirements.

The money raised is for Bradford Hospitals' Charity – Bradford's Big Neonatal Appeal, which is a magnificent cause and one which I hope I can rely on you to also support, wherever you can, into the New Year.

Please enjoy the Christmas holidays safely with your loved ones.

### *Distribution:*

Lord Mayor (Cllr Martin Love)

Chief Executive (Kersten England)

Director of Legal and Governance (Asif Ibrahim)

Head of Governance (Mandy Hill)

Acting Civic Affairs Manager (Joanne Gleeson)

Governance, Security & Members' Support Manager (Guy Close)

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

PA to the Leader of Council (Majella O'Malley)

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

## **Agenda item 10 - Leader's Report (December 2022)**

### **Northern Powerhouse Rail**

With the dislocation in national Government over the last year there has been mixed messaging about the Government's intentions towards Bradford and Northern Powerhouse Rail. Liz Truss was clear that Bradford would be a stop on Northern Powerhouse Rail and then Grant Shapps, former Transport Secretary and now Business Secretary contradicted her soon after she left office. On a more positive note Huw Merriman MP, the former Transport Select Committee Chair and now the new Rail Minister, was clear on his visit to Bradford and in his subsequent report that there needed to be a solution to connect Bradford with mainline railways. Given his new role, we are now seeking a meeting with him to progress the conversation and see what can be achieved.

We have been clear that Government does not have to commit to all the spending required on Northern Powerhouse Rail right away. However anything they do now should not prevent us completing the North's ambitions for Northern Powerhouse Rail right across the Pennines in the future. The electrification of the line between Leeds and Bradford with a price tag of £500 million should be seen as an opportunity to further Bradford's plans in this regard.

### **Bus Recovery Grant**

The West Yorkshire Mayor is lobbying hard for the Bus Recovery Grant to be extended to sustain services beyond the end of March next year. We know from the previous threats from Government to remove this subsidy that the bus operators will not hesitate to cut services if they do not have the grant to maintain them. This would particularly effect our rural communities. We are hoping that Government will make a positive decision to keep the grant in place by the end of January and will continue to lobby them to make sure they realise the importance of this investment in local services.

### **Levelling Up Bids**

We have four Levelling Up bids in with Government being considered for investment currently:

- Bradford South – a £50m bid to transform the Odsal stadium area.
- Bradford East – a £20m bid to transform three community centres into wellbeing hubs.
- Keighley – a £20m bid to unlock Brownfield sites for industrial development, make improvements to Keighley and Worth Valley Railway and create a new advanced robotics training centre
- Shipley – a £14.4m bid to re-open Bingley swimming pool, creating a modern leisure facility

As a Council we have invested considerable officer time and resource in making sure each of these bids is the best it can be. These bids have to compete nationally with other bids. Each constituency in the country is entitled to put in a Levelling Up

bid, regardless of their deprivation indices. Government promised a decision on these in October or November time. We are now hoping a positive decision will be made for the district before Christmas.

### **Chief Executive of the Children's Trust appointed**

We are pleased to welcome Charlotte Ramsden OBE, to lead the Children's Trust. She will start in February. Charlotte is currently Salford City Council's Strategic Director for People, a directorate that includes Children's and Adult Services as well as Public Health.

Charlotte has developed and led integrated multi-agency services for children and families involving close partnerships with all key organisations. She has also been responsible for statutory social work provision in two different authorities, both of which have been judged "Good" by Ofsted. Charlotte took on the additional role of Director of Adult Social Services in June 2015.

Charlotte is the Immediate Past President of the Association of Directors of Children's Services. As the 2021/22 President Charlotte was at the forefront of ADCS's activities, leading on key areas of priority for ADCS in policy discussions with the Department for Education and other government departments, plus working with other partner organisations.

### **Scarlet Fever and Strep A**

Nationally notifications of scarlet fever to UKHSA have been above the levels expected for this time of the year. So far this season there have also been 6 recorded deaths within 7 days of an invasive GAS diagnosis in children under 10 in England. This rare and severe disease usually follows from scarlet fever cases. There is no evidence that a new strain is circulating. The increase is most likely related to high amounts of circulating bacteria and social mixing.

**Scarlet fever** - Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection, usually mild but highly infectious. It is caused by a bacteria called group A streptococcus (GAS) which also causes sore throat and impetigo. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting, followed by a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel. The rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, but the sandpapery feel will usually be present. Other common symptoms are flushed cheeks, pallor around the mouth and a 'strawberry-like' tongue.

Parents should contact NHS 111 or their GP if they suspect a child has scarlet fever, because early treatment of scarlet fever with antibiotics reduces the risk of complications such as pneumonia or a bloodstream infection. Children with scarlet fever should stay at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others. They can return to school/nursery after 24h of antibiotic use if they do not have a fever anymore.

**Invasive group A Strep infection** - In very rare occasions, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive Group A strep (iGAS). The initial signs of iGAS are the same as other severe infectious diseases. As a parent or teacher, if you feel that a child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement and seek urgent medical advice.

### **COVID Update**

Cases of Covid-19 and admissions relating to Covid-19 within the District are following what is being seen nationally, with rates and admissions both going down. The District is currently seeing on average 19 confirmed cases per day and between 11 - 23 admissions per day. Currently hospitals are coping with the demand but are facing unprecedented additional pressure from winter illnesses. The current 7-day infection rate for Bradford District is 24 per 100,000 population compared to the England average of 41 per 100,000 population and Bradford has the 307<sup>th</sup> highest rate compared to the other authorities in the country. The COVID booster programme and flu vaccination programme is currently being rolled out but the uptake of the COVID Booster is lower than we would want to see.



## COUNCIL

Tuesday 13 December 2022

### MEMBER QUESTION TIME – PART 1

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

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##### 1. Councillor Caroline Firth

Now the police have confirmed the disappointing news that Keighley police station will not be moving into the centre of the town, what does this mean for the future of the site and will it relate to the much-needed Health and Wellbeing Centre in any way?

##### Response

I share your disappointment that the police station will no longer be moving into the town centre. We worked hard with the police to try find a solution that worked but sadly this proved not to be possible and the police have decided to redevelop their existing site.

The former Keighley College sites on North / Cavendish Street were made available to the Bradford District from a central government department on the basis that they would be redeveloped for employment use to deliver regeneration to Keighley town centre. The sites are both brownfield, previously developed land. It has been a long held ambition of the Council to develop these sites for the benefit of the community and provision of jobs and public services.

The larger of the two sites was included as a project within the Towns Fund for a much needed Community Health and Wellbeing Centre. Health indicators show clear health inequalities within Keighley that align with deprivation indicators. The Health and Wellbeing Centre is crucial to achieving this vision and the long term success of the town; it seeks to address health inequalities and deprivation which are significant barriers to employment and will bring a brownfield site into use in the heart of the town, supporting wider town centre regeneration with £3.4 million of Towns Fund investment into a wider partnership development of £20 million. It will also consolidate over 200 jobs into the town centre, 50 of them newly created.

The Community Health and Wellbeing Centre has been designed as a standalone project and hence can be delivered as a discrete development on the larger North Street site. It is not reliant in any way upon a co-occupant or the development of the adjacent smaller site on Cavendish Street.

In light of the Police's decision not to pursue this location, we will explore other options for the site that fulfil the remit of the original Government agreement, providing regeneration to the town centre while, as with all our projects, maximising landscaping and public realm.

## **2. Councillor Mike Pollard**

In light of the identification of Diphtheria, which is highly contagious and can be fatal, in former residents of the Manston Migrant Processing Centre, would the Portfolio Holder for Healthy People and Places be so kind as to confirm what proactive measures the council has in place regarding collaboration with Together Housing, the local NHS and CCGs etc to expeditiously identify serious infections such as HIV, antibiotic resistant TB and diphtheria etc in migrants, who have or are allocated accommodation within the Bradford District?

### **Response**

First of all, the way the Government has handled the crisis at Manston has been shocking. The Council of Europe's Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment Committee carried out a visit to Manston in November and the Government is also facing a judicial review on the conditions there.

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is managing the increase in cases of diphtheria amongst asylum seekers in England this year, with many cases being identified following dispersal from triage centres. They are responsible for case management and contact tracing, and provision of infection prevention and control advice.

The primary assessment of the individual health needs of individuals that arrive at Bradford District is done by the NHS. Bevan House is the NHS General Practice commissioned to offer services for people who have come to Bradford as refugees or seeking asylum. As part of their routine assessment they offer vaccinations (including Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus) and refer suspect cases for TB screening and offer or refer to the sexual health clinic for those individuals with signs or symptoms of STIs and HIV.

The Council's public health, adult social care and housing support teams work alongside UKHSA and the NHS/HCP to assess the health, social care and safeguarding needs of any individuals arriving at Bradford as refugees or asylum seekers. We have a regional agreement in place regarding roles and responsibilities for the NHS and LA in responding to situations with asylum seekers or refugees. We also have an updated Memorandum of Understanding with NHS, HCP and UKHSA which outlines contingency resources, communication pathways and emergency funding arrangements to deal with any public health emergencies and incidents.

We will continue to work alongside the NHS and UKHSA to assess and manage any public health risks arising from migrant populations in line with our statutory health protection role.

## **3. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

Following the observations reported in the Telegraph and Argus that more children are switching to packed lunches of "leftover burgers or cold food" and the Chair of the Food Standards Agency being worried that the cost-of-living

crisis is in danger of "turning into a public health crisis" will the Leader of Council go further than just inspect the quality of food on offer to those children able to access a hot meal at school and make sure that all children of primary school age have a free school meal at lunch-time?

