

Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting
Wednesday 15 July 2020**

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 7 July 2020

You are hereby summoned to attend a virtual meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 15 July 2020 at 6.00 pm for the following purposes:

- 1 To receive apologies for absence
- 2 Attendance and declarations of Interest
- 3 To order that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17th June 2020 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 38)
- 4 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 5 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 6 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council
(time limit 20 minutes)
- 7 Youth Council
(time limit 20 minutes)

The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting lockdown has proved to be a trial for many people, around the world.

As a Youth Council we have consulted with various young people, to explore the specific areas of everyday life which have been greatly affected by the restrictions that we, as a nation, have had to follow. We asked young people in Oldham to share their experiences of lockdown for them as individuals

We have found that these restrictions have had significant impacts on our education experience and employment aspirations and in turn this has led to further stress and strain being put on young people's mental health during lockdown. Indeed, it has been reported that as a result of schools being closed and jobs being furloughed many young people may lose a sense of structure and positive stimulation, and that this will lead to an increase in anxiety and depression for many young people.

It is now clear that this pandemic will have had a devastating effect on our society, and particularly on young people. The current economic crisis risks pushing an additional 600,000 18-24 year olds nationally into unemployment in the coming year. In addition to this, there will be long-term damage to their pay and job prospects even after the economy recovers unless new support is provided.

The risks to the borough could be particularly devastating to young people as the reported youth unemployment rate in Oldham in May 2020 stood at 15.1%, the highest across Greater Manchester. This will be again increased as the employment rates of

graduates entering work during the pandemic are projected to be 13% lower than they would have been without the crisis, while rates for mid and low-skilled workers risk falling even more, by 27% and 37% respectively.

Furthermore, those who do find work are likely to face reduced pay. The Class of 2020 report by the Nuffield Foundation states that, 'one year after leaving education, the pay of graduates is projected to be 7% lower, and 9% and 19% lower for mid- and low-skilled workers', Oldham's average salary comparison is already £8000 per annum lower than the national average.

There are also questions about whether there will be work for those who have been furloughed, let alone for those only just beginning to enter the labour market.

This all paints a rather grim picture for the future Employment of Young people!

It hasn't all been bad news and we have seen some positives within the ongoing COVID-19 lockdown. With schools delivering remote teaching our digital skills have increased. Teachers and students have learnt about apps such as Google Hangouts or Zoom, Google Classroom or Microsoft Teams.

As people are staying at home, they have been using technology a lot more and learning new skills such as how to socialise via video calling apps, starting online social media accounts, trading products online or freelancing and selling services, some young people have even learned how to code in python or manage big data on excel. We are given tasks and asked to research rather than have somebody stood at a projector or whiteboard giving us the answers. All these skills are transferable and maybe, more than ever, young people will be ready for the world of work and have the creative and digital skills needed for the future workforce

We believe that Oldham Council needs to be an advocate for the skills young people are currently cumulating during lockdown, as we are currently unsure that these skills will be recognised or that the job opportunities requiring these skills will be available to us.

The increase in digital skills have already been proven to assist in productivity within the everchanging workplace, helping increase the chance of the those who are unemployed finding a job and helping with the introduction of digital services from some key providers. Young people have had the opportunity to get more acquainted with the digital world whilst during lockdown, whether that is for school, work or home benefits. Some of our young people will have gained new digital skills, in photography, in animation, the list is long, and it would be a shame if these skills could not be enhanced further once lockdown is lifted, and we try to return to our 'normal' lifestyle. These skills should not be left on the backburner and forgotten, leaving the time during lockdown wasted. These new skills could have brought a new light to pathways young people might want to take for their future, and we should not let their potential dwindle and disappear, especially with the rise of youth unemployment becoming an unfortunate reality. A larger recognition of the digital skills will help young people feel more comfortable with entering a forever expanding sector which is shaping our society as we speak.

Lockdown has brought us many negatives in all different aspects of life, however we do not want these negatives to overrule the positives that have come from working online. We need to open up opportunities for young people and we would like to see designated apprenticeships for young people within the digital industry to enable the skills that Oldham's young people have gained to be used and not wasted. This will also help Oldham's economy as we build up our digital industry.

We ask Council to resolve that:

1. Oldham Council pledges its commitment to providing quality job opportunities for young people and developing the digital sector within the town
2. A review is undertaken of the current apprenticeship offer across Oldham to ensure there is a broad range of high-quality opportunities available to all young people and;
3. As one of the largest employers in Oldham, digital apprenticeships are considered for those leaving education.

8 Questions Time

a Public Questions

(time limit 15 Minutes)

b Questions to Leader and Cabinet

(time limit 30 minutes)

c Questions on Cabinet Minutes

(time limit 15 minutes)

d Questions on Joint Arrangements (Pages 39 - 108)

(time limit 15 minutes)

Police and Crime Panel

28 January 2020
31 January 2020

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

14 February 2020
29 May 2020
24 June 2020

MioCare Board

23 January 2020

Peak Park District Authority

13 March 2020
22 May 2020

9 Notice of Administration Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Councillor Jabbar to MOVE and Councillor C Gloster to SECOND:

Funding Recovery, Jobs and Services

This council notes with thanks the combined efforts of council officers, our public sector partners, volunteers and businesses in working together to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. From carers looking after older residents and putting themselves at risk, to the waste team quickly finding new ways of working to keep our bins empty, to the

huge army of volunteers distributing food parcels to those in need, the crisis has shown Oldham at its best.

We must also acknowledge the funding and support packages that the Government has put in place to assist businesses in Oldham, some of which have been administered by the council. Without this Government support many businesses would have ceased trading and more Oldhamers would be facing unemployment.

However, whilst there has been a range of Government support, the council is facing a significant financial challenge. Some Government funding has been received, including £14.2m of unringfenced grant. A further funding package was announced on 2nd July but it did not provide the clarity required for the council assess the extent of the additional financial support. However, it is evident that it will fall far short of the funding required to compensate for the additional expenditure being incurred and for the income that has been lost in this financial year.

If the Government does not provide any more support the council will have to consider making cuts to key services in order to manage its finances effectively. This will also have an impact in 2021/22 which already has a budget reduction target of £23m. Any additional financial pressure will be on top of the £221m of budget reductions that the council has been forced to make as a result of the Government's austerity regime.

It is important to note that on 16th March the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Robert Jenrick, told English council leaders "This government stands with local councils at this difficult time. Everyone needs to play their part to help the most vulnerable in society and support their local economy. The government will do whatever is necessary to support these efforts." By 14 April the message had changed and Jenrick told council leaders that councils would have to "share the burden" of coronavirus-related costs. We need the Government to honour its original statement and do whatever is necessary to support councils in their response to COVID-19 - including fully funding the extra financial pressures.

This council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to:

- The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to fully fund councils for the extra costs and lost income arising from COVID-19 in line with his communication of 16th March
- The LGA to confirm the council's support in their lobbying of Government for increased funding for local government in response to financial pressures arising from COVID-19
- Key partner organisations across Oldham, requesting their support for our campaign for central government funding that protects the jobs of key workers and enables Oldham to build back better

Motion 2

Councillor Leach to MOVE and Councillor Phythian to SECOND:

Care Workers vs COVID-19 Motion

This Council commends the incredible work of care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic caring for the most vulnerable people in Oldham.

This Council notes the results of a survey conducted by UNISON North West which found that 8 out of 10 care workers would not receive their full normal pay if they were ill or had to self-isolate or shield because of COVID-19. As a result of the lack of occupational sick pay, some care workers said that they may have to attend work

whilst ill as they could not afford to live off statutory sick pay (SSP).

This Council believes that this situation poses a serious public health risk to people that receive care and frontline care workers. Indeed, official figures from the Office for National Statistics show that care workers are twice as likely to die from coronavirus than NHS staff.

This Council acknowledges its responsibility under the Government's Infection Control Fund to administer the distribution of additional funding to social care providers to reduce the spread of infection, including maintaining normal wages for COVID-19 related absence.

This Council believes that no care worker should have to choose between their own health or hardship. This Council welcomes UNISON North West's Care Workers vs COVID-19 Campaign which is calling for care workers to receive the support and resources they need to combat the virus.

This Council notes that 12 local authorities in the North West have already supported the Care Workers vs COVID-19 Campaign or made similar commitments around maintaining normal pay for all COVID-19 related absence.

This Council undertakes to:

- 1) Formally endorse the principles of UNISON's Care Workers vs COVID-19 Campaign and commit to campaigning for the funding this Council requires to deliver on them;
- 2) Communicate to providers that it is this Council's view that additional funding is used by social care providers to pay care workers their full normal pay for all COVID-19 related absence, including sickness, self-isolation or shielding;
- 3) Review procurement and commissioning policies with view to increasing the weighting of social value commissioning and to ensure it includes specific requirements around occupational sick pay.

10 Notice of Opposition Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Councillor Al-Hamdani to MOVE and Councillor H Gloster to SECOND:

Preventing modern slums in Oldham Borough

This Council notes that:

- In 2019, 15 oppressive flats got the go ahead in Watford through a planning loophole. These dwellings were below the government's advisory space guidelines for homes, and some had no access to natural light.
- Homes without natural light are inhumane for people to dwell in. This is not an acceptable standard for people to live by in Oldham Borough, nor anywhere for that matter.
- The Government minimum recommended size for dwellings built or renovated is 37 square metres. However, this is not a legal requirement.
- The current legislation allows offices and warehouses to be converted to flats without planning permission. This is how the inhumane dwellings in Watford got around the council's humanitarian objections.
- We live in a time where it is decent and common practice that farm animals get to see sunlight as part of their daily living conditions.

- A government review of these regulations is underway.
- Oldham Borough Council must prevent modern slums from slipping through the planning net locally. An oppressive environment would have a serious impact upon the health of future occupiers.

This Council resolves to:

- Write to the Secretary of State urging that the General Permitted Development Order be changed so that councils can have the final say on dwellings and that those proposals with no natural light be rejected on humanitarian grounds.
- Write to Mayor Andy Burnham to request that the Greater Manchester Spatial framework notes the inhumane nature of this policy when assessing the use of brownfield sites.
- That proposed dwellings with no natural light will not be built in Oldham Borough as an oppressive living environment would have a serious negative impact upon physical and mental health.
- This Council has a commitment to providing homes that are of an acceptable modern standard.

Motion 2

Councillor Harkness to MOVE and Councillor Williamson to SECOND:

Tackling clothing poverty and waste

This Council notes that:

- The culture of 'fast fashion' which prevails in the UK and elsewhere leads to the over-production and over-consumption of clothing.
- Over-production represents the excessive depletion of precious natural resources and the financial exploitation of workers in the clothing industry. This exploitation is often close to home.
- Over-consumption can lead to clothing being worn once or never at all.
- In contrast, many residents of Oldham Borough living on a low-income struggle to afford to buy much-needed clothing for themselves, and for those in their family.
- This is an environmental disaster and a waste. It is the underutilisation of good clothing that could go to other people in need.
- Whilst there are charitable providers of free clothing in Oldham Borough to those in need, not every district is well served and there is a lack of awareness of provision.
- In parts of the UK, innovative schemes exist such as 'community clothing exchanges', where at regular events participants can swap clothes; 'community clothes banks', where clothing racks are sited in prominent locations in the community to enable unwanted clothing to be left for others; and 'community sewing clubs', where attendees repair and alter clothing to make better use of what they have.

