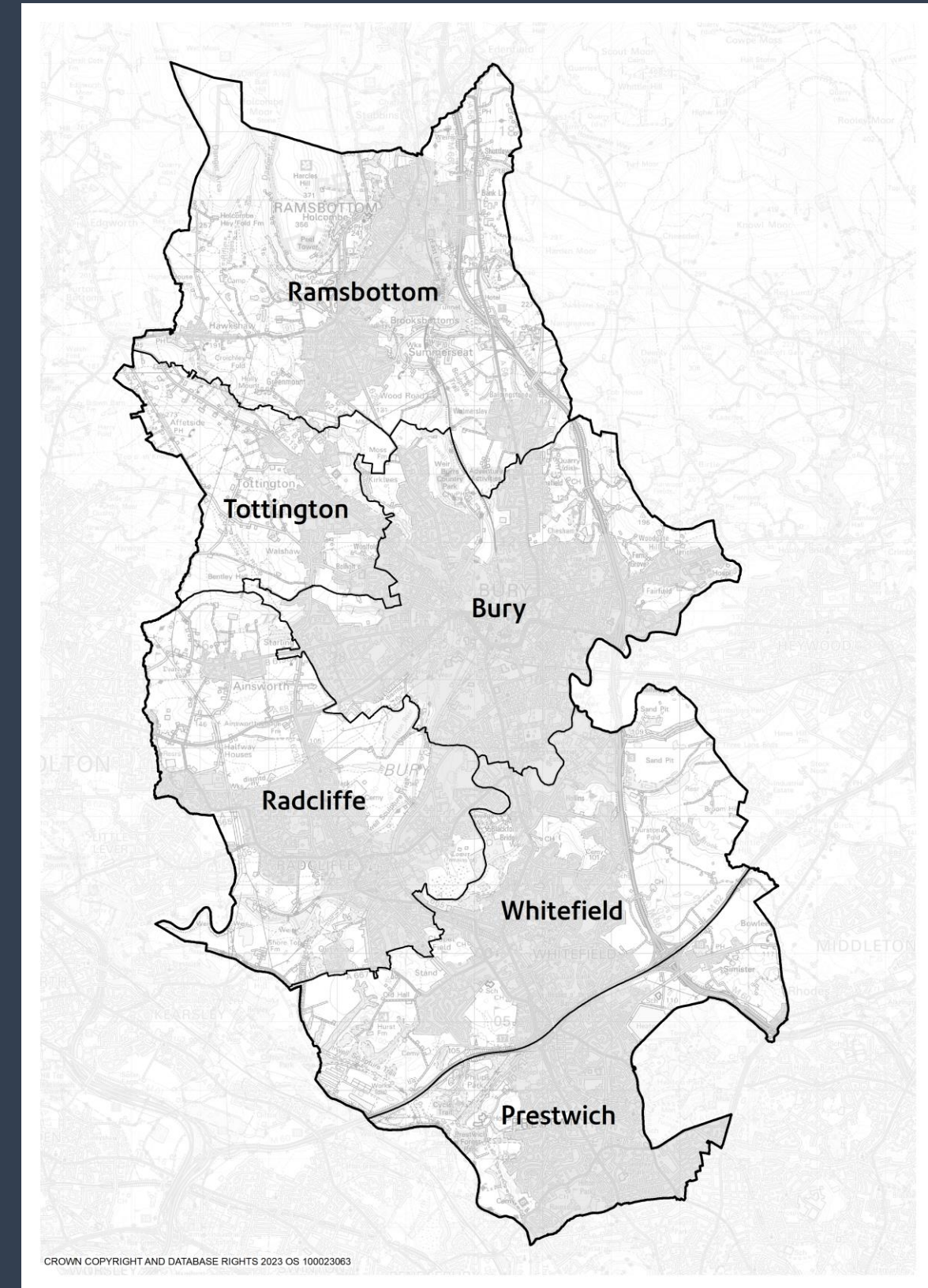