### **Response**

I wholeheartedly support the national campaign for every child to have access to a free school meal and the Labour party has already committed to providing a free breakfast for every child through breakfast clubs, in so doing also greatly improving the childcare offer for children and their parents which is so desperately needed for many families.

As a country whilst rolling out free meals we also need to focus on the quality of meals and providing for individual choice. In Key Stage 1, despite all children qualifying for a free school meal, there are over 20% of meals not taken up both nationally and locally. There are many reasons why children bring in packed lunches, for many children it may be that they want to sit next to their friend who also takes in a packed lunch or for others that they feel it will give them more time to get out and play. Our Facilities Management Catering do offer a "fill your own lunchbox" service for children who prefer a packed lunch option.

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

Following the coroner's verdict that the tragic death of Awaab Ishak eight days after his second birthday in Rochdale from chronic exposure to mould in his home, what is Bradford Council doing to ensure that a similar avoidable death does not happen in social or private housing in our district?

### **Response**

We are sending a report to the SoS for DLUHC by the end of January, setting out how the Council is prioritising this work and detailing previous enforcement activity relating to damp and mould, to include;

- how many damp and mould hazards have been remediated, compared to the assessment of the prevalence of these hazards;
- how many times the council has taken enforcement action to remedy damp and mould hazards and the form this has taken;
- how many civil penalty notices have been issued in relation to non-compliance with enforcement action over damp and mould hazards; and
- how many prosecutions have been successfully pursued in relation to damp and mould hazards.

The Council is also required to set out how it is prioritising enforcement of housing standards more generally within the district, across all tenures, including what plans there are to ensure adequate enforcement capacity to drive up standards in the private rented sector.

The vast majority of social and private housing in the district is not owned by the Council and therefore the action of the Regulator for Social Housing (RSH) in writing to all social housing providers asking them to complete a survey / questionnaire by the 19th of December addressing a number of matters relating to the approach to damp and mould issues, is also important to note.

As Leader I have already had a meeting with the biggest social landlord in the district, Incommunities where I raised this issue.

The Council is itself a stock holder of 402 homes, some of which are managed by Incommunities and some by Mears Plexus. The stock is less than 15 years old and the bulk have been designed and constructed to higher levels of energy efficiency, above the standard building regulations.

The Council will be responding itself to the Regulator for Social Housing by the 19th December.

The Council has resolved to make contact with all social housing providers to request copies of the information that they will be providing to the RSH to improve our knowledge and information on the social landlords.

Regarding the PRS, the Council's Housing Operations Service (Housing Standards Team) deals with housing standards and assesses properties in disrepair in the rented sector (social and private), taking enforcement action where necessary. The approach to complaints relating to damp and mould has been revised with a greater intervention at an earlier stage and information for tenants has been reviewed. Despite officers being experienced and dealing with these issues daily, refresher and consistency training has been arranged for all Environmental Health Officers to ensure that approaches and responses are robust and consistent.

The Service is liaising with all social landlords to ensure that the correct and most up to date details are held for them so that action is directed correctly and dealt with swiftly.

The Housing Service will be reviewing joint working arrangements with Children's Services with a view to stronger joined up working and better outcomes for children.

A communication strategy will be implemented to ensure the details of the Housing Standards Team are circulated and publicised widely within the NHS, etc to ensure that GPs, Health Visitors, Social Workers, etc. are aware of where to direct concerns relating to children that are thought to be at risk from the presence of damp and mould in their home.

## **5. Councillor Sabiya Khan**

I was very moved to witness Kevin Sinfield's heroic MND charity fundraising efforts as he passed through Bradford City's ground last month, it was a really poignant occasion. Will the Leader join me in thanking Bradford City football club for supporting this important cause?

## **Response**

The University of Bradford Stadium (Valley Parade) was delighted to welcome Kevin Sinfield at the end of Day 6 of his "Ultra 7 in 7 Challenge" raising funds for his great friend Rob Burrow, and Motor Neurones Disease.

This epic challenge saw Kevin run 7 ultra-marathons running from Edinburgh and culminating at half time at the Rugby League World Cup Final in Manchester.

The people of Bradford district were delighted to cheer Kevin on as he reached the city on his way to raising in excess of £1.5 million for MND.

## **6. Councillor Caroline Firth**

The new Christmas lights in Keighley town centre look great this year. How much has Bradford Council invested on renewing the Christmas lights in Keighley?

## **Response**

I've been really pleased to see the positive outcome from our additional investment in the improved Christmas lights for Keighley. We took the decision a couple of years ago to increase the budget by £10,000 to support the renewal of lights in the town centre and this has been rolled over so that the fantastic new tree could be purchased. The new display includes 10 'white cross-street' features on Cavendish Street and North Street and the illuminated cone tree on Church Green that can be programmed to change colour for different events and seasons. It's wonderful to see and it's great that they've been getting good feedback from residents.

## **7. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

Will the Leader of Council commit to engaging directly with all the Town and Parish Councils in our district regarding the City of Culture 2025, to ensure that we use their local knowledge of our heritage and cultural assets and networks to help develop a wide range of cultural events and a long lasting cultural legacy across the whole district?

## **Response**

Bradford District Council is fully committed to engaging our Town and Parish Councils to make sure they are engaged and connected within our year of Culture. Indeed the Project Director and the Creative Director of the City of Culture team have already visited Baildon and Bingley Town Councils to talk about the opportunities that City of Culture brings and other dates for other Parish and Town Councils are planned.

## **8. Councillor Arshad Hussain**

Will the Leader join me in saying well done to the men's England cricket team after their success at the T20 World Cup – in particular Adil Rashid and Harry Brook for doing our district proud.

## **Response**

Bradford Council is delighted at the success of the England T20 team in winning the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia beating Pakistan, in particular two residents of the district, Adil Rashid and Harry Brook who both played a key role in England's victory. Active Bradford created a [video](#) incorporating congratulations messages from key people from across the district.

### **9. Councillor Bev Mullaney**

As the country experiences a terrible cost of living crisis and many families struggle with the cost of food, can the Leader confirm if we support the campaign to extend free school meals for all children?

#### **Response**

Absolutely yes we do. I have personally backed the national campaign for universal free school meals which would have a significant positive impact for children in our district. Nationally the Labour party has also committed to ensuring every primary school child has access to a free breakfast as the first step on the road to the modern childcare system this country desperately needs. A future Labour government has committed to delivering the most ambitious school improvement programme for a generation with fully funded measures including through changes to the tax system such as ending tax breaks for private schools. Every child deserves the full opportunity to fulfil their potential, whatever their background, and providing universal free school meals is a step towards that goal.

### **10. Councillor Zafar Ali**

In light of the fact that numerous highways and footpaths in and around Keighley are regularly full of tree leaves, often causing gullies to be blocked and placing pedestrians at risk of falling or colliding with vehicles whilst avoiding paths strewn with leaves, would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport confirm that an additional sweeper be allocated to the Keighley area?

#### **Response**

The issue of the clearing of leaf fall is faced by communities across the Bradford District. Sweeper resources have been allocated to each area according to the level of need and demand. The resources available to the Keighley Clean Teams are also towards streets where they are most needed. It's also worth pointing out that there is some great community spirit in our district and no doubt all of us have great neighbours who help with small tasks like this near our own homes. We can all play our part in keeping gullies clear and if we see that our local gully is covered with leaves a quick sweep can save significant staff time and resource. Keeping our streets clean, tidy and open for play and business is also a job that cuts across the council's different departments – for example please note that street sweepers come under our waste and street cleaning teams in the Healthy People and Places portfolio.

### **11. Councillor Susan Knox**

Will the portfolio holder join me in welcoming the £1 million pound investment by the Arts Council in the Museum service in Bradford and the awarding of 'Portfolio status' Furthermore, can the Portfolio holder describe for residents in Eccleshill what this will mean for the Industrial Museum, particularly in terms of future investment and improvements that they can expect to see?

### **Response**

This is really good news and the Arts Council funding will support us to work towards the priorities, and deliver against specific elements, from the Creative People and Cultural Communities outcomes in Arts Council England's 'Let's Create' Strategy. Whilst Arts Council funding (NPO) does not fund capital work improvements to museums it will enable a three year (2023-26) museum development programme that will focus on the co-creation and engagement opportunities delivered in partnership and tailored to the needs of Bradford communities. In year one (2023-24) Bradford Museums & Galleries will focus on community engagement and consolidating delivery partnerships. Delivery will focus on experimentation and testing, consultations and trying out new approaches with target audiences, and evaluation. Bradford Industrial Museum will be one venue hosting an ambitious and responsive offer for families and young children in addition to benefitting from a volunteering programme developing employability skills, confidence, and work experience; expanding young peoples' creativity and influencing how gallery spaces look and feel, including new perspectives on interpretation of the collections and what stories we tell.

### **12. Councillor Kevin Warnes**

Will the Leader of Council ensure that Bradford's Sustainable Development Partnership publishes full details of all its work streams, meetings, outcomes and actions, including agendas, minutes and decisions?

### **Response**

Details of the aims, objectives and work streams of the Bradford's Sustainable Development Partnership are currently available on the Bradford Council Website <https://bdp.bradford.gov.uk/about-us/sustainable-development-partnership-sdp/>

In addition, officers are currently working with all Bradford Partnership Board to develop plans to publish and make available electronically both agendas and minutes for meetings, this is expected to go live in the early part of 2023.

