

# Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 7 September 2016**



## OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 30 August 2016

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 7 September 2016 at 6.05 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, or immediately at the rise of the meeting of the Trustees of Clayton Playing Fields, whichever is the later, 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 13th July 2016 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 40)
- 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 Section 249(5) Local Government Act 1972 Nominations for the Title of Honorary Freeman of the Borough

Report to follow.

- 8 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council (Pages 41 - 42)

*(time limit 20 minutes)*

- 9 Outstanding Business from the previous meeting

*(time limit 15 minutes).*

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

10 Leader's Annual Statement

11 Youth Council

*(time limit 20 minutes)*

There is no Youth Council business to consider.

12 Leader and Cabinet Question Time

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

13 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 43 - 60)

*(time limit 20 minutes):-*

- a) 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016
- b) 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016

## 14 Notice of Administration Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

### Motion 1

Councillor Ball to MOVE and Councillor Brock to SECOND:

Oldham is not on its own in facing an increase in families who are in both financial and food poverty. Oldham Council is doing a lot for this ever increasing number of people and, with the changes to benefits and even more zero hour contracts, this number is unlikely to diminish.

The End Hunger Campaign in Oldham is launching on the 15<sup>th</sup> October.

The aim of this campaign is to:

- Improve the public awareness of the food justice movement at local level, showing how volunteers are working hard in food banks and on community food projects.
- Publicise the support available to help people who are struggling with their household budget, for example, the winter warmth campaign, the Welfare Rights Service and citizens' advice.

We ask that all sides of the Council support this campaign and the volunteers, Council employees and councillors who themselves work hard to help fellow Oldhamers.

The overall aim of the campaign is to build a town in which everyone has access to good food and no one goes to bed hungry.

This Council resolves:

1. To work to try to make sure that all children are able to live free from the damaging effects of hunger, including the adverse effect on their health.
2. It will continue to work with all community groups and volunteers to support and advise networks in the community that are themselves supporting families affected by food poverty.
3. To write to the Clinical Commissioning Group to ask that it ensures that GPs and other front line staff take into account food poverty when seeing people, especially children, who are not in the best of health.
4. To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the borough's three MPs, and the Prime Minister, asking them to make every effort to ensure that families can afford good food on a regular basis through an appropriate combination of work and benefits.

### Motion 2

Councillor Dearden to MOVE and Councillor Ur-Rehman to SECOND:

The U.K has the highest level of obesity in Western Europe, with one third of children overweight or obese by the time they leave primary school.

Local councils now have responsibility for health and wellbeing, health promotion and prevention of ill health, so it is incumbent upon us to debate this and make our views known.

We note with great disappointment this government's long-awaited Obesity Strategy, published in August 2016, during parliamentary recess and in the midst of the Rio Olympics, and the lost opportunity to improve our health and wellbeing.

Medical experts and campaigners have criticised the strategy as 'weak and embarrassing' and accused policy makers of throwing away the chance to tackle our culture of unhealthy eating that is crippling the NHS.

The government proposals, centred on the sugar tax announced by George Osborne in May 2016, rely on voluntary action by the food and drink industry and contain no restrictions on junk food marketing and advertising. The sugar tax will not be introduced for another two years.

This Council recognises that local campaigning and awareness raising programmes are most successful when backed by legislative changes, as with the ban on smoking in public places.

This Council therefore resolves that the following measures be taken:

1. Oldham Council, led by our Public Health officers and the Health and Wellbeing Board, (which includes partners such as Housing, Doctors, Hospitals, Oldham Community Leisure , Voluntary groups) , will campaign to ban all high sugar foods and drinks available in our buildings and will encourage schools , community organisations and local employers to do the same;
2. Oldham Council to continue to promote healthy lifestyles and healthy eating through our local campaigns such as 'Get Oldham Growing, Feeding Ambition', 'Go for a Walk', Oral Health, Breastfeeding and other initiatives .

In addition, we request that the Chief Executive writes to the borough's three MPs to inform them of our actions and to ask them to campaign for stronger legislation.

### Motion 3

Councillor Roberts to MOVE and Councillor J Larkin to SECOND:

Speed kills: speed is one of the main factors in fatal road accidents. A pedestrian is four times more likely to die if hit at 40mph than at 30mph. In 2014, 282 people were killed in crashes in the UK involving someone exceeding the speed limit and a further 126 people died when someone was travelling too fast for the conditions.

Residents, including those who attend the Community Forums, regularly express their concern about speeding traffic both on main roads and also in residential areas.

Councillors have responded by supporting speed measurement measures, changes to road and junction layout to improve safety, improvements to pedestrian crossings and most recently by funding Vehicle Activated Signs.

However, motorists continue to speed and drive too fast for road conditions and local circumstances.