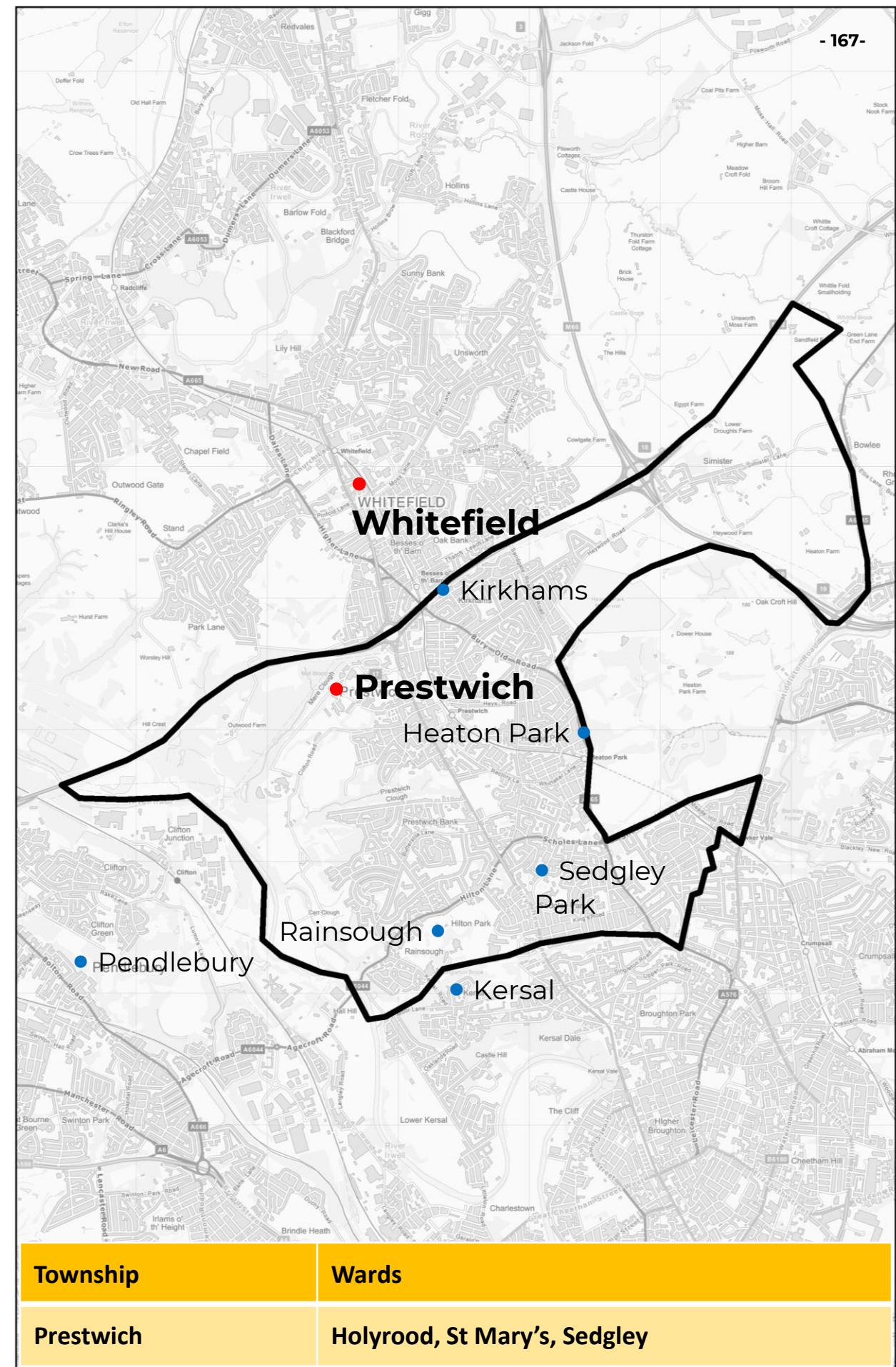