### **13. Councillor Nazam Azam**

It's been great to see One City Park being built so quickly. How is the project proceeding and what interest have we had from potential end users of the building?

### **Response**

The One City Park project is progressing well on site and the anticipated Practical Completion (Taking-Over of the Works) date remains as Q3 2023. The steel frame and metal deck flooring are well progressed and current active works on site include the reinforcement and concrete pours for the upper floors.

The building will create 56,403 sq ft of high quality grade A office space over five floors with a roof terrace on the top floor. The building offers flexible floor plans that can adapt to more agile working practices that promote well-being. One City Park will also feature a range of green design elements including high-performance glazing, photovoltaic panels, air source heat pumps, electric car charging points and a secure cycle storage and changing facilities to encourage workers to take more sustainable and healthier modes of transport. When completed and occupied it will provide hundreds of jobs to the city centre.

One City Park launched to market earlier this year with commercial agents Colliers and Knight Frank retained as Joint Agents for the marketing and securing of occupants. We have received an encouraging response from the market and the two Agents are actively working on a number of positive enquiries.

The scheme also has a website (<https://onecitypark.com>) and social media channels which are updated regularly with updates

Twitter: @OneCityParkBFD

Instagram: /OneCityParkBFD

LinkedIn: OneCityParkBFD

#### **14. Councillor Aneela Ahmed**

Darley Street Market is making great progress and will provide a fantastic opportunity for the many entrepreneurs across Bradford and beyond. What interest has there been from potential traders in taking up space in the new market?

#### **Response**

Following the start of works on site we have received over 250 responses from potential retailers who registered their interest to receive the stall leasing pack.

In June this year we announced the launch of our stall application process with 141 formal applications received for the 79 stalls available over the three trading halls. The applications received were not only from existing traders but also new traders from Bradford, Leeds, Yorkshire and beyond, which is a positive sign of retailer confidence in the new market.

We expect the market will be fully let when opening and will be announcing the traders that have been selected to trade in the new market shortly.

#### **15. Councillor Andrew Loy**



Can the Leader of the Council confirm how government support to help Ukrainian refugees and the families hosting them under the Homes for Ukraine scheme is utilised and detail any additional support that the council offering?

### **Response**

As part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme, Local Authorities are asked to carry out certain checks including property, DBS and Safeguarding. Part of the monetary support received from the government is used to fund the fees and staffing costs for these tasks.

Local Authorities are also instructed to pay each guest an interim payment of £200 to cushion the delay between applying for benefits and receiving them. Again, this is taken from the payment to the LA.

The Council has commissioned Horton Housing to provide wraparound support to people who arrive under the Homes for Ukraine scheme. Horton Housing are asked to make contact once a month, assist with applications for benefits, schools, bank accounts, NI numbers and anything else the guest may need. They also help with GP registrations. The contract includes ESOL lessons and assistance with job searches as well as housing assistance when somebody is ready to look for longer term housing. In addition, we ask them to do orientation work. They also act as mediators wherever possible and report any safeguarding issues.

We have recently hosted and funded an evening for the host to thank them and encourage them to remain committed as hosts until the guests wish to move on into alternative accommodation.

We are using some of the payment to fund grants to assist the existing local Ukrainian community to support the guests with orientation but also preservation of their own language and culture.

As some hosts are no longer able to keep the guests for more than the 6 months (up to a maximum 12 months) they signed up for, we have put together a Move On Package which is designed to assist HFU guests to purchase items associated with setting up home once they have secured a tenancy. This scheme will be launched as soon as possible. Those who have already moved will also receive these payments. These funds are restricted by Government to those who have arrived here under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme only.

### **16. Councillor Kausar Mukhtar**

I understand the Saltaire Active Travel Neighbourhood (ATNs) has now been implemented with positive feedback from residents. What can the Portfolio Holder tell us about an ATN being planned for Tong and indeed elsewhere in the district?

### **Response**

The Saltaire ATN is currently part way through a six month trial which ends in March 2023. During the trial we are keeping schemes under constant review and

will conduct a detailed assessment in March 2023 which will include feedback from residents and local businesses. A decision on the permanency of the features will be made after the findings of this review are known. Operational changes may occur as a direct result of the feedback.

The Council is undertaking further ATN consultations with communities at three locations in the district (Holmewood South, Manningham and Keighley Central). Initial drop in session have been undertaken in each of the communities to ask communities what the issues are in the areas relating to traffic, general safety and issues that discourage active travel. Alongside this, online maps have been created on the Let's Talk Bradford consultation portal [Bradford Active Travel Neighbourhoods \(ATNs\) | Let's Talk Bradford District](#) and ward officers have been asking the local community to post any further comments. Attendees of the drop ins and those accessing the Let's Talk portal are asked if they would be interested in co designing the schemes at workshops to be held in January. Following these workshops the ATN measures will be developed checking the feasibility of the measures proposed and check whether emergency services and refuse services have any issues with what is proposed. The proposed scheme will be fed back to ward members and the co design participants for comment before the details of the proposed scheme are presented to the local community.

#### **17. Councillor Paul Godwin**

The Council has announced Development Frameworks for areas across the district, including Keighley, Shipley and Holme Wood. What can the Portfolio Holder tell us about them and the consultation currently ongoing and what role can local councillors play in this process?

#### **Response**

The council has commissioned the creation of Development Frameworks with the aim of encouraging long term investment into the District over the next 20 years. The frameworks will cover the whole district, but it will focus more specifically on the city and town centres as the areas with most regeneration potential. The work is currently at an early stage with consultants reviewing previous consultations and related work (such as the Towns Fund). It is expected to complete Summer 2023.

The council is currently inviting developers, businesses, landowners, and members of the public to tell us their thoughts on their community and the challenges and opportunities they face. These will then feed into the plans as they are developed before a second consultation in the spring looking at specific ideas and options.

Three special websites have been set up so people can offer their idea and opinions:

For Bradford visit <http://letstalk.bradford.gov.uk/development-framework-for-bradford>

For Keighley and Ilkley visit <http://letstalk.bradford.gov.uk/development-framework-for-keighley>

For Shipley and Bingley visit <http://letstalk.bradford.gov.uk/development-framework-for-shipley>

This initial consultation closes 21 December 2022.

Local councillors may wish to encourage take up and participation of the initial consultation. Councillors will also be invited to geographically focused 'sounding boards' in the new year to give them an opportunity to provide views and feedback. Later in the spring there will be wider public engagement on recommended interventions and councillors local skills and knowledge will be helpful in facilitating conversations and feeding into the process at this stage.

### **18. Councillor Falak Ahmed**

Further to a 17-year-old girl being sexually assaulted on a bus from Leeds to Keighley whilst it was passing through Rodley and Greengates in Bradford and this not being the first incident of its kind and probably not the last, can the Leader of Council join me in firstly, condemning such actions against women and secondly confirm what measures Bradford Council have taken / will take to ensure the safety of women on public transport and the streets of Bradford?

### **Response**

I condemn all violence against women and girls in the strongest possible terms. Bradford Council working with partners locally, regionally and nationally are taking a wide range of measures to help keep women and girls safe - both in their homes and wherever they may choose to go in our communities.

Our Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV) Teams lead a range of pioneering work much of which is contained in our local strategy. The strategy explains how professional organisations in our district will come together to ensure adults, children and young people can live free from the harm caused by domestic abuse and sexual violence, in all its forms.

As a Council we have worked in partnership with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and have bid successfully for funding from the 'Safety of Women at Night' and 'Safer Streets' fund to help improve safety for women and girls across the district.

The Safer Streets Funding will generate improved levels of capable guardianship around the night time economy through night time mobile 'Safe Space' pilots, Street Marshals/Taxi Marshals. The late night marshals provide a mobile/ on foot service for vulnerable people on an evening and late at night within the City centre to support those who are vulnerable and may need advice and support. The unit will operate from 9pm until 3am over 48 weekends.

The presence of Marshals will help women travel home safely or they will be offered support at a 'Safe Space' location in the city centre.

The Safer Streets funding this year will also develop a male behaviour change campaign that will be promoted within bus stations, on the bus network and with groups who are frequent bus users, such as college age young people.

In addition, the Safe Spot is a district-wide programme run by the Council's DASV Team which offers an empathetic and supportive response to victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence. It comprises several physical locations across the district that victims can access. The victim will be provided with a private room and a phone so they can contact either local or national helplines for support, or speak confidentially to their family and friends.

'Ask for Angela' is the name of a campaign in England that started in 2016 that is used by bars and other venues to keep people safe from sexual assault by using a code word to identify when they are in danger or are in an uncomfortable situation. When an establishment uses this program, a person who believes themselves to be in danger can 'Ask for Angela', a fictitious member of the staff. They will then be supported, taken to a private area and helped to get home if necessary.

To date, approximately 35 premises in Bradford are supporting the scheme and it is also being rolled out in Keighley, Bingley, Ilkley and Haworth.

The 'Safety of Women at Night' fund has supported a new 'Pub Watch' scheme and the monthly meetings are very well attended by around 30 businesses. This communication is helping increase the safety of our venues and the additional 'Best Bar None' scheme is an accreditation that evidences a venue is well run, with well trained staff and there are a number of venues now ready for accreditation audits.

This funding has also supported campaign work at Bradford College to show a united front to stamp out unwelcomed sexual behaviour and harassment. With this, Bradford College has created its very own 'VAWG pledge'. The electronic format can be utilised across all IT and college equipment and be displayed on monitors across all campuses.