Council resolves to:

- Work to end clothing poverty and waste, and the exploitation of clothing workers as part of our collective effort to tackle social deprivation and make this Borough carbon-neutral.
- Map and promote the current provision of free clothing available to those in need and identify where and how to address any shortfall in this provision.
- Identify innovative schemes which can be replicated in this Borough and establish a

timetable and plan to do so.

- Identify how the Council and its partners can best support workers in the garment sector at risk of exploitation.
- Consult the voluntary sector, local clothing manufacturers and retailers, trades unions in the clothing sector, and the campaigning groups Wrap, Labour Behind the Label, and Home Workers World Wide on these issues.
- Bring a report back to full Council with findings and recommendations by July 2021.

Motion 3

Councillor Murphy to MOVE and Councillor C Gloster to SECOND:

The Local Electricity Bill

This Council notes:

- Local authorities play a central role in creating sustainable communities, particularly through the provision of locally generated, renewable electricity.
- The very large setup and running costs associated with selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers prevent local renewable electricity generators from doing so.
- Making these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation would create significant opportunities for councils to supply locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people and businesses.
- Revenues received by councils from the sale of local renewable electricity can be used to help fund measures to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions and to help fund local services and facilities.
- The recent reintroduction of the Local Electricity Bill under the Ten-Minute Rule. If enacted the new law would make the setup and running costs of selling renewable electricity to local customers proportionate by establishing a Right to Local Supply.
- This Bill has received the support of 151 Members of Parliament.
- We should make every attempt to build a sustainable Britain after the Coronavirus crisis has passed. Our support for the Bill and this motion helps us achieve that.

Council resolves to:

- Write to the relevant Government Minister asking them to enact this legislation as soon as possible.
- Ask our local Members of Parliament to support the Bill.
- Write to the campaign promoting the Bill, Power for People, (at 8, Delancey Passage, Camden, London, NW1 7NN) expressing the Council's support for the campaign and the Local Electricity Bill.

- 11 Oldham's COVID-19 Response (Pages 109 - 120)
- 12 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 121 - 136)
- 13 Members Allowances - Transport (Pages 137 - 138)
- 14 Annual Reports 2019/20 (Pages 139 - 240)
- 15 Review of Whistleblowing Policy (Pages 241 - 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, reading "Carolyn Wilkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carolyn" written in a more stylized, looped manner and the last name "Wilkins" in a simpler, more direct script.

**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



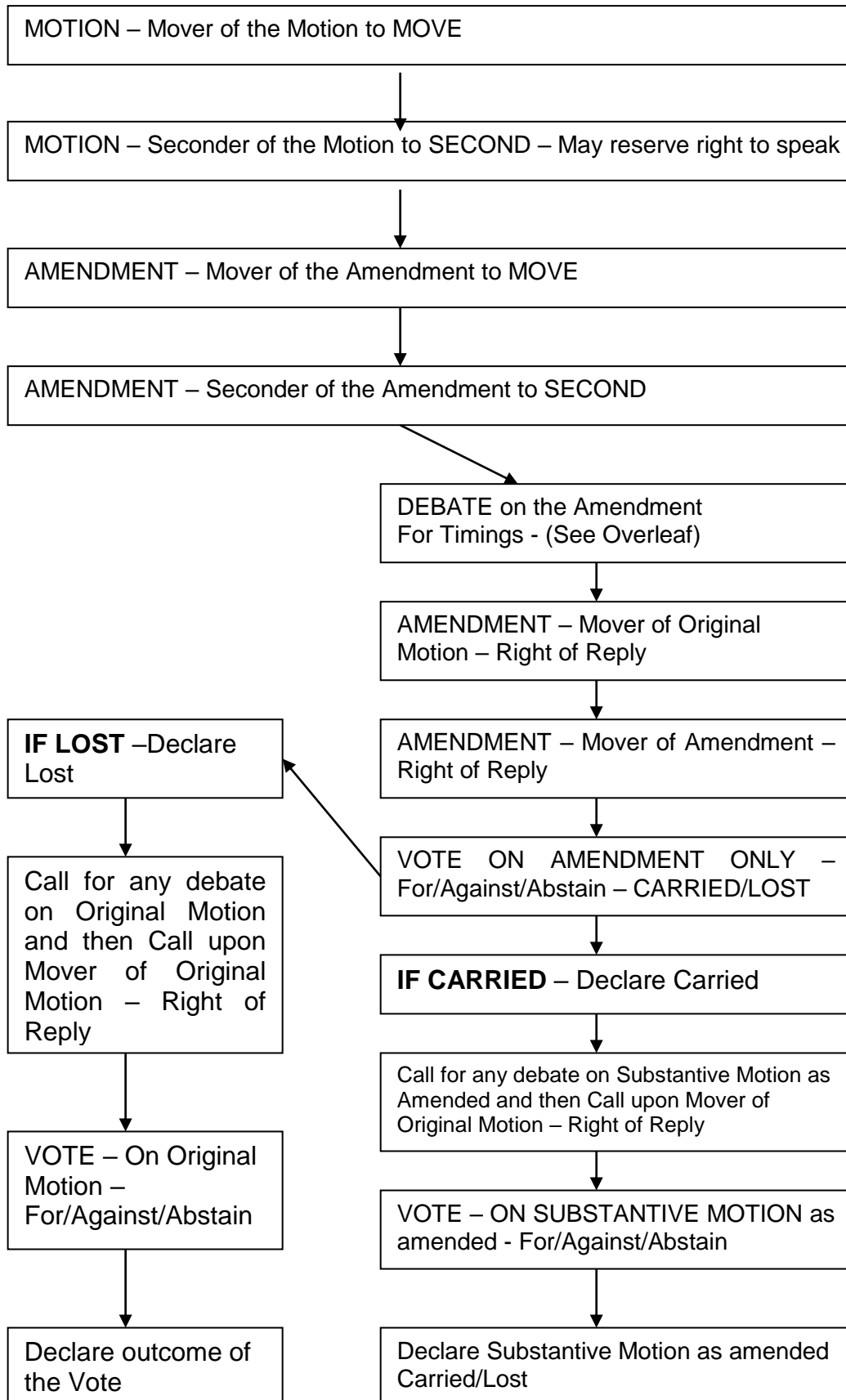
Declare outcome of the VOTE

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

WITH AMENDMENT



Present: The Mayor – Councillor G. Alexander (Chair)

Councillors Ahmad, Akhtar, Al-Hamdani, Ali, Alyas, Ball, M Bashforth, S Bashforth, Briggs, Brownridge, Byrne, Chadderton, Chauhan, Cosgrove, Curley, Davis, Dean, Fielding, Garry, C. Gloster, H. Gloster, Goodwin, Hamblett, Haque, Harkness, Harrison, Hewitt, Hobin, Hudson, Hulme, F Hussain, Ibrahim, Iqbal, Jabbar, Jacques, Leach, Malik, McLaren, Moores, Murphy, Mushtaq, Phythian, Price, Roberts, Salamat, Shah, Sheldon, Shuttleworth, Stretton, Surjan, Sykes, Taylor, Toor, Ur-Rehman and Williams

1 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Consultation had been undertaken with Group Leaders to vary the order of the agenda due to the changes to the regulations. Councillor Fielding MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED an amendment to Council Procedure Rule 15.5 and proposed that timings would includes the extensions, therefore, any member wishing to speak would be granted 4 minutes 30 second and those Members with a right of reply 6 minutes and 30 second. On being put to the vote, this was AGREED.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Williamson and Councillor A. Hussain.

2 ATTENDANCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Due to the current pandemic and the virtual meeting, a roll call of elected members present was taken and at the same time, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, elected members declared the following interests:

The Mayor informed the meeting that the Standards Committee had granted a dispensation to allow all members to vote on Item 19, Members Allowances Scheme, Report of the Director of Legal Services. All members declared a pecuniary interest in this item, but the dispensation was applicable which allowed members to participate and vote on Item 19.

Councillor C. Gloster declared a pecuniary interest at Item 11d and personal interest at Item 12, by virtue of his employment by Greater Manchester Police.

Councillor H. Gloster declared a pecuniary interest at Item 11d and a personal interest in Item 12, by virtue of her husband's employment by Greater Manchester Police.

Councillor Garry declared a pecuniary interest at Item 11d and Item 12, by virtue of her husband's employment by Greater Manchester Police.

Councillor S. Bashforth declared a personal interest by virtue of his appointment to MioCare and a pecuniary interest at Item 11d by virtue of his appointment as a Director of MioCare.

Councillor Chauhan declared a personal interest at Item 11d by virtue of his appointment to MioCare.

Councillor Hamblett declared a personal interest at Item 11d by virtue of his appointment to MioCare.

Councillor Al-Hamdani declared a personal interest at Item 15.

3

THE MAYORALTY AND MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL 2020/21

Consideration was given to a report to the Head of Democratic Services which advised of the implications of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 for the Mayoralty and for meetings between May 2020 and May 2021.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Coronavirus Act 2020 (the "Act") came into force on 25th March 2020. Amongst other matters, the Act provided that the ordinary election of Councillors in England that would otherwise be held on the ordinary day of election in 2020 would be held instead on 7th May 2021, the ordinary day of election in 2021, and that any Councillor who would otherwise have retired on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election in 2020 would have their term of office extended accordingly.

Subsequently, the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (the "2020 Regulations") came into force on 4th April 2020. Included in the provisions therein, local authorities were permitted to hold such meetings as they may determine and, should a Council not hold an annual meeting, such appointments that would otherwise have been made at the annual meeting would continue until the next annual meeting or until such time as the Council determined.

Members were reminded that the Annual Meeting of Council scheduled for 20th May 2020 had not been convened. In accordance with S4 of the 2020 Regulations, the terms of office of Councillor Ginny Alexander as Mayor and of Councillor Jenny Harrison as Deputy Mayor would therefore continue to the Annual Meeting of the Council to be held in May 2021 or such other time as the Council might determine.

Similarly, current Council committee memberships would continue to the Annual Meeting of the Council to be held in May 2021 or such other time as the Council might determine, subject to the political balance considerations required by the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990. A report which gave consideration to political balance and the opportunity to vary some appointments was elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED that the implications of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and

Wales) Regulations 2020 for the Mayoralty and for meetings of the Council between May 2020 and May 2021 be noted.

4

TO ORDER THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8TH JANUARY 2020 AND 26TH FEBRUARY 2020 BE SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meetings held on 8th January 2020 and 26th February 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

5

TO DEAL WITH MATTERS WHICH THE MAYOR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

6

TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor and all Elected Members of the Council offered their condolences to all families who lost loved ones during the pandemic, both Covid related and non-Covid.

Council held a minute's silence.

The Mayor made reference to the recent deaths of former members of the Council, Fred Yates and Angie Farrell.

Councillor Sykes paid tribute to the work of Fred Yates and Angie Farrell.

