

# Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting  
Wednesday 13 July 2016**



## OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 5 July 2016

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 13 July 2016 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, for the following purposes:

### Open Council

- 1 Questions to Cabinet Members from the public and Councillors on ward or district issues

*(15 minutes for public questions and 25 minutes for Councillor questions)*

### Formal Council

- 2 To receive apologies for absence
- 3 To order that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18th May 2016 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 10)
- 4 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 5 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 6 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 7 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council (Pages 11 - 12)

*(time limit 20 minutes)*

There is one petition to note.

- 8 Outstanding Business from the previous meeting

*(time limit 15 minutes).*

Councillor Dearden to MOVE and Councillor Moores to SECOND:

This Council notes with alarm, the recent statement from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) confirming that new guidelines are to be introduced which will curb councils' powers to divest from or stop trading with organisations or countries they regard as unethical. Council further notes that the new guidelines, which will amend Pensions and Procurement law, follow on from the government's announcement made at the beginning of October 2015 that it was planning to introduce new rules to stop "politically motivated boycott and divestment campaigns" (Greg Clarke, Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and

Local Government).

Oldham Council is proud of its commitment to human rights and to putting this into practice through such measures as an ethical approach to its relationship with business. Council believes that the proposed measures now being outlined by the DCLG will seriously undermine the Council's ability to implement its commitment to ethical procurement and pensions investments.

Council also notes that the new guidelines represent a further, serious attack on local democracy and decision-making through a further restriction on councils' powers. This is directly contrary to the government's own stated commitment to the principle of localism, given a statutory basis by the Localism Act of 2011, which holds that local authorities are best able to do their job when they have genuine freedom to respond to what local people want, not what they are told to do by government.

This Council resolves to:

- 1). Instruct the Chief Executive to write to Greg Clarke, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to express Council's unequivocal opposition to the proposed changes.
- 2). Write to Debbie Abrahams MP, Angela Rayner MP and Jim McMahon MP to ask them to use any parliamentary means available to oppose these proposals.

9 European Union Referendum - Impact on Oldham and Greater Manchester

Report to follow.

10 Youth Council

*(time limit 20 minutes)*

In April 2016 Oldham Youth Council began a new 2 year term of office for 2016 – 2018. The following motion will set out our intentions within this term.

We have identified that we focus on 3 areas within this term. These were identified and agreed based on consultation with young people from across Oldham as part of the make your mark ballot in October 2015. We will have a priority theme, a priority issue and a priority campaign: these are outlined below:

Priority theme – improving health outcomes for young people in Oldham.

We recognise that good health, both physical and mental, is vital to ensure individuals are able to lead happy, productive and successful lives.

Health has been a priority for the Youth Council and our fellow youth voice family members in the children in care council and the barrier breakers for a number of years and will continue to be so.

We will continue to work closely with a range of organisations and partners to help shape and influence the health agenda for children and young people.

We will continue to strengthen our working relationship with the CCG, Public Health and other health organisations to develop mechanisms and opportunities for young people to be central to decision making processes and to ensure the voice and views of young people are reflected in the health services we receive.

We are continuing with our Kerrching funding stream with a focus on health outcomes for children and young people. This includes providing small grants for health related projects and we have already allocated funding to 27 projects across Oldham for this year. We have continued to commission kooth.com the online mental health service for children and young people and this service continues to be a well-used and effective

resource. We are looking forward to working further with commissioners as health services develop further and hope to be further involved in the commissioning of services for Children and Young People.

We are particularly pleased to carry forward our I Love Me branded initiative for another term, this will focus on promoting positive health messages via a range of activities, events and consultations.

We are also working closely with public health on the making every contact count programme and developing MECC resources specifically for children and young people.

#### Priority issue - learning for life

We believe that our education will be greatly improved if it includes the teaching of life skills that are important for our growth and development. We believe that education should fully prepare us for adult life and this should include the teaching of citizenship and personal, social and health education as part of the core offer in every school and college. We want all young people to have the opportunity to learn about political education and democracy, sex and relationships, cultural awareness, community cohesion, financial literacy, sustainable living and active citizenship.

We want to be able to enhance fantastic English, Maths, Science, humanities and arts qualifications with the knowledge of how to manage money, how to vote, how to open a bank account, how to gain meaningful employment and prepare for an interview and so much more,

We will continue to work closely with the Oldham curriculum offer and help to shape this offer for Oldham young people.

We will consult with schools pupils, head teachers and governors. And use this consultation to develop ideas and recommendations for how schools and colleges can best help young people learn for life.

#### Priority campaign – discrimination

We would like to live in an Oldham where people are free from discrimination and we intend to launch a campaign to promote understanding and reduce discrimination. In consultation with young people we found that discrimination is still very much a concern of young people. It was also voted as the national campaign in the United Kingdom Youth Parliament.

In a recent Youth Council meeting we found that every member of the Youth Council had faced or directly witnessed discrimination in the past 12 months, and that's within our relatively short lives. This isn't acceptable. We want to grow up in a society free from this kind of hatred. We understand that there are a wide range of forms of discrimination and we intend to focus on those most prevalent for young people.

We will undertake a large consultation with young people and organisations across Oldham to identify the most common experiences of discrimination.

We will launch a campaign across social media addressing these and raising awareness and understanding.

We will be holding a young people's conference later this year to focus in and develop young people's ideas on how we can reduce discrimination.

We will share these recommendations and share good practice that is already implemented in schools and other organisations widely across Oldham.

We ask Full Council to note our Key Priorities' and to continue to work with us and support the work we do in 2016 – 2018.

11 Leader and Cabinet Question Time

*(time limit 30 minutes – maximum of 2 minutes per question and 2 minutes per response)*

12 To note the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on the undermentioned dates, including the attached list of urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting of the Council, and to receive any questions or observations on any items within the Minutes from Members of the Council who are not Members of the Cabinet, and receive responses from Cabinet Members (Pages 13 - 22)

*(time limit 20 minutes):-*

a) 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016

b) 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016

13 Notice of Administration Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

Motion 1

Councillor Shuttleworth to MOVE and Councillor A Alexander to SECOND:

This Council wishes to repeat that we are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in the metropolitan borough of Oldham or elsewhere. We condemn racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable.

Oldham MBC will continue to ensure local bodies and programmes have the support needed to fight and prevent all forms of racism and xenophobia.

We wish to reassure all people living within the borough that they are valued members of our community.

This Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Superintendent Caroline Ball giving them our unequivocal support in tackling such behaviour.

Motion 2

Councillor S Bashforth to MOVE and Councillor Briggs to SECOND:

Council notes the potential for proliferation across the borough, of residential properties being used as houses in multiple occupation (HMOs). Existing dwelling houses (Planning Use Class C3) can be converted to a HMO (Planning Use Class C4), which provides shared accommodation for three to six unrelated individuals as their only or main residence without the need for planning permission leaving residents and local elected members with no powers to resist or influence them.

Concerns have also been expressed by residents and elected members about the steady rise in the number of planning applications for larger scale HMOs which do require planning permission. Concerns expressed include excess noise, parking problems, forests of "To Let" boards and refuse problems.

There are also serious and credible concerns regarding the effect on existing settled communities and the radical change to the character of an area together with the impact on local services and amenities HMOs can present. This Council notes these concerns, as it does the loss of family accommodation through houses and business

premises being used in this way.

Council instructs officers to establish a robust evidence base outlining the impact of HMOs in order to:-

- Develop a planning policy using existing and possible new policies to deal with all types of HMOs.
- Explore the possibility of introducing a borough-wide Article 4 Direction removing permitted development rights for change of use from C3 dwelling houses to C4 HMOs.
- Develop and introduce additional licencing powers to deal with all types of HMOs.
- Review and strengthen as necessary existing standards of construction, maintenance and management of all types of HMOs

### Motion 3

Councillor Moores to MOVE and Councillor Price to SECOND:

In Oldham, more than a third of adults are physically inactive (36.28%) and Oldham was ranked 141<sup>st</sup> out of 150 local authorities researched in terms of rates of physical activity in 2013. UKActives *Turning The Tide of Inactivity* report estimates that this lack of regular exercise by the Oldham population is estimated to cost the Oldham economy £53.5million a year.

Physical inactivity is known to be the fourth leading cause of global mortality, and many of the leading causes of ill health in today's society, such as coronary heart disease, cancer and type 2 Diabetes, could be prevented if more inactive people were to become active.

The *Greater Manchester Moving Strategy* was published in June 2015 and provides the blueprint for physical activity and sport's contribution to the overall Greater Manchester Strategy. The intended outcomes of the strategy are to:

- Increase levels of participation in physical activity and sport to reduce levels of inactivity
- Increase active travel leading to increased opportunities for walking, cycling and running
- Increase economic output of the sport and physical activity sector

Being physically active should be something we build into our everyday lifestyle from going out for a walk through to playing sport.

Council is therefore asked to;

- Give its support to the *Greater Manchester Moving Strategy*
- Instruct the relevant officers to develop an action plan to detail how the pledges will be developed and implemented in Oldham

## 14 Notice of Opposition Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

### Motion 1

Councillor Murphy to MOVE and Councillor Blyth to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- Other local authorities across the world, from Leeds in West Yorkshire to Ipswich in Australia, are looking to, or have introduced, a free mobile phone bin app to enable local residents to receive reminders informing them which of their refuse bins should be put out for collection on which date and to notify them of service disruptions and emergency events.
- A survey by Ipswich City Council in Queensland found that the use of such technology reduces the frustration of residents, reduces the amount of rubbish put out in error and not collected, and reduces the costs to the local authority in eliminating the need for an annual recycling calendar print run and mail out
- With the introduction of three-weekly bin collections across the borough such technology has the potential to assist residents to more efficiently self-manage their waste

Council resolves to ask the relevant Cabinet Member to request that officers look at the merits and costs of introducing such a bin app for the Oldham borough, and to provide an update to elected members on this in due course.

### Motion 2

Councillor Sykes to MOVE and Councillor Gloster to SECOND:

This Council notes that:

- The British Pest Control Association (the BPCA) has said that rats are becoming immune to traditional pellets used by homeowners and that the poisons which can be purchased in supermarkets may actually be turning the rodents into 'super rats'.
- The Chief Executive of BPCA has said, "The rodents have become resistant and, in some cases, immune to off-the-shelf poisons to the point where they're actually feeding off the toxic pellets, which means their size and strength is increasing."
- Genetic testing by Huddersfield University has revealed that the rodents have developed a mutation that allows them to survive conventional poisons. In counties such as Hampshire, Berkshire, Surrey, Wiltshire, a Suffolk, and Kent, all the rats tested were found to have immunity to poison.
- Rodents are difficult to kill with poisons because their feeding habits reflect their place as scavengers. Rats will eat a small amount of food and wait, and if they don't get sick, they then continue to eat.

Council further notes that.

- Stronger rodenticides can be more effective, but most are subject to strict legislation and must only be used by professional pest controllers.
- The BPCA is now predicting that rats are likely to seek to enter homes for warmth and food during the winter months
- Rats can squeeze themselves through gaps as small as three-quarters of an inch and are often found living under floorboards, in the walls or in the loft.
- In 2015, rats measuring 50-60 cm (2ft) have been captured in places as far



apart as Cornwall, Kent and Liverpool.

- Rats can carry illnesses which can be passed to humans, including Weil's disease, which has flu-like symptoms initially but can lead to jaundice and kidney failure.
- Rats chew on wood and electrical wires causing significant property damage and posing a fire hazard.

Council believes:

- That rats are a danger to the health and wellbeing of residents
- That the problem of an increasing rat population, which is immune to many standard poisons, must be addressed
- Inexpert use of poison can make the problem worse

Council resolves to:

- Ask the relevant Cabinet Member(s) to request officers publicise the risk posed by poison resistant rats and offer advice as to how residents can 'rat proof' their homes, by for example fitting strips to the bottoms of doors, filling small gaps in exterior walls, repairing roof damage and covering drains to prevent entry via pipes.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to our three local Members of Parliament asking them to lobby the Government for national action on the problem of super rats

### Motion 3

Councillor McCann to MOVE and Councillor Murphy to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) published in June 2016 a report titled 'Night Blight: Mapping England's light pollution and dark skies'
- In the report, light pollution refers to artificial light shining where it is 'neither needed nor wanted'
- Light pollution impacts both upon the quality of life of residents and their ability to see the night sky
- Local Councils spend around £600 million on street lighting a year; yet, where misdirected, much light energy is lost as light pollution
- The report identifies that Oldham has very high levels of light pollution in many of its districts, particularly in the town centre areas.
- The report makes a number of recommendations to local Councils to:
  - Implement Government policy to control light pollution, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and associated guidance
  - Develop policies to control light pollution in local plans, including ensuring that new developments do not increase light pollution
  - Identify highways with severe light pollution and target action to reduce it
  - Develop a Street Lighting Policy, including Environmental Lighting Zones to ensure that appropriate lighting is used in each area
  - Look to the guidance produced by the Institute of Light Professionals and the examples of best practice carried out by UK local authorities in installing LED lighting and dimming lights in rural areas in the early morning

Council, being mindful that the reduction of light pollution is a desirable objective, resolves to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Board and the Planning Committee to look

into the merits and practicalities of adopting these recommendations for the borough.

- 15 To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant a spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 23 - 46)

*(time limit 7 minutes)*

Unity Partnership Board	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2016 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2016
MioCare	14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Health and Wellbeing Board	1 <sup>st</sup> March 2016
Oldham Leadership Board	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2016

- 15 To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant b spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 47 - 156)

*(time limit 8 minutes):-*

Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Police and Crime Panel	29 <sup>th</sup> January 2016 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2016
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2016 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016
Joint GMCA/AGMA Executive	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016
National Park Authority	5 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Transport for Greater Manchester	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2016 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority	11 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2016

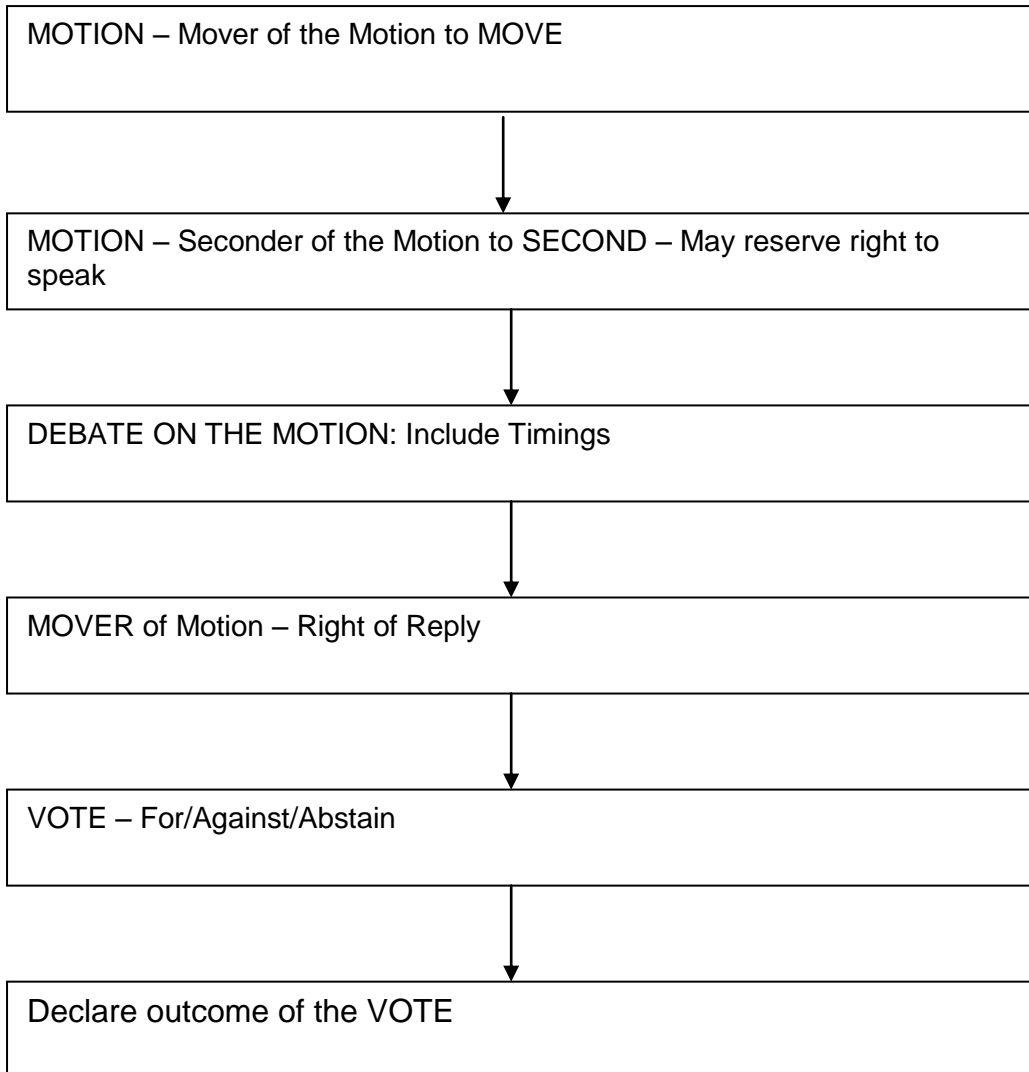
- 16 Living Wage Proposals from April 2016 (Pages 157 - 164)
- 17 District Plans and Spending Guidance (Pages 165 - 226)
- 18 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 227 - 274)

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



**Carolyn Wilkins  
Chief Executive**

**PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS**  
**NO AMENDMENT**



**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 question will have up to six minutes to reply to each question with an extension of 30 seconds

## WITH AMENDMENT

