

FOREWORD

Good jobs are the foundations from which we build happy and prosperous lives. We want everyone in Bury to access meaningful and worthwhile employment, building prosperity and well-being for individuals and our borough.

Bury is at the forefront of delivering unprecedented job opportunities for our residents over the next 20 years. The borough will see new employment sites, new transport infrastructure, a brand-new secondary school, and housing development. This comes at a time when Greater Manchester has agreed to the seventh devolution deal with the government, a groundbreaking deal that will give us greater autonomy over our collective decision-making in the areas that will have the greatest impact on our residents.

Providing accessible and affordable skills and training opportunities throughout people's lives, suited to the economy now and fit for the future, is the only way in which we can ensure that working age residents in Bury can pursue the jobs and careers that they want.

The Mayor of Greater Manchester and the ten leaders have secured significant control over post-16 technical education, giving us the ability to create the country's first integrated technical education city-region.

We can achieve parity of esteem for our young people through both technical and academic pathways. With this level of opportunity and investment, it is imperative that we prepare our residents for the opportunities that will present themselves in the next 10 years and beyond by articulating our ambitions through an All-Age Work and Skills Strategy.

This strategy intends to influence policy and create supportive structures across our education settings through primary schools, secondary and further education that reimagines the role of education to be focused on education for work.

Beyond compulsory education we will deliver a local work and skills eco-system, by focusing on the changes that we can make and influencing and lobbying for the changes we cannot.

While we cannot directly control the curriculum in our primary and secondary settings, we can play a pivotal role in supporting our teachers and leadership teams.

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By forging strong partnerships with businesses, we can open the world of work to our young people, inspiring them to envision their future career paths and equipping them with the skills necessary to become good employees.

In Bury, we believe in lifelong learning from childhood to adulthood. This strategy will set out how we will support our adult residents to secure good employment, advancing their careers, increasing their earning potential, and switching careers when necessary.

With today's rapidly evolving workplace, career paths no longer need to be linear. Adaptability and a willingness to learn new skills are essential mindsets for success.



Cllr. Charlotte Morris

Cabinet Member, Culture, Economy and Skills.