Councillor Brownridge paid tribute to the work of Fred Yates.

Councillor S. Bashforth paid tribute to the work of Angie Farrell.

Council held a minute's silence.

7

TO RECEIVE AND NOTE PETITIONS RECEIVED RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor advised that two petitions had been received for noting by Council:

People and Place

Reference 2020-02: Petition regarding Proposed Time Restricted Parking on Beal Lane, Shaw (Shaw) received on 9th January 2020 with 113 signatures.

Reference 2020-04: Petition requesting the Re-opening of Bolton Street, Oldham OL4 1BW (St. Mary's) received on 28th February 2020 with 251 signatures.

RESOLVED that the petitions received since the last meeting of the Council be noted.

8

ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS TO CABINET MEMBERS 2020/21 AND DETERMINATION OF THE DELEGATION OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

RESOLVED that the appointment of Deputy Leaders, Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members, the allocation of portfolios

to Cabinet Members and the determination of delegations to Executive Functions for 2020/2021 be noted as outlined below.



Councillor Sean Fielding	Leader of the Council Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills
Councillor Eddie Moores	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Councillor Shaid Mushtaq	Cabinet Member for Education
Councillor Zahid Chauhan	Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care
Councillor Arooj Shah	Statutory Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for COVID-19 Response
Councillor Barbara Brownridge	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture
Councillor Hannah Roberts	Cabinet Member for Housing
Councillor Abdul Jabbar MBE	Deputy Leader Cabinet Member for Finance and Green
Councillor Amanda Chadderton	Cabinet Member for HR and Corporate Reform
Councillor Mohon Ali	Deputy Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills
Councillor Valerie Leach	Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Councillor Chris Goodwin	Deputy Cabinet Member for Education
Councillor Marie Bashforth	Deputy Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care
Councillor Cath Ball	Deputy Cabinet Member for COVID-19 Response
Councillor Ateeque Ur-Rehman	Deputy Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture
Councillor George Hulme	Deputy Cabinet Member for Finance and Green
Councillor Steve Williams	Deputy Cabinet Member for HR and Corporate Reform

OPPOSITION NOMINATIONS TO THE SHADOW CABINET

RESOLVED that the appointment of the Opposition Leader and the Shadow Cabinet and asset set out below be noted:

Councillor Howard Sykes MBE (Opposition Leader)	Economy and Skills HR & Corporate Reform
Councillor Garth Harkness	Education
Councillor Hazel Gloster	Children and Young People
Councillor Louie Hamblett	Health and Social Care
Councillor Dave Murphy	Neighbourhoods and Culture
Councillor Diane Williamson	COVID-19 Recovery
Councillor Chris Gloster (Opposition Deputy Leader)	Finance and Low Carbon
Councillor Sam Al-Hamdani	Housing and Homelessness

10

YOUTH COUNCIL

There were no items submitted by the Youth Council.

11

QUESTIONS TIME

11a

Public Question Time

The Mayor advised that the next item on the agenda was Public Question Time. Questions had been received from members of the public and would be taken in the order in which they had been received. Council was advised that if the questioner was not present, the question would be read out by the Mayor.

The following questions were submitted:

1. Question received from Michael McLean via email:

“How many miles of roads in Oldham have had the potholes fixed whilst the roads were quiet?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture responded that generally filling potholes was just an interim measure pending investment to the highway network to resurfacing using a number of appropriate surfacing techniques. The Council was currently at the start of the second financial year of the implementation of a Council funded £12m Highways Investment Programme over three years which aims to completely resurface and overlay existing surfacing to economically and effectively improve the overall condition of the highway network. In terms of improvements, the overall condition had been measured:

- Green condition – or highways not in need to any works, had

improved by 23% of the entire network from 36% to 59% - this equated to approximately 180 km of the network having improved;

- Amber condition – or highways not needing work for 3 to 5 years had reduced significantly down to 21% of the network overall. Roads maintained in the green or amber categories would need little or no subsequent pothole repairs for many years, if maintained in those categories using the appropriate resurfacing techniques.



2. Question received from Charles Garrity via email:

"I refer to the announcement of the proposed full council meeting for 17th June 2020 that contains a PDF document, this document itemises unanswered questions from the public. Mr. Karl Bardsley asked what was the total sum that was borrowed to finance the Town Hall cinema project. The reply given by the leader of the council Sean Fielding, that there was no money borrowed for the Town Hall conversion project appears to be untrue. At that time I read a press release that the financing of that project was as follows £10m was taken from Council reserves, a further large proportion of the cost was provided from the regeneration capital fund. The regeneration capital fund was mainly funded by prudential borrowing, (it is well documented in council minutes that regeneration capital relies heavily on prudential borrowing). The press statement also said that a further sum of over £5m was borrowed and this would be repaid by income generated from the project. I would ask Cllr Fielding for the sake of clarity to openly substantiate his answer by giving an itemised statement of how and where the money came from for the project."

Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills reiterated the response that had been provided to the previous question. The Council did not undertake any borrowing to support the conversion of the Old Town Hall to a cinema and restaurant complex. Although the Council's regeneration programme provided for the use of prudential borrowing, this did not necessarily lead to the Council taking on additional debt to finance particular projects. In the case of the Old Town Hall project, the Council's overall Treasury and Capital position at the time allowed for the scheme to be financed from cash-backed reserves rather than borrowed funds.

3. Question received from Ian Manners via email:

"I would like to commend the hardworking employees of Oldham council for all the good work they have done for Oldham during the coronavirus pandemic. The virus will have imposed an extra cost on the people of Oldham therefore, I ask how much does OMBC reckon dealing with coronavirus has cost local council tax payers and how much of this expense has the Government undertaken to pay back to Oldham and when has it promised to pay it back?"

Councillor Jabbar, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Green took the opportunity to record his

thanks to staff in dealing with the response to the pandemic. Councillor Jabbar responded that it was difficult to assess how much the coronavirus had cost the Council so far as it was a rapidly moving position. However, an assessment of increased costs and lost income was undertaken during May. This estimated that the extra financial pressures related to April and May were £7.8m of additional expenditure with a further pressure of £9.2m from lost income – a total of £17m. This included some front-loaded costs that impacted right at the start of the financial year. The current estimate over the full year, the extra cost and lost income would total £33.5m. A further £9.6m of Council Tax and Business Rates losses would have a budgetary impact for 2021/22. The Council had so far received £14.2m of Central Government to support these additional costs. Further funding was expected. However it was now considered unlikely that Government funding would fully recompense the Council for all the extra spending and lost income. The position was, of course, being closely monitored and updated as new information became available.

4. Question received from Syed Maruf Ali via email:

“Oldham Tax payers money was allocated to Blue Coat and Compton house School for expansion, so that residents of Oldham can access good/outstanding attainment School. Can the Cabinet members responsible for education share with us what percentage of pupils from Blue Coat and Compton House attends from out of Oldham borough? (Year 7 to year 11). What percentage of disadvantages/Free School meal and SEND students attends Blue Coat and Compton House School? We know that Poor white British children now come out of our schools with worse qualifications than equally poor children in any other major ethnic group. They do less homework and are more likely to miss school than other groups. We don't know how much of the under-performance is due to poor attitudes to school, a lack of work ethic or weak parenting. What is certain is that great schools make a significant difference in turning poor children's education around. The problem of poor, white British under attainment is real and the gap between those children and their better off class mates starts in their earliest school years and then widens as they get older. However, we also know that the effect of attending an outstanding school is transformational for poor children because it doubles their chance of success at GCSE. Do the cabinet members agree with me that more places should be allocated to poor white British children especially white British boys to Blue Coat and Compton House School? To improve the attainment of poor white British children in Oldham I believe the school should change their admission criteria to:

25% should be faith based reserved for practising Christian children. All Christian denominations.

25% places should be reserved for children from the other 5 faiths represented in Oldham (Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jewish.

10% places allocated to Poor white British children

10% places allocated to white British boys

20% places allocated to pupils living within 2 miles radius of the

school
10% places allocated to out of Oldham.



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Councillor Shaid Mushtaq, Cabinet Member for Education responded that the percentage of pupils from outside of Oldham were 32% at Blue Coat and 27.6% at Crompton House. Percentage of free schools meals were 5.1% at Blue Coat and 6.4% at Crompton House. SEND was 5.9% at Blue Coat and Crompton House 4.5%. With regard to the statement on Admissions as a Local Authority, the Council did not control the Admissions Policy of either school as they were academies. Schools were required to review and consult on their admissions policies on a 7-year cycle and as a Local Authority the Council endeavoured to have input to ensure that the policies were fair and reflected local needs.

5. Question received from Mick Harewood via email:

“One of the most positive things, to have come out of the Covid19 crisis, is the response by our community, and the readiness for people to volunteer, to help their neighbours. It has highlighted the work that is being done by voluntary organisations, and their unpaid volunteers, not just during this crisis, but before the crisis, and on into the future. Can I ask, if the council could consider a way of acknowledging and rewarding their regular and long-term efforts, perhaps with some kind of awards event?”

Councillor Arooj Shah, Statutory Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Covid-19 Response responded the contribution of volunteers to community groups had been incredible and had been central to Oldham’s response. Members from across the Chamber felt proud. The Cabinet Member had written to many groups to say thank you on behalf of Oldham. It would not stop there. This week, as part of Small Charities Week, the Council wanted to join in the already scheduled Appreciation Day on Saturday to say thank-you, not only to the new volunteers and mutual aid organisations that focussed on supporting those affected by Coronavirus, but also the hundreds of voluntary organisations who had supported Oldham people for years. This Saturday, leaders from across the health and local government system would be saying thank you to Oldham’s community, voluntary organisations and volunteers. In the future, the Council would be looking to work with community partners to find a way to acknowledge and say thank-you for everything that had been done by the hundreds of people who had gotten residents through this tough time. Traditionally the Council would look an awards ceremony but with social distancing and the sheer numbers involved, it would need to be approached differently, but there would be more days (virtual or physical) to recognise the people had done. The Council wanted this culture of helping each other to remain part of life in Oldham. In Oldham, people looked after each other.

At this point in the meeting the Mayor advised that the time limit for this item had expired.

RESOLVED that the questions and responses provided be noted.

11b

Questions to Leader and Cabinet

The Leader of the Main Opposition, Councillor Sykes, raised the following two questions:

Question 1: Indices of Deprivation in Oldham Borough

“It is with deep regret, that a reliable study has shown how Oldham Council is still not dealing with deprivation locally. And this is before the Covid-19 world we now all live in. This is one league table we don’t want to rise the ranks of. The English Indices of Deprivation 2019 provides very detailed information on how well an authority is doing based on: income, employment, education, health, crime, housing and someone’s living environment. In terms of a real change, Oldham Borough has slid backwards. We are by no means improving. Before you all shout ‘Coalition Cuts’, let me put this into perspective for all members present. Oldham Borough has risen from the 27th most deprived local authority in England to the 16th most deprived. Almost ten places worse. This is in only four years from 2015 to 2019. Additionally, Oldham Borough is in the top five places that have worsened over that four-year period. Other areas include Walsall, Blackburn with Darwen, Halton and Burnley. The Council which has skipped ten points in local deprivation and has been run by the Labour group, uninterrupted for the best part of ten years now. I wondered if the Leader has a more articulate excuse than simply ‘Austerity’ as to why the Labour are failing residents of Oldham Borough?”

Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills responded that it was disingenuous to direct the position at Oldham Labour and that much had contributed to the table. The Leader added that there was much which contributed to the Authority’s position in the league tables. Oldham had traditionally relied heavily on public sector employment which had been decimated under the Coalition Government and continued under the Conservatives. The authority had been hit by disproportionate level of government cuts against which impeded the ability for any work to be conducted that would mediate any forms of deprivation and poverty and this was going to become more challenging post the Covid-19 crisis. It was suggested that more austerity would follow to repay the money paid to businesses and those supported those who had not been able to work during the period. The Leader added that more austerity would not help a place like Oldham improve its position in the league tables. There were committed local leaders, including those in the Council Chamber, who wanted to do the right thing by residents in the borough and to help the communities where members lived and represented and for resources to be directed to those most in need, help them rise out of deprivation, poverty and provided with the tools needed to provide for themselves in terms of good jobs, local infrastructure and public services. The Council had set out an ambitious plan under Creating a Better Place which would invest not just in physical infrastructure but also invested

in people in the creation of jobs and apprenticeships and assisted in having a good quality of life. It was hoped that the opposition parties of the Council would support the investment. The Leader added that locally made decisions would be made but only with the money needed in order for them to be implemented in a meaningful way. The Leader welcomed the Leader of the Main Opposition's support in call for the vires connects in the LGA directly from the Government.



Question 2: Oldham Definition of Local Spending

"As you may be aware, it is an aim of Oldham Council to spend money and procure services with local business. Business local to Oldham Borough. Our procurement strategy is supposed to provide a plan for Oldham Borough to see value in all its activity. It is also supposed to provide the maximum benefit possible to local people – which is even more important now in the Covid-19 world we live in. The total local spend for the year 2019/20 was just over £126 million. That is roughly 52% of the nearly £243 million we spend as a Council on procurement of services. It is the Liberal Democrat group view that this Council should aim as a minimum for at least 60% of a local spend for next year. Local spending and the millions of pounds mentioned before are defined as any business with an OL postcode. This is where the problem resides. The OL postcode does not restrict itself to Oldham Borough. In fact, the OL postcode misses out most of Failsworth completely, the ward our Council Leader represents. The OL postcode does however include parts of Tameside, most of Rochdale and includes places like Bacup. Now I like Bacup but would never describe that as local and neither would most people. That is to measure procurement in the real Oldham Borough, and not have a system based on a post code devised by Royal Mail during the 1960's."

Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills responded that he would need to see the document to which was referred. The Leader responded that local spend in Oldham was measured in terms of postal codes within the borough and included a breakdown which wards employees lived so that recruitment could be targeted to help spread the wealth that the Council had in terms of its salaries budget to all wards in the borough. The ambition had been for a number of years, and in the manifesto, to target 60% of local spend in the same way, which was in common with the Liberal Democrat. The percentage now was 52% which was a significant increase on where the authority was a short time ago. The Leader welcomed support to get more local firms onto the Council's procurement lists in order for them to apply for contracts and put money into the local economy. The Leader added that the report produced by the Centre for Local Economic Studies which had highlighted Oldham as one of the best local authorities for local spend and this publication would also answer many of the questions raised by the Leader of the Main Opposition.

Councillor Curley, on behalf of the Conservative Group asked a question related to supporting businesses in the borough and referred to Tommyfield Market. The market had been eclipsed by Bury Market which had deferred charges and asked the Leader of the waiver or deferral of rents for market traders could be looked at to help traders

bounce back.



Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills responded that the markets, like many local businesses, had had to close in response to the pandemic. The Council had worked closely and maintained contact with the traders and the throughout the lockdown period and ensure information had been shared and more recently worked with them to prepare for reopening. The Council had written to the traders to explain the position on the collection of rents. All traders had been encouraged to apply for the Small Business Grant Fund which provided a cash grant of up to £10,000. The Council was aware that two traders had unfortunately left the market during the lockdown, but had received four enquiries from new traders who wanted to be part of the re-opening. The Outdoor Markets had begun re-opening on a phased basis.

The Mayor reminded the meeting that the Council had agreed that, following the Leaders' allocated questions, questions would be taken in an order which reflected the political balance of the Council.

1. Councillor Toor asked the following question:

"It is clear that the Covid-19 pandemic will have a significant adverse impact on Oldham's communities and Council and other public services' spending plans. Can the Leader of the Council tell us what this means for Creating a Better Place?"

Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills responded that the 'Creating a Better Place' strategic framework had been approved by Cabinet in January 2020 before the Covid-19 pandemic arrived in the UK. The framework focused on building more homes for Oldham's residents, creating new jobs through town centre regeneration and ensured Oldham was a great place to visit with lots of family friendly and accessible places to go. In light of the pandemic, the Council had to respond with the provision of significant funding support to ensure the safety and welfare of Oldham's local communities. This had resulted in a serious funding impact on the Council's five year financial plans, and therefore, it was wholly to review 'Creating a Better Place' to reconsider whether the programme was able to respond to support the post CV-19 recovery plans, whether the use of public capital funds was still justified and whether the original savings proposals were at risk, or could be accelerated / enhanced in any way. The results of the review would be fed back to Cabinet for further consideration in alignment with the Council's five-year financial plans.

2. Councillor Shuttleworth asked the following question:

"On 29 April Education Secretary Gavin Williamson reportedly told the Parliamentary Education Committee that the Department of Education would write to councils and academy trusts that week to give them 'clear indications' of why they are to receive. This comment relates to the national distribution of some 2,000,000 laptops at a cost of £85m to support some disadvantaged year 10



pupils, care leavers and pupils with a social worker. Mr. Williamson was reported as saying: 'We expect the first laptops to be arriving at the end of May with the majority delivered in June'. Would the relevant Cabinet Member confirm how many laptops have been received, if any, and when, and if the numbers provided meet the demand?"

Councillor Mushtaq, Cabinet Member for Education, responded that Oldham had received 1,036 devices for children with social workers and care leavers. These arrived on 11 June 2020. Currently, it appeared that there were enough devices to meet the need under the criteria set by the Department for Education.

3. Question received from Councillor Phythian:

"Many residents have complained to me about the lack of a decent bus service in Royton North particularly the 402 and 412. Since the operator has changed they have taken off routes vital to many elderly and vulnerable people which is causing distress and frustration. Can the relevant cabinet member reassure residents we can get these bus routes reinstated?"

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture responded that the main issue with the services had been the significant increase in the cost of providing subsidised bus services following the decision by Manchester Community Transport (MCT) to close down their business when their Oldham contracts ended in April 2020. MCT was an operator with a track record of providing very competitive tender bids. TfGM sought to maintain existing service levels, but other operators prices were significantly higher and, despite negotiating with them, TfGM could not get them to bring the costs down to an acceptable level. This, coupled with price increases on other subsidised services in the area, meant TfGM had to review these services, the new 402 route being the outcome. Given the circumstances which surrounded this network change, the services were unlikely to go back to how they were as this would require significant additional funding. However, the subsidised bus network was always under review with a view to adjustments being made to improve the situation where possible. If the elected member would like to share details of where the complaints were coming from, TfGM would be asked to look into them.

4. Question received from Councillor C. Gloster:

"I am delighted that Wi-Fi has now been made available to attendees of funeral services at Hollinwood Crematorium. At a time when very few mourners are permitted to attend such services in person this will now permit the transmission of services to those who would have wished to attend in different circumstances. Wesley Media or a similar music and audio system like Oracle were to be installed, music selection would be far easier, and the system provides the ability to record the service. Please could I ask the relevant Cabinet Member to ask officers to investigate the installation of Wesley Media, Oracle or similar, and to



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authorise the installation of such a system as soon as possible? This would ensure that Oldham provides the very best facilities for the conduct of funeral services, and for the support of families and friends already grieving for their loved one. I would now like to make a second request to improve the facilities at the Hollinwood Crematorium. At present, music is being downloaded onto a private account owned by a crematorium operative and saved onto a computer owned by the Council. There is no Council facility to record the service. Please could I ask the relevant Cabinet Member to ask officers to investigate the installation of Wesley Media, Oracle or similar, and to authorise the installation of such a system as soon as possible? This would ensure that Oldham provides the very best facilities for the conduct of funeral services, and for the support of families and friends already grieving for their loved one.”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture responded that officers had researched the options around the use of both Wesley and Obitus music systems when the installation of webcasting was initially arranged from the Crematorium. However, the companies make a charge for installation, together with ongoing subscriptions for music and webcasting. For these reasons, together with the need for the swift installation, the decision had been made to support an inhouse solution. The system did have a facilities to record and would be looked into. Other options could be considered going forward, but whilst software already available in the Council enabled the service, the service was able to be provided at no additional cost to bereaved families and this was the Council’s current priority. The webcast services had been very well received by families and funeral undertakers.

5. Question received from Councillor Taylor:

“Can the Cabinet Member for Finance tell us how many businesses have we been able to support through the various government funded schemes to support them during the Covid-19 pandemic and who can be helped through our local business support scheme?”

Councillor Jabbar, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Green responded that substantial help had been made available to businesses. A total of 3,803 business grants of £10,000 and £25,000 had been paid by the Council in the administration of Government’s small business grant and retail, hospitality and leisure grant scheme, at a total cost of £43.235m. Expanded retail business rate relieve had been applied to 996 businesses at a totally value of £24.681m and nursery relief had been applied to 34 nurseries at a value of £281k. With regard to the Council’s discretionary grant scheme funded by Central Government at a maximum value of £2.501m, the Phase 1 applications closed on 12th June. The first phase targeted businesses in multi-occupation premises, charity properties in receipt of charitable business rates relief, bed and breakfasts and market traders with fixed building costs.

Payments of £363k had been made with 29 companies awarded £10k, 13 companies awarded £5k and 4 companies awarded £2k. Other applications for this first phase of grant were being considered and eligible claims would be paid as quickly as possible. The first of the Phase 2 grants submissions was open until 22nd June to businesses in the following sectors – manufacturing, digital and creative, construction, logistics, events management with a rateable value of between £15,001 and £51,000 p.a. Once all requests had been reviewed, grant awards would be made.



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6. Question received from Councillor Leach:

“The lack of collaboration of central government with local public health teams in the development of a testing and tracing programme is just one example of our overly centralised system of governance. Is this the more egregious recent example? Could the Leader of the Council outline actions of himself and other leaders in Greater Manchester to take advantage of the devolved authority the central government has granted Greater Manchester, and the real constraints in exercising these powers more widely?”

Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills responded that Greater Manchester and Oldham Council's ambition was to support the development of a world class Test and Trace Service, designed to control the Covid-19 virus and enable people to live a safer and normal life. The GM and Local Covid-19 Outbreak Control Plan would set out the GM and Local arrangements to control the transmission of the virus, manage the outbreaks and address certain acute associated impacts (consequence management). The GM Plan would complement the existing GM Multi-Agency Outbreak Plan by ensure that key management arrangements were in place across GM and each Local Authority with the intention to provide a common GM framework to support locality planning. Locally, the Oldham Outbreak Management Plant would be a stand along plan with would interface with GM and Public Health England (PHE) covering the national key themes:

1. Care Homes and Schools
2. High risk places, locations and communities
3. Local testing capacity
4. Contact tracing in complex settings
5. Data Integration
6. Vulnerable People
7. Local Boards/Governance

The local plan was currently being developed by the public health team to ensure robust roles and responsibilities were established with appropriate governance arrangements. This would include the integration of national, GM and local policies into a whole-system approach to reduce Covid-19 transmission, reduce impact and manage outbreaks. The Council was currently establishing an approach to impact/consequence management for complex settings such as mental health and emerging communities.

7. Question received from Councillor Briggs:



“Can the Cabinet Member for Education comment on how efficient was the government’s voucher scheme for supplying Free School Meals and how he thinks families will manage over the summer holidays as this is now being withdrawn?”

Councillor Mushtaq, Cabinet Member for Education responded that the National Voucher Scheme did experience some problems when it was first introduced as the demand on the system was very heavy and there were some delays. It was now understood that the scheme was working effectively and being used by schools where the provision of a meal was not possible due to factors such as parents self-isolating or not being able to collect a meal due to being in an ‘at risk group’. National guidance was clear that the voucher scheme was for use where schools could not provide a meal for delivery or collection. Earlier this week, the Department for Education said families of children eligible for free school meals would be provided with a voucher ‘to cover the full six-week summer holiday beginning next month, which schools will be able to order before the end of term’. Vouchers would be provided via the existing system run by Edenred, which would run until ‘the end of the summer term’. Schools would be asked to put in orders for support over the summer holiday before the start of the holidays and guidance for schools would follow shortly. This was a u-turn from earlier in the week and related to the intervention of Marcus Rashford.

8. Question received from Councillor Murphy:

“For some time, Crompton Councillors and Council Officers have been working very hard to safeguard a much-needed car park in High Crompton. This has been ongoing for several years, and we are keen to make sure that all parties efforts do not go to waste. The area has been a hot spot for anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping and needs to be solved sooner rather than later. Unfortunately, the Council officer who was dealing with this issue has left the authority and a new officer taken over their caseload. With Covid-19 ever present, it appears that we have stalled, or slow progress is being made to complete the sale of the Council land. Please can I ask the Cabinet Member to investigate this matter and find out what is causing the hold-up?”

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture responded that work had not stopped or stalled – officers continued to work through a number of issues associated with the sale of the land, one of which included dealing with a restrictive covenant set by Manchester Diocese. It was anticipated that these issues would be resolved by late July and then the provision of providing free car parking spaces for the local community.

9. Question received from Councillor Ibrahim:

“Oldham Council recognised early in the crisis that care homes faced severe challenges and organised pioneering support

through the STCH Team. The support we put in place met all the requirements of the most recent government guidance long before it was issued. Could the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care outline the work of the team and the difference this made?”



Councillor Chauhan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care responded and thanked all the hard work staff, partners and front-line workers and action taken in response to the pandemic under difficult circumstances. Oldham took the initiative prior to national guidance being received. The action meant that a multiple of professionals had been brought together for the provision of designated support for all care homes. Oldham was one of the first to introduce PPE, Covid testing for staff and residents, GP support, support advices, provision of pressure area care. The work had not been done in isolation but had brought all partners together, including district nurses, social care workers, nutritionists, therapists, assessments and management. The way that staff had worked together in an integrated way would be built upon.

At this point in the meeting the Mayor advised that the time limit for this item had expired.

RESOLVED that the questions and responses provided be noted.

11c Questions on Cabinet Minutes

Council were requested to note the minutes of the Cabinet meetings held on the undermentioned dates and to receive any questions on any items within the minutes from members of the Council who were not members of the Cabinet and receive responses from Cabinet Members. The minutes of the Cabinet meetings held on 16th December 2019, 27th January 2020, 24th February 2020 and 23rd March 2020 were submitted.

Members raised the following questions:

Question received from Councillor Harkness:

“We on the Liberal Democrat benches thoroughly support any move by this authority and its partners to make this Council and this borough carbon neutral as quickly and effectively as possible. I have a two-part question. The first relates to Solar Farms and the second to renewable energy generation on this Borough’s farms.

Please could we be updated on the progress of the recent application to build a solar farm at the Wrigley Head site and the proposal to investigate building a second solar farm at the Lower Slack Farm site?

Could we also be told how much generating capacity has been installed on our Borough’s farms? We would like to know what is being done to encourage and to expedite further development?

I am thinking here of the creation of Solar Farms on farming land, of

the installation of solar panels on the roofs of farm buildings, the use of methane and biological waste, and small-scale hydro schemes, as well as the more-usual farm wind turbines.”



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Councillor Jabbar, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Green responded that the Council was keen to develop comprehensive green agenda to play it's part in carbon reduction. The Planning Application for the proposed solar farm at Wrigley Head had not yet been determined. The potential for a second solar farm at Lower Slack Farm has been investigated and had unfortunately proved not to be feasible at that site due to numerous constraints which included adverse topography and lack of grid connection points. Unfortunately, no specific data existed on renewable energy generating capacity installed on privately owned land. The principal of working with private landowners on renewable energy development was being looked into. A high-level study of the Northern Roots site had identified potential for a solar farm, however further work would need to be done regarding possible grid connection points before any approach could be made. Councillor Jabbar would be delighted to speak to Councillor Harkness outside the meeting.

RESOLVED that:

1. The minutes of the Cabinet meetings held on 16th December 2019, 27th January 2020, 24th February 2020 and 23rd March 2020 be noted.
2. The question and response provided be noted.

11d Questions on Joint Arrangements

To note the minutes of the following Joint Authority and Partnership meetings and the relevant spokesperson to respond to questions from Members.

The minutes of the following Joint Authorities and Partnerships meetings were submitted as follows:

Oldham Leadership Board	23 January 2020
Police and Crime Panel	14 November 2019
Commissioning Partnership Board	28 November 2019
	30 January 2020
MioCare Board	23 October 2019
Peak Park District Authority	1 November 2019
	6 December 2019
	14 February 2020
GM Health and Care Board	25 October 2019
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	29 November 2019
	7 January 2020
	31 January 2020
Greater Manchester Transport Committee	8 November 2019
	17 January 2020
	21 February 2020
Greater Manchester Waste and Recycling Committee	14 November 2019
	16 January 2020

RESOLVED that: The minutes of the Joint Authorities and Partnership meetings as detailed in the report be noted.



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NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS

Black Lives Matter

Councillor Chadderton MOVED and Councillor Ur-Rehman SECONDED the following MOTION:

“This council notes with great sadness the murder of George Floyd in the United States and the hurt and anger made more visible as a consequence. Racism and racial inequality remain shameful aspects of our lives in Oldham as elsewhere and must be confronted.

In recent weeks Greater Manchester has seen Desmond Ziggy Mombeyarara tasered in front of his small child when stopped by police for a driving offence, and the collapse of a police misconduct trial after Greater Manchester Police declined to submit any evidence against the officer who shot Anthony Grainger through the chest as he sat in his car. A judge last year found GMP to be entirely to blame for Mr. Grainger’s death. This council notes that since 1991 there have been more than 1,500 deaths in police custody or following police contact in the UK, but not police officers have been found guilty of murder or manslaughter related to any of them. Meanwhile, as highlighted by the Lammy review, disproportionality in the criminal justice system remains significant. Looking at just one metric, black people were searched by GMP at nearly seven times the rate of white people using stop and search powers in 2018/19.

This Council resolves to:

- Produce a new Equalities Strategy, setting out how it will make the council a more equal organisation and make Oldham a fairer place in which to live, work and feel safe.
- Request the Chief Executive writes to the Mayor of Greater Manchester, reaffirming our support for the creation of a GM Race Equality Panel and for the publication of a quarterly Race Equality Policing Report.

Councillor C. Gloster spoke on the motion and raised a point of order with regard to the wording in the report.

Councillor Mushtaq spoke in support of the Motion.

Councillor Taylor spoke in support of the Motion.

Councillor Shah spoke in support of the Motion.

Councillor Al-Hamdani spoke in support of the Motion

Councillor Chadderton exercised her right of reply. In responding, Councillor Chadderton altered the wording of the motion.

Councillor C. Gloster made a personal statement.

The ALTERED MOTION:

“This council notes with great sadness the murder of George Floyd in the United States, and the hurt and anger made more

visible as a consequence. Racism and racial inequality remain shameful aspects of our lives in Oldham as elsewhere and must be confronted.

In recent weeks Greater Manchester has seen Desmond Ziggy Mombeyarara tasered in front of his small child when stopped by police for a driving offence, and the collapse of a police misconduct trial after Greater Manchester Police declined to submit any evidence against former Assistant Chief Constable Steven Heywood after Anthony Grainger was shot through the chest as he sat in a car. A judge last year found GMP to be entirely to blame for Mr Grainger's death.

This council notes that since 1991 there have been more than 1,500 deaths in police custody or following police contact in the UK, but no police officers have been found guilty of murder or manslaughter related to any of them. Meanwhile, as highlighted by the Lammy review, disproportionality in the criminal justice system remains significant. Looking at just one metric, black people were searched by GMP at nearly seven times the rate of white people using stop and search powers in 2018/19.

This council resolves to:

- Produce a new Equalities Strategy, setting out how it will make the council a more equal organisation and make Oldham a fairer place in which to live, work and feel safe
- Request that the Chief Executive writes to the Mayor of Greater Manchester, reaffirming our support for the creation of a GM Race Equality Panel and for the publication of a quarterly Race Equality Policing Report."

On being put to the vote, 51 votes were cast in FAVOUR of the MOTION as AMENDED and 0 votes were cast AGAINST with 1 ABSTENTION. The MOTION as AMENDED was therefore CARRIED.

RESOLVED that:

1. A new Equalities Strategy be produced setting out how it will make the Council a more equal organisation and make Oldham a fairer place in which to live, work and feel safe.
2. The Chief Executive be requested to write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester, reaffirming our support for the creation of a GM Race Equality Panel and for the publication of a quarterly Race Equality Policing Report.

NOTE: Councillor Garry declared a pecuniary interest in this item. Councillor Garry left the meeting during the item and took no part in the discussion or vote thereon.

NOTICE OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS

Motion 1 - Tax relief for Tram Travel

Councillor Harkness MOVED and Councillor Hamblett
SECONDED the following motion:

This Council notes that:

- In his article for the Daily Telegraph 'Tax Relief just the Ticket' (6 October 2013), journalist Boris Johnson called for employees to be 'allowed to pay for their season tickets from their pre-tax income.'
- Mr Johnson advocated for the introduction of a new tax relief scheme, limited to the basic rate, whereby 'the employer would buy the season ticket and deduct the cost from his or her (employee's) pay packet – and only then would the employee be assessed for tax.'
- The impact of such a scheme would mean that employees would have less taxable income reducing their liability for income tax and national insurance and the employer would also save on national insurance contributions.
- An annual season ticket costs a Metrolink tram commuter from Shaw to Manchester £1,154, a Train commuter from Greenfield to Manchester £1,208, and a Bus commuter with First Manchester £670.
- Such a tax-relief scheme would represent a significant financial saving for our Borough's commuters.
- Council further notes that now Mr Johnson is Prime Minister he has it within his power to put his aspirations for tax relief on seasonal travel tickets into practice.