The safety of women and girls work is a partnership approach and Bradford Police are leading a number of initiatives and have set-up an 'Independent Advisory Group' for women and girls to help guide developments in this area. The police have designed a 'NIGHT OUT SAFETY GUIDE' for women with advice on how to keep safe, reporting routes. The guide is designed to be kept in pockets or hand bags.

Safer Streets funding has supported improvements aimed at making two of our district parks safer for women and girls. Work has taken place in Eccleshill Park and Horton Park to improve lighting, remove and reduce shrubbery and create new activities targeted at women and girls such as cycling. In addition, a play area has been improved to increase its use by families. This has been communicated locally via social media including new Facebook groups for the parks.

Bradford Council's DASV team recently launched a new website to support victims, friends and families, perpetrators and professionals who are affected by or work in domestic abuse and sexual violence - [www.bradford-dasv.co.uk](http://www.bradford-dasv.co.uk).

In addition, the DASV team launched a district wide campaign to raise awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence (#NoNo).

Through the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's Bus Service Improvement Partnership they are investing in more PCSOs on our travel network.

### **19. Councillor Mohsin Hussain**

Can the Portfolio Holder provide an update on the Towns Fund programmes in Keighley and Shipley, particularly around the new grant programmes that have launched such as the Capital Assistance Grant fund?

#### **Response**

The Capital Assistance to Business Growth programme provides funding to support businesses to grow.

Through our engagement with local businesses over the last few years, we know they have been operating in a changing market and that many have identified a need to modernise or diversify to be more successful or competitive. The aim of these business grants is to accelerate business growth and stimulate new job creation. The funding is available for businesses to either expand, bring unused space back into use, increase productivity, create new businesses, safeguard existing jobs and/or create new jobs.

The Growth Programme was officially launched in November 2022, with launch events held in Keighley and Shipley and was attended by over 60 local businesses. There are a number of applications that are in the final stages of approval which will allow businesses to grow, for example by purchasing engineering equipment or to extend their premises. An announcement will be made as soon as the grants are officially awarded, early in the new year.

### **20. Councillor Mohsin Hussain**

Bradford Council-run Cliffe Castle won yet another award recently – this time from Yorkshire In Bloom. What plans and investments are in the pipeline for Christmas and in 2023 for this fantastic resource for Keighley?

#### **Response**

Bradford Council congratulates all those involved in Cliffe Castle Park being awarded the Winner of the best overall Park in Yorkshire 2022.

On 5 December the Park hosted a very successful launch of the BMDC culture and Cliffe Castle support group match funded Photosynthesis exhibition; complete with Festive band concert and a performance by the community Rock Choir.

Cliffe Castle officers will carry on working alongside all members of the Keighley Community to co-develop events, activities and improvements to ensure that Cliffe meets the needs of the neighbourhoods it serves.

Arts Council NPO funds a museum development programme that will focus on the co-creation and engagement opportunities delivered in partnership and tailored to the needs of Bradford communities. In year one (2023-24) Bradford Museums & Galleries will focus on community engagement and consolidating delivery partnerships. Cliffe Castle will be one venue providing an ambitious and responsive offer for families and young children in Keighley.

The school programme at Cliffe Castle continues to grow in number post-covid and by the end of this academic year should see us achieving school visits at pre-pandemic levels. The programme at Cliffe Castle focusses on science focusing on the Stone Age, Rocks and Fossils and biodiversity. A strong attraction is the opportunity for children to take part in an archaeological dig.

The learning team are now turning their attention towards the development of a strong offer for families. This aligns well with our planned ambition around becoming a National Portfolio Organisation from April 2023. The first work towards increased family programming, will be a themed February half-term programme, called 'We Built this City' focussed on inventors and inventions.

Officers are working to link the active travel neighbourhood planned for Lawkholme up to Cliffe Castle via the development of a walking route.

## **21. Councillor Debbie Davies**

As, following on from the ride but no park announcement for the Manchester Road scheme, we now have another half a scheme which scraps the widening of Canal Road but leaves in active travel measures, can the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport confirm that cars will still be able to use the Keighley Road / Manningham Lane route as an alternative to reach the city centre as they do now and how much money is being saved by this change?

### **Response**

Inflation has increased at such a high rate that a re-profiling of scheme priorities was required by the Combined Authority due to the fact there was no increase in funding from the Government to counteract the increase. There has never been any suggestion cars would not be able to travel along the Keighley Road / Manningham Lane route after any of the potential works took place. The proposals for the Bradford to Shipley Route Improvement Scheme have been impacted by both increasing construction price inflation as well as the introduction of a range of updated national policies since the project's Outline Business Case approval in 2019. This project is now revisiting the previous OBC to identify the option which provides the best public value ('the preferred option') following a more detailed appraisal whilst confirming affordability. Developing a revised OBC provides the opportunity to align the objectives of the scheme with the Mayoral Pledges as well as incorporating policies which respond to the Combined

Authority and Bradford Council's climate emergency declarations which have occurred in the interim.

Whilst the overall budget envelope for the Bradford to Shipley Route Improvement scheme remains indicatively set at £47.9m we are not yet in a position to confirm proposals or quantify value for money being saved through this change, though it is important to note that improvements to Canal Road are still anticipated in some form.

## **22. Councillor Malcolm Slater**

It was a wonderful story to see Keighley woman Ada Thompson celebrate her 112th birthday recently as Britain's second oldest person. Will the Leader on behalf of the Council send our congratulations to Ada and her family on this fantastic milestone?

### **Response**

As Leader of the Council and on behalf of all councillors and staff at Bradford Council, I'm delighted to extend my very best wishes and congratulations to Ada Thompson on her 112th birthday. I know we'd all love to know her advice on living such a long life and am sure that all the staff and residents in her care home in Keighley will help her celebrate in style.

## **23. Councillor Nazam Azam**

Does the Leader share my view that if the government really wants to level up the UK, then there must surely be no doubt at all about the need to include a new Bradford city centre station on Northern Powerhouse Rail?

### **Response**

I would certainly agree that a new city centre station is critical to the long term economic prosperity of the district and the wider region, and as both the Leader for the Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Lead for Transport I continue to make this case to government.

As you may be aware the Transport Select Committee, led at the time by new Transport Minister Huw Merriman, said that delivering Northern Powerhouse Rail in full was crucial for the future of the North of England. His recent visit was very timely for me to make the case yet again.

I'll repeat here as the case is undeniable, once built the station could:

- Boost Bradford's economy by almost £30bn over a decade
- unlock large scale regeneration of a size and significance similar to that of London's Olympic Park - over 120ha
- Bring 6.7 million people and an area of over £167bn of annual economic output within a 35-minute journey of central Bradford.
- Create 27,000 new jobs

- Generate a 10% uplift in land values
- Unlock 1.3m additional accessible jobs within 90 minutes of Bradford
- It would also bring benefits to the rest of the Calder Valley line, especially if the whole route from Leeds to Halifax and beyond was electrified.

This is not just about Bradford or Bradford District, Mott McDonald research showed that just one element of NPR, the connection between Leeds, Bradford and Manchester, can alone potentially increase productivity by 6%, raise the employment rate by 1.5% (50,000 jobs) and increase gross value added (GVA) in the north by about 8% over 10 years. This is vital as we look beyond the cost-of living crisis and into the next decade. Any more delay weakens the Government's case for social justice and for a just transition and means the North is held back not just our District.

I would urge members, businesses and residents to continue to press the new rail minister Huw Merriman to ensure that DfT, HMT and No10 go beyond 'working up options' for our inclusion in Northern Powerhouse Rail to actual investment plans.

As I've said before and will say again: there could hardly be a better test of the government's commitment to levelling up than Bradford.

#### **24. Councillor Mike Pollard**

It is understood that when Home Office allocates migrants to be accommodated in a Local Authority area, the booking falls into one of two categories: a) Designated Accommodation or b) Spot Bookings. As it is also understood that the cost of spot bookings falls to the relevant Council, would the Leader of Council please confirm whether or not we have been called upon to procure facilities under that category and if so the costs incurred by CBMDC to date?

#### **Response**

The only migrants accommodated by the Home Office in this way upon arrival into the country are asylum seekers. The council is not responsible for Home Office placements into contingency accommodation. Dispersed and contingency accommodation falls to Mears to procure through their contract with the Home Office. The LA does not procure or fund this.

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

Given the recent announcement made by the Association of Directors of Children's Services that the Department for Education is drawing up plans for proposals for restricting agency staff use when can we expect Bradford to have a stable workforce of appropriately qualified and experienced social workers?

#### **Response**

The Children's Services team are progressing a number of initiatives to support stabilising the workforce, these include:



## Recruitment

The Department for Education (DfE) is drawing up a plan to address the use of agency social workers in England. The Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) are pushing the DfE to take positive action in order to stabilise our workforce and in turn to give the best possible service to children.

Any plan would likely form part of the DfE's forthcoming response to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, which proposed reforms to reduce agency social work numbers and costs in its final report, published in May. According to the DfE, they are rapidly working up an ambitious and detailed implementation strategy in response to the review and working closely with the sector, including the ADCS, on proposals.

Agreements to regulate agency work already exist in all parts of England as memoranda of co-operation or understanding between regional groupings of councils. However, these have had mixed success in their implementation.

The debate in England comes amid plans to end the use of agency social workers at Northern Ireland's Health and Social Care Trusts, which deliver statutory social services, next June. Current agency staff in Northern Ireland will be offered permanent contracts over the coming months. The ADCS is particularly interested in this approach.

