

Oldham Borough Council



Council Meeting
Wednesday 12 December 2018

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 4 December 2018

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 12 December 2018 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 7th November 2018 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 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council (Pages 41 - 42)

(time limit 20 minutes)

There are four petitions to note.

- 8 Outstanding Business from the previous meeting

(time limit 15 minutes).

Air Quality

Councillor Shah to MOVE and Councillor Jabbar to SECOND:

This council notes that air quality remains a significant issue affecting the life quality of the residents of Oldham, with levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) driven up primarily by road transport. Local modelling has identified a number of stretches of road in the borough where NO₂ levels are expected to exceed legal limits beyond 2020, mainly on major roads near our town centres.

Air pollution recognises no boundaries, so a response is needed from individuals, from

local governments and from national government. This council notes the important work ongoing across Greater Manchester to campaign for clean air, and welcomes the commitment of the Combined Authority to hit World Health Organisation targets for air quality by 2030 as part of being a WHO BreatheLife City. Greater Manchester councils have also pledged to be 100% fossil fuel free by 2050.

Given the scale of the challenge, this council notes with concern that national government has recently removed grants to encourage the take up of electric vehicles, and acknowledges the criticism of this decision by the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Select Committee.

This council resolves:

- 1) To work closely with the GMCA to deliver the Clean Air Plan, and to continue to promote the GM Clean Air campaign to encourage residents to think about how they can do their bit to reduce air pollution.
- 2) To ask the Chief Executive to seek immediate clarification from the Secretary of State on how national government will support Oldham's ambitions to improve air quality, particularly given recent decisions to cut grants for electric vehicles.
- 3) To seek new opportunities to further establish Oldham as the region's greenest borough and improve the life chances of residents and particularly young people beyond the Clean Air Plan, including:
 - a) Reducing air pollution caused by vehicle use around schools at the start and end of the school day.
 - b) Incentivising the use of electric vehicles through improved access to charging points and other preferential schemes, preparing the borough for a future where 3 million charging points will be needed nationally by 2040.
 - c) Growing trees in key sites in the borough to dampen pollution effects and make more liveable places.

9 Youth Council

(time limit 20 minutes)

There is no Youth Council business to consider.

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 43 - 50)

(time limit 20 minutes):-

- a) 22nd October 2018

12 Notice of Administration Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Universal Credit

Councillor Jabbar to MOVE and Councillor Judd to SECOND

This council notes with great concern the recent reports from the United Nations on extreme poverty and human rights in the UK, and from the Equality and Human Rights Commission on the unequal (and possibly illegal) impact of government cuts. The UN highlighted a number of issues that we as Oldhamers know through experience, including that:

- “Local authorities ...which perform vital roles in providing a real social safety net have been gutted by a series of government policies.”
- “As a result of changes to taxes, benefits, and public spending from 2010 through 2020, Black and Asian households in the lowest fifth of incomes will experience the largest average drop in living standards, about 20%.”
- “Another 1.5 million more children will fall into poverty between 2010 and 2021/22 as a result of the changes to benefits and taxes, a 10% increase”.
- “The experience of the United Kingdom, especially since 2010, underscores the conclusion that poverty is a political choice.”

Universal Credit, introduced by the Coalition Government, is at the heart of the misery inflicted upon so many in our communities. While the government stoically insists on a punitive five week wait time before receiving any benefits, the Peabody Trust estimates that more than 100,000 children are at risk in households struggling with this wait over Christmas. The government’s solution – advance loans for those able to prove they can’t afford to eat – only serves to extend the hardship with one in three claimants losing up to 40% of their monthly income to repay these debts.

Government welfare reform policy has increased the overall level of deprivation in Oldham and resulted in 40.66% of our children living in poverty.

The latest Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and fifth in a little over two years, has acknowledged the “real problems” with Universal Credit and promised a root-and-branch review. To this end, this council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, inviting her to:

1. Visit Oldham as part of her review, to learn from councillors, officers and residents about the effects of her government’s policies since the borough became a pathfinder for Universal Credit in 2013.
2. Eliminate the five week delay in receiving benefits, as recommended by the UN, or at least reduce it to two weeks, as recommended by the Peabody Trust.
3. Review the effectiveness of the ‘digital by default’ approach to managing and maintaining Universal Credit claims for vulnerable residents
4. End on-going austerity measures such as the benefit freeze to working age benefits which are set to continue until 2020

Motion 2

Gender Based Violence

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

This council notes that Monday 10th December was Human Rights Day, marking the

end of an international 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. The campaign aims to shine a light on the scale of gender-based violence that continues to blight our society.