Council resolves to:

- Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of The Exchequer to request that this Government introduces a tax relief scheme.
- This would be on seasonal travel tickets (following the principles outlined in Mr Johnson's Telegraph article in 2013) making this effective as soon as possible.
- Write to the Mayor of Greater Manchester saying that we all should support such a scheme."

Councillor Roberts MOVED and Councillor Fielding SECONDED that under Council Procedure Rule 8.4d) the motion be referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board.

Councillor Harkness did not exercise his right of reply.

On being put to the VOTE, that the MOTION be REFERRED to Overview and Scrutiny Board was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED under Council Procedure Rule 8.4d), the motion be referred to Overview and Scrutiny.

Motion 2 – Accessible Shopping Districts

The Chief Executive had been notified that Councillor Williamson was unable to attend the meeting and was unable to Move the Motion and notice had been given that Councillor

Murphy would Move the Motion in her absence which was AGREED.

Councillor Murphy MOVED and Councillor H. Gloster SECONDED the following MOTION:

“Council notes that:

- Regulations are in place so that future improvements are Disability Discrimination Act compliant.
- That there are low-cost improvements businesses can make.
- Charities and Oldham Council can support and provide better guidance as to what those improvements might be.
- There is proven success in directly investing in our town and district centres.
- That all members need to be aware of dementia awareness training available.
- Oldham Council know simple steps that can be taken to improve the use of the shops for people with dementia in our communities.
- The Coronavirus has pushed elderly people from our high streets. This motions aids those made vulnerable by Covid-19 to make an easier return to shopping.
- Improvements such as these would help and support the local economy.

Council resolves to:

- Set aside funding for adaptation to offer improved access for those with mobility issues. This could include, but not limited to: the provision of ramps, hand rails, additions to entrances, removal of steps. Any necessary alterations to make our district shopping centres become more accessible.
- Set up a district panel like that of the High Grants scheme. This is where local elected members have an input and approval of applications to ensure an accessible commercial centre with the Cabinet Member having the final say on applications.
- To ask Highways Engineers to carry out inspections for shopping area footways to ensure they meet current guidelines. It doesn't matter if this is in a town centre or a row of shops on an estate, accessible shopping must take place right across our Borough.
- Ask that an assessment of shopping area and town centre signage is clear and that brail information points are installed across these zones.
- Ask that Oldham Council partner with Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Royal National Institute for Blind People (RNIB), Action on Hearing Loss and others to carry out assessment of buildings and shopping areas.
- Prepare a guidance campaign for businesses that could be used to raise accessibility awareness in commercial districts.
- Refer motion to Overview and Scrutiny and ask the mover and seconder to be part of any investigation.

- Read the report on Town Centres by Trailblazers, a group of disabled campaigners from across the UK titled 'Short-changed' to see if there is anything that we can learn from the report finding."

AMENDMENT

Councillor Roberts MOVED and Councillor Ball SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

"Delete bullet point 1 and insert:

- The Equality Act requires that businesses make reasonable adjustments to ensure their premises and services are accessible to people with disabilities.

Delete bullet point 2.

New bullet point 3 – delete 'better' and 'what those improvement might be'. Add at end 'low-cost improvements businesses can make.'

New bullet point 4 – add at end 'and Oldham Council has made bids for government funding e.g. the Future High Streets Fund as well as nominating Royton Town Centre for the GM Mayor's Town Centre Challenge.

New bullet point 5 – delete existing and insert

- 'The Work of the Oldham Dementia Partnership, Oldham Dementia Action Alliance and the Oldham Dementia Friends Champions network supports people with dementia and their families and makes businesses and services accessible to'

Delete original bullet point 6.

New bullet point 6: insert at beginning – 'High Streets and district centres were already facing commercial challenge before the pandemic'. Insert 'and vulnerable' after elderly. Insert: 'It is also likely to accelerate the transfer to on-line shopping and further reduce footfall overall' after 'our high streets'.

Insert new bullet point 7

- '£210,417 has been allocated to Oldham from the 'Reopening High Streets Safely' fund.

'Council resolves to:

Bullet point 1 – delete 'Set aside funding for adaptation to offer improved access for those with mobility issues.' Insert 'Ensure that any investment including from Creating a Better Place, in high streets, district centres and shopping areas take account of good practice in improving access for people with disabilities and dementia including improving signage, considering installing braille information points and assessing what can be learnt from the report 'Short Changed', a report on town centres by Trailblazers.'

Bullet point 2 – delete and insert 'Encourage Members to consider access improvements to shops and shopping as part of bids made to the next round of the Local Improvement Fund. Members can work with partners including. Add Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), Action on Hearing Loss and others to carry out assessment of buildings and shopping areas from original bullet point 5.

Delete all subsequent bullet point and insert new bullet point 3

- 'Continue to promote and support the work of Oldham Dementia Partnership, Oldham Dementia Action Alliance and the Oldham Dementia Friends Champions network in supporting people with dementia and their families to be able to use public and commercial spaces safely.'

Amended Motion to read:

"Council notes that:

- The Equality Act requires that businesses make reasonable adjustments to ensure their premises and services are accessible to people with disabilities;
- Charities and Oldham Council can support and provide guidance as to low-cost improvements businesses can make.
- There is proven success in directly investing in our town and district centres and Oldham Council has made bids for government funding e.g. the Future High Streets Funds as well as nominating Royton Town Centre for the GM Mayor's Town Centre Challenge.
- The work of the Oldham Dementia Partnership, Oldham Dementia Action Alliance and the Oldham Dementia Friends Champions network supports people with dementia and their families and makes businesses and services accessible to
- High streets and district centres were already facing commercial challenges before the pandemic. The Coronavirus has pushed elderly and vulnerable people from our high streets. It is also likely to accelerate the transfer to on-line shopping and further reduce footfall overall. This motion aids those made vulnerable by Covid-19 to make an easier return to shopping.
- £210,417 has been allocated to Oldham from the *Reopening High Streets Safely Fund*.

Council resolves to:

- Ensure that any investment, including from Creating a Better Place, in high streets, district centres and shopping areas takes account of good practice in improving access for people with disabilities and dementia including improving signage, considering installing braille information points and assessing what can be learnt from the report 'Short changed', a report on town centres by Trailblazers. This could include, but not limited to: the provision of ramps, hand rails, additions to entrances, removal of steps. Any necessary alterations needed to make our district shopping centres become more accessible.
- Encourage Members to consider access improvements to shops and shopping as part of bids to the next round of the Local Improvement Fund. Members can work with local partners including Age UK, Alzheimer's Society, Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), Action on Hearing Loss, and other to carry out assessment of buildings and shopping areas.

- Continue to promote and support the work of Oldham Dementia Partnership, Oldham Dementia Action Alliance and the Oldham Dementia Friends Champions Network in supporting people with dementia and their families to be able to use public and commercial spaces safely.”

Councillor Murphy exercised his right of reply.
Councillor Roberts exercised her right of reply.

A vote was then taken on the AMENDMENT.

On being put to the vote, 42 votes were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT and 9 votes were cast AGAINST with 0 ABSTENTIONS. The AMENDMENT was therefore CARRIED.

Councillor Murphy exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the vote, the SUBSTANTIVE MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLVED that:

1. Any investment, including from Creating A Better Place, in high streets, district centres and shopping areas be ensured to take account of good practice in improving access for people with disabilities and dementia including improving signage, considering installing braille information points and assessing what can be learnt from the report ‘Short changed’, a report on town centres by Trailblazers. This could include, but not limited to: the provision of ramps, hand rails, additions to entrances, removal of steps. Any necessary alterations needed to make our district shopping centres become more accessible.
2. Members be encouraged to consider access improvements to shops and shopping as part of bids made to the next round of the Local Improvement Fund. Members can work with local partners including Age UK, Alzheimer’s Society, Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB), Action on Hearing Loss and others to carry out assessment of buildings and shopping areas.
3. The work of the Oldham Dementia Partnership, Oldham Dementia Action Alliance and the Oldham Dementia Friends continued to be promoted and supported in supporting people with dementia and their families to be able to use public and commercial spaces safely.

Motion 3- Chatty Checkouts and Cafes

“Social isolation impacts on personal mental health and physical health. This also has a negative impact on the community. Councillors should be committed to looking at innovative ways of addressing this issue. This commitment must form part of Oldham Borough aspiring to be an Age-Friendly local authority.

Council notes that:

- In the UK the Chatty Café Scheme (<https://thechattycafescheme.co.uk>) has been established with 900 participating outlets so far offering opportunities for customers to converse at Chatter and Natter Tables. Costa Coffee has become the scheme's first national partner.
- The Pub in the Hub scheme is offering support to public houses joining the scheme.
- In the Netherlands Chatter Checkouts have been introduced in supermarkets, dedicated lanes where interaction between the customer and staff member is purposefully expected to take longer as conversation performs part of the transaction.
- Local authority run premises, such as libraries, leisure centres, and the local markets; health centres and hospitals run by the NHS; and pubs, cafes, shopping centres and retail parks run by business partners have potential to host such schemes.
- Operators of supermarkets and other retailers in the borough may wish to establish Chatter Checkouts, maybe at quieter times of the trading week.
- There will be many people suffering from mental ill-health from the isolation of lockdown measures following the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Council resolves to:

- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chatty Café Scheme offering this Council's support after Coronavirus measures have been lifted.
- Ask the Overview and Scrutiny and Health Scrutiny Boards, in consultation with Age UK Oldham and District Teams, to:
 1. Examine the practicalities of introducing Chatter and Natter Tables in Council premises,
 2. Identify where they could be established;
 3. Identify how referrals to such provision might form part of social prescribing.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to Town Centre Partnership Board and major supermarket chains in the Borough for their views and suggestions for establishing Chatter and Natter Tables and Chatter Checkouts.
- Ensure the Council's website has a link to the Chatty Café Scheme.
- Engage with local market stall holders and vendors asking them to participate."

AMENDMENT

Councillor Akhtar MOVED and Councillor Ibrahim SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

"Amend second bullet point in Council resolves to remove 'Overview and Scrutiny and the' and changes 'Boards' to 'Board'.

Amended motion to read:

“Social isolation impacts on personal mental health and physical health. This also has a negative impact on the community. Councillors should be committed to looking at innovative ways of addressing this issue. This commitment must form part of Oldham Borough aspiring to be an Age-Friendly local authority.

