

Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting
Wednesday 12 July 2017**

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 4 July 2017

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 12 July 2017 at 6.05 pm or at the rise of the Clayton Playing Fields Trust, whichever is the later, 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 Annual Council held on 17th May 2017 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 8)
- 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 9 - 10)

(time limit 20 minutes)

- 8 Outstanding Business from the previous meeting

(time limit 15 minutes).

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

This Council supports the TUC's Dying to Work Campaign's charter as being an imperative way of preserving the rights and dignity of its workers who are diagnosed with a terminal illness.

Currently, workers with a terminal illness do not have a 'protected characteristic', and therefore have limited legal protection. Employers are free to dismiss terminally ill workers once they can prove they have made 'reasonable adjustments' to the employee's job to assist with the illness. In addition, this leaves an employee facing the possibility that they will lose their death in service benefits, adding further stress at a

time when security for a family's future should be protected.

This Council believes that it should be the right of the employee to choose when or if they leave employment. An employee who is diagnosed with a terminal illness should be properly informed of their options and decide what is right for them, safe in the knowledge that they will not be put under undue pressure by their employer.

This Council recognises that in order to encourage other organisations to respect the rights of any of their terminally ill employees, the Council must lead by example.

Therefore this Council resolves to:

- 1) Sign the Dying to Work charter and integrate its contents into our HR procedures.
- 2) Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions lobbying for an amendment to the Equality Act 2010 that safeguards the rights of terminally ill employees.
- 3) Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Borough's three MPs asking them to do everything they can to press for an amendment to the Equality Act 2010 that safeguards the rights of terminally ill employees.

9 Youth Council

(time limit 20 minutes)

The mental health and wellbeing of young people is suffering due to lack of appropriate funding by Central Government, in a recent survey of primary school head teachers, almost 80% of those who responded said a lack of money prevented them providing mental health services in schools. We know that more than half of all mental illness starts before the age of 15 and it is clear from front line school teachers and head teachers that they are increasingly faced with problems of mental health issues among their students. It is therefore a false economy to cut funding for services for children and young people.

As a Youth Council we have held Mental Health as a priority issue for 6 years, because young people in Oldham tell us it's a priority issue, professionals we work with tell us it's a priority issue, our regional and National counterparts tell us it's a priority issue and the Government need to acknowledge and address this priority issues

In Oldham there is cross sectoral agreement recognising the problem of mental ill health and the will to act jointly with governmental support. The Council, CCG, schools, colleges and other partner organisations are working in partnership with our young people on projects such as MH2K, the school and college emotional and mental wellbeing framework and the Youth Councils "Kerrching" funding stream. We have also been lucky enough to receive some funding from the CCG to commission training around a range of children and young people's Mental Health topics for front line practitioners in Oldham. But this isn't enough, without adequate funding from Central Government these initiatives will have limited impact.

In 2015 we were part of a Youth Select committee on young people's mental health, the report from that committee made a number of excellent recommendations including:

Adequate funding for Young people's mental health services so it is no longer the Cinderella of Cinderella services but rather receives funding proportionate to that of Physical health.

A whole school approach to addressing The Emotional wellbeing of students that includes mandatory minimum training for teachers on Mental Health, the inclusion of

trained counsellors in all schools and improved access to Counselling services. Additional support for young people during the stressful exam period and a call for the Department of Education to lead on piloting, evaluating and sharing good practice projects to promote this.

The Youth Council acknowledges and supports the excellent work being done by the Council and its partner agencies including Oldham Youth Council and thanks all those involved in developing and implementing this work.

Increased funding from government specifically to address mental health and wellbeing for pupils, students and young people would enable the council to sustain current programmes that are meeting with success but are limited by funding.

We therefore ask Council to resolve to ask the Chief Executive to write to both the Minister of State for Education and the Minister of State for Health, requesting the Government to ensure that adequate funding is made available to schools and colleges to allow them to invest in the early intervention services and that services such as CAMHS receive the funding they need to deliver the services our young people need.

10 Leader and Cabinet Question Time

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

11 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 11 - 20)

(time limit 20 minutes):-

a) 20th March 2017

b) 24th April 2017

12 Notice of Administration Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Councillor Chadderton to MOVE and Councillor Mushtaq to SECOND:
Funding cuts have been imposed on public services by Conservative and Conservative-led governments since 2010.

In the 2017 General Election voters delivered a verdict that saw the Conservatives lose their overall majority in the House of Commons. This was a clear message to the Government that the British people were fed up with austerity. Locally this was reflected in results that saw all three Oldham Labour MPs increase their share of the vote by more than 10 percentage points compared with 2015.

This Council urges the Government to end the austerity programme that has decimated public services, depressed wages and pushed more children in to poverty. Council resolves to:

- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer setting out our opposition to austerity with details of the impact it has had on the Borough of Oldham.
- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the three Oldham MPs, thank them for the work they are doing to campaign against austerity and offer our support in continuing this campaign.
- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to Mayor Andy Burnham, compelling him to campaign for a fairer funding model for the Greater Manchester region.
- Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Conservative Chair of the Local Government Association and offer our support in his campaign against his party's cruel cuts to Local Government.