On a local level, the Bring Heart Bradford Social Work Microsite and recruitment campaign launched in December 2021 Social Work isn't just a job - Bring Heart, Transform Lives ([bringheartbradford.co.uk](http://bringheartbradford.co.uk)) The microsite contains videos and art work from our staff and children from Laisterdyke, Star Academy, and information on our reward and benefits package to provide those interested a real feel of working in Bradford.

An advertising communications content plan is developed and was implemented during 2022, making best use of banners, case studies, adverts, social media, and ambassadors programme developed for launch with review cycles, analysis and adjusted marketing. This includes a partnership with Community Care, BASW, and Jobs Go Public with online adverts, banners, jobs postings and magazine adverts to ensure a sustained presence and as part of the communications content plan will continue and expand upon this.

This is aiding the recruitment piece and we have recently offered 4 Head of Service positions.

This work continues to evolve with additional pages to be added to promote other areas of work, Residential is the current focus.

## ASYE Academy

A refresh has been undertaken of the ASYE Academy. The first cohort started in January 2022 with 5 NQSWs progressing to 20 who started the 3rd intake in September 2022, following the development and launch of the new ASYE Academy at the start of the year.

## Bespoke MA Social Work Degree Programme

The DfE through improvement funding agreed to fund social work education, training and recruitment of four practice education hubs and a recruitment and training programme via a bespoke MA Social Work degree (similar to the Department's Step-Up to Social Work Programme) with the aim of helping to stabilise the workforce.

Working with the University a bespoke MA programme has been developed, and places are being advertised during the Autumn of 2022.

- The programme starts on 23rd January 2023 and will run for two years. This intake will be for 30 students.
- The curriculum is essentially the same as for the existing BA but of course it will be taught separately and will have a Bradford "flavour" running through the programme.
- Placements for the programme start in late 2023
- The University have agreed that students can enter the MA programme with a 2:2 degree as long as that degree is in a relevant area. They must also have experience of working in a Children and Family Services context.
- Experience is defined as a minimum of 9 months' full time work or experience – or equivalent for part time. This is approximately 1250 hours.

## International Recruitment

A procurement exercise was undertaken and two suppliers were appointed – Tripod International as lead supplier and Sanctuary as a secondary. Both agencies currently support Bradford with the provision of agency workers and know the authority well, attending fortnightly supplier briefings and updates already.

The recruitment work is underway. We have offered 23 positions which have been accepted and these candidates are currently going through the pre-employment checks and securing visa etc. This will be the first cohort which we are anticipating will be available to join Bradford January / February 23.

We are currently working on the 2nd cohort with a view to reaching a target of appointing a total 40 international candidates by March / April 23.

## **26. Councillor Celia Hickson**

Following the news that the School Street Pilot at Newhall Park Primary School has been dropped, will the portfolio holder commit to ensuring that parking enforcement of restrictions on Broughton Avenue and surrounding roads is adequately undertaken?

## **Response**

Sadly, after discussions with the school they preferred that the School Street pilot ended, though I am pleased that four of the original nine have decided to make them permanent. Enforcement of restrictions is always undertaken and if there is a 'hot spot' then Councillors can work with their local Area Office to target enforcement activities there.

Council Wardens have been advised of this particular change and will include Broughton Avenue and surrounding area in with their regular patrols, particularly around school start and finish times.

## **27. Councillor Taj Salam**

Successive Tory governments since 2010 leave a shameful legacy of cutting funding for vital local services whilst saying council tax payers across the country can pay more to fill the gap. Will the Leader explain why she is concerned that this policy risks widening the gap between the most and least deprived parts of the country?

### **Response**

The Council Tax mechanism does not result in equal and proportionate impacts to all authorities. It imposes an additional burden onto local taxpayers in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis in order to address what are national issues.

Bradford's Band D council tax is around 8% below the average for Metropolitan Authorities and 80% of households in Bradford are below Band D. This means that increases in Council tax raise far less money in Bradford than in many other often more affluent parts of the country with lower levels of need. A 5% increase in Bradford District raises only half the amount per dwelling as that raised in Elmbridge in Surrey relative to size. While Bradford is the 5th most income deprived local authority district in the country, Elmbridge is home to some of the UK's highest earners and indicatively, a 5% increase would raise £11m in Bradford, compared to £22m in Elmbridge pro rata to size. When this happens year on year, the funding gap between richer councils and poorer ones just gets bigger and bigger.

## **28. Councillor Joanne Dodds**

Will the portfolio holder join me in celebrating our re-signing of the Armed Forces Covenant last month to reaffirm this council's strong support for our armed forces community?

### **Response**

I am delighted to join you in celebrating our ceremonial re-signing of the Armed Forces Covenant, and I am sure all elected members here today will want to do the same.

We have always been keen to support our Armed Forces Community and have demonstrated this in many ways, a few of these are:

- being one of the first local authorities to sign a Covenant Pledge, when we did so in January of 2012
- Having an Elected Member Armed Forces Champion
- Leading the local Covenant Partnership, that works to address issues experienced by the local Armed Forces Community in accessing local services and support. The partnership is made up of the statutory, voluntary and community, faith sectors and forces charities
- The partnership also helped local organisations secure £400k in Community Covenant grant and match funding to support the community through bespoke projects
- And that is now working to ensure the new Covenant duty is discharged.

As a Council we have also been awarded Silver in the Ministry of Defence Employers Recognition Scheme. This recognises that we have forces friendly employment policies – both in terms of those who have served and for those who are still servicing in the Reserve Forces. We will be working towards the Gold award over the next 18 months.

As a Council we also support civic events that commemorate the sacrifice made by those who have serviced – such as at events on Remembrance Sunday that take place throughout the District, and at celebratory events too – such as throughout Armed Forces Week – where we start the week by raising the flag in Centenary Square, and finish with an Armed Forces Day event. Following discussions at Breakfast Clubs and with Forces Charities, we are working to develop Armed Forces Day to ensure all partners and organisations who have signed a Covenant Pledge are involved – with a view to making it bigger, brighter and better. We will, of course, need our partner's contributions to make this a reality.

The Census of 2021, for the first time, asked people if they had ever served in the British Armed Forces. From the data, we know that in Bradford District at the time of this Census, we had 12,391 former service personnel living in 9,278 households within our District. Data about numbers of those currently serving is yet to be released.

We reaffirmed our commitment to ensuring our support to all of those 12,391 former personnel and their families and those who are currently serving on the 24 November, when our Armed Forces Champion signed the ceremonial Covenant Pledge, signalling our enduring commitment to our Armed Forces Community.

In the new year our Leader will sign our official pledge. This pledge, currently being drafted, will spell out exactly what we as a Council will promise to do to support our Armed Forces community. We will publish our pledge on our website, alongside content provided to support the Armed Forces Community, and we will be held accountable for its delivery through our yearly reports to our Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee and by our Armed Forces Champion.

## **29. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

Can the Leader of the Council provide an update on the progress being made by our electoral services team to ensure that the new protections against voter fraud and the support for those with disabilities in the Election Act 2022 are in place for the 2023 District Council elections?

### **Response**

I note with great concern that the Association of Electoral Administrators has expressed very significant concerns about the implementation of these changes being brought in by the government. In a letter to the Minister for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in May, its chief executive Peter Stanyon said, “We are concerned our already straining democratic systems are close to becoming undeliverable” and “current projected implementation timelines are optimistic at best, undeliverable at worst”. Given the risk of people being disenfranchised when trying to vote, some councillors and election officials have even called on the government to delay the introduction of the changes or risk legal challenge.

This is a government that has preached about sovereignty and democratic freedoms that is bringing in a change that the evidence shows will restrict people’s right to vote so you would think at the very least it would want to introduce in a way that doesn’t add to people’s very legitimate concerns. It’s widely accepted that the risk of being disenfranchised by this is disproportionately seen among groups of voters who are more likely to have protected characteristics. The evidence suggests that groups such as black, Asian and ethnic minority voters and working class voters are less likely to carry voter ID. The impact will very much be unevenly felt.

Our elections staff do a fantastic job and will no doubt continue to deal as ably as possible with all challenges presented to them. Our electoral services team is working closely with the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and the Electoral Commission to implement the provisions of the Elections Act 2022, including Voter ID and the requirements in the Act to support those with disabilities in time for the May 2023 elections.

Secondary legislation to implement the provisions in connection with Voter ID and support for people with disabilities has recently been laid in parliament. This is expected to be passed soon and will result in the implementation of those provisions for 4 May 2023 elections. The Electoral Commission is currently working on the detailed guidance for Electoral Registration Officers/Returning Officers in connection with this.

## **30. Councillor Sabiya Khan**

Can I have an update on the impact of Skills House and our wider investment in skills and careers, which is so important at this time post-Covid and during extremely difficult times for the UK economy.

### **Response**

To deliver an inclusive and sustainable economy, we need people from all of our communities to be visibly succeeding in the local labour market, to understand the opportunities available, and how to manage career development.

Bradford's strategic response has been through the Skills House partnership. We are building a demand-led system and shaping the local employment and skills offer and developing the Bradford talent pool, explicitly against the needs of local employers. Our approach based on the LGA 'Work Local' blueprint for an integrated local employment and skills service.

Skills House is a partnership that integrates the offer from education, public and anchor organisations, to enable businesses source talent locally and support all our communities to benefit from economic opportunities, delivered through a localities based, multi-agency model.

Council investment into Skills House has enabled the partnership to locate our coaches in each of the job centres in the district, in each of our three FE colleges and the University. We also have community engagement workers based with 6 VCS organisations with a range of organisational specialisms, to support residents with multiple barriers to enter the labour market.

We have also used Council investment to leverage resource into SkillsHouse from local, regional, national and European funds meaning we can develop bespoke solutions for employers and individuals' alike whilst 'hiding the wiring' from the customer. Our all-age approach to careers supports positive, informed and non-stereotyped choices.

The impact has been considerable. Since September 2020: 32,950 adults have enrolled on education or training; 8,400 people have had careers support; 3,280 residents have been supported in or into work.

We have also been successful in reaching groups that were disadvantaged in the Labour Market prior to the pandemic: 45% of participants have been women, 47% from an ethnic minority and 20% have declared a disability.

This has also included one of the largest Kickstart programmes in the country with 813 participants either through our own employer gateway or with the Council as an employer. Presently around 60% of our Kickstart participants have entered a sustained employment destination upon completion of the programme (we still have people on placement). To put this in context this is a similar outcome (70%) to our Employment Opportunity Fund scheme that provided a 6-month placement through Get Bradford Working; European employment support programmes typically delivered 34% into positive destinations; and the Government Restart programme that has supported 7% into employment.

### **31. Councillor Caroline Firth**

What is the current situation with Dalton Mills, which is one of the heritage gems of the Keighley East ward?

#### **Response**

The Council recognises the importance of Dalton Mills both to Keighley and the District. Officers are keen to engage with the owners of the mill complex to explore the options to secure long term future of the buildings and as well as the short term stabilisation and safety of the site. However, there have been recent changes of ownership which are limiting immediate discussions. At the same time the Council is engaging Historic England to explore what support they can access.

### **32. Councillor Paul Sullivan**

In light of footage of accidents and near misses at the Zebra Crossing on Horton Grange Road going viral, could the Portfolio Holder Regeneration, Planning and Transport confirm how Vision Zero is going 6 months after adoption, in terms of reducing the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads, particularly in relation to Safe Speeds, Safe Behaviours and Post Collision Learning and Support?

#### **Response**

With reference to Vision Zero adoption in Bradford, the Council has:

- Led on West Yorkshire Road Safety Messaging for BRAKE Road Safety Week through Bradford Comms Team;
- Led on Christmas Road Safety Campaigns through Social Media and other media outlets;
- 20/09/22 Regen and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee report on Bradford Safe Roads and Vision Zero;
- 10/11/22 Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee report on dangerous driving and Vision Zero;
- 17/11/22 meeting of the Public Health Leadership Team. Officers have briefed Public Health on Vision Zero and a whole systems approach. Two workshops have been set up;
- Organised a Play Streets Group to push this agenda for Bradford with the correct legislative process and appropriate stakeholders;
- 17/11/22 PACTS Council Members meeting. Professor Nicola Christie from UCL to attend the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Board to present findings from a recent study on the Gig Economy and collisions involving takeaway delivery riders;
- Started pre-collision investigations into highlighting areas of high risk on Bradford's Roads using the latest technology. This will help shape the districts capital Safe Roads Programme.

### **33. Councillor Fozia Shaheen**

Friday 25th November marked the start of 16 Days of Action Against Gender-Based Violence. Will the portfolio holder outline what initiatives the council and partners have been supporting as part of the campaign?

## **Response**

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence against women and girls is an international campaign that takes place each year. It commences on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and ends on 10 December, Human Rights Day, indicating that violence against women is the most pervasive breach of human rights worldwide.

This year, 2022, the focus, under the leadership of the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, the United Nations Secretary-General's Unite by 2030 to End Violence against Women initiative, calls for global action to increase awareness, galvanise advocacy efforts and share knowledge and innovations to end violence against women and girls (VAWG) once and for all.

In Bradford the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DA & SV) team have taken the initiative in galvanising our partners to highlight the issues of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.

The workforce development officer sent out an email reminding partners of 16 days and invited them to both join us in our learning events as well as develop and deliver their own. In line with the international theme, we wanted to share knowledge and innovations to end VAWG.

On 25th November – the launch day, the DA&SV team held a large event in the Hockney room at Margaret McMillan Tower (MMT). The audience, our social workers and Community Resource Workers (CRW's). We worked for some months alongside our colleagues in Children's Social Care to develop a resource toolkit to support social workers and CRWs working with families where domestic abuse and coercive control is a feature. The toolkit provides resources to work with the whole family and can be used with perpetrators, victims and child victims. The day was opened by senior BMDC staff: Joanne Hyde and Mariam Haque, both gave their support to the 16 days' concept and the resource toolkit. The day was well attended and the immediate feedback was very positive.

22nd and 23rd November – due to time constraints the DA&SV team began early to deliver two sessions of the Active Bystander training to Wardens and Ward Officers from the Neighbourhood Service. The two sessions hosted 69 staff and covered the area by holding events at MMT and Bingley Town Hall.

23rd – 26th November – 'You are a Witness'- a powerful theatre production from the Commonwealth theatre company in partnership with the Anah Project. This focuses on domestic abuse from different viewpoints and was delivered in English and Urdu to audiences over 5 showings. This was a multi-agency event.

24th November - Making a Difference in General Practice – Supporting patients experiencing domestic abuse. This was a Lunch and Learn session delivered by



Bradford District & Craven Health & Care Partnership Children's Safeguarding Team for GPs and surgery staff.

29th November – Airedale General hospital held a learning event for hospital staff on Coercive Control and how to refer to the Hospital Independent Domestic Abuse Advocate (IDVA).

30th November – another partnership event by the DA&SV team and housing leads. Part of the 'Acting on the Act' series of learning events focussing on the Housing Duty imposed from the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. This was for housing staff only.

1st December – a partnership multi-agency event developed by the DA&SV team. Held at MMT in the Hockney Room. Part of the 'Acting on the Act' series of learning events focussing on Children recognised as victims of domestic abuse in the DA Act 2021. This event brought together a range of specialist services from the district, Little Minds Matter, Children's IDVA Staying Put – Family Action, Operation Encompass, James Project, Step 2, Victim Support, the SDAP team, Men Reaching Out, Men Standing Up, Brathay Trust.

1st December - Victim Support West Yorkshire delivered an event called - West Yorkshire Stalking Advocacy Service Event for Professionals. This was an information and networking event highlighting the Independent Stalking Advocacy Service funded by the West Yorkshire Mayor, Tracy Brabin. This was a West Yorkshire wide multi-agency event.

2nd December – Bradford Royal Infirmary (BRI) hosted this multi-agency learning event - Coercive Control and Domestic Homicide. This was developed by the BRI safeguarding team. It brought together speakers from the Police, Local Solicitors and Ryan Hart, a professional speaker who speaks about his own life experience after the murder of his Mother and Sister by his Father.

6th December – the DA&SV team will deliver the Active Bystander session to elected members at City Hall to give them a flavour of some of the work we are doing with staff working out in the community.

8th December – The DA&SV team will deliver Coercive Control awareness to the Doulas.

Additional to these learning events the DA&SV team have launched an awareness campaign – Domestic abuse is not ok – never ok #NONO to coincide with the football world cup. Posters are visible throughout the district and our website has been promoted and publicised to support anyone recognising this behaviour. Additional social media posts have been posted during this time to raise awareness.

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

Would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport agree to the urgent, immediate suspension of parking charges for the remainder of the run up

to Christmas in Council car parks in towns and villages across the district, in order to support our local shops by encouraging residents to shop locally.

**Response**

No. All Christmas parking concessions were removed in 2016 as part of the budget proposals, and no impact on local trading has ever been reported. Nor is there any evidence nationally that such initiatives actually increase trade and spend. The run-up to Christmas is actually the busiest time of year for retail and therefore many of the car parks are very busy if not full during this time anyway. Removing charges therefore wouldn't support businesses and instead represent a loss of income for the council at a time we are wanting to use our scarce revenue to pay for regenerating our town centres.

A better way to support local business is through investment and partnership working. For instance, delivering a Christmas market as part of the Ilkley Christmas light switch-on in partnership with Ilkley Town Council, which attracted thousands of people to the town centre for the day.

**COUNCIL – TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2022**

**Agenda Item 13 – Notices of Motion (Standing Order 17)**

Amendments submitted by political groups

Committee Secretariat  
Contact: Guy Close (07811) 503906

## Amendment A

### 13.1 – Anti-social use of Fireworks

To be moved by: Councillor Stubbs

To be seconded by: Councillor Ahmed

With the deletion and addition of the following words, the motion to read

Council believes that:

- Firework displays are common throughout the world and are the focal point of many cultural and religious celebrations
- Everyone has a right to enjoy firework displays. This Council also believes that this should not be at the expense of the amenity of others and notes the work done by the people of Collecchio in the province of Parma in Italy to introduce legislation to reduce acoustic stress.
- With the increasing availability of quieter fireworks which can create “quieter” or “low noise” or “silent” displays which reduce the noise nuisance and impact on others, it is time for the Council to investigate the creation of more peaceful firework displays that can be enjoyed by all.

Council notes that:

- A seventeen-year-old youth from the Bradford area died in Halifax on Bonfire night, during a large scale, possibly pre-planned outbreak of firework related anti-social behaviour.
- This tragic incident and other examples of outrageous and dangerous behaviour in Leeds and other parts of the country illustrate the problem of Anti-social and illegal use of fireworks is not limited to Bradford District.
- “Bradford on Duty” included harrowing scenes of emergency staff taking cover in residential areas whilst pelted with fireworks, demonstrating the scourge that fireworks can bring.
- Residents report problems throughout the year from very loud fireworks, often causing distress to children and animals.
- The impact loud bangs have on some people with mental ill health, some people who are anxious about loud noises, some people with a disability for whom loud noises can be extremely disturbing and those people suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.
- It is only legal to sell Category 2 & 3 Fireworks, designed for domestic use (available only to adults over 18) for less than 40 specific days per year, other than via specifically regulated outlets and Category 4 fireworks can legally only be purchased and used by professionals.
- The good work being undertaken to test purchase in shops, with roughly 10% of licensed retailers being caught in breach, but with increasing volumes of online sales existing legislation is no longer keeping pace with the market
- Responsible retailers have suggested greater regulation that will improve the tracking of sales from manufacturer all the way to the end user would make a real difference to enforcement and successful prosecution of those who break the law.
- There is much anecdotal evidence and widespread public belief that it is the clandestine and even openly advertised sale of Category 4 fireworks which is often the primary cause of the year-round problems, with many people across the county and beyond, firmly believing that their use is often connected with drug related crimes.

- When Robbie Moore MP (Keighley & Ilkley) requested an urgent debate in Government time, to discuss year-round firework related anti-social behaviour, Government Ministers were unsympathetic to residents and the MP's concerns, as in their opinion for many people the use of fireworks continues to be harmless fun and enjoyment.
- Many, even in Government, remain oblivious to the danger and nuisance caused to many thousands of families.

Council resolves:

- To work with local and regional partners in to ascertain whether there is widespread illicit sale of Category 4 fireworks within the Bradford District, the wider county and beyond.
- To require all fireworks displays held on Council land and in public parks to have a maximum 90db level.
- To require all public firework displays within the local authority boundaries to be advertised in advance of the event, allowing residents to take precautions for their vulnerable people and animals.
- To actively promote a public and retailer awareness campaign about the impact of fireworks on animal welfare and vulnerable people – including the precautions that can be taken to mitigate risks.
- The Chief Executive to write to the Government urging them to introduce legislation to limit the maximum noise level of fireworks to 90dB for those sold to the public for private displays and to encourage local suppliers of fireworks to stock 'quieter' fireworks for public displays. To ensure manufacturers bar code individual fireworks and mandate the collection of customer details at the point of sale to aid enforcement activities.

## Amendment B

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

### **13.1 – Anti-social use of fireworks**

To be moved by: Councillor Jabar

To be seconded by: Councillor Azam

Council notes:

We extend our sincere condolences to the family of the 17-year-old young man who lost his life in Halifax on 5<sup>th</sup> November. This is a tragic loss of a young life.

Councillors and residents across the district are rightly angry and dismayed about the antisocial use of fireworks.

We thank council officers, fire crews, police, VCS organisations and volunteers for the superb partnership effort around Bonfire Night which passed with fewer serious incidents this year in the district than in recent years.

The Council's cross party Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee completed a fireworks review published in October 2021 to examine what more can be done nationally and locally to better regulate their use.

In line with the Scrutiny recommendations, the council has written to the district's MPs to call for lobbying on tougher action on the noise levels, sale, licensing and legislation of fireworks.

The Scrutiny review noted it will also depend on action at a national level to tackle this problem, given that local authorities are bound by limits to our powers on this issue.

The Conservative government does not accept fireworks are a serious problem. When the issue was discussed in parliament, Conservative government spokesperson Jacob Rees-Mogg said he was "unsympathetic" to calls for tougher action on fireworks as they are "a little bit of harmless fun".

Council resolves to:

- Continue delivery against the Scrutiny recommendations and consider the contents of any updates from Scrutiny on an ongoing basis taking action as necessary.
- Following the Scrutiny Review, to again write to government calling on them to acknowledge the seriousness of this issue for residents in our district and to call for tougher action including consideration of new legislation that the Council could then use around the sale, use and noise levels of fireworks and specifically to:
  - Reduce the noise levels of all categories of fireworks;
  - Stop the sale of the more powerful fireworks, such as category 3 and 4 other than for professional firework displays
  - For individuals who sell fireworks to have a licence, which demonstrates that they are a fit and proper person to be able to sell fireworks;
  - Instigate a Private Members Bill to discuss the licensing, planning and legislation arrangements in place, relating to fireworks.
  - Make it more difficult for members of the public to buy fireworks from wholesalers in large quantities

- Continue strong partnership work with other district agencies such as police, fire, health, VCS, community groups and Trading Standards to build on recent progress to tackle the antisocial use of fireworks.

## Amendment C

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

### **13.2 – Community food cultivation**

To be moved by: Councillor Duffy

To be seconded by: Councillor Hinchcliffe

Council notes that:

- In light of food quality (including safety) and sourcing scandals in recent years, the public are keen to take more informed choices, regarding the quality, ethical production of and origins of their foods.
- Food price inflation is currently roughly 13% (at the time of typing).
- Food supply security is currently more precarious than in living memory.
- A strategic approach to our food system in the district is imperative for ensuring a healthy and sustainable future for our district.
- Throughout 2022 a council led partnership has co-produced the Good Food Strategy. This involved consulting with over 50 local food system partners, organisations, businesses and over 1,000 residents.
- The priorities identified for our district in terms of food are
  1. Creating an Eating Well culture – developing knowledge and skills, and access to healthy affordable food
  2. Tackling Food Insecurities – increasing access to, and availability of, healthy fresh low cost food.
  3. Community-led food growing – sustaining and expanding local food production
  4. A sustainable food system for all – creating a resilient and sustainable food system which protects bio-diversity and reduces impact on climate change.

This council resolves to:

- Reflect on the results of the consultation and commit to now publishing the Good Food strategy action plan following the Sustainable Food Places framework.
- Specifically, on community-led food growing, commit to:
  - 1) consider how to enable communities to access small areas of land close to areas that lack food-growing opportunities (for example in places that have no, or not enough, allotment provision)
  - 2) explore and understand current barriers to community-led growing and build solutions and opportunities to enable community use
  - 3) engage with schools and local organisations to find key residents and groups to champion the issue; map available projects, skills and resources
  - 4) explore how to expand local growing initiatives, such as community gardens and community allotments, and how to link them to local community groups or foodbanks who can use surplus produce, and potentially link up with local commercial distribution services and supply chains in the longer term.



### 13.3 – Housing Crisis

To be moved by: Councillor Poulsen

To be seconded by: Councillor Davies

With the addition and deletion of appropriate words, the motion be amended to read as follows:

Council notes:

- There is a shortage of affordable housing, many people are struggling to afford a secure place to live and not enough social homes are being built in the Bradford District, with only 149 new units provided within the 2021-22 financial year.
- The average waiting times as of November were:  
1191 households who are owed homeless duty and those whose housing needs arise from other council service priorities with an average wait time of 256 days  
2723 households in unsuitable housing requiring urgent re-housing with an average wait time of 334 days.  
6013 households in unsuitable housing but with less serious need or with no local connection to the District on the Band 3 waiting list with an average wait time of 223 days.
- It was noted in the Bradford Council 2005 RUDP “*However, it is recognised that in some of the district’s housing and commercial markets, financial constraints may make housing an economically unviable option for the foreseeable future.*”
- The West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) has been awarded £67m to remediate brownfield sites that would otherwise remain unviable, with Bradford District’s share of this award being circa £15 million.

This council resolves to:

- take effective and expeditious action to utilise the aforementioned £15m in the timely provision of much needed, affordable social housing within the Bradford District
- provide half yearly reports to Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and annual area based reports to the five area committees.

## Amendment E

### **Motion 13.3 – Housing Crisis**

To be moved by: Councillor Sunderland

To be seconded by: Councillor Stubbs

Under “Council therefore resolves to:” add an additional bullet point as follows:

- Explore the provision of additional budget to enable building control to inspect the conversion of commercial properties under permitted development prior to occupation by tenants.

## Amendment F

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

### 13.3 - Housing Crisis

To be moved by: Councillor Ross-Shaw

To be seconded by: Councillor Hinchcliffe

Council notes:

- According to Shelter, over one million households are waiting for social homes. Last year, 29,000 social homes were sold or demolished, and fewer than 7,000 were built.
- More people than ever are struggling to afford a secure place to live. Yet, not enough social homes are being built. In the 2021- 22 financial year, only 149 new units were provided within the Bradford District.
- There are approximately 31,500 socially rented housing units in Bradford - the vast majority of these are not council-owned or controlled and are run by Registered Social Housing (RSH) providers like Incommunities, Yorkshire Housing and Clarion.
- The undersupply of affordable housing over a number of years, further exacerbated by the pandemic, is not unique to Bradford. Comparisons to other West Yorkshire Local Authorities demonstrate that the delivery of affordable housing falls some way short of the target regionally.
- The Council's Empty Homes team works to reduce the number of long-term empty properties across the district and has issued more Compulsory Purchase Orders to take over such properties than any other authority in West Yorkshire. The number of empty homes in Bradford has fallen by a third over the last 10 years, reducing blight in neighbourhoods and maximising use of existing housing stock.
- The Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 required registered providers of social housing in England to reduce social housing rents by 1% a year for four years from April 2016. This was good for tenants but it severely impacted social landlords' finances thereby reducing their ability to develop new homes over the last 4-5 years.
- Further, the impact of the rent cap announced in the autumn statement last month is still being modelled by providers but fears are that, without additional investment, it will fetter their ability to invest in new social housing and this is now exacerbated by inflationary pressures.
- Government policies prioritise other forms of 'affordable' housing such as rents set at 80% of market value, Starter Homes and Discounted Market Sales rather than social rents. Therefore despite some 'affordable' homes being built, they are often out of reach to people who require social housing.

- The Government's Brownfield Housing Fund does not work for large parts of the North of England as land values are too low, meaning RSH in Bradford cannot access it.
- Through Housing Options, Incommunities-owned housing is allocated to many people based on need:
  - Band 1 - Urgent Need - these include households who are owed homeless duty and those whose housing needs arise from other council service priorities / duties.
  - Band 2 – High Need - households in unsuitable housing requiring urgent re-housing
  - Band 3 – Medium Need - households in unsuitable housing but with less serious need than those in Band 2, and households with a band 1 or 2 need but with no local connection to the District
- As of 30/11/22, across all three bands there are a total of 9,927 households yet for 2021/22 there were only 746 placements through Housing Options. Whilst the “wait” time published is measured in days, councillors know that in effect some residents face waiting years for an appropriate property to become available
- The financial pressures on local authorities like Bradford, driven by twelve years of ideologically driven austerity policies and low Government capital investment, means that we are less able to tackle these problems using local land and local council taxpayers' revenue.

Council also notes that:

- The Council has worked with RSH providers to recently introduce a new Choice Based Lettings System of allocations to improve Housing Options outcomes
- Taking into account the 'Climate Crisis' and the 'Cost of Living Crisis' there is a need to ensure that new social housing is built with the highest possible energy efficiency standards, which often requires additional public subsidy to deliver
- A sizeable percentage of social housing tenants rely on public transport and as such planning for housing needs to consider transport infrastructure alongside housing delivery.
- The West Yorkshire Mayor has prioritised improving bus services with more local control, which in the longer term will allow services to be better aligned with planned housing growth.
- The Council has recently decided to open a Housing Revenue Account. This will be supplemented by a growth strategy setting out the approach to increasing the housing stock through ensuring best use of council land and assets to meet our priorities and maximise housing outputs.
- The Government's Brownfield Housing Fund is not designed to benefit places like Bradford district.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Accept that the situation with the provision of affordable social housing is at crisis point and that urgent action is required.

- Progress delivery of the Housing Revenue Account and potential options for accelerating housing delivery, including utilising council-owned land, with regular progress reports to the relevant Scrutiny Committee.
- Work with RSH providers through the Housing Place Group to address issues around social housing delivery and how this can be addressed through the Local Plan and other means.
- Instruct the Local Plan team to report to the Local Plan Cross Party Reference Group on how the Council can influence homes to be more energy efficient, including reference to the proposed Design Code but also the Local Plan and the Homes & Neighbourhood Design Guide, and what measures can be taken to encourage the development of more social housing across the district.
- Lobby national Government to amend the criteria for the Brownfield Housing Fund so that Housing Providers in Bradford can also access this fund.

### 13.5 Supporting Bradford's Carers

To be moved by: Councillor Clarke

To be seconded by: Councillor Pollard

With the addition and deletion of appropriate words, the recommendation be amended to read as follows:

Council notes:

- There are approximately 17 million working parents and carers in the UK.
- Groups such as Carers UK help to work with and advocate for carers in the UK.
- On average 600 people a day have to leave work to take on caring responsibilities.
- Caring for many is a full-time job and therefore they do not have the luxury of being able to supplement their income with part time work.
- Being an unpaid carer can be a challenging role.
- Carers' Resource in Bradford provides outstanding support to carers across the district. Through their work and organisations like them carers get access to a lot of valuable information, resources, and support.
- That the Government is supporting carers in the UK by working with MPs to pass legislation on flexible working that will enable unpaid carers to have more opportunities to access employment.
- The Government is supporting legislation by Wendy Chamberlain MP that will introduce a new and highly flexible entitlement of one week's unpaid leave per year for employees who are providing or arranging care.

**Council resolves to:**

- Continue supporting Carers Resource and other support organisations for carers, to help more carers become aware of the help and support available.
- Support the Government in introducing wider access to flexible working as well as introducing unpaid leave for carers.
- Recognise and appreciate the fantastic work undertaken by all carers, both paid and unpaid.
- Commit to a bi-annual campaign that raises awareness of unpaid carers and signposts where they can go to get advice, and support, through a multi-agency approach.

## Amendment H

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

### 13.5 – Supporting Bradford’s Carers

To be moved by: Councillor Hinchcliffe

To be seconded by: Councillor Thirkill

This Council notes:

- Carers UK defines an unpaid carer as a person who is looking after someone who is older, disabled or seriously ill. The care they give is unpaid. These people are called carers but they would often say they were just "looking after someone" as their personal duty to their loved one. However, this means that carers are not always getting the support they are entitled to.
- Analysis conducted by Carers UK of a GP patient survey in 2021, found that 60% of carers suffer from a long term health condition or disability themselves.
- Carers UK found that over quarter of carers said that they always or often felt lonely.
- On average 600 people a day have to leave work to take on caring responsibilities.
- Currently carers allowance is only £67.25 a week. That is £269 every four weeks to live on.
- Caring for many is a full-time job and therefore they do not have the luxury of being able to supplement their income with part time work.

This Council recognises:

- £67.25 per week for an unpaid carer is woefully inadequate compared to £351.50 a full-time employed carer on minimum wage would earn for a week of work (notwithstanding that this wage in itself is inadequate).
- The person receiving care may receive Personal Independence Payment and/or Disability Living Allowance but that is to cover that individual’s care needs, transport, and any other support they may need.
- Given the financial worries, feelings of isolation, and the lack of time to do the things they need to do, it’s no surprise unpaid carers feel undervalued, and that their physical and mental health is suffering.
- The council is proud to provide significant funding to Carers’ Resource in Bradford which provides outstanding support to carers across the district of all ages, including young carers. Through their work and organisations like them carers get access to a lot of valuable information, resources and support.
- The Council’s Anti-Poverty Strategy identifies the unique challenges carers face, as it:
  - recognises that family carers are more likely to experience poverty and hardship given the additional expenses related to having a disability in the cost of living crisis;
  - recognises the commitment of young carers to their family members and the sacrifices they make; and
  - is pleased to prioritise provision of a specific grant for family carers through the Household Support Fund to financially support those who find themselves in need of assistance this winter.

This Council resolves to:

- Increase the advertising of Carers’ Resource and other support organisations for carers, to help more carers become aware of the help and support available.

- Raise the issue of family carers at the partnership board for communities as part of our Act as One health and care system governance. This will aim to gain the widest system commitment to joint campaigns that raise awareness of family carers and signpost where they can go to get advice, including through local GP surgeries, other NHS settings, pharmacies, community centres and public buildings.
- Lobby all the main parties to make sure that manifestos at the next election commit to an improved package of support for unpaid carers, including higher benefit payments but also to provide statutory paid leave for carers who currently have to take annual leave to manage their caring responsibilities.



## 13.7 - Residents of Bradford District will not tolerate Dangerous Driving

To be moved by: Councillor Edwards

To be seconded by: Councillor Watson

### Council notes:

- Dangerous driving is a scourge on our district. It impacts pedestrians, cyclists as well as other road users with children being most at risk from injury and death caused by dangerous driving.
- Local public agencies are doing lots of good work in this area including Operation Steerside to reduce speeding and other dangerous and illegal driving. For example, between September 2021 and August 2022 there were:

101 pre-planned operations  
2871 Fixed Penalties, Traffic Offence Reports, Vehicle Defect reports  
357 reports for summons/charges  
391 vehicles seized  
81 arrests  
55 PSPO notices issued.

### This Council applauds this work and wants to see its continuation.

- The adoption of Vision Zero in West Yorkshire, led by the West Yorkshire Mayor, will enable a whole systems approach to casualty prevention and look at pre-collision investigation and programmes that prevent death and serious injury from occurring in the first place.
- Work with the West Yorkshire Safety Camera Partnership around the new camera deployment guidance which for the first time will enable us to install average speed cameras and will also enable us to install camera monitoring anywhere in the district where there is a need.
- Our rollout of 20mph zones around schools and urban centres. Continued implementation of active travel facilities such as dedicated cycleways and footpaths, and an expansion of School Streets and Active Travel Neighbourhoods.
- Introduction of a public space protection order for anti-social driving behaviour.
- Work with schools and community partners through our Road Safety team.
- Annual implementation of road safety infrastructure, including through Area Committees.

### Council also notes that:

- Safety is often raised as the main barrier to Bradford residents to switching from car travel to public transport, cycling or walking. As such improving road safety will have significant additional benefits to air pollution, congestion and public health.

## **Council resolves to:**

- Continue our strong support of the police in tackling dangerous and illegal driving through Operation Steerside.
- Implement Vision Zero at pace and report to Scrutiny on its progress.
- Make every effort to secure the necessary funding for road safety measures - particularly for pedestrians and cyclists from sources such as grants, section 106 funding and revenue raising measures such as taking up the newly available power to enforce against moving traffic offences and issue penalty charge notices for contraventions.
- Support a publicity campaign in the run-up to Christmas to encourage people to keep themselves and others safe on the roads.
- Continue working with our district's MPs raising this issue on a national level.
- Ask the government to increase funding for Local Authorities like Bradford to ensure we have the financial resources to deliver on our commitment to make roads safer.
- Ask the Government to get on with the introduction of graduated driver licences so that those drivers who drive well are able to access cheaper insurance, rewarding good drivers.
- Ask the Government to accelerate the legislation around the use of Noise Cameras. We are pleased to be a pilot in Keighley for the noise camera however until the Home Office has approved their use nationally roll-out cannot happen.
- Ask the Government to invest more in local policing, recognising that the 20,000 new police officers being recruited nationally will only get us back to the police numbers we had before the start of the Government's austerity drive in 2010.