

**CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2020  
ITEM 3: ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LORD MAYOR**

**APPRECIATION FOR THE COVID-19 RESPONSE**

We have all endured many months of distress and anguish as the district, and the country, has responded to this national health emergency.

The residents of Bradford have pulled together in a quite extraordinary way to help break the chains of infection and provide support within our communities.

The dedication of our staff in delivering and maintaining the provision of vital services has been truly humbling. So many have gone above and beyond what could be expected of them, even working weekends in order to keep the “show on the road”.

Many teams have had increased pressure as colleagues have had to take time off and self-isolate as they or members of their household have become ill or exhibited symptoms of the virus. Some will have lost friends and loved ones, yet their strong commitment to the community has never dimmed for a moment.

The response during the first lockdown to assist homeless people and those who were shielding or from vulnerable groups has been particularly striking.

We are now in a second period of heightened restrictions, but I know that the resolve of our staff, working together with our fantastic partners in the business, voluntary and charitable sectors, will stand us in very good stead.

Some outstanding work has taken place to increase engagement and support within our communities and, as we head into the difficult winter months, it is essential that people continue to stay at home, follow the guidance, protect the NHS and help reduce rates of infection.

I would like to place on record my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has played their part so magnificently in helping to tackle this crisis and the complex demands it is making on us. They have done an exceptional job in very difficult and trying circumstances and I applaud them for it.

*Distribution:*

Lord Mayor  
Chief Executive  
City Solicitor  
Civic Affairs Manager/Joanne Gleeson  
Committee Services Manager (Adrian Tumber)  
Principal Executive Officer, Chief Executive’s Office (Nigel Smith)  
PA to the Leader of Council  
Policy Research Officer, Bradford Labour Group (Simon O’Hare)