Council notes that:

- In the UK the Chatty Café Scheme (<https://thechattycafescheme.co.uk>) has been established with 900 participating outlets so far offering opportunities for customers to converse at Chatter and Natter Tables. Costa Coffee has become the scheme’s first national partner.
- The Pub in the Hub scheme is offering support to public houses joining the scheme.
- In the Netherlands Chatter Checkouts have been introduced in supermarkets, dedicated lanes where interaction between the customer and staff member is purposefully expected to take longer as conversation performs part of the transaction.
- Local authority run premises, such as libraries, leisure centres, and the local markets; health centres and hospitals run by the NHS; and pubs, cafes, shopping centres and retail parks run by business partners have potential to host such schemes.
- Operators of supermarkets and other retailers in the borough may wish to establish Chatter Checkouts, maybe at quieter times of the trading week.
- There will be many people suffering from mental ill-health from the isolation of lockdown measures following the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Council resolves to:

- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chatty Café Scheme offering this Council’s support after Coronavirus measures have been lifted.
- Ask the Health Scrutiny Board, in consultation with Age UK Oldham and District Teams, to:
 1. Examine the practicalities of introducing Chatter and Natter Tables in Council premises,
 2. Identify where they could be established;
 3. Identify how referrals to such provision might form part of social prescribing.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to Town Centre Partnership Board and major supermarket chains in the Borough for their views and suggestions for establishing Chatter and Natter Tables and Chatter Checkouts.
- Ensure the Council’s website has a link to the Chatty Café Scheme.
- Engage with local market stall holders and vendors asking them to participate.”

Councillor Murphy ACCEPTED the AMENDMENT.

On being put to the vote, the SUBSTANTIVE MOTION was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



RESOLVED that:

1. The Chief Executive be asked to write to the Chatty Café Scheme offering this Council's support after Coronavirus lockdown measures have lifted.
2. The Health and Scrutiny Board be asked, in consultation with Age UK Oldham and District Teams, to:
 - i) Examine the practicalities of introducing Chatter and Natter Tables in Council premises.
 - ii) Identify where they could be established.
 - iii) Identify how referrals to such provision might form part of social prescribing.
3. The Chief Executive be asked to write to the Town Centre Partnership Board and major supermarket chains in the Borough for their views and suggestions for establishing Chatter and Natter Tables and Chatter Checkouts.
4. A link to the Chatty Café Scheme be ensured on the Council's website.
5. The local market stall holders and vendors be engaged to ask them to participate.

14

OLDHAM'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

Councillor Shah MOVED and Councillor Fielding SECONDED a report which outlined Oldham's partnership response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 31st December 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) was informed of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province China. On 12 January 2020, it was announced that a new novel coronavirus had been identified, causing the outbreak. This virus is referred to as SARS-CoV-2 and the associated disease as COVID-19. Since January, the virus has spread quickly across the globe, causing a global pandemic.

Manchester and Greater Manchester (GM) declared a major incident on Friday, 20 March 2020. This activated the multi-agency response arrangements in line with the GM generic response plan and the pandemic flu plan. The Prime Minister's unprecedented announcement at 8.30 p.m. on Monday, 23 March 2020 set out the seriousness of the situation and the expectations of all residents, businesses and public services.

New emergency legislation was passed into law which supported local authorities in responding to the pandemic, whilst ensuring essential business and services continued. The legislation gave the Council a statutory duty to co-ordinate food, self-care, medical supplies and other forms of necessary assistance to vulnerable groups in response to COVID-19.

In line with other Greater Manchester authorities, Oldham established a major incident command structure which included a Gold, Silver and Bronze approach. This included a Political Gold of Council Leader/Deputy Leaders and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group.



The report summarised the Oldham Partnership's response to COVID-19, highlighting the contribution from the Council's partners and communities in tackling the pandemic. As the response covered almost all service areas, the report highlighted six thematic areas:

1. Protecting our most vulnerable residents – including Community Bronze Group, emergency food distribution, volunteering, supporting wider need and the Helpline and Response System.
2. Health and Wellbeing – including Oldham CCG and Critical Care Services, Public Health Campaign, Mental Health Services, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Test and Trace, Care Homes and Bereavement Support
3. Keeping Services Going – including Community Safety and Cohesion, Domestic Abuse, Education, Libraries and Gallery Oldham, Parks and Greenspaces, Safeguarding, Waste and Recycling, Accommodation Review, Communications and Workforce.
4. Helping people back on their feet – including financial support to residents, food donations and fundraising, Housing and homelessness, support for carers and Welfare Rights.
5. Supporting businesses and Oldham's economy – including small business grants and retail, leisure and hospitality grants and Business Rate relief.
6. The transition from lockdown to recovery.

Question received from Councillor H. Gloster:

"How may Covid-19 Cases there have been by ward, and the death rate for each of those wards/"

Councillor Shah, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Covid-19 Response responded that the Council did not currently have the data on the number of COVID cases and deaths at ward level – this was a national policy. At the Local Authority level, as of 16th June 2020, there were 1,139 cases confirmed in Oldham, a rate 483.4 per 100,000 population.

Question received from Councillor Hamblett:

"In October 2016, national, regional and local government bodies participated in a three-day simulation. This was entitled Exercise Cygnus which tested preparedness arrangements for responding to pandemic influenza. Feedback and lessons learned were established via a formal process of feedback from all participants. The response they can confirm that the Oldham Council and Greater Manchester Resilience Forum did not take part in this exercise. Why was this not undertaken by this Council and by the Greater Manchester region and why did not implement the guidance it gave?"

Councillor Shah, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Covid-19 Response responded that the Council did not take part in the exercise and any further details could be gathered from Public Health England. Before COVID-19, Oldham Council had a pandemic flu plan in place which was based on guidance from central government. This was in line with other Greater Manchester plans. There were a wide range of emergency planning simulations that took part each year and the Council worked with the Greater Manchester Resilience Forum to determine which the Council took part in. The Council also worked across the system to implement any recommendations which arose from these simulations.

Question received from Councillor C. Gloster:

“How many places did the authority book in Oldham care homes for recovering Covid-19 patients leaving hospital? Were many of the patients then re-tested for Covid-19 before they returned to the care homes, and how many Covid-19 related deaths have been reported from care home residents in Oldham?”

Councillor Shah, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Covid-19 Response responded that 24 places had been booked, but not just for recovering Covid-19 patients, but to maintain flow out of hospital more generally. Hospital discharge guidance stated that all should be tested prior to discharge. Guidance stated all new residents should self-isolate in their rooms as the point of being admitted. As of 12th June 2020, of which 81 had died in the care homes and 25 had died in hospital.

Question received from Councillor Al-Hamdani:

“In two parts, please could the Council be informed as to what has been the impact of Covid-19 on the lives of the residents occupying Council-owned, Public Finance Initiative-2 and Public Finance Initiative-4 social housing? And what specific support has been provided to these residents, particularly the elderly, vulnerable and disabled, by the housing management providers, Housing 21 and Great Places, during this current crises?”

Councillor Shah, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Covid-19 Response responded that essential services, including urgent repairs, fire safety checks, gas servicing, cleaning on communal areas, etc., all continued to be delivered. Services were unable to access properties where the household had been self-isolating. Certain other softer services, such as social activities, residents’ meetings, coffee mornings, etc., had been curtailed in line with government guidance. Prioritisation of any general needs re-lets had been given to provide permanent accommodation for those occupying temporary accommodation. So far three families had been permanently re-housed to date. The re-letting of bungalows and sheltered flats was being managed with great care and with full risk-assessments undertaken. The re-letting of Extra Care flats had been temporarily put on hold. Twenty-thousand pounds

had been donated through PFI partners to the Action Together Covid-19 relief fund to support the community hubs. All residents had been contacted by the Council's PFI providers to ensure they had all the support they needed. This included ensuring residents had food and essential items delivered either by Age UK or Action Together and also sign-posted to support networks as required. Those affected by loss of employment and income had been sign-posted and supported by Housing 21 and Great Places to apply for the benefited to which they were entitled. For residents in sheltered schemes, creative ways of avoiding social isolation were in place such as 'door step corridor bingo'. Both Inspirational Oldham (Great Places and Wates) and Housing 21 had been exemplary during the pandemic crises and had worked well in partnership with the Council's PFI Housing Contract team.

Councillor Goodwin spoke on the report and asked a question related to grants.

Councillor Sykes made an observation on the report and thanked staff as well as thanked doctors and nurses in the NHS in dealing with COVID-19.

Councillor Hobin thanked all the volunteers on the hotline and asked a question about the figures in the report. Councillor Shah responded that the Council had captured the information as best it could.

Councillor Mushtaq spoke on the report.

Councillor Jabbar spoke on the report in response to Councillor Goodwin's question.

Councillor Shah exercised her right of reply.

RESOLVED that:

1. Oldham's Partnership Response to the COVID-19 pandemic be noted.
2. The questions and responses provided be noted.
3. The observation be noted.

NOTED: Councillor Ahmad left the meeting during this item.

15

UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM COUNCIL

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Legal Services which informed members of actions that had been taken following previous Council meetings and provided feedback on issues raised at those meetings.

Councillor H. Gloster asked the following question:

"As per the Liberal Democrat motion on Dog Fouling in 2019, what is the progress with this Fixed Penalty Notice? Are those involved going to do anything at all? It's been almost a year."

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture responded that work on progressing the motion via the Overview and Scrutiny Board had been delayed. A councillor had been nominated from the Board to work with officers to progress the points raised and this work would now be prioritised. As background to the work in this area, the Council had received 40 complaints of dog fouling since 1st April 2020 and issued 13 fixed penalty notices. The fine level was not set at £100 per offence, reduced to £70 if paid within 10 days.

RESOLVED that:

1. The actions taken regarding motions and actions from previous Council meetings be agreed and correspondence and updates received be noted.
2. That the question and response provided be noted.

16

CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE - FEEDBACK REPORT

Councillor Fielding MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED a report which highlighted the findings of the LGA Peer Challenge carried out in Oldham between 21 – 24 January 2020.

The Council had undertaken a voluntary Corporate Peer Challenge between 21 – 24 January 2020, which was facilitated by the Local Government Association and undertaken by Senior Elected Members and Chief Officers across Local Government. The Challenge Team spent four days in Oldham and during this time spoke with a large number of Councillors, staff, partners and community groups which focused on the areas above.

The feedback report was attached as an appendix and highlighted that the organisation had a clear vision and energy for the borough, our ambition and future direction of travel, our relentless focus to improving outcomes for our residents and the strong partnership ethos that is in place across the borough. The report praised our ‘bold, brave and honest’ approach to Public Service

reform, as well as highlighting that our ‘Team Oldham’ approach is not only real, but that everyone within Oldham had ‘commitment, passion and ambition for our organisation and place’ and that we prided ourselves on working closely with Communities as a ‘Council of Oldham, not in Oldham’.

The report identified that the scale of Oldham’s ambition was a strength, although this also presented a challenge. The challenge team recommended a number of key points to be considered which would be addressed in the Council’s resultant action plan.

Councillor Shah spoke on the report.
Councillor C. Gloster spoke on the report.
Councillor Fielding exercised his right of reply.

RESOLVED that:

1. The contents of the report and the feedback report received, as attached as an appendix to the report, be noted;
2. It be noted that a report would be presented to the Cabinet over the coming months, which would set out the Organisation's action plan against each of the key recommendations as set out within this paper.

17

POLITICAL BALANCE REVIEW - COMPOSITION OF POLITICAL GROUPS - OUTSTANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND OUTSIDE BODIES APPOINTMENTS

Councillor Fielding MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED a report of the Director of Legal Services which sought a review of the political composition of committees and the composition of political groups as previously notified under Regulations 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 due to the reduction in Council membership from 60 to 58. The report sought agreement to the outstanding appointments of members to serve on the several Committee as detailed in the Constitution and listed at Appendix 1 to the report and the outstanding appointments to Outside Bodies as detailed at Appendix 2 to the report.

RESOLVED that:

1. The composition of the political groups as shown at paragraph 1.1 of the report be noted.
2. The several Committees detailed at paragraph 1.5 of the report be constituted with the Terms of Reference and delegated powers as detailed in the Constitutional Amendments Report.
3. The number of seats on the various Committees for the 2020/21 Municipal Year as detailed at paragraph 1.6 of the report be approved.
4. The allocation of seats to the political groups be confirmed and appointments made to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 199 as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report.
5. Any outstanding Chair and Vice-Chairs of each of the various Committees for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year be appointed as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report with the exception of the Selection and Appeals Committees and the District Lead for each of the District Areas be reaffirmed
6. The outstanding appointments to Outside Bodies as detailed at Appendix 2 of the report be agreed.
7. The Standards Committee remained outside of political balance as in previous years be confirmed to ensure appropriate representation.
8. The Traffic Regulation Order Panel remains outside political balance be confirmed.

9. Any outstanding appointments be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Main Opposition Group.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Consideration was given to a report which sought approval for amendments to the Council's Constitution.

A refresh of the Council's Constitution had been undertaken with two principal objectives. The first was to ensure that all legislative and procedural references were current and up to date, including cross referencing to detailed procedures from more descriptive content and, secondly, looked to simplify, so far as possible, what would always be a complex procedural document to aid both understanding and application to practical circumstances.

The Constitution had been impacted upon by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panel (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 which had introduced certain mandatory provisions for the period to 7th May 2021. Whilst these mandatory provisions were time limited, it was considered good practice for them to be incorporated into the Council's Constitution at this time to properly present the Council's statutory and procedural requirements under the Regulations.

The Planning Scheme of Delegation should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it was up to date and reflected current practices and policies. Planning Committee procedures had been under scrutiny recently due to a number of issues and it was timely to review practices and procedures. The current system would benefit from updating, simplification and revision to delegated powers and protocols.

At the Cabinet meeting, held on 27th January 2020, a suite of reports and recommendations related to 'Creating a Better Place' as the comprehensive vision and strategic framework for the Borough were approved. These included proposed amendments to the Executive arrangements, which included delegation arrangements, contained within the Land and Property Protocol which was included at Part 5(e) of the Council's Constitution. The approval of the Full Council was therefore required to agree the revision of the Council's Constitution.

Amendment 1:

Councillor C. Gloster MOVED and Councillor Sykes
SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

"Part 5(e) - Land and Property Protocol

2. Corporate Property Board

Insert after the third bullet point:

- "The Opposition Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services"

Councillor Fielding exercised his right of reply.
Councillor C. Gloster exercised his right of reply.



On being put to the vote, 9 VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT and 41 votes were cast AGAINST with 1 abstention. The AMENDMENT was therefore LOST.

Amendment 2:

Councillor Sykes MOVED and Councillor C. Gloster SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

“Appendix A – Public Space Assessment Matrix

Table 1 Questions

Insert after 3 and renumber

4 – the land is formally laid out and maintained as a garden or landscaped area by Parish Councils or their agents.

5 – the land is formally laid out and maintained as a garden and landscaped area by Friends and Residents groups in line with the co-operative objectives of the Council.

6 – the land is formally laid out and maintained as a garden or landscaped area by any other organisation, charity, body or individual.

4 will then become 7, 5 will become 8.”

Councillor Fielding did not exercise his right of reply.
Councillor Sykes did not exercise his right of reply.

On being put to the vote, 10 VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT and 41 votes were cast AGAINST with no abstentions. The AMENDMENT was therefore LOST.

Amendment 3:

Councillor C. Gloster MOVED and Councillor Sykes SECONDED the following AMENDMENT:

Part 8 APPENDICES

Appendix 3 PROTOCOLS

REFERRAL PROCEDURE FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Numbered list 4

“Insert ‘main opposition spokesperson’ as a consultee in the decision-making process to confirm or reject the ‘referral’ based on the significance of the development and validity of the planning reasons.

New paragraph to read:

4. The Head of Planning and Development Management will in consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair of the Planning Committee and the main opposition spokesperson, confirm or reject the ‘referral’ based on the significance of the development and validity of the planning reasons. Members who request a call-in will only be notified if their request has been rejected.”

Councillor Roberts spoke on the amendment
Councillor H. Gloster spoke on the amendment.
Councillor Harkness spoke on the amendment.

Councillor Fielding exercised his right of reply.
Councillor C. Gloster exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the vote, 10 VOTES were cast in FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT and 40 votes were cast AGAINST with 1 abstention. The AMENDMENT was therefore LOST.

RESOLVED that:

1. The suggested amendments to Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions), Part 4E (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) and Part 4H (Employment Procedure Rules) as detailed at Appendices 1, 4 and 5 to this report as part of the refresh of the Council's Constitution and the review of Planning Committee and Delegations, subject to the date of the implementation of the revised Overview and Scrutiny Committee arrangements being agreed at a future meeting of the Council be agreed.
2. The suggested amendments to Part 4A (Council Procedure Rules) and Part 4B (Access to Information Procedure Rules) as detailed at Appendices 2 and 3 to this report in compliance with the statutory provisions of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panel (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and to ensure alignment with the agreed amendments to Parts 3, 4E and 4H of the Council's Constitution be agreed.
3. The inclusion of the suggested amendments to Part 5(e) (Land and Property Protocols) into the Council's Constitution as detailed at Appendix 6 to the report be agreed.
4. The suggested amendments to Part 8 (Appendices) Appendix 3 (Protocols) as detailed at Appendix 7 to the report in respect of procedures related to the consideration of planning applications as part of the review of Planning Committee and related procedures be agreed.
5. Any further consequential amendments arising from the amendments to the Council's Constitution as presented in the report be delegated to the Director of Legal Services.

19

MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Legal Services which set out the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Panel had given consideration to information from the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group, and representations from members on their roles and responsibilities, time required on casework and work required on undertaking committee work.

The Panel gave had also given consideration to Members Allowance Schemes across Greater Manchester as well as those of Kirklees and Calderdale Councils.

The Panel had made the recommendation that the members allowances for 2020/21 remain the same as in 2019/20 but with increases linked to the officer pay increase which had not yet been agreed. Appendix 1 to the report detailed the proposed scheme based on the Independent Remuneration Panel

recommendation, but this did not include the proposed increase referred to in Section 1.4 in the report as this had not yet been agreed. It was also proposed that the exception to the one SRA rule could also apply to a discretionary SRA payment.

RESOLVED that;

1. The recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel be noted.
2. The Members Allowances Scheme for 2020/21 as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
3. The exception to the one SRA rule to be applied to a discretionary SRA payment be approved.

20

**APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSON -
INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Legal Services regarding the appointment of an independent person to be made to the Standards Committee and not to the Independent Remuneration Panel as referenced in the report.

Following the advertisement of the position, an interview had been conducted and it was recommended that Karen Williams be appointed as an Independent Person for the Standards Committee, to serve for a four-year term.

RESOLVED that Karen Williams be appointed as an Independent Person to the Standards Committee for a four-year term.

**COUNCIL MEETINGS AND MUNICIPAL CALENDAR
2020/21**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Legal Services which set out the meeting Calendar of Meetings for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. The meetings of the Council to be held on the following dates in the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, commencing at 6.00 p.m. unless otherwise shown be approved:

15 July 2020
9 September 2020
4 November 2020
16 December 2020
24 February 2021 (Budget)
24 March 2021
19 May 2021 (Annual at 12.00 noon)
2. The Council's Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2020/21 be approved.
3. Approval of any outstanding dates or changes to dates be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with Group Leaders.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 10.08 pm

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MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2020 AT CHURCHGATE HOUSE, MANCHESTER

PRESENT:

Councillor Nadim Muslim	Bolton Council
Councillor Sharon Briggs	Bury Council
Councillor Nigel Murphy	Manchester City Council – (In the Chair)
Councillor Steve Williams	Oldham Council
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford City Council
Councillor Amanda Peers	Stockport Council
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside Council
Councillor Mike Freeman	Trafford Council
Councillor Kevin Anderson	Wigan Council
Angela Lawrence MBE	Independent Member
Majid Hussain	Independent Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Baroness Beverley Hughes	GM Deputy Mayor
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OFFICERS:

Gwynne Williams	Deputy Monitoring Officer, GMCA
Clare Monaghan	Director Policing, Crime and Fire, GMCA
Laura Mercer	Principal (Victims and Vulnerability), GMCA
Jeanette Staley	Salford City Council & GM Police and Crime Policy Lead
Julie Walker	Civil Contingencies and Resilience Unit
Steve Annette	GMCA Governance and Scrutiny
CS Phil Davies	GMP

PCP/01/20

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Paula Boshell, Salford City Council, and Carolyn Wilkins, Chief Executive, Oldham Council and Lead Chief Executive, Police and Crime.

PCP/02/20

CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair announced that as agreed at a previous meeting of the Police and Crime Panel, members would receive a progress update on the Information Services Transformation Programme (iOPS) and in addition to this there would be an update on the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Review

PCP/03/20

INFORMATION SERVICES TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME (iOPS)

CS Phil Davies, GMP provided a verbal update in relation to the Information Services Transformation Programme, in particular the iOPS products. He reported that significant progress had been made since the Panel received an update at its meeting in November 2019. He reported that as at the beginning of December 2019, GMP formally exited the position of hyper-care with the supplier, which reduced the amount of technical support because a significant number of the high priority defects had been resolved, confidence was improving with the users and some of the efficiencies were being realised. Members were informed that significant 'patch' upgrades would be installed soon, that would improve the user experience for police officers, particularly in relation to management intelligence and crime. He added that in relation to call management, the 999 service was reaching national targets and there has been significant improvements in relation to the call management of the 101 service. He added that much effort had been made in relation to the Confidence Plan and that there was a continuing strong focus around training and engagement with frontline users and that the platform was now in place to ensure better data-sharing with partners and making more effective decisions.

There followed a general discussion and members made various comments and asked a variety questions including; that data-sharing was very patchy across the districts and reassurance was sought that this would improve going forward. In response, Chief Superintendent Davies said that he hoped this would be resolved by April. A member said that it was important that data sets were not altered so that meaningful comparisons could be made. Chief Superintendent Davies said that it was a priority for GMP to ensure that all data was aligned and published as longer- term comparisons were vital moving forward.

The Chair thanked Chief Superintendent Davies for his update and the reassurances he had provided. He added that on behalf of the panel, he also wished to thank staff for their ongoing commitment.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the update.

PCP/04/20

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in relation to any of the items appearing on the agenda for the present meeting.

PCP/05/20

MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON 14 NOVEMBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel