

Oldham Borough Council

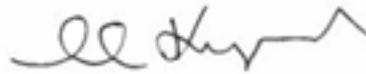


**Council Meeting
Wednesday 16th July 2025
Supplement – Item 12**

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

**To: ALL MEMBERS OF OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL,
CIVIC CENTRE, OLDHAM**

- 12 Update on Actions from Council
Update on actions from Motions approved by Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shelley Kipling', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Shelley Kipling
Chief Executive**



Report to COUNCIL

Update on Actions from Council

Portfolio Holder: Various

Officer Contact: Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Peter Thompson, Constitutional Services
Ext. 4716

16th July 2025

Reason for Decision

The decision is for Members to note the updates on actions from the Council meeting held on 9th April 2025 and any updated responses from meetings earlier in this municipal year.

Executive Summary

This report provides information to the Council on actions taken at the most recent Council meetings.

Recommendations

Council is asked to:

1. Note the report.

Update on Actions from Council**1 Background**

- 1.1 This report sets out the actions that officers have taken on motions approved at the Council meeting on 9th April 2025 and informs Members on any updated responses to motions approved at previous meetings in this municipal year.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The current position on actions is set out in the table at Appendix 1.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 N/A

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 N/A

5 Consultation

- 5.1 N/A

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 N/A

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 N/A

8 Equality Impact, including Implications for Children and Young People

- 8.1 N/A

9 Key Decision

- 9.1 No

10 Key Decision Reference

- 10.1 N/A

11 Background Papers

- 11.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act

1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

- The agenda and minutes of the Council meetings are available online at: <http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails>

12 **Appendices**

12.1 Appendix 1 – Current Position

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Actions from the Council meeting on 9th April 2025

Action/Issue	Responsible Officer	Update	Completed ✓ In progress ●
Youth Council Motion – Young People’s Mental Health This Council resolves to: 1. Complete an overview and scrutiny study of Mental Health service’s waiting times (including CAMHS). 2. That the Chief Executive be requested to write to the Prime Minister and to the Secretary of State for Health to ask for an increase in children and young people’s mental health services spending without any reduction in spending on adult mental health; to again ask the Government to ensure that adequate funding and resources are made available to schools and colleges to allow them to invest in the early intervention services; and for an update on their manifesto commitments.	Chief Executive	The Children and Young People Scrutiny Board, at its meeting on 17 th June 2025, resolved: That the recommendations of the report be noted, establishing a task and finish group to investigate the issue of Mental Health service’s waiting times (including CAMHS) and that the composition of the Task and Finish Group be as follows: Councillors Z. Ali, Bishop, Hobin, Hughes and McLaren. Letters from the Chief Executive to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Health are attached at Appendices 2 and 3. <i>(Replies awaited)</i>	1. ✓ 2. ✓
Administration Motion 1 – Houses of Multiple Occupation: Resolved: 1. This Council welcomes the recent announcement by the Chancellor of an additional £2 billion for social and affordable housing. This funding provides an opportunity to address the shortage of genuinely affordable homes and to ensure that people in Oldham have access to safe, secure and high-quality housing.	Chief Executive	Letters from the Chief Executive to the borough’s three Members of Parliament and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government attached at Appendices 4 – 7. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is ongoing to collect boroughwide data on HMOs ahead of a report being brought back to Council in September Members workshops / Scrutiny discussion on this information (once finalised) will be confirmed 	1-3. ✓ 4-6. ● 7. ●

2. This Council calls on the new Labour Government to reverse the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010 which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.

3. This council further requests that the Chief Executive writes to the borough's 3 MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, asking for their support in reversing the aforementioned changes.

4. This Council calls on the Cabinet Member responsible to provide a report back to Council at the soonest opportunity on the work that has been carried out to establish whether a case can be made for an Article 4 direction; to continue efforts to establish that case, and to report back on a regular basis.

5. This Council will wherever possible ensure that any building being used as an HMO is defined as such, with a view to ensuring that any work towards an Article 4 direction is provided with the best available information.

6. This Council will provide information on forthcoming HMO applications, with any personal information removed.

7. The Council will establish a right for Councillors to make representations to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals.

- Legal advice has been sought on the other matters within this resolution, as the release of information contained within any application for a HMO licence application would constitute private information under GDPR until such time as we are deciding to grant an HMO licence.

<p>Administration Motion 2 – Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage Oldham Schools to submit examples of good practice to <i>'Inclusion in practice'</i>. 2. Support the LGA's call for urgent action in the Spending Review to address the deficit in High Needs Spending by Local Authorities and put spending to support children with SEND on a sustainable footing. 	<p>Director of Education, Skills and Early Years</p>	<p>The Director of Education, Skills and Early Years, has confirmed that both actions required under this Motion have been completed.</p>	<p>1-2 ✓</p>
<p>Opposition Motion 2: Expressing disappointment at government failure to compensate the WASPI Women RESOLVED (As amended):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This Council notes that more than 11,600 WASPI women across Oldham Borough stand to lose out on compensation after the Labour Government decided to ignore the independent ombudsman's assessment and go against their long-held policy to support WASPI women. It is estimated that the compensation owed to impacted women across Oldham Borough would be a minimum of £11,642,500. 2. This Council notes that previous Labour Leaders of this Council have referred to the situation facing WASPI women as "an injustice" and as recently as March 2023, Oldham Labour were still campaigning to put that injustice right. 3. This Council also notes that despite the parlous state of the public finances and scorched earth policy pursued by the previous Conservative 	<p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>Letter from the Chief Executive to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Right Honourable Liz Kendall MP, asking her to look again at this decision. (<i>Reply awaited</i>)</p>	<p>1-5 ✓</p>

<p>Government, the current Labour Government has committed to the 'triple' lock on the state pension which means the state pensions is rising by £470 a year in April 2025.</p> <p>4. This Council reasserts its support for the WASPI women and regrets the previous Conservative Government's delay in responding to the Ombudsman's report leaving the incoming Labour government to decide whether the independent ombudsman's assessment that compensation should be paid to them.</p> <p>5. Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Right Honourable Liz Kendall MP, asking her to look again at this decision.</p>			
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Actions from the Council meeting on 18 December 2024 (adjourned until 20th January 2025)

<p>Opposition Motion 3 (Independent)– The Old Failsworth Library (as amended) RESOLVED: Council resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to keep the current tenant of the former library on Main Street up to date with information regarding the lease and potential repairs to the building. 2. That Council officers will keep all Failsworth Councillors up to date potential renovations and future uses of the former Failsworth library building. 3. Explore opportunities to renovate the former Failsworth Library on Main Street so that it can be used by other local community groups and or businesses subject to funding. 4. That all Failsworth Councillors are given opportunities to be involved in plans to potentially renovate this building for future community use. 	<p>Director of Communities</p>	<p>This work is ongoing -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refurbishment proposals are still progressing through feasibility and due diligence processes • engagement with the tenant continues as / when needed • members will receive an update once the feasibility work is concluded 	<p>1-4 ●</p>
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The Rt. Hon. Sir Keir Starmer MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG

Tel: 0161 770 4190
14th April 2025

Dear Prime Minister,

Council Motion 9th April 2025: Young People's Mental Health

The full Council at its meeting on 9th April 2025 approved the following Motion, that had been submitted by Oldham's Youth Council:

"Since 2012, young people have been telling the youth council that mental health is an issue that they face every day and that they need support now. Since this time we have only seen the need for mental health services increase, especially since the COVID pandemic, and although spending on Mental Health services has increased, it has not dented the need for support seen across Oldham and in the UK.

At the last election, Labour had several manifesto points to improve mental health support for children and young people and we would like to see these implemented as soon as possible.

Council recognises that over the past few years the Oldham Youth Council have made 'Mental Health' a priority issue, with it coming in the top 5 issues for Make Your Mark. The council also recognises that we have undertaken much work in this area to improve the experiences of Oldham's young people. This includes:

- Oldham Youth Council first commissioned Kooth.com, an online mental health counselling service, for Oldham's young people.
- 2013 motion to Council asking for an overview and scrutiny of mental health services.
- 2017 motion asking to ensure that adequate funding is made available to schools and colleges to allow them to invest in the early intervention mental health services.
- 2021 motion asking to secure mental health funding for Oldham.
- Our work with Oldham Theatre Workshop, highlighting mental health and how professionals can work with young people called Standard Day.
- Our work with Oldham Theatre Workshop, highlighting self-harm, called Boy in the Black.

- Our campaign called SNAP that promoted Kooth.com and the support they provide for depression, stress/anxiety and eating disorders.
- Our campaign 'I Love Me', raising young people's self-esteem and confidence.

Council notes:

- That mental health issues have risen, with a 12% increase in cases since pre COVID.
- That consultation undertaken by the Youth Council would suggest schools and teachers are still not able to fully support young people's mental health.
- That according to several official sources the average waiting time to get an appointment for Mental Health assessments in Oldham is 16-18 weeks.
- That consultation undertaken by the Youth Council would suggest that while the average wait time is 16-18 weeks some young people could wait for up to 6 months for an initial assessment and that the wait for treatment could be over a year after that appointment.
- In 2022/23, just under £1B was spent on Children and Young People's mental health compared to the £12.8B on all mental health services. This was despite the understanding that 50% of mental health illnesses in adults start showing symptoms by the age of 14, and 75% experience symptoms before they are 24.
- Labour's manifesto said that in the first term they would invest in front line services recruiting 8,500 new staff to reduce waiting times.
- That the manifesto also said that labour's new Young Futures Hubs would have open access to mental health support for children and young people in every community

Therefore, we propose that **Council resolves** to complete an overview and scrutiny study of Mental Health service's waiting times (including CAMHS) and ask the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of state for Health to request an increase to children and young people's mental health services spending without reduction in spending on adult mental health; to again ask the Government to ensure that adequate funding and resources are made available to schools and colleges to allow them to invest in the early intervention services; and for an update on their manifesto commitments."

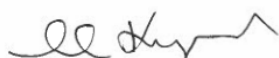
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I have therefore been requested to write on behalf of the Council to request an increase in children and young people's mental health services spending without any reduction in spending on adult mental health; to again ask the Government to ensure that adequate funding and resources are made available to schools and colleges to allow them to invest in the early intervention services; and for an update on their manifesto commitments.

I look forward to your reply, which will be presented to Council.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

Chief Executive

Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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The Rt. Hon. Wes Streeting MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG

Tel: 0161 770 4190
14th April 2025

Dear Secretary of State,

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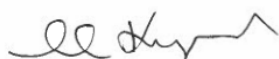
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I look forward to your reply, which will be presented to Council.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

Chief Executive

Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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The Rt. Hon. Angela Rayner MP
Secretary of State for Housing
Communities and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
Westminster,
London, SW1P 4DF

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG
Tel: 0161 770 4190
16th April 2025

Dear Secretary of State,
Re: Houses of Multiple Occupation

The full Council at its meeting on 9th April 2025, approved the following amended motion:

‘This Council notes with concern the increasing number of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in Oldham and the impact this has on local communities, housing standards, and infrastructure. While HMOs can provide an important source of affordable accommodation, their proliferation in certain areas has led to issues including overcrowding, pressure on local services, and a decline in housing quality. In the past 5 years the number of licensed HMOs in Oldham has almost doubled.

This Council also notes that:

- On 1 November 2023, it resolved to direct officers to “collect and collate evidence on the number of HMOs in each ward across the Borough, identifying clusters and report back to the relevant cabinet member if any case can be made for an Article 4 direction”.
- Current national planning regulations allow certain HMOs (Class C4, up to six residents) to be established without the need for planning permission. This limits the ability of local authorities to manage their spread and ensure they are appropriately located and regulated.
- No figures are currently available on the number of HMOs in the borough – only for the number of licenced HMOs (which meet one definition) or for HMOs which have received planning permission (which meet a separate definition).
- There are standard tests which allow the Council to define whether any building is an HMO, as defined under the Housing Act 2004.
- Councillors have been told that they cannot be informed of forthcoming HMOs for licensing, due to data privacy.
- Councillors have no right to make a representation to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals.
- The Council has let licenses for HMOs lapse on multiple occasions, sometimes for up to a year.

This Council welcomes the recent announcement by the Chancellor of an additional £2 billion for social and affordable housing. This funding provides an opportunity to address the shortage of genuinely affordable homes and to ensure that people in Oldham have access to safe, secure,

and high-quality housing.

This Council calls on the new Labour Government to reverse the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010 which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.

This council further requests that the Chief Executive writes to the borough's three MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, asking for their support in reversing the aforementioned changes.

This Council calls on the Cabinet Member responsible to provide a report back to Council at the soonest opportunity on the work that has been carried out to establish whether a case can be made for an Article 4 direction; to continue efforts to establish that case, and to report back on a regular basis.

This Council will wherever possible ensure that any building being used as an HMO is defined as such, with a view to ensuring that any work towards an Article 4 direction is provided with the best available information.

This Council will provide information on forthcoming HMO applications, with any personal information removed.

The Council will establish a right for Councillors to make representations to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals."

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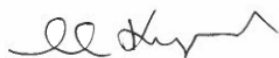
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7. The Council will establish a right for Councillors to make representations to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals.

Therefore, further to the resolution 3, I am writing to seek your support in requesting a reversal of the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010, which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.

I look forward to being able to report back to Council with your reply.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

Chief Executive

Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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Debbie Abrahams MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG
Tel: 0161 770 4190
16th April 2025

Dear Debbie Abrahams MP,
Re: Houses of Multiple Occupation

The full Council at its extraordinary meeting on 9th April 2025, approved the following amended motion:

‘This Council notes with concern the increasing number of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in Oldham and the impact this has on local communities, housing standards, and infrastructure. While HMOs can provide an important source of affordable accommodation, their proliferation in certain areas has led to issues including overcrowding, pressure on local services, and a decline in housing quality. In the past 5 years the number of licensed HMOs in Oldham has almost doubled.

This Council also notes that:

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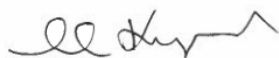
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Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

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Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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Jim McMahon MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG
Tel: 0161 770 4190
16th April 2025

Dear Jim McMahon MP,
Re: Houses of Multiple Occupation

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The Council will establish a right for Councillors to make representations to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals."

The Council therefore resolved that:

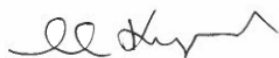
1. The Council welcomes the recent announcement by the Chancellor of an additional £2 billion for social and affordable housing. This funding provides an opportunity to address the shortage of genuinely affordable homes and to ensure that people in Oldham have access to safe, secure and high-quality housing.
2. The Council calls on the new Labour Government to reverse the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010 which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.
3. The council further requests that the Chief Executive writes to the borough's 3 MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, asking for their support in reversing the aforementioned changes.
4. This Council calls on the Cabinet Member responsible to provide a report back to Council at the soonest opportunity on the work that has been carried out to establish whether a case can be made for an Article 4 direction; to continue efforts to establish that case, and to report back on a regular basis.

5. This Council will wherever possible ensure that any building being used as an HMO is defined as such, with a view to ensuring that any work towards an Article 4 direction is provided with the best available information.
6. This Council will provide information on forthcoming HMO applications, with any personal information removed.
7. The Council will establish a right for Councillors to make representations to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals.

Therefore, further to the resolution 3, I am writing to seek your support in requesting a reversal of the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010, which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.

I look forward to being able to report back to Council with your reply.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

Chief Executive

Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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Lucy Powell MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG
Tel: 0161 770 4190
16th April 2025

Dear Lucy Powell MP,
Re: Houses of Multiple Occupation

The full Council at its meeting on 9th April 2025, approved the following amended motion:

‘This Council notes with concern the increasing number of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in Oldham and the impact this has on local communities, housing standards, and infrastructure. While HMOs can provide an important source of affordable accommodation, their proliferation in certain areas has led to issues including overcrowding, pressure on local services, and a decline in housing quality. In the past 5 years the number of licensed HMOs in Oldham has almost doubled.

This Council also notes that:

- On 1 November 2023, it resolved to direct officers to “collect and collate evidence on the number of HMOs in each ward across the Borough, identifying clusters and report back to the relevant cabinet member if any case can be made for an Article 4 direction”.
- Current national planning regulations allow certain HMOs (Class C4, up to six residents) to be established without the need for planning permission. This limits the ability of local authorities to manage their spread and ensure they are appropriately located and regulated.
- No figures are currently available on the number of HMOs in the borough – only for the number of licenced HMOs (which meet one definition) or for HMOs which have received planning permission (which meet a separate definition).
- There are standard tests which allow the Council to define whether any building is an HMO, as defined under the Housing Act 2004.
- Councillors have been told that they cannot be informed of forthcoming HMOs for licensing, due to data privacy.
- Councillors have no right to make a representation to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals.
- The Council has let licenses for HMOs lapse on multiple occasions, sometimes for up to a year.

This Council welcomes the recent announcement by the Chancellor of an additional £2 billion for social and affordable housing. This funding provides an opportunity to address the shortage of genuinely affordable homes and to ensure that people in Oldham have access to safe, secure,

and high-quality housing.

This Council calls on the new Labour Government to reverse the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010 which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.

This council further requests that the Chief Executive writes to the borough's three MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, asking for their support in reversing the aforementioned changes.

This Council calls on the Cabinet Member responsible to provide a report back to Council at the soonest opportunity on the work that has been carried out to establish whether a case can be made for an Article 4 direction; to continue efforts to establish that case, and to report back on a regular basis.

This Council will wherever possible ensure that any building being used as an HMO is defined as such, with a view to ensuring that any work towards an Article 4 direction is provided with the best available information.

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The Council will establish a right for Councillors to make representations to the Council on HMO licence applications and renewals."

The Council therefore resolved that:

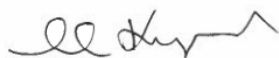
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Therefore, further to the resolution 3, I am writing to seek your support in requesting a reversal of the changes introduced by the Conservative and Liberal Democrat Coalition Government in 2010, which removed the requirement for planning permission for small houses of multiple occupation.

I look forward to being able to report back to Council with your reply.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

Chief Executive

Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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The Rt. Hon. Liz Kendall MP
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
Caxton House, 7th Floor
6 – 12 Tothill Street
London, SW1H 9NA

Chief Executive
Oldham MBC
Level 3, Civic Centre
West Street, Oldham OL1 1UG
Tel: 0161 770 4190
16th April 2025

Dear Secretary of State,

Re: Expressing disappointment at government failure to compensate the WASPI Women

The full Council at its meeting on 9th April 2025, approved the following amended motion:

‘The 1995 and 2011 Pension Acts saw the State Pension age for women rise from 60 to 66, the 2011 Act being supported by the Coalition Government and steered through Parliament by the Pensions Minister, Liberal Democrat MP, Stephen Webb.

Unfortunately, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) consistently failed to adequately communicate these changes from 2011 despite the Act bringing forward to November 2018 an increased pensions age for women to 65. As a result, tens of thousands of women were plunged into poverty. A recent survey by the WASPI Campaign of its members found that one-in-four affected women struggled to buy food and one third fell into debt. This was an avoidable scandal.

A landmark Ombudsman report in March 2024 told the Government to pay compensation and apologise to 3.6 million, women born in the 1950s who were affected by the lack of communication in relation to their State Pension age. The report concluded ministers from the Coalition and Conservative Governments failed to properly notify those impacted by the changes.

However, the DWP – under the new Labour Government - has indicated it does not accept the findings of the report. Compensation to up to 3.5m women ranging from £1,000 to £2,950 each would cost between £3.5bn and £10.5bn. A 2006 survey found that 90% of affected women knew about the planned changes in pension age.

Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) calls for fair and fast compensation for the financial and emotional hardship caused by DWP failures. WASPI argues for the highest level of compensation for the worst affected, i.e., women who had the shortest notice of the longest increase to their state pension. The worst affected women received just 18 months’ notice of a six-year increase to their state pension age. WASPI continues to call for: All Members of Parliament to support the urgent delivery of fair and fast compensation to all those affected; and compensation scheme proposals should be brought before MPs to vote on as quickly as possible. However, the Ombudsman’s report only addressed the issue of communicating the planned changes and did not recommend compensation for the change itself.

This Council notes that more than 11,600 WASPI women across Oldham Borough stand to lose out on compensation after the Labour Government decided to ignore the independent ombudsman's assessment and go against their long-held policy to support WASPI women. It is estimated that the compensation owed to impacted women across Oldham Borough would be a minimum of £11,642,500.

This Council notes that previous Labour Leaders of this Council have referred to the situation facing WASPI women as "an injustice" and as recently as March 2023, Oldham Labour were still campaigning to put that injustice right.

This Council also notes that despite the parlous state of the public finances and scorched earth policy pursued by the previous Conservative Government, the current Labour Government has committed to the 'triple' lock on the state pension which means the state pensions is rising by £470 a year in April 2025.

This Council reasserts its support for the WASPI women and regrets the previous Conservative Government's delay in responding to the Ombudsman's report leaving the incoming Labour government to decide whether the independent ombudsman's assessment that compensation should be paid to them.

Council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Right Hon Liz Kendall MP asking her to look again at this decision.'


The Council resolved:

1. To note that more than 11,600 WASPI women across Oldham Borough stand to lose out on compensation after the Labour Government decided to ignore the independent ombudsman's assessment and go against their long-held policy to support WASPI women. It is estimated that the compensation owed to impacted women across Oldham Borough would be a minimum of £11,642,500.
2. To note that previous Labour Leaders of this Council have referred to the situation facing WASPI women as "an injustice" and as recently as March 2023, Oldham Labour were still campaigning to put that injustice right.
3. To also note that despite the parlous state of the public finances and scorched earth policy pursued by the previous Conservative Government, the current Labour Government has committed to the 'triple' lock on the state pension which means the state pensions is rising by £470 a year in April 2025.
4. Reassert its support for the WASPI women and regrets the previous Conservative Government's delay in responding to the Ombudsman's report leaving the incoming Labour government to decide whether the independent ombudsman's assessment that compensation should be paid to them.
5. To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Right Honourable Liz Kendall MP, asking her to look again at this decision.

Therefore, further to the resolution 5, above, I am writing to request that you her to look again at this decision to go against the independent ombudsman's assessment and to reject the long-held policy to support WASPI women. In doing so, noting that it is estimated that the compensation owed to impacted women across Oldham Borough would be a minimum of £11,642,500, per person affecting more than 11,600 women across the Borough of Oldham.

I look forward to being able to report back to Council with your reply.

Yours sincerely,



Shelley Kipling

Chief Executive

Email: shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

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