Motion 2

Councillor Akhtar to MOVE and Councillor Jacques to SECOND:

The UK science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) skills deficit has been reported widely for many years, in Oldham we have endeavored to address this problem by working with schools and colleges.

This Council understands the need to address local skills needs and social aspiration by developing a keen and able future workforce in the industries that matter to the region. To do this we must ensure that young people are able to develop the skills in science, technology, engineering and maths in ways that will excite them and inspire them to consider science or engineering careers.

The Oldham Enterprise Trust has successfully worked in partnership with schools, colleges and a wide variety of other organisations to make STEM subjects both exciting and enjoyable. They have done this via the Primary Engineer Programme which allows schools to introduce basic engineering principles to young people in primary schools.

Similarly the Go4SET project allows secondary schools to link teams of Year 8/9 pupils with employers and universities to offer a 10 week Science, STEM Project. These projects also allow them to develop their business, organisational and interpersonal skills that further education establishments and employers will be looking for.

This council acknowledges the success of the Primary Engineer and Go4Set projects and requests that the Chief Executive writes to the Oldham Enterprise Trust thanking them and asking them to pass on our thanks to all those involved in these projects and for their commitment to the young people of Oldham.

We also acknowledge and celebrate the success of the students who participated in these events.

Motion 3

Councillor Jabbar to MOVE and Councillor Ball to SECOND:

This Council notes that Universal Credit (UC) is a single monthly payment which replaces six working age benefits (known as legacy benefits). These are Housing Benefit (HB), Income Support (IS), Working Tax Credits (WTC), Child Tax Credit (CTC), Employment and Support Allowance (Income-related) and Job Seekers Allowance (Income-related). It supports residents on low incomes who are both in and out of work.

Oldham has been a pathfinder for Universal Credit since 2013. However, the numbers of residents moving onto Universal Credit from 2013 have been restricted to new claimants and straightforward cases. The roll out of the full service of Universal Credit

which commenced in Oldham on 26 April 2017 is a new entirely online-based system and claimants must apply for and manage their claim online. It also brings in a wider range of claimants including more complex cases. It affects claimants when they make a claim for the first time or have a change in circumstances that means their existing claim for one of the legacy benefits has to be cancelled.

Oldham is one of the early boroughs subject to the rollout of Universal Credit full service. The delivery of the new service has been an area of particular concern across the country and was subject in the last parliament to an investigation by the Work and Pensions Select Committee.

As a result, and while the DWP and Job Centre Plus are the agency responsible for managing the change, the Council is committed to pro-active and continued work with key stakeholders and partners to ensure that as much support is provided to residents as possible to help achieve a smooth transition to the new service.

However, this Council has a number of concerns about Universal Credit

- The wait times between the date of application and date of assessment. There is a built in waiting period of 6 weeks before Universal Credit is awarded and this creates hardship for residents. Any delay in DWP processing times exacerbates this hardship still further.
- The level of deductions applied to monthly payments to clawback advance payments and sanctions can be high leaving residents with little money to cover basic income needs for their families for the weeks ahead.
- The high number of Universal Credit claimants that have been subject to sanctions in Oldham.
- That the provision of housing costs support for short term temporary accommodation for Oldham's homeless population is not an appropriate fit for Universal Credit and should be returned to and covered by Housing Benefit at the earliest opportunity.

This Council resolves to:

Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the following to register these issues and request that solutions are explored which would improve the design and delivery of Universal Credit which would mitigate impacts for low- income, working age residents in the borough;

1. The Rt. Hon David Gauke MP Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.
2. Debbie Abrahams MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth, Jim McMahon MP for Oldham West and Royton and Angela Rayner MP for Ashton Under -Lyne, Droylsden and Failsworth.
3. The Local Government Association (LGA).

13 Notice of Opposition Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Councillor Harkness to MOVE and Councillor Turner to SECOND:

This Council:

- Notes that in 2014 / 15 there were an estimated 1.3 million female victims and 600,000 male victims of domestic abuse and that, on average, 100 women and 30 men a year are killed in situations involving domestic abuse.

- Remains totally committed to opposing domestic violence in all its forms, to supporting its victims, and to working for a society where all members of our community treat one another with compassion, kindness and respect.
- Believes that Government should share these priorities and is therefore bitterly opposed to Conservative Government proposals requiring victims of domestic violence seeking legal aid to provide a prescribed piece of evidence to prove they have been subjected to abuse.
- Notes that such evidence can include a letter from a General Practitioner for which some GPs charge a fee of up to £75, as this sits outside of the NHS contract.
- Believes that it is totally unreasonable to expect the victims of domestic violence to pay such a fee; that many such victims will struggle to find the fee.

Council resolves to

- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister of Justice outlining this Council's opposition to the imposition of a requirement for victims of domestic violence to produce letters or similar evidence of abuse to access legal aid and asking the Government to scrap this requirement.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Borough's three Members of Parliament and the new Mayor of Greater Manchester asking them to support this position.
- Ask the Health and Well-being Board and the Domestic Violence Partnership to contact local GPs asking them to make a commitment not to charge victims for letters until such time as this requirement is scrapped.
- Register as a supporter of the 'Scrap the Fee' campaign established by Tom Watson MP and Wythenshawe Safe Spots.

Motion 2

Councillor Gloster to MOVE and Councillor Hudson to SECOND:

Council notes with revulsion that, at 10.31 pm on Monday 22 May 2017, a terrorist attack took place at the Manchester Arena when a 22 year old British Muslim man detonated an improvised explosive device within the confines of the arena killing himself and 22 innocent adults and children and injuring a further 119 adults and children, 23 of them critically.

Although any deaths or injuries in such a terrorist outrage are horrific, the Council and people of Oldham were especially saddened to hear that amongst the dead were two women from Royton, Alison Howe and Lisa Lees.

The perpetrator of this atrocity, Salman Abedi, claimed to have performed this act of terrorism in the name of Islam.

This Council condemns terrorism in any form, and does not recognise or believe that this horrific act had anything to do with Islam, but was committed by a deranged man who had been radicalised into the mistaken belief that he would be going to a better place, when in fact his only achievement was to bring death to himself and others and worldwide condemnation of his actions from people of all religions, creeds, beliefs and people of no faith alike.

This Council recognises, and commends:

The courage, professionalism and dedication of the many members of the Emergency Services at the scene and in local hospitals.

Although the majority of first responders had never faced an incident of such mass violence and brutality, or dealt with injuries of this type, they acted selflessly without hesitation and in so doing saved many lives that otherwise would have been lost. In our hospitals, National Health Service staff at Accident and Emergency Units across Greater Manchester, unflinchingly pulled together to treat the injured, saving lives and in some cases limbs, of those most seriously injured.

Council notes that many of these casualties were treated at the Royal Oldham Hospital.

The many selfless acts that took place at the time of the attack and since the attack from members of the public from all walks of life, who have come together as a community to help people whom they do not know and have never met. Council especially commends the local vigils held and the tremendous fund-raising effort to support the victims of this tragedy and their families.

The work of staff of Transport for Greater Manchester, Metrolink and bus and rail companies in seeking to minimise the disruption to public transport services resulting from the closure of Victoria Station.

In recognition of these efforts, this Council directs the Chief Executive to write to:

- The Chief Constable, Greater Manchester Police
- The Chief Constable, British Transport Police
- The Chief Fire Officer, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service
- The Chief Officer, North West Ambulance Service
- The Chief Executive, NHS Pennine Acute Trust
- The Chief Executive, Transport for Greater Manchester

To extend the gratitude and admiration of Council for the efforts of their staff both on the night and post incident.

Furthermore, Oldham Council places on record its admiration for the general public of Greater Manchester in facing up to the enormity of this tragedy; the public's actions have demonstrated that we really are stronger as a Greater Manchester community when 'We Stand Together'.

Motion 3

Councillor Gloster to MOVE and Councillor Blyth to SECOND:

On average 3,000 people are killed or seriously injured each year in drink drive collisions on Britain's roads.

Nearly one in six of all deaths on the road involve drivers who are over the legal alcohol limit.

Council notes that:

- The current permitted limit in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood
- In Scotland the limit was reduced in December 2014 to 50mg
- The Local Government Association has recently called on the Government to reduce the limit in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to that of Scotland.

This Council believes that, as a contribution towards a further reduction in road deaths,

the drink drive limit should be reduced across England, Wales and Northern Ireland to 50mg per 100ml of blood to bring it into line with Scotland.

This Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to:

- The Secretary of State for Transport to outline this Council's position and to ask him to introduce this measure as soon as is practicable.
- Our three local Members of Parliament asking them to make representations in support of this position to the minister.

- 14 To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant a spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 21 - 62)

(time limit 7 minutes)

MioCare	16 th January 2017 13 th March 2017
Health and Wellbeing Board	31 st January 2017 14 th March 2017
Unity Partnership Board	27 th February 2017
Oldham Leadership Board	9 th March 2017

- 14 To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant b spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 63 - 170)

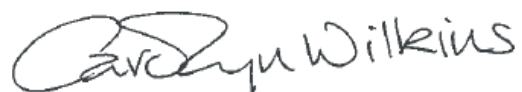
(time limit 8 minutes):-

Greater Manchester Combined Authority	24 th February 2017 31 st March 2017 28 th April 2017
Joint GMCA/AGMA Executive	24 th February 2017 31 st March 2017
Police and Crime Panel	27 th January 2017
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority	17 th March 2017 26 th April 2017
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority	20 th April 2017
Transport for Greater Manchester	17 th March 2017 16 th June 2017
National Park Authority	17 th March 2017 7 th April 2017

- 15 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 171 - 204)
- 16 Charitable Trusts (Pages 205 - 212)
- 17 Result of the Royton North By-election and Review of the Composition of Political Groups (Pages 213 - 216)
- 18 Working towards a Co-operative Borough: Corporate Plan 2015-2020 and Oldham Plan 2017-2022 (Pages 217 - 252)

19 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report (Pages 253 - 266)

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Wilkins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'C'.

**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