This Council resolves to

- mount a campaign of driver education to explain the impact of speeding and encourage motorists to obey the law
- take every opportunity available to secure funding to make Oldham's Roads safer
- work with Greater Manchester Police to improvement enforcement action against motorists breaking the speed limits
- influence the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 to include a sub-regional approach to tackling speeding and making our roads safer.

## 15 Notice of Opposition Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

### Motion 1

Councillor Sykes to MOVE and Councillor Williamson to SECOND:

This Council once more wishes to place on record its admiration for the courage,

service and sacrifice of members of Her Majesty's armed forces, past and present, during military conflicts, in countering terrorism and in carrying out peacekeeping and humanitarian duties.

This Council notes:

- The obligations it owes to the Armed Forces community within the Borough of Oldham as enshrined in the Armed Forces Covenant; that the Armed Forces community should not face disadvantage in the provision of services and that special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given the most.
- The absence of definitive and comprehensive statistics on the size or demographics of the Armed Forces community within the Borough of Oldham. This includes serving Regular and Reserve personnel, veterans, and their families.
- That the availability of such data would greatly assist the council, local partner agencies, the voluntary sector, and national Government in the planning and provision of services to address the unique needs of the Armed Forces community within the Borough of Oldham.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Support and promote The Royal British Legion's campaign 'Count Them In' to include a new topic in the 2021 census that concerns military service and membership of the Armed Forces community.
- Urge elected members for this Borough to sign up as individual supporters to the 'Count Them In' campaign.
- Ask the Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Community Covenant to write to the Secretary of State for Defence, The Rt. Hon Michael Fallon MP, setting out the Council's position that we wish to see the UK Parliament approve a final census questionnaire in 2019, which includes questions concerning our Armed Forces community, for use in the 2021 Census.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Borough's three Members of Parliament asking them to also make representations on this matter to the Secretary of State for Defence.

## Motion 2

Councillor Murphy to MOVE and Councillor Blyth to SECOND:

This Council notes that

- Dementia is one of the biggest health issues facing the UK
- In Oldham, over 2,500 people are estimated to be living with dementia
- This condition will affect one in three people over the age of 65, with that figure is predicted to rise by two thirds by 2030
- Dementia is an umbrella term for a set of symptoms that might be exhibited by people living with one of any number of diseases of the brain; it is not a natural part of aging
- Dementia is not just about losing your memory; it can also affect thinking, communication, inhibitions, and everyday tasks
- With the right care, support and understanding from those around them that it is possible for someone to live well with dementia and to continue to contribute to community life

Council commends the work that has been done so far in our borough specially:

- The training of well over 5,000 Dementia Friends across the borough
- Gaining recognition from the Alzheimer's Society as one of just fifty communities in England as 'Working towards a dementia friendly community'
- Establishing the Oldham Dementia Partnership and the Oldham Dementia Action Alliance
- Creating an Enhanced Memory Service to support people living with dementia and their carers

But Council also believes that as a major public-service organisation we can do so much more, particularly in:

- Delivering more dementia-friendly services with specially trained staff and from dementia-friendly buildings
- Promoting a more dementia-friendly transport network in order that people living with dementia and their carers can better access them

Council therefore calls upon the relevant Cabinet Member(s) to:

- Appoint a senior officer in each directorate as a Dementia Champion to lead on this issue within their directorate, with specific responsibility for ensuring that:
  - All new Council staff appointed to customer-facing roles, particularly those in the Call Centre, the First Contact centre and our public libraries and parks, participate in mandatory Dementia Friends training as part of their induction.
  - Existing staff in customer-facing roles participate in Dementia Friends training within twelve months.
  - Environmental checks are carried out in all of the public buildings and open spaces within their directorate's control to ensure that they are Dementia Friendly.
  - The Dementia Friendly logo is displayed prominently at these locations once they are determined to be dementia friendly.
  - Their directorate, and the Dementia Friendly public buildings and open spaces, are registered separately as individual entities with the Oldham Dementia Action Alliance, in addition to the Council being itself registered corporately.
  - A report of progress for that directorate is prepared for circulation to elected members and for publication on the Council's website during Dementia Awareness Week in May 2017.
- Ask these officers to work with the national charity Making Space and the local groups Let's Be Heard and the Springboard Oldham Dementia Carers Group to support the delivery of staff training, the carrying out of environmental checks, and the completion of the registration process.
- Carry out a review of Council employment practices to ensure that best practice is being followed in offering staff living with dementia, or caring for a family member living with dementia, appropriate ongoing support and flexible working arrangements.
- Ask our partner organisations, Oldham Community Leisure, Oldham Mio-Care, and Unity Partnership, to make similar commitments.
- Create a new Dementia Hub in an accessible, dementia-friendly Council building by providing accommodation to co-locate relevant staff from the following organisations – the Alzheimer's Society, Age UK Oldham, Making Space and the Memory Assessment Service – and meeting rooms and activity areas for people living with dementia and their carers.



- Investigate the merits and practicalities of introducing, and promoting, a Dementia Buddy wristband scheme with representatives from the emergency services and Transport for Greater Manchester. This scheme is operational and actively promoted within the Metropolitan Borough of Wigan.
- Create a transport sub-group of the Oldham Dementia Action Alliance to look specifically at how bus, tram and taxi transport can be made more dementia-friendly.
- Urge schools to include information about living with dementia into the local Personal Social and Health Education curriculum delivered to pupils to help develop their understanding of dementia.

Council is also asked to appoint an elected member as a Dementia Champion to lead on this issue for Council.

### Motion 3

Councillor Harkness to MOVE and Councillor Turner to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- Free school meals are a critical safety net for children from low-income families
- Free school meals help tackle child hunger, boost educational attainment, and save parents £400 per year
- It is estimated that for one in four children a school lunch may be their only hot meal every day
- The Schools Census does not collect information on pupils entitled to receive free school meals, only those who meet the eligibility criteria AND are registered to claim them.
- In January 2016, the Census recorded that 8,253 children have been awarded free school meals, but that under 80% of children take up the free school meals they are entitled to
- Some parents choose not to register their children and some children chose not to eat a school meal because of stigmatisation and social isolation
- Not only does this mean a child might go hungry, but schools lose out on pupil-premium funding, intended to help close the attainment gap between the most disadvantaged pupils and their peers, as this is based upon free school meals registration
- Neighbouring Calderdale Council uses centrally held housing benefit and council tax reduction records to identify any children eligible to receive free school meals, where their parents are not currently claiming, and then automatically enrolls them; this leads to additional pupil-premium payments to the schools they attend
- In March 2015, this approach led to a further 586 pupils being registered for free school meals and their schools receiving additional pupil-premium funding of £685,000

Council recognises that promoting the take-up of free school meals should be one of our priorities in addressing food poverty and improving educational attainment in the borough

Council therefore resolves to ask the relevant Cabinet Members and the Director of Education to look to adopt the approach taken by Calderdale in Oldham and to launch a campaign to promote the take up of free school meals by those pupils eligible to receive them.

#### Motion 4

Councillor Sykes to MOVE and Councillor Williamson to SECOND:

Council believes that it is a disgrace and a scandal that over the last nine months five Royal Mail post boxes have disappeared in Shaw and Crompton.

Council recognises that this has caused great inconvenience to residents; most particularly to those living on Dunwood Park Courts, who have been without a local post box since November 2015, and to the many elderly, infirm or disabled residents living adjacent to these five locations, who struggle, or simply find it impossible, to walk to the next available post box.

Furthermore, Council is deeply disappointed by the:

- lack of urgency in the response from the Chief Executive of Royal Mail to representations made on this matter by local Councillors
- vague promises made to reinstate these post boxes at some unspecified future date
- apparent lack of a statutory requirement for Royal Mail to consult with any local authority, and local residents, before a post box is removed from a public location

Council resolves to request that the Chief Executive writes to:

- The Chief Executive and Chairman of Royal Mail Plc conveying this Council's robust view on this matter and demanding the early reinstatement of these post boxes as a matter of urgency
- The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport asking the Government to establish a statutory requirement for Royal Mail to consult any District or Unitary Council, and local residents, prior to the removal (or non-replacement for a period of more than one calendar month) of any public post box from their area

- 16 To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant a spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 61 - 134)

*(time limit 8 minutes):-*

National Park Authority	27 <sup>th</sup> May 2016
Transport for Greater Manchester	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 (AGM) 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 (AGM) 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 29 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Executive	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 (AGM) 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
Joint GMCA/AGMA Executive	29 <sup>th</sup> July 2016

- 16 To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant b spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 135 - 144)

*(time limit 7 minutes)*

Oldham Leadership Board	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2016
MioCare	9 <sup>th</sup> May 2016

- 17 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 145 - 172)
- 18 New Powers to GMCA Consultation - Oldham Council response (Pages 173 - 194)
- 19 Annual Statement of Accounts 2015/16 (Pages 195 - 382)  
  
Please note a hard copy of the Annual Statement of accounts will be available in each Group Room, Access Oldham and the Civic Reception, West Street Oldham.
- 20 Treasury Management Review 15/16 (Pages 383 - 402)
- 21 2016/17 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement - Outcome of Review and Proposed Revision (Pages 403 - 416)
- 22 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2015/16 (Pages 417 - 426)
- 23 Welfare Reform - Thematic Analysis: Debt and Finances of Local People (Pages 427 - 450)

**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**

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE



MOTION – Secunder 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 question will have up to six minutes to reply to each question with an extension of 30 seconds.

## WITH AMENDMENT