Gender-based violence remains an issue of fundamental importance affecting Oldham residents, with signs that the challenge is growing. Across Greater Manchester, reported sexual offences increased by 44% between 2016 and 2017 to over 9,000, and 27 women were murdered by their partners. Over 6,000 incidents of domestic violence and abuse are reported to the police each year in Oldham alone.

In addition to action taken by the police to prosecute offenders, there are a range of services concerned with supporting survivors and addressing the behaviour of perpetrators including:

- Referral to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to assess the support needs of survivors and their families;
- Refuge provision to provide emergency accommodation and support;
- Four Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVAs) working with survivors and a Greater Manchester team of three specialist IDVAs, based in Oldham, who support survivors of so-called “honour-based” violence – such as forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- The REFRAME programme to challenge the behaviour of perpetrators of domestic violence;
- Work of voluntary and community groups such as Inspire Women Oldham which involve survivors of violence and abuse.

This council resolves to:

1. Produce a comprehensive action plan with its partners to marshal the resources and influence of Oldham Council and the community to tackle gender-based violence in the borough, working towards a White Ribbon Award.
2. Commit to raising awareness of the scale of gender-based violence, and the resources and services available to residents.
3. Expand our work with community groups and those with experience of gender-based violence, putting them at the heart of solutions, in line with this year’s 16 days of activism theme, #HearMeToo.

Motion 3

Suffrage and Peterloo

Councillor Roberts to MOVE and Councillor Chadderton to SECOND:

In 2018 Oldham has celebrated the centenary of women’s parliamentary suffrage and the 90th anniversary of universal adult suffrage.

This Council welcomes the installation of Annie Kenney’s statue in Parliament Square and the unveiling on the 14th December 2018, the anniversary of the first general election when women could stand as candidates and vote.

This Council recognises that the struggle for equality and the right to vote was long and hard fought. We reaffirm our commitment to commemorating the Peterloo Massacre of 16th August 1819 as a significant contribution to the struggle.

This Council resolves to

1. Thank everyone who has contributed to commemorative and celebratory activities, events and everyone who has helped to raise the money to pay for Annie Kenney’s statue
2. To invite Oldham residents and community organisations to join with the Council in commemorating Peterloo and the fight for equal rights

13 Notice of Opposition Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Improving Public Safety in Oldham's Night time Economy

Councillor H Gloster to MOVE and Councillor Sykes to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- In Bradford and Manchester local businesses and community groups have joined with local colleges and universities to establish Student Safe Spots / Zones; these are premises self-identifying as havens for students who are being followed, or are feeling vulnerable or unwell.
Staff at these venues offer assistance in booking taxis home; in contacting the emergency services if their assistance is required; or offer a temporary safe haven until a problem has passed. Venues signed up to the scheme receive a sticker to place prominently to advertise their involvement and a list and map of venues is published on line for students to access.
- In Bradford, there also exists an agreement with local taxi businesses that students without money but presenting with a valid student ID badge will be offered carriage and the bill is then sent to the student for payment, via the relevant college and university authorities.
- The 'Ask for Angela' scheme is operated nationwide in many pubs and clubs. If a member of the public who feels vulnerable or threatened 'Asks for Angela' of the on-premises staff they know to take that person to a safer location and offer them assistance, such as calling a taxi, contacting friends or in certain circumstances ringing the police. Premises promoting the scheme display posters, which are usually placed in the toilets of those establishments to be discreet.

Council believes that establishing such schemes in our borough would help safeguard vulnerable people in our Borough, especially students and women enjoying our night time economy, and would complement the excellent work being done by the Oldham Street Angels.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Board to examine in conjunction with relevant partners, including the Oldham College, Oldham Sixth Form College, University Campus Oldham, schools with post-16 provision, licensed premises and public and private hire taxi businesses, the practicality of establishing such schemes as soon as possible in our town and district centres.

Motion 2

Changes to the Planning System to Fast-track Fracking:

Councillor Murphy top MOVE and Councillor Heffernan to SECOND:

Council notes:

- With concern that the government is proposing two major changes to the planning system as it applies to shale gas extraction (or fracking) by:
 - Granting automatic planning permission for exploratory drilling prior to fracking, using 'permitted development' rules. This would remove the need for companies to submit a planning application and so also reduce local democratic scrutiny.
 - Including shale gas production projects in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects regime. This would take decision-making powers on shale gas production away from local councils and hand it to central government.

- That wherever fracking has been proposed, it has been opposed by the public and local authorities because of real fears about noise, traffic, air pollution, the impact on the countryside, and the effects on climate change.
- That the Cardiff Business School has produced a report that reveals that to replace 50% of the UK's projected future gas imports for 2021-2035 would in the most likely scenario require around 6100 fracking wells to be built on well pads that could cover the area of 4900 football pitches. This would require the equivalent of drilling and fracking one well every day for fifteen years.

Council believes that:

- The Government's proposals completely contradict the principles of localism and set a dangerous precedent for planning authorities in denying them the right to determine certain types of planning applications locally and in denying members of the public and communities their say during the planning process.
- 'Permitted Development' – the category of planning that the government wants to move shale gas exploration drilling into – which was designed for developments with a low environmental impact and is an inappropriate category for drilling which has such wide-reaching implications for local communities and climate change.
- Bringing fracking applications under the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects regime will be harmful to local communities.
- Local authorities and local people are best placed to continue to make decisions throughout the planning process on matters that affect their locality, including fracking.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to:

- Write to the relevant government ministers outlining this Council's objections to the proposed changes and requesting that fracking applications, or indeed on any other planning matter relating to our locality and its people, be determined locally.
- Copy in our three local Members of Parliament and the Mayor of Greater Manchester and ask for their support on this issue.

Motion 3

Sustainable Public Health Funding

Councillor C Gloster to MOVE and Councillor Harkness to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- Around four in ten cancers are preventable, largely through avoidable risk factors, such as stopping smoking, keeping a healthy weight and cutting back on alcohol. Smoking accounts for 80,000 early deaths every year and remains the largest preventable cause of cancer in the world. Additionally, obesity and alcohol account for 30,000 and 7,000 early deaths each year respectively. All three increase the risk of: cancer, diabetes, lung and heart conditions, poor mental health and create a subsequent burden on health and social care.
- The public health grant funds vital services and functions largely delivered by local authorities to prevent ill health and reduce the burden placed upon the NHS and local authorities; for example, social care for smoking-related illnesses is estimated to cost local authorities £760 million per annum.
- In 2018/19 and 2019/20 every local authority will have less to spend on public health than the year before.
- The Government is looking to phase out the Public Health Grant by 2020/21 and to replace this with funding via business rates retention.

Council believes that:

- The impact of cuts to public health on our communities is becoming difficult to ignore.
- It is vital that local authorities have enough funding to deliver the functions and services they need to provide. Deprived areas, like Oldham, suffer the worst health outcomes, so it is also vital that areas with the greatest need receive sufficient funding to meet their local challenges.
- Taking funds away from prevention is a false economy. Without proper investment in public health services, people suffer, demand on local health services increases and the economy suffers. Poor public health costs local businesses heavily through sick days and lost productivity.
- We must restore public health funding or our health and care system will remain locked in a 'treatment' approach, which is neither economically viable nor protects the health of residents.

Council resolves to:

- Continue to support and fund public health initiatives to the best of our abilities - to prevent ill-health, reduce inequalities and support a health and social care system that is fit for the future.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to:
 - Cancer Research UK setting out this Council's support for their call for increased and sustainable public health funding.
 - The Secretary of State for Health calling on the Government to deliver increased investment in public health and to support a sustainable health and social care system by taking a 'prevention first' approach.

- 14 To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant a spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 51 - 66)

(time limit 7 minutes)

MioCare Board	17 September 2018
Health and Wellbeing Board	25 September 2018

- 14 To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant b spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 67 - 116)

(time limit 8 minutes):-

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Waste and Recycling Committee	13 September 2018
Police and Crime Panel	30 October 2018
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	26 October 2018
National Park Authority	5 October 2018
Transport for Greater Manchester	14 September 2018

- 15 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 117 - 134)
- 16 Failsworth East By-Election Result and Political Balance Update
Report to follow.
- 17 Brexit Update
Report to follow.
- 18 Civic Appreciation Nomination (Pages 135 - 136)
- 19 Youth Justice Plan (Pages 137 - 172)
- 20 Gambling Policy Review (Pages 173 - 218)
- 21 A- Boards Policy Statement Update (Pages 219 - 228)
- 22 Treasury Management Strategy (Pages 229 - 250)
- 23 Organisational Framework (Pages 251 - 254)

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

