# Actions from Council 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017

ACTION	RESPONSE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Ward Member Question from Councillor Sheldon re Speed Limits at the Royal George Junction of the A635	See Note 1 below.	Councillor F. Hussain	30 June 2017
Outstanding Business – Access for All	Letter to be sent to the Secretary of State	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
	Letter to be sent to the Chair of Transport for Greater Manchester Committee	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
	Letter to be sent to Leader Member on GMCA for Transport	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
	Response from TfGMC dated 24 April 2017 received 25 April 2017		
	Response from DoT dated 12 May 2017 received 18 May 2017		
The Administration's Priorities	RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and the Administration's Priorities for 2017-19 be endorsed.	Council	The report was endorsed on 22 March 2017.
Leader and Cabinet Member Question: Councillor Sykes – Transfer of GMUTC Building	Representations to be made to the DfE for the transfer of the building to Oldham College	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years	Letter sent 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2017

Leader and Cabinet Member Question Time: Councillor Hudson to the Leader regarding Greenfield Primary School	Letter to be sent to all Saddleworth Councillors providing an update on Greenfield Primary School	Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years	Letter sent 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2017
Administration Business 1: Impact of Austerity on Women	Letter to be sent to the LGA	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
	Letters to be sent to the three MPs	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
	Publicise the Annie Kenney Fund Appeal	Council	Ongoing
	Response from the LGA dated 3 May 2017 received 8 May 2017		
Administration Business 2: Disqualification of Councillor	Representations to be made to the Secretary of State for the extension of the 1972 Local Government Act to automatically disqualify any member who after conviction is placed on the sex offenders register.	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
Administration Business 3: Dying to Work Campaign	To be rolled to the next Full Council meeting	Constitutional Services	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2017
Opposition Business 1: Withdrawal from the GMSF	Changes be pressed to the GMSC which reflected concerns raised by residents and ward councillors; Oldham's own local plan be updated; Existing Development Plans be reviewed.	Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods	See Note 2 below.

Opposition Business 2: Establishing a Bees/Pollinators Action Plan for the Borough	Letter to be sent to the Minister responsible calling on the Government to maintain the temporary ban.	Chief Executive	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2017
	Council to cease the use of neonicotinoids and glyphosate on land that it manages; Standards be maintained as outlined in the National Pollination Strategy as much as practicably possible; Use of Green Dividend Fund be continued; Use this year's consultation on the Bloom and Grow to inform residents of the best way for maintain local ecosystems to enable bee keeping.  Letter from DEFRA dated 27 April 2017 received 8 May 2017  Council information at Note 3 below.	Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods	Information at Note 3 Below.
Opposition Business 3: Developing Local Safeguards for Vulnerable Benefit Claimants	Council work with the DWP to promote new safeguarding model; feature information on new safeguards on the website and publications; and Support establishment of local liaison group.	Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods	Information at Note 4 below.

Update on Actions from Council	Council noted the actions received regarding motions and other actions agreed at previous Council meetings.	Council	The Council noted the report on 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2017.
Who Put That There? A Street Charter for Oldham	RESOLVED that the Street Charter be approved.	Council	The Council approved the report on 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mach 2017.
Change to Committee Membership	RESOLVED that Councillor Norman Briggs be appointed Chair of the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the 2016/17 Municipal Year.	Council	The Council approved the report on 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2017.

#### Note 1: Response to Councillor Sheldon's question on A635 Junction.

The matter has now been looked into in some detail. Historically, the location of the speed limit at this point was one of the issues that came to light during the finalisation of the GM wide Speed Limit Review, an exercise that Unity, Oldham Council, GM Police and Transport for Greater Manchester all took part in and are currently contributing to.

In recent times, Tameside introduced a 30 mph speed Limit along the B6175 that started at the boundary with Oldham and continued all the way to Stalybridge. This change left a small section of the B6175 between the boundary sign and the junction with the A635 at 40mph.

Discussions are now taking place with Tameside for us to extend the 30mph along the B6175 right up to the junction with the A635. As this proposal will need a level of co-ordination and co-operation with our Tameside Neighbours an exact date cannot be offered when the matter will be resolved owing to an agreement being reached about the new signing arrangements and the associated electrical disconnections and re-connections requirements.

To sum up, Highways agree with your suggestion and are taking steps to remedy the situation.

### **Note 2 regarding GMSF Motion:**

1. The Council already has and seeks to maintain a 'brownfield first' allocation policy in its approach to the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and will only allocate greenfield sites where insufficient brownfield sites are not available.

- 2. The Council can only allocate sites that are suitable, available, achievable and viable and do not have insurmountable constraints, in line with the requirements of planning legislation. Should it not have sufficient brownfield land, then only then will consideration be given to allocating green-belt or other protected open land for alternative uses.
- 3. The Housing White Paper requires the review of development plan documents every 5 years and the Council already reviews its 5 year land supply position yearly. As such, review of these documents is already built in.

#### Note 3 regarding the Bee Pollinator Action Plan Motion:

Officers have taken into account the decision made by Council as follows:-

- Cease the use of neonicotinoids and glyphosate on all land that it manages, with the exception where it is absolutely necessary in the control of Schedule 9 plants (under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) or to protect Council assets. **Response: Glyphosate is now used to protect Council assets. Neonicotinoids are no longer used.**
- Maintain the standards outlined in the National Pollination Strategy as much as is practicably possible. Response: Wildflower meadows have been introduced right across Oldham to increase the opportunity for pollination.
- Continue to use the Green Dividend Fund to create more ecosystems where bees can flourish. Response: Schemes have and continue to be introduced to promote and increase biodiversity.
- Use this year's consultation on Bloom and Grow to inform residents of the best for maintaining their local ecosystems and identify measures to enable bee keeping. Response: A Bee landing is being created at the Gallery to inform residents on how bees can be established and maintained in Oldham. New hives are to be introduced at Brownhill nature garden to inform the public on the benefits of bee keeping and to promote others to take up the pastime.

#### Note 4 regarding Developing Local Safeguards for Vulnerable Benefit Claimants:

DWP is committed to safeguarding vulnerable claimants working with the Local Authority and other partners to provide support to claimants. The core safeguarding principles are adhered to for citizens visiting our service where appropriate. A flowchart has been designed for the Council, Jobcentre and Benefit Centre staff to identify ESA claimants with complex mental health conditions/learning difficulties/cognitive impairment.

In the pilot so far pro-formas have been issued to 26 people 6 people have replied. The majority asked that their GP be used as their additional point of contact.

After the start of the pilot, in April, Oldham Jobcentre started delivering Universal Credit Full Service. The system for claiming and maintaining the claim has completely changed. How this pilot can be embedded in the new process is currently being investigated. There are some

changes to the current Universal Credit Full Service system at the end of July that will help with **redesigning the pilot** to meet the needs of the claimants that are making new claims to Universal Credit Full Service because they are sick. Processes will be revisited in August to ensure the pilot continues.

An awareness session was held in March for other services to gain an awareness of the process 64 people attended. No referrals from other sources have been received so far.

Frontline Jobcentre staff have recently had awareness training of Drugs and Alcohol treatment services strengthening the referral process. DWP continue to work with services to support vulnerable claimants. The Government has announced a new **Personal Support Package** that will deliver tailored support to people through jobcentre work coaches. The Personal Support Package is a range of support that will give specific groups with particular needs, targeted and tailored support, for example young people or those with mental health conditions. The core elements of this package will be added to the website following the roll-out.

When the local liaison group is established new partners to Jobcentre Plus that are part of the Personal Support Package will be invited.

## Previous to 22 March 2017 Council:

Opposition Business 1 – NHS Blood and Transplant Services	Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board. Emails sent to the relevant directorate.	Overview and Scrutiny Board	The Partnership agreement is currently with officers at Manchester and Salford Council for review. Once this is complete, it will be taken to the GM Director of Public Health forum and hopefully passed up through the Gm health & Social Care Partnership for agreement. Action and activity in Oldham will be developed off the back of this agreement.
Leader & Cabinet Question Time  – Cllr Sykes to Cllr McMahon – Community Shop (4 February 2015)	Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board	Overview and Scrutiny Board	Community Shop – a report was presented to O&S Board in July 2015. A workshop was organised for elected members on 28 September 2015. A visit also took place to the Community Shop in Barnsley and Fare Share in Ashton.  The Board endorsed that a risk assessment and cost benefit analysis be carried out on a "combined model" which brought together the opportunity for the delivery of both the Community Shop and Fare Share models for the redistribution of surplus food, opportunities for joint investment from partners and other sources be explored.

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			a report was presented to the O&S Board in March 2017 which included an update on:  The developing partnership between Community Shop and the Trussell Trust;  The revised 'Community Food Hub' Model outlined by the Community Shop and the Trussell Trust partnership;  The offer of the 'model to users in Oldham; and  The discussion with representatives from the Community Shop and the Trussell Trust.  The O&S Board resolved that: The new Community Food Hub be considered further, in consultation with local partners and elected members, in the context of existing activity in Oldham.
Opposition Business 1 – Bin Collection App (13 July 2016)	The merits and costs of the introduction of a bin app for the Oldham Borough be looked at and an update be provided to elected members.	Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods	As at 29 June 2017: Further review work has now been undertaken regarding this proposal and there is now a more detailed understanding of the costs and implications of both implementing the app as well as annual support and

Opposition Motion 2 – Making Oldham More Dementia Friendly (7 Sep 2016)	Referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board	Overview and Scrutiny Board	maintenance. Further to this, information regarding the numbers of users of the app across Greater Manchester is also now better understood and indicates that there is relatively low usage the conurbation.  An exercise now needs to be undertaken to establish whether the value in investing the app (given the low usage and the functionality which is already available on the Council's website) merits the investment needed.  O&S Board at its meeting on 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2016 referred the issue to Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee who would report back on an on-going basis. A further report is being discussed at Health Scrutiny on 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2017.
			This issue is still progressing through Health Scrutiny.
Opposition Motion 4 – Royal Mail (7 Sep 2016)	Further letter to be sent. Response was full of inaccuracies. (Actions from 9 Nov 2016 Council)	Chief Executive	In progress.
	Further acknowledgement from Royal Mail dated 4 May 2017		

	received 8 May 2017		
Cabinet Minute Question: HTS Transport from Councillor Williamson (9 November 2016)	The impact of mobility benefits on Home to Transport Appeals.	Councillor Chadderton	The impact to be reviewed in six months after implementation of the Policy and be reported back.  A briefing note is appended to this report with the response.
Opposition Business 2 – Recycling (14 December 2016)	Under Council Procedure Rule 8.4(d) the motion was referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board.	O&S Board	A report was taken to Overview and Scrutiny Board on 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2017. A briefing note is appended to this report with the response.