TOWNSHIP FRAMEWORKS

Township	Wards
Ramsbottom and Tottington	Ramsbottom, North Manor, Tottington
Tottington	Tottington
Bury	Elton, Moorside, Bury West, Bury East, Redvales
Radcliffe	Radcliffe North & Ainsworth, Radcliffe West, Radcliffe East
Whitefield	Unsworth, Besses, Pilkington Park
Prestwich	Holyrood, St. Mary's, Sedgley



13: PRESTWICH



PRESTWICH

Prestwich town centre is the focal point of the township, which also includes other significant areas such as Simister, Philips Park, Sedgley Park and Rainsough.

In general, Prestwich is a thriving town with independent bars, shops, restaurants and cafes and is home to more than 35,000 people. The local housing market is booming, with residents attracted by the green spaces, tram connectivity and local amenities. However, the town centre is currently out-dated with aged public buildings and large surface car parks.

In recent years, the town has received major investment through the A56 Prestwich High Street Regeneration, which has resulted in significant improvements to the environment for all users of Prestwich and has helped attract further investment into the centre.

In July 2009, a *Town Centre Development Strategy: Love Prestwich Village* was adopted which aimed to strengthen Prestwich as a community hub and support revitalised shopping and leisure facilities in the town.

Following Bury Council's purchase of the Longfield Centre, the Council and Muse have entered into a joint venture to create a new beating heart for Prestwich Village and work is underway to shape the proposals. The ambition of this partnership is to create new spaces to help people and businesses thrive, with a mix of high-quality homes and family-friendly spaces, as well as a new community hub that promotes health and wellbeing.

The Council is committed to these regeneration plans which will redevelop the 1970s Longfield Shopping Centre into a modern public services hub, support sustainable modes of transport, such as walking, cycling and electric vehicles, alongside the provision of traditional car-parking capacity, and provide around 230 new homes.

As part of the new centre, there is also potential to develop creative workspace, using the soft-infrastructure and connectivity as key attractors for start-up and small businesses, and to create flexible outdoor spaces to support community activities and enhance the environment.



PRESTWICH TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN

Your Prestwich is an ambitious £100m + project that will transform Prestwich Village and cement Prestwich as one of the best places to live in the north-west. The draft masterplan plan shows some early thoughts for regenerating Prestwich Village and includes:

A Community Hub

- Promoting health and wellbeing and providing opportunities for a new library, spaces for community events, clubs, art and culture, and the provision of key local services.
- An opportunity for a new Prestwich Health Centre, subject to discussions with the NHS.

A people-first place

- Moving parking out of the village core and into a new decked car park off Fairfax Road in a sustainable transport hub with electric vehicle charging points and cycle storage.
- Pedestrian friendly safe crossing spaces and residential streets.

Homes for all

- A mix of homes to help meet the fast-rising demand for quality housing in the village, from affordable homes, to first-time buyers, growing families and downsizers.

Outdoor and green spaces

- Green spaces throughout, with the opportunity to connect surrounding green spaces, such as Prestwich Clough, Prestwich Forest Park and Heaton Park, to the village centre

Village Square

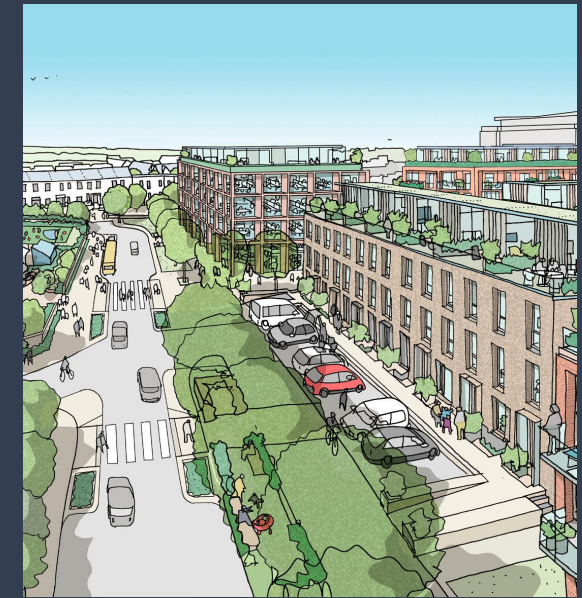
- A new village heart with family-friendly, social places to meet.

