Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Council Meeting
Wednesday 18 November 2026
Supplementary Agenda

OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

To: ALL MEMBERS OF OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL,
JR CLYNES BUILDING, GREAVES STREET, OLDHAM, OL1 1AL

Tuesday, 10 November 2026

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 18 November 2026 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, JR Clynes Building, Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street, Oldham, OL1 1AL, for the following purposes:

10 Notices of Motions (Pages 1 - 12)

Amendment to Motion 1
To be moved by Councillor Charters and Seconded by Councillor Iqbal

Amendment to Motion 2
To be moved by Councillor Barnes and Seconded by Councillor Brooks

Amendment to Motion 4
To be moved by Councillor Paul Taylor and Seconded by Councillor Brooks

11 A New Start for Oldham Borough report (Pages 13 - 14)

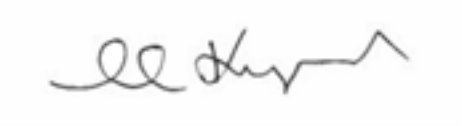
An Annex to the Report

13 Review of Political Balance on Committees (Pages 15 - 22)

14 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 23 - 30)

Additional responses since the publication of the agenda, relating to Motions 1 and 2 (September 2026 Council)

NOTE: The meeting of the Council will conclude 3 hours and 30 minutes after the commencement of the meeting.



Shelley Kipling
Chief Executive

PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS
NO AMENDMENT

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE

↓

MOTION – Seconder of the Motion to SECOND – May reserve right to speak

↓

DEBATE ON THE MOTION: Include Timings

↓

MOVER of Motion – Right of Reply

↓

VOTE – For/Against/Abstain

↓

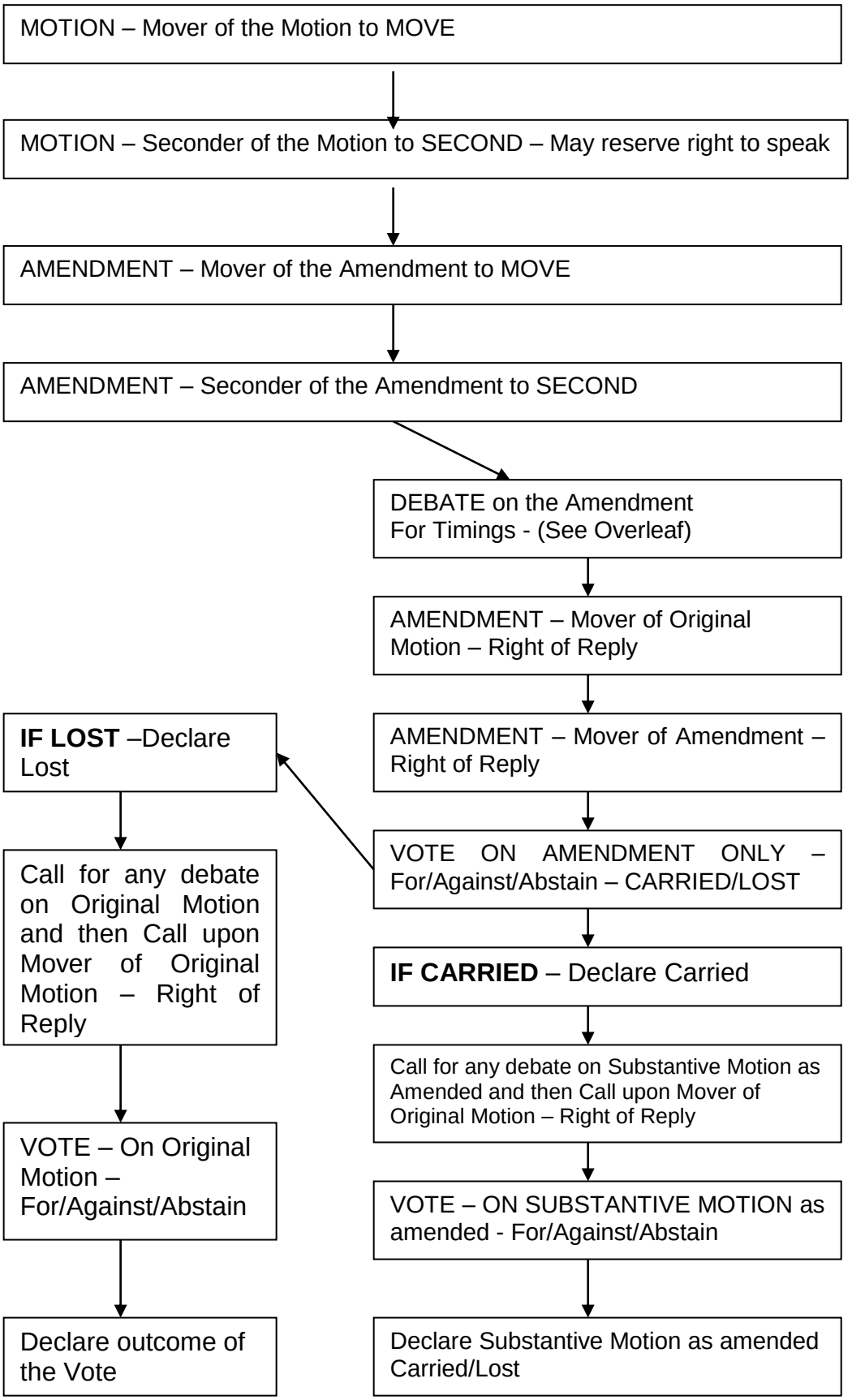
Declare outcome of the VOTE

RULE ON TIMINGS

(a) No Member shall speak longer than four minutes on any **Motion or Amendment**, or by way of question, observation or reply, unless by consent of the Members of the Council present, he/she is allowed an extension, in which case only one extension of 30 seconds shall be allowed.

(b) A Member replying to more than one question will have up to six minutes to reply to each question with an extension of 30 seconds

WITH AMENDMENT



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Notice of Amendment for Full Council

Under Paragraph 13 of the Council Procedure Rules

Oldham Council

The following amendment to be submitted to Council on the date indicated below:-

Add
~~Remove~~

Oldham objects to the National Scheme of Delegation

The **National Scheme of Delegation** is a standardised set of rules for English local planning authorities that replaces local delegation schemes and came into force on 31st October 2026.

It is authorised under the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025. The system was intended to speed up decision-making and ensure elected councillors focus only on major, strategic developments.

However, the Government's own working paper noted that 96% of decisions in the second quarter of 2024 were made by officers. It is only in an extremely rare set of cases that councillors call in applications.

According to the Campaign for Rural England, in 2023-2024 86% of all planning decisions were approved and decisions were only overturned in 2.7% of cases for major applications and 1% of minor applications.

The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) has warned that the new National Scheme of Delegation could lead to an increase in harassment of planners.

While the Local Councils Network's research showed that 84% of its member councils are struggling to recruit and retain planning staff.

Oldham Conservatives have joined over 1,000 Conservative Councillors across the country in writing to the Prime Minister to oppose the changes to legislation. Oldham Council updated its Constitution on 16th September 2026.

These changes have removed the ward member call in process, but it has ensured that all applications considered by the Planning Committee are major decisions that need serious scrutiny.

~~However, the Planning Committee has already found its hands tied by the new law and it has made Councillors' role in the planning process much more challenging.~~

The Chair of Planning wrote to all elected members on the 23rd September reminding all members about the changes and asking that ward councillors submit their concerns/reasons for referral in writing, to ensure that their views are recorded in the written report about the gateway process.

Therefore, this Council resolves to write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Communities, Housing & Local Government to ~~state its opposition to the changes and ask for the unnecessary new law to be reviewed.~~ request that the National Scheme of Delegation is reviewed to ensure that elected members can have an opportunity to air opinions during the planning process.

We welcome all members being involved where possible during the planning process, and ward members should liaise with planning officers on applications where they have concerns.

Motion to read:

Oldham objects to the National Scheme of Delegation

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It is authorised under the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025. The system was intended to speed up decision-making and ensure elected councillors focus only on major, strategic developments.

However, the Government's own working paper noted that 96% of decisions in the second quarter of 2024 were made by officers. It is only in an extremely rare set of cases that councillors call in applications.

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The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) has warned that the new National Scheme of Delegation could lead to an increase in harassment of planners.

While the Local Councils Network's research showed that 84% of its member councils are struggling to recruit and retain planning staff.

Oldham Conservatives have joined over 1,000 Conservative Councillors across the country in writing to the Prime Minister to oppose the changes to legislation. Oldham Council updated its Constitution on 16th September 2026.

These changes have removed the ward member call in process, but it has ensured that all applications considered by the Planning Committee are major decisions that need serious scrutiny.

The Chair of Planning wrote to all elected members on the 23rd September reminding all members about the changes and asking that ward councillors submit their concerns/reasons for referral in writing, to ensure that their views are recorded in the written report about the gateway process.

Therefore, this Council resolves to write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Communities, Housing & Local Government to request that the National Scheme of Delegation is reviewed to ensure that elected members can have an opportunity to air opinions during the planning process.

We welcome all members being involved where possible during the planning process, and ward members should liaise with planning officers on applications where they have concerns.

Date of Council meeting: 18th November 2026

Amendment submitted from (must be received no later than noon, the day before the meeting)

Councillor Proposing: Cllr Josh Charters	Date: 17th November 2026
Councillor Seconding: Cllr Nadeem Iqbal	Time: 11:04am

Please submit this Notice of Amendment form to constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk by noon the day before the Council meeting.

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Notice of Amendment for Full Council

Under Paragraph 13 of the Council Procedure Rules

The following amendment to be submitted to Council on the date indicated below:-

That the motion be amended by adding the following resolutions after resolution 3:

4. Require that, before any scheme is approved or implemented, the Council receives a detailed assessment addressing:

a) The full annual financial cost of the proposal, including any additional staffing, vehicles, fuel, administration and waste disposal costs, together with arrangements to meet any expenditure exceeding the existing £140,000 income target.

b) The precise eligibility criteria, including the treatment of working-age and pension-age Council Tax Reduction recipients, limits on collections and items, and safeguards against misuse.

c) The operational impact on existing bulky waste services, including collection waiting times, existing fee-paying customers, staffing, vehicle capacity and the potential impact on reducing fly-tipping.

5. Require that the findings of this assessment, together with identified and sustainable funding arrangements, are presented to the appropriate Council committee before any implementation decision is taken.

6. Confirm that any scheme must be fully funded, affordable and deliverable without unreasonably disadvantaging existing service users or compromising other waste collection services.

7. Include this amendment in the existing Task and Finish group.

Motion to read

This Council notes that:

Fly-tipping is a serious and growing problem in Oldham. Official DEFRA figures for 2024/25 record 5,959 incidents, up 19% on 2023/24 (5,022). That is 23.7 per 1,000 residents, against 21.5 for England. 44% of incidents (2,648) were in back alleyways and 30% (1,760) on highways.

1. Officer figures provided on 2 November 2026 show that in 2025/26 the Council spent £623,321 clearing fly-tipping, before overheads. This included disposing of 1,088.76 tonnes of fly-tipped waste.
2. Residents are charged £10 per item for a bulky waste collection, under the 2026/27 fees and charges approved by this Council on 4 March 2026. The in-house service has an income target of £140,000 a year.
3. On 1 January 2026, 19,495 Oldham households were receiving Council Tax Reduction: 13,108 of working age and 6,387 of pension age (Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2026/27 report).
4. Since September 2025, Bolton Council has offered households receiving Council Tax Support one free bulky waste collection each financial year, from a limited fund, while that funding lasts.
5. Officers have advised that the cost of making bulky collections free for every household

could be well over £1m a year, because demand would rise, including from households that would never fly-tip. They have also advised that any new discretionary spending must have an identified funding source.
6. The 2027/28 budget, including fees and charges, will be set by Full Council at its Budget meeting on 3 March 2027.

This Council believes that:

1. Collecting household waste is a core public service that residents already pay for through their council tax. A free bulky collection does not reward fly-tippers. It helps residents who want to do the right thing.
2. For households living on the lowest incomes, often without a car, a £10-per-item charge is a real barrier. A family clearing a sofa, a mattress and a broken fridge pays £30.
3. Targeting help at households on Council Tax Reduction, as a year-round service and not a one-off allowance, puts support where the charge bites hardest and where fly-tipping hits communities hardest. Oldham should go further than Bolton's single free collection a year. Targeting also keeps the cost far below a borough-wide free service. The charge income given up cannot exceed the current income target of about £140,000 a year.
4. Any change must be lawful, properly costed and fully funded, and decided openly through the budget.

This Council resolves to:

1. Instruct Officers to liaise with colleagues at Bolton Council to explore best practice options on how this proposal can be implemented.
2. Note that the Oldham Group will bring forward this proposal, fully funded, in its alternative budget for 2027/28.
3. Note that this motion does not commit any spending in 2026/27 and does not change the approved 2026/27 budget or fees and charges.
4. Require that, before any scheme is approved or implemented, the Council receives a detailed assessment addressing:

a) The full annual financial cost of the proposal, including any additional staffing, vehicles, fuel, administration and waste disposal costs, together with arrangements to meet any expenditure exceeding the existing £140,000 income target.

b) The precise eligibility criteria, including the treatment of working-age and pension-age Council Tax Reduction recipients, limits on collections and items, and safeguards against misuse.

c) The operational impact on existing bulky waste services, including collection waiting times, existing fee-paying customers, staffing, vehicle capacity and the potential impact on reducing fly-tipping.

5. Require that the findings of this assessment, together with identified and sustainable funding arrangements, are presented to the appropriate Council committee before any implementation decision is taken.

6. Confirm that any scheme must be fully funded, affordable and deliverable without unreasonably disadvantaging existing service users or compromising other waste collection services.

7. Include this amendment in the existing Task and Finish group.

The Oldham Group believes that, by acting first for those who need it most, this Council can help residents do the right thing, keep our alleyways and highways clean, and stop paying twice for fly-tipping. Making collections free for every household remains our longer-term ambition, as and when it can be fully funded.

Date of Council meeting:- 18th November 2026

Amendment submitted from (must be received no later than noon, the day before the meeting)

Councillor Proposing: Councillor Robert Barnes	Date: 16th November 2026
Councillor Seconding: Councillor Andrew Brooks	Time: 20:56

Please submit this Notice of Amendment form to constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk by noon the day before the Council meeting.

Notice of Amendment for Full Council

Under Paragraph 13 of the Council Procedure Rules

The following amendment to be submitted to Council on the date indicated below:-

Delete the title "Stop Eton Star" and substitute:

Stop Eton Star Building on Tommyfield

This Council notes that:

- The Department for Education's process for approving free schools ~~doesn't~~ does not allow for sufficient Council oversight or scrutiny and ~~doesn't~~ does not provide the Council with sufficient engagement. There has been no specific consultation with cross-party Council members~~, and no consultation with~~ or the public.
- Eton Star Sixth Form will not provide the educational uplift that Oldham requires, which is primarily at GCSE level.
- The intended admissions criteria will not give Oldham young people priority.
- The borough will also be sacrificing a high-value, town centre commercial, retail or leisure space to benefit young people from other boroughs with better outcomes at GCSE, with no discernible benefit for Oldham. The site remains in the ownership of the Council at this time.
- Eton Star Academy presents a significant threat to the educational outcomes of Oldham's existing sixth-form provision, especially our outstanding Sixth Form College.
- A significant number of education professionals, elected members and the public are strongly opposed to Eton Star Academy at the Tommyfield location, and it lacks both cross-party and public support.

The Council therefore resolves to:

Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Department for Education seeking clarity on the decision-making and consultation around Eton Star that has taken place so far. Request that the Department for Education engage in discussions on the options for and implications of withdrawal from the Eton Star Sixth Form programme Request a cross-party meeting with the Department for Education to discuss Eton Star and look at alternative approaches to providing improvements in the town's secondary educational offering.-

Refer the proposed Eton Star Academy (including its educational impact, admissions arrangements, value for money, and any alternative site options) to the Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Panel for full scrutiny. The Panel shall consider the matter and include recommendations on, but not exclusively, matters of selection criteria.

Motion to read:

Stop Eton Star Building on Tommyfield

This Council notes that:

- The Department for Education's process for approving free schools does not allow for sufficient Council oversight or scrutiny and does not provide the Council with sufficient engagement. There has been no specific consultation with cross-party Council members or the public.
- Eton Star Sixth Form will not provide the educational uplift that Oldham requires, which is primarily at GCSE level.

- The intended admissions criteria will not give Oldham young people priority.
- The borough will also be sacrificing a high-value, town centre commercial, retail or leisure space to benefit young people from other boroughs with better outcomes at GCSE, with no discernible benefit for Oldham. The site remains in the ownership of the Council at this time.
- Eton Star Academy presents a significant threat to the educational outcomes of Oldham's existing sixth-form provision, especially our outstanding Sixth Form College.
- A significant number of education professionals, elected members and the public are strongly opposed to Eton Star Academy at the Tommyfield location, and it lacks both cross-party and public support.

The Council therefore resolves to:

Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Department for Education seeking clarity on the decision-making and consultation around Eton Star that has taken place so far. Request that the Department for Education engage in discussions on the options for and implications of withdrawal from the Eton Star Sixth Form programme Request a cross-party meeting with the Department for Education to discuss Eton Star and look at alternative approaches to providing improvements in the town's secondary educational offering.-

Refer the proposed Eton Star Academy (including its educational impact, admissions arrangements, value for money, and any alternative site options) to the Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Panel for full scrutiny. The Panel shall consider the matter and include recommendations on, but not exclusively, matters of selection criteria.

Date of Council meeting: 18th November 2026

Amendment submitted from (must be received no later than noon, the day before the meeting)

Councillor Proposing: Councillor Paul Taylor	Date: 17th November 2026
Councillor Seconding: Councillor Andy Brooks	Time: 11:04am

Please submit this Notice of Amendment form to constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk by noon the day before the Council meeting.

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District Funding –

Any proposed investment-to-save capital expenditure brought forward as part of the budget process would be subject to a robust business case and formal appraisal. The business case must clearly demonstrate that the forecast recurring savings are sufficient to fully offset all additional borrowing and financing costs, together with any ongoing revenue, maintenance, support and operational costs arising from the investment.

In addition, appropriate monitoring arrangements must be established from the outset, with the delivery of approved savings and associated benefits regularly tracked and reported to ensure the anticipated financial return is achieved. Schemes that do not provide a clear, sustainable and measurable financial benefit to the Council should not be progressed within the Budget setting process.

If the Council was to agree any additional capital works it would be required to borrow to fund them. The cost of borrowing to the Council would be at the Public Works Loan Board rate, currently 6.43% over twenty-five years.

The repayment cost would have to be found through additional budget savings from current council spending. The current Medium Term Financial Strategy is predicated on no additional borrowing.

Amount borrowed	Term	Repayments revenue cost (per year)	Total Repayment Cost
£5 million	**25 years**	**£367,000**	**£9.179 million**
£10 million	**25 years**	**£735,000**	**£18.359 million**
£20 million	**25 years**	**£1.469 million**	**£36.718 million**
£50 million	**25 years**	**£3.672 million**	**£91.795 million**

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Report to COUNCIL

Review of Political Balance on Committees

Officer Contact: Heather Moore, Assistant Director of Governance

Report Author: Jack Grennan, Constitutional Services
Email: jack.grennan@oldham.gov.uk

18th November 2026

Reason for Decision
To enable the Council to note changes to the political composition of the Council owing from the formation of the Independent Alliance, the resignation of two Councillors and the outcome of the Failsworth West by-election, and to approve any consequential changes to political balance and the allocation of seats on committees in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Considering this, the Council is asked to review the political composition of committees and to note the composition of the political groups as previously notified under Regulation 8 (1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and under Section 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 for the remainder of the 2026/27 municipal year. The effect, in terms of committee places, is that there will be a change in membership on the Licensing Committee, Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board, Children and Young People Scrutiny Board, Audit Committee, Employment Committee and Audit Committee.

Recommendations

1. That the composition of the political groups as shown in paragraph 1.1 be noted.

2. That the number of seats on the various Committees as detailed in paragraph 1.4 be noted.

3. That Council confirms the allocation of seats to the political groups in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as far as practicable.

4. That any outstanding appointments or changes be delegated to the Chief Executive in accordance with the wishes of the relevant political group.

5. That Council notes that a further political balance report will be submitted to the Council meeting in December, following the by-election in Royton North.

1 Background

The Council is asked to review the political composition of committees and to note the composition of the political groups as previously notified under Regulation 8 (1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.

Since the last ordinary meeting of the Council on 16th September, the Chief Executive has received notification of the formation of a new political group, the Independent Alliance, in accordance with the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 and the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The two members are Councillors Hobin (Leader of the Group) and Navesey (Deputy Leader).

There is also one vacancy on the Council. A vacant council seat is not occupied by a member and therefore does not count towards the representation of any political group pending the vacancy being filled.

The membership of groups has also changed due to the resignations of Councillors Quigg and Wilkinson (Reform UK) and the election of Councillor Baddeley (Reform UK) in November 2026.

1.1 Political Groups

Council is asked to note that the composition of the political groups, as previously notified under Regulation 8 (1) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, is:-

(i) The Labour Group – 18 Members
(ii) The Reform UK Group – 15 Members
(iii) The Oldham Group – 10 Members
(iv) The Liberal Democrat Group – 6 Members
(v) The Conservative Group – 4 Members
(vi) Royton Independents – 2 Members
(vii) The Independent Alliance – 2 Members
(viii) Two Independent Members

a. The Labour group comprises: Councillors Mohon Ali, Aslam, Brownridge, Charters, Chauhan, Harrison, F. Hussain, J. Hussain, Sajed Hussain, Iqbal, Islam, Jabbar, Moores, Nasheen, Rustidge, Shah, Shuttleworth and Taylor.
b. The Reform UK Group comprises: Councillors Baddeley, Ball, Barnes, Brooks, Eyre, Ford, Hanlon, Jackson, Klonowski, Pinder, Robinson, Ruthven, Tarbuck, Taylor and Williams.
c. The Oldham Group comprises: Councillors Akhtar, Zaheer Ali, Azad, Chowhan, Ghafoor, Ibrahim, Shabir Hussain, Kouser, Shah Arstan and Sheldon.
d. The Liberal Democrat Group comprises: Councillors Al-Hamdani, Bishop, Harkness, Kenyon, Murphy and Williamson.
e. The Conservative Group comprises: Councillors Arnott, Byrne, Sharp and Woodvine.
f. The Royton Independents comprises; Councillors Hughes and Hurley.
g. The Independent Alliance comprises: Councillors Hobin and Navesey.

h. Councillors Hince and Taleb are independent members not aligned to a political group.

1.2 **Political Balance**

There are four statutory principles of political balance which have to be applied in filling appointments to Committees. These are contained in S15(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The principles have to be applied in priority order as follows:-

(i) That not all seats on the body are allocated to the same political group.
(ii) That the majority of the seats on the body are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group are a majority of the Authority's membership.
(iii) Subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary committees of a relevant Authority which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees of that Authority as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Authority; and,
(iv) Subject to paragraphs (i) to (iii) above, that the number of seats on the body which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the same number of all seats on that body as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Authority.

The political group sizes as a percentage of the total membership of the Council are:-

Labour Group	18/59 x 100 = 30.51%	121 seats x 30.51% = 36.92	**37 seats**
Reform UK	15/59 x 100 = 25.42%	121 seats x 25.42% = 30.76	**31 seats**
Oldham Group	10/59 x 100 = 16.95%	121 seats x 16.95= 20.51	**21 seats**
Liberal Democrat Group	6/59 x 100 = 10.17%	121 seats x 10.17% = 12.31	**12 seats**
Conservative Group	4/59 x 100 = 6.78%	121 seats x 6.78% = 8.20	**8 seats**
Royton Independents	2/59 x 100 = 3.39%	121 seats x 3.39% = 4.10	**4 seats**
The Independent Alliance	2/59 x 100 = 3.39%	121 seats x 3.39% = 4.10	**4 seats**

There are two Independent Members not within a Group. Unallocated seats will be offered to them

The application of these percentages to the number of seats on individual Committees gives the following allocation of seats:-

Committee Size	Labour (L)	Reform UK (RUK)	Oldham Group (OG)	Liberal Democrats (LD)	Conservatives (C)	Royton Independents (RI)	Independent Alliance
16	4.88	4.07	2.71	1.63	1.08	0.54	0.54
15	4.58	3.81	2.54	1.53	1.02	0.51	0.51

14	4.27	3.56	2.37	1.42	0.95	0.47	0.47
13	3.97	3.31	2.20	1.32	0.88	0.44	0.44
12	3.66	3.05	2.03	1.22	0.81	0.41	0.41
11	3.36	2.80	1.86	1.12	0.75	0.37	0.37
10	3.05	2.54	1.69	1.02	0.68	0.34	0.34
9	2.75	2.29	1.53	0.92	0.61	0.31	0.31
8	2.44	2.03	1.36	0.81	0.54	0.27	0.27
7	2.14	1.78	1.19	0.71	0.47	0.24	0.24
6	1.83	1.53	1.02	0.61	0.41	0.20	0.20
5	1.53	1.27	0.85	0.51	0.34	0.17	0.17
4	1.22	1.02	0.68	0.41	0.27	0.14	0.14
3	0.92	0.76	0.51	0.31	0.20	0.10	0.10

1.3 Under the political balance rules after these percentages have been applied to the total number of seats on Committees of the Council any remaining seats must be allocated to members who are not Members of any political group. Applying political balance as detailed above, the allocation of seats, to the current committee structure, would be as follows:

Committee	**Seats**	**L**	**RUK**	**OG**	**LD**	**C**	**RI**	**Ind Alliance**	**IND**
Licensing	15	5	4	3	2	1	1	1	0
Planning	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Governance, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Children and Young People Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Audit Committee	9	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
Employment Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Appointments Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Commons Registration	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Highway Regulation Committee	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Charitable Trust Committee	6	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Standards Committee	7	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0

Appeals Committee	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Total	**121**	**37**	**32**	**22**	**15**	**7**	**1**	**1**	**0**

The above total is 115 which leaves 6 committee places to be allocated

Adjustment of Seats

In accordance with the rules of political balance, so far as practicable, the number of seats must be allocated to accord with the rules above. It is therefore proposed that the number of seats on the various Committees for the remainder of the 2026/27 Municipal Year be fixed as follows, noting that a further report will be submitted to the Council in December following the by-election in Royton North.

Committee	**Seats**	**L**	**R UK**	**OG**	**LD**	**C**	**RI**	**Ind Alliance**	**IND**
Licensing	15	5	4	3	1	0	0	1	1
Planning	11	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	0
Place, Economic Growth and Environment Scrutiny Board	11	4	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Governance, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Board	11	4	3	2	1	1	0	0	0
Adults Social Care and Health Scrutiny Board	11	3	3	2	1	0	1	1	0
Children and Young People Scrutiny Board	11	3	2	2	1	1	0	1	1
Audit	9	3	2	1	1	1	1	0	0
Employment Committee	7	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
Commons Registration	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
Highway Regulation Committee	5	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0
Appointments Committee	7	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0
Charitable Trustee Committee	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Standards Committee	7	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0
Appeals Committee	5	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Total	**121**	**37**	**31**	**21**	**12**	**8**	**4**	**4**	**4**

1.5 Substitutes are to be appointed by the political groups in accordance with the Substitute Scheme contained in the Constitution. Substitutes for Overview and Scrutiny Boards and Planning Committee may be nominated up to a maximum of the number of Members of that Group serving on the Board. Substitutes are not permitted for Licensing. Council is also asked to appoint substitutes to the Audit Committee. For clarity therefore, it is recommended that substitutes are permissible for the Planning Committee, all Overview and Scrutiny boards, Audit Committee, Appointments Committee, Commons Registration Panel and the Highway Regulation Committee, and the Substitute Scheme be clarified accordingly.

1.6 Council is asked to review the political composition of the Committees; to determine the allocation of seats to political groups; and to make the appointments to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations.

2 Options/Alternatives

2.1 To approve the report.
Not to approve the report

3 Preferred Option

3.1 To approve the report and the committee's composition as detailed in the report.

4 Consultation

4.1 Consultation has taken place with political group leaders.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 n/a

6 Legal Implications

6.1 n/a

7 Equality Impact – including implications for Children and Young People

7.1 n/a

8 Key Decision

8.1 No

9 Key Decision Reference

9.1 n/a

10 Background Papers

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 include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990.
Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

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Dear Shelley Kipling,

In response to the Oldham Council Motion (16 September 2026): Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding concerns raised through the Council Motion relating to vehicle-related crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB), and the illegal or nuisance use of fireworks. These matters remain established priorities within the district's community safety framework and continue to receive focused attention through both enforcement activity and partnership-led prevention initiatives

Vehicle Crime and Associated Anti-Social Behaviour

Greater Manchester Police remains committed to proactively addressing vehicle-related offending and associated anti-social behaviour across Oldham. A dedicated Inspector has thematic responsibility for delivering improvements and regular targeted traffic enforcement operations are executed by the neighbourhood policing teams across the district to tackle criminality. During the last quarter, these resulted in 842 vehicle stops. Of these, 58% generated positive outcomes, including warnings, fixed penalty notices, and vehicle seizures.

In partnership with Oldham Council and key stakeholders, GMP has delivered Operation Hurricane, a multi-agency initiative that brings together officers, staff and partners from across Greater Manchester to tackle the illegal and anti-social use of motorbikes, e-bikes and quad bikes. The operation achieved significant outcomes, including 7 Section 59 warning/seizures, 14 Section 165 vehicle seizures and 30 reported traffic offences. Enforcement actions also included arrests for dangerous and drug-driving offences, positive stop-search results and community resolutions. These activities demonstrate the effectiveness of a coordinated partnership approach in addressing community concerns.

We recognise that public confidence can be affected by the perception that offenders involved in vehicle-related ASB are not being held accountable. Reports of anti-social behaviour are subject to ongoing assessment and oversight to ensure that proportionate and effective interventions are implemented. Neighbourhood teams work alongside local authorities, housing providers, schools, youth services and community groups to understand what is driving the problem and, where possible, put longer-term solutions in place.

This includes covert activity such as intelligence gathering as well as overt tactics and retrospective enforcement to identify and bring offenders to justice through safe and controlled means. Continual analysis reviews and identifies hotspot areas for all neighbourhood crime, including ASB. Those highlighted have specific resourcing plans aligned which are supported with additional funding where available.

The district is supported by specialist operational resources which provide additional capability in responding to complex vehicle-related incidents and support local enforcement activity where appropriate.

Furthermore, GMP and Oldham Council are currently refreshing the local Vision Zero strategy, aligning with the wider Greater Manchester ambition to reduce serious collisions and eliminate deaths and life-changing injuries on our roads. This work recognises the significant human and community impact of serious road traffic incidents and seeks to further improve road safety outcomes across the borough.

Wider Crime Reduction Activity

Alongside targeted enforcement, GMP and its partners have continued to focus on reducing neighbourhood crime across the borough. Oldham has seen reductions in several key crime categories this year, including:

- Robbery offences reduced by 9.5%
- Theft offences reduced by 10.2%
- Criminal damage offences reduced by 8.8%

These improvements reflect the sustained commitment of policing teams, local authority services, community organisations, and residents working together to strengthen community safety.

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour Through Partnership

Addressing anti-social behaviour remains a priority. GMP works closely with stakeholders to identify emerging issues, analyse trends, and coordinate interventions that prevent and reduce ASB.

A recent example of effective partnership working relates to concerns surrounding ASB and serious violence within Oldham's nighttime economy. Working collaboratively with council services, CCTV operators, licensing authorities, the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), the Security Industry Authority (SIA), and local businesses, a coordinated response was implemented. This resulted in a significant reduction in both anti-social behaviour and serious violence, helping to restore public confidence, increase visitor numbers, and support the local economy.

Illegal and Nuisance Use of Fireworks

We recognise the considerable impact that inappropriate firework use can have on communities and have undertaken detailed analysis of reports received across the borough. Over the previous three-month period, 107 reports relating to fireworks were recorded, with incidents occurring across Oldham and not confined to any

single locality. Reports primarily related to two themes: fireworks associated with organised celebrations and fireworks being used irresponsibly by young people, both of which generated anti-social behaviour concerns.

In response, GMP, Oldham Council, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS), and other partners have initiated a coordinated programme of activity, including:

- Development of a partnership strategy to address firework-related ASB.
- Licensing compliance visits to retailers selling fireworks.
- Engagement and compliance activity with venues that utilise fireworks during events.
- Delivery of educational inputs through the Police Education Programme (Pol-Ed).
- Public awareness and prevention campaigns led by GMFRS.
- Participation in Operation Treacle, Greater Manchester's coordinated response to bonfires and firework-related incidents.
- Joint police and local authority patrols in identified hotspot locations.

The continued support of elected members in promoting accurate community messaging and highlighting opportunities for engagement remains an important element of maintaining public confidence and strengthening community resilience.

Conclusion

Greater Manchester Police recognises the impact that anti-social behaviour, vehicle-related offending and nuisance firework activity can have on communities. Through targeted enforcement, intelligence-led problem solving and strong partnership working, GMP and its partners remain committed to reducing harm, improving community safety and maintaining public confidence. Continued collaboration between public services, elected members, businesses and residents will be essential to sustaining progress and ensuring that Oldham remains a safe place to live, work and visit

Yours sincerely,

Wesley Knights

Oldham District Chief Superintendent

KATE GREEN
DEPUTY MAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER

Shelley Kipling
Chief Executive, Oldham Council
shelley.kipling@oldham.gov.uk

Our Ref: DB/SK1126

Date: 16 November 2026

Dear Shelley

Response to the Oldham Council Motion dated 16th September 2026: Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

Thank you for your letter in respect of tackling Anti-social behaviour, with specific reference to fireworks, speeding vehicles and the nuisance riding of off-road vehicles.

I note that you have also written to the Chief Constable regarding these matters. I can confirm that Chief Superintendent Wes Knights has received this at the Oldham district and will respond separately.

In respect of full Council's request to the Home Secretary, Policing Minister and Mayor of Greater Manchester for extra dedicated funding for GMP and a review of laws to strengthen powers against masked riders and reckless speeding, there are few points I would like to make.

On funding, the Mayor and I share your assessment that GMP requires additional funding in order to meet the complex and diverse demand across Greater Manchester. GMP has worked hard to secure significant efficiencies wherever possible, and has made significant savings, but we are clear that further savings will undoubtedly risk affecting operational performance.

Unfortunately, demands on GMP are increasing due to our increasingly apparent status as the second-city, including hosting both Number10 North and the Prime Minister's private residence; being the regional centre of protest outside of London; and our growing profile on the global stage, including major events such as the G20, the Brit Awards and the Oasis reunion. The root cause of the funding challenge is in the funding formula, which is recognised as disadvantaging metropolitan forces like ours due to an overreliance on council tax returns. This, taken with the mainstreaming of previously ringfenced grants has resulted in GMP receiving the second lowest percentage funding increase nationally in this financial year.

The Mayor and I will continue to make representations to Government on the need for a funding settlement that fairly reflects the demands faced by GMP. We will maintain our close working relationship with the Chief Constable to ensure the effective use of available resources and powers.

The Crime and Policing Act 2026 makes provisions for the police to immediately seize vehicles, including off-road bikes, being used in an anti-social manner. This provision replaces the need for police to issue a warning to the person that their vehicle will be seized if they continue to use it in an anti-social manner.

Before reclaiming a vehicle, the individual will have to prove that they are the legal owner of the vehicle and that they have valid insurance and a driving licence. I understand that the Government plan to consult on proposals to allow the police to dispose of seized vehicles more quickly.

I think there is scope to utilise existing powers more broadly across Greater Manchester. Under existing arrangements, I am consulted on local plans for the use of Public Space Protection Orders and we have used them previously to prohibit car meets where speeding and anti-social use of vehicles causes concern to communities. Where there is evidence to support the use of PSPOs for such behaviours, including the wearing of face coverings to conceal identities, then we should explore these avenues. Should this be something Oldham wishes to explore, then my office can support with engagement with areas across the country where this has been done, for example in Nottingham.

You will be aware that I have placed an emphasis on protecting and investing in frontline policing over the last couple of years, supported by precept increases. This includes additional resources for Neighbourhood Policing to ensure effective engagement with communities and response to local concerns. This, coupled with GMP's commitment to the Home Office Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee, improves the focus on named officers community meetings, and ASB, with GMP having published a new ASB Action Plan in April this year. This Plan will form the basis of a new GM ASB Framework that is being developed by a Strategic Group which will bring together a robust partnership response to the ASB, including fireworks and vehicle nuisance.

I also wanted to ensure you were aware of the new Transport Policing and Crime Command (TPACC) which is now in place. Again, as part of the commitments made when the precept was set last year, the new GMP Command will enable a dedicated focus to tackling crime and ASB on the Bee Network and on the road network. A key strand of this Command is the work of the Operation Hurricane team which can be deployed across Greater Manchester to tackle illegal and anti-social use of off-road bikes. I would advise the Council to liaise with the local policing team regarding the request for support of this unit.

Additionally, TPACC will retain its focus on tackling speeding vehicles as part of the Vision Zero Strategy. Mobile speed enforcement is taking place at both data hotspot and sites of community concern and more average speed cameras are being installed across the network. Policing operations are being run to identify and take

action against those who drive illegally or try to evade detection. This includes identifying and stopping those using ‘ghost’ plates to conceal official registrations and a monthly operation targeting those who are driving or riding uninsured. GMP are currently seizing over 1,000 vehicles a month.

GMP continue to welcome community submissions via Op SNAP (camera footage of nuisance/dangerous motor vehicles) which aims to improve road safety and to prosecute those that place others at risk.

I also wanted to make you aware that a Community Speedwatch scheme is in place across Greater Manchester. The scheme aims to tackle local speeding issues and allows residents to become police-trained volunteers to monitor vehicle speeds in their communities, with the aim of changing the behaviour of road users who drive above the speed limit through that area. If elected members wish to support the development of a scheme in their area, they should contact the respective local policing team for more information.

Finally, my officials are currently working with GMP and wider partners on the development of a new campaign to raise awareness on the legal and safe use of off-road bikes, e-bikes and scooters and to think twice before considering them as presents in the run up to the festive period. I will ensure that details of this campaign are shared with the Council in due course.

Thank you again for writing to me on this matter. I share the concerns of Council members and hope that this update provides assurances that we do, and will continue, to take these issues seriously.

Yours sincerely



Kate Green
Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester
Safer and Stronger Communities

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