Spaces for independent businesses

- Complementing the high street with new spaces for independent businesses and a diverse retail, leisure and food and drink offer.

A sense of arrival

- An opportunity to introduce landscaping which connects with the green spaces in the village.



PRESTWICH TRANSPORT ISSUES

Prestwich is served by the Metrolink and highway routes that pass north to south between Bury town centre and Manchester. There are bus connections to Manchester, Bury and Salford.

A56 Bury New Road performs the important strategic role of allowing vehicular access between Manchester city centre, the M60 orbital motorway and the north of Greater Manchester.

Prestwich has a compact centre meaning that amenities are within short walking distances of each other.

Although some parts of Prestwich have good road and public transport connections, there are some areas such as Simister and Rainsough/Carr Clough, where connectivity is poor and public transport is limited, with bus services having declined over recent years. Heywood Old Road has also seen a significant reduction in bus services over recent years.

The A56 Bury New Road and the A576 Bury Old Road are also very busy, being main routes into Manchester city centre and providing direct access to the motorway network. As such, they suffer from congestion and delay, particularly if there is an incident on the motorway.

These and the other transport issues that are summarised on the next page all need to be addressed if we are to provide Prestwich with a genuinely integrated transport network and to ensure that key development opportunities can be realised.



Summary of transport issues in Prestwich

- The link between Prestwich Metrolink stop and the wider town centre is unattractive.
- Wayfinding and legibility around Prestwich Village to key destinations in the town is poor and in need of improvement.
- There is some cycle provision along the A56 through Prestwich Village in the form of on road advisory cycling lanes, this is not reflected across the rest of the town.
- The M60 causes severance for pedestrians and cyclists and M60 Junction 17 is intimidating for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Whittaker Lane can be difficult for buses to negotiate due to its narrow width in part and vehicles parking on-street.
- There is a poor sense of arrival at both Prestwich and Heaton Park tram stops.
- Both Prestwich and Heaton Park Metrolink stops are in need of refurbishment and modernisation to improve safety, provide disabled access and a better quality of design.
- Bowker Vale Metrolink Stop is in need of improvement to address issues such as poor lighting and the length of the path between the Metrolink platform and Windsor Road.
- Connectivity from the outer parts of the Prestwich township such as Simister and Rainsough/Carr Clough is poor with these areas having experienced significant reductions in bus services over recent years.
- The A56 Bury New Road and the A576 Bury Old Road are very busy main roads and often experience congestion and delay, particularly if there is an incident on the motorway.

PRESTWICH – WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE

This Transport Strategy identifies the investment priorities that we will focus on to improve transport throughout the Borough. But we are not starting from scratch. Bury is one of the ten local authority areas in Greater Manchester already working to deliver the Greater Manchester 2040 Transport Strategy in partnership with Transport for Greater Manchester the other nine local authorities. This means that we are working towards the ambition for half of all journeys in Greater Manchester to be made by public transport, walking, wheeling or cycling by 2040. This is called the 'Right Mix' target. Our Local Transport Strategy will provide more detail on what this means for the Borough and what our local priorities are. Having a Local Transport Strategy will put us in a stronger position to identify and attract the funding we need to deliver schemes that are locally important. It will enable the Council to identify and develop proposals for transport interventions to competitively bid for monies when they become available.

What we and our partners have already done ...

- **On bus:** TfGM has introduced cheaper bus fares: there is now a £2 single journey cap (£1 for children) and a £5 AnyBus (£2.50 for children) all day cap for bus journeys throughout Greater Manchester and a weekly cap of £21 (£10.50 for children).
- **On cycling and walking:** TfGM has installed cycle parking stands at Prestwich and Heaton Park tram stops.
- **On highways maintenance:** Over the last two years we have spent approximately £800,000 on resurfacing roads in Prestwich at locations shown in the adjacent tables.
- **On preventative highways maintenance:** we have invested an additional £295,000 on preventative highway maintenance.
- **On road safety:** We have provided Bikeability training to children in years 5, 6 and 7.
- **On electric vehicles:** we have introduced an e-car club at the Fairfax Road car park in Prestwich in partnership with TfGM and Enterprise as part of a pilot project. The scheme helps to give people the flexibility to choose not to own a car or to try out a green transport alternative and can help those who cannot afford their own car.



Road Name	Extent of road resurfaced
Park Road	Sheepfoot Lane - Castle Hill Road
Sandgate Road	M60 Bridge - Mount Road
Sheepfoot Lane	Junction of Middleton Road - Approx 145m West
Glebelands Road	Full Length and Roundabout
Sandy Meade	Butterstile Road to bend
Ravensway	From Bury Old Road - No.11
Hastings Road	Full Length
Heywood Road	Hampden Road to Scholes Lane
Hillcrest Road	Full Length



PRESTWICH – WHAT WE PROPOSE TO DO: Metrolink

In partnership with TfGM, we will seek to make significant improvements to the existing Metrolink stop in line with the investment priorities contained in this Strategy. As part of this:

At Prestwich Metrolink Stop we will seek to:

- Provide better crossing facilities to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists to the get to the tram stop.
- Refurbish and modernise the tram stop.
- Enhance wayfinding from the Metrolink stop around Prestwich village to key destinations in the town centre.
- Develop proposals for a Travel Hub and sustainable transport modes as part of the regeneration plans for Prestwich town centre.

At Heaton Park Metrolink Stop we will seek to:

- Refurbish and modernise the tram stop.
- Provide better crossing facilities to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists to the get to the tram stop.
- Improve access onto the platform for users with mobility impairments. Improving access onto the platform would also help to increase passenger throughflow when events are taking place at Heaton Park.
- Install a cycle hub at the Metrolink stop to support users travelling by bike.



PRESTWICH – WHAT WE PROPOSE TO DO:

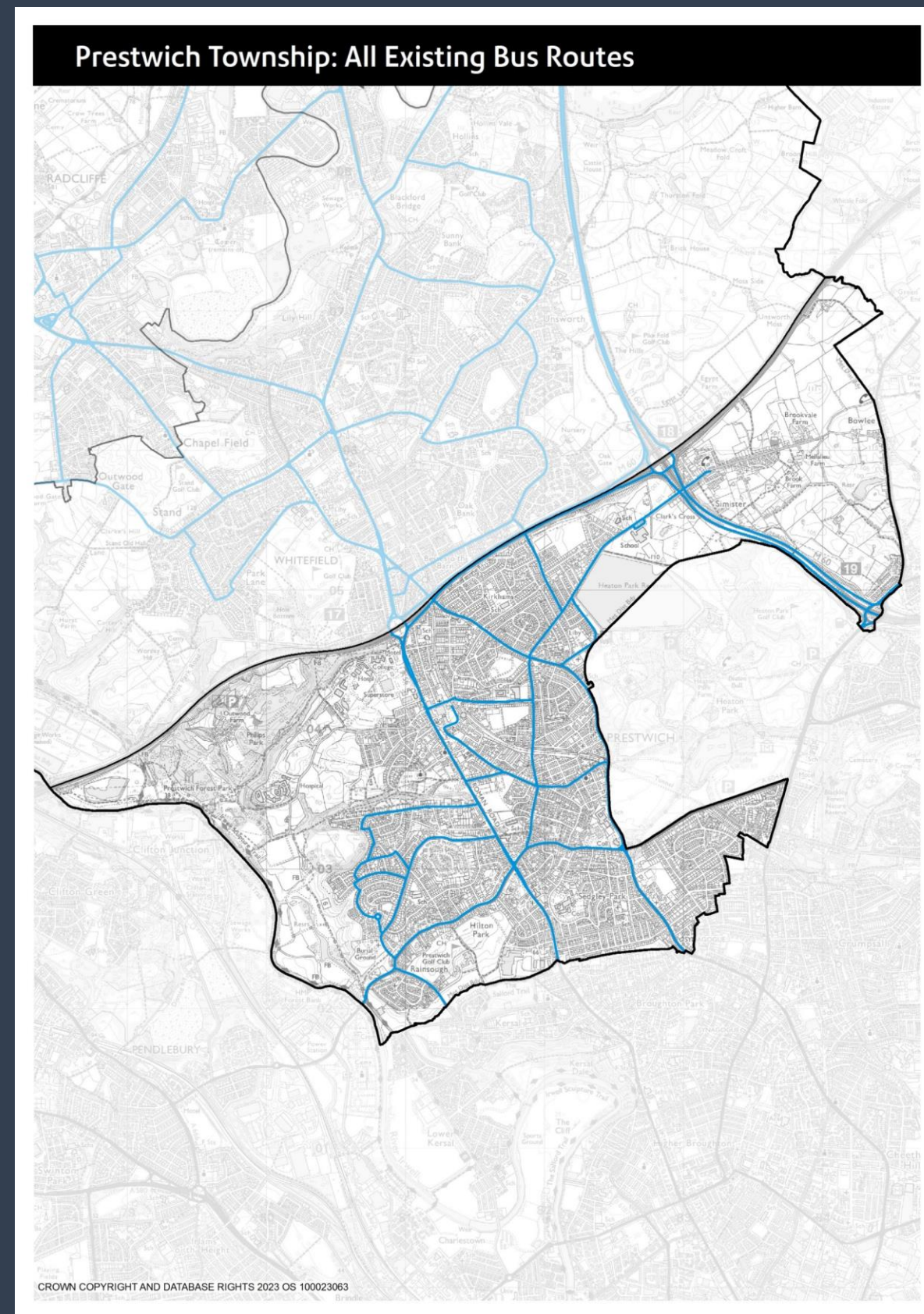
Bus

We will work with Transport for Greater Manchester to secure investment to improve bus services and bus infrastructure in Prestwich.

Across Greater Manchester, buses are being brought back under local control for the first time since they were de-regulated in 1986 under a system called franchising.

Franchised services will start running in some parts of the Borough from September 2023 and in the entire Borough from March 2024.

The adjacent plan shows all the existing bus routes that operate in the township but we will seek to identify where additional services and routes may be needed or existing routes strengthened.



PRESTWICH - WHAT WE PROPOSE TO DO:

Bus

The Greater Manchester's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) set out TfGM's aim to stabilise and then strengthen bus services and routes to a minimum 'turn up and go' frequency (at least every 10 minutes per hour on Monday to Saturday daytimes) on major routes to form a 'London-style network'.

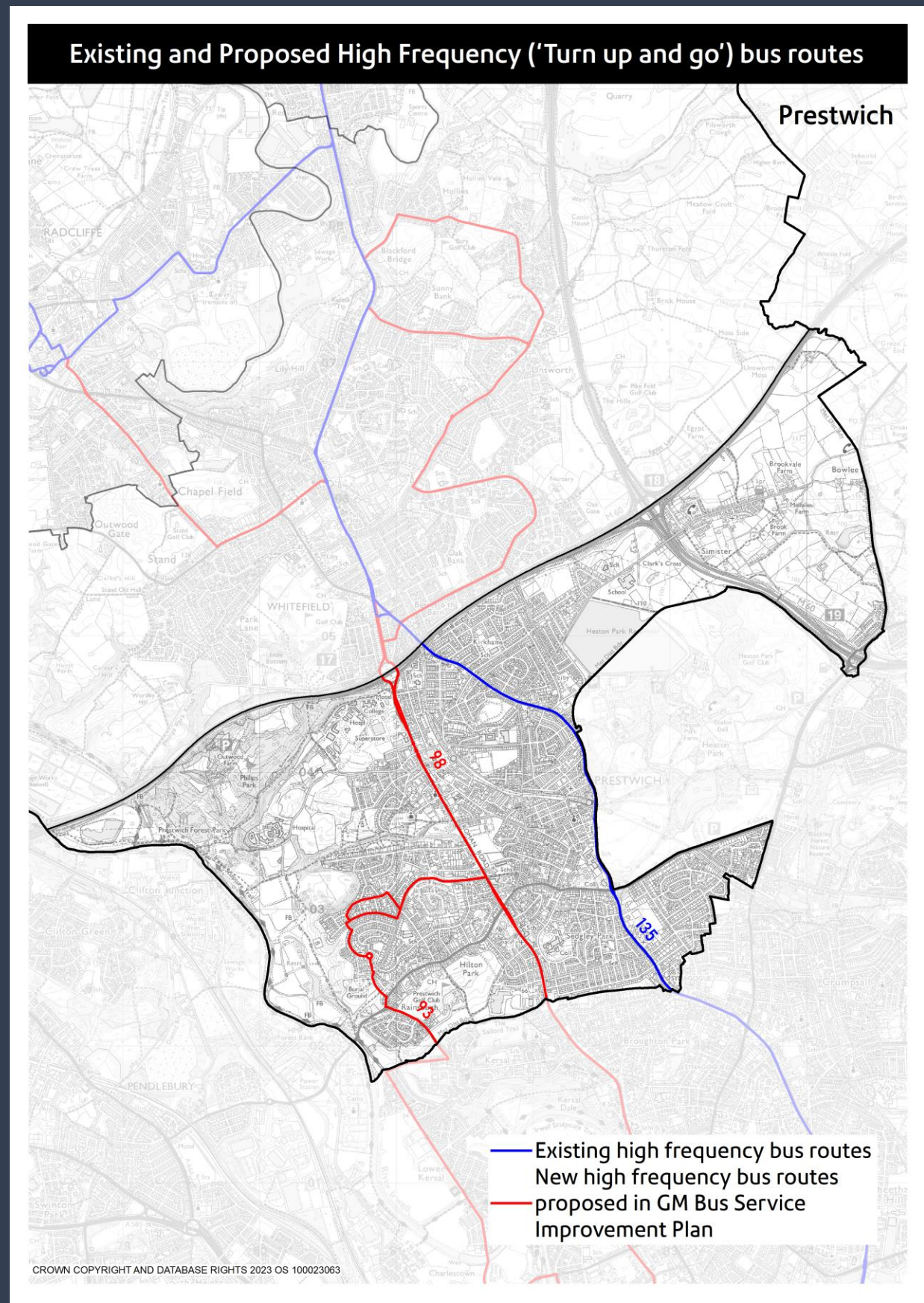
BSIP contains a target for 70 additional routes across the GM bus network to be brought up to a high frequency standard by March 2025, with a particular focus on linking key towns and district centres. The adjacent map shows which bus services and routes in Greater Manchester's proposed high frequency bus network would run through the Prestwich township.

The table below shows all the services in the Borough that are part of Greater Manchester's proposed high frequency bus route network. A plan of all these routes and services can be found in the bus chapter.

As the adjacent map shows, several of the proposed high frequency network routes are in the Prestwich township. Some of the routes already benefit from a high frequency service (the blue routes on the map).

These proposed high frequency routes would be an enhancement of the existing service. These would not be the only bus services in Prestwich township.

Service	Route
163*	Manchester - Middleton - Heywood
93	Bury - Prestwich - Agecroft - Manchester
97	Bury - Unsworth - Prestwich - Manchester
98	Bury - Radcliffe - Whitefield - Manchester
135*	Bury - Whitefield - Cheetham Hill - Manchester
471*	Rochdale - Bury - Bolton
524*	Bolton - Radcliffe - Bury
472	Bury - Ramsbottom circulars
474	Bury - Ramsbottom circulars
467	Rochdale - Daniel Fold - Bamford - Bury
468	Rochdale - Greave - Bamford - Jericho - Bury
*	Indicates an existing high frequency service



PRESTWICH - WHAT WE PROPOSE TO DO: Walking, Wheeling and Cycling

The A56 and M60 present significant barriers to walking and cycling in respect of crossings, safety, noise and air pollution. Whilst in recent years pedestrian crossings on the High Street have been improved there is still more that can be done. The proposed redevelopment of the Longfield centre may offer further opportunities to improve the walking and cycling environment. Funding such as the CRSTS will be sought to deliver improvements.

Using funding from our 2021/22 Active Travel Capability funding award, we have commissioned a review of the main walking, wheeling and cycling routes into Prestwich town centre from surrounding residential areas. The starting point for the review was the Bee Network proposed by Transport for Greater Manchester in 2019 and revised in the 2020 Greater Manchester Local Cycling and Walking Investment Plan, supplemented by additional local knowledge. The review will result in a revised route network and will propose interventions to bring the existing network to current design standards.

Proposals are also being developed for a walking and cycling route under the M60 at Parrenthorn, and we will seek funding to deliver them.



PRESTWICH - WHAT WE PROPOSE TO DO: Highways and Parking

On Highways, we propose to:

- Continue to work with National Highways to help deliver improvements to Junction 18 of the M60 to facilitate smoother flows of traffic along the connecting motorways.
- Deliver a programme of preventative maintenance treatment to stop further deterioration of the road surface such as patching, micro asphalt and surface dressing. Information on which roads will receive surface dressing each year is published on the Council's website.
- Continue the delivery of our Highways Investment Strategy to resurface roads that have gone beyond using any preventative treatment. Information on which roads will be treated each year is published on the Council's website.
- Continue the delivery of our street lighting replacement programme, replacing lighting columns that are coming to the end of their serviceable life and install energy efficient LED lamps.
- Implement safer routes to schools/school streets initiatives at Sedgley Park Primary.
- Implement a 20mph zone and traffic calming measures in the Park Road and Windsor Road areas.
- Increase the number of publicly available chargers, working a supplier to install Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI) on Council land, with new infrastructure starting to be installed by Autumn 2023.



PRESTWICH - SUMMARY PLAN

We want to make sure that our Local Transport Strategy meets the needs of our residents, businesses and visitors. The adjacent table provides a summary of the key transport proposals that are currently being developed and implemented in Prestwich. These range from significant new infrastructure projects to on-going maintenance of existing infrastructure, which is important.

However, we will continue to work with our partners Transport for Greater Manchester and other key stakeholders to identify further opportunities for projects that will improve Prestwich's transport network. This includes identifying funding opportunities that may arise from national and regional initiatives.

Summary of Key Transport Proposals for Prestwich Township
Metrolink
Improvements at Prestwich Metrolink Stop
Improvements at Heaton Park Metrolink Stop
Bus
Roll out of bus franchising
More high frequency bus routes including on the 93 & 97 (Bury to Manchester via Prestwich)
Walking, Wheeling and Cycling
Active travel improvements in Prestwich Town Centre
Bikeability cycle training
Implementation of School Streets where appropriate
Highways and Parking
Street lighting column replacement & LED lamp programme 2020-2024
Expansion of publicly available Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure (EVCI)
Preventative highway maintenance
Highway Investment Strategy resurfacing programme
Develop a parking strategy for Prestwich to meet resident and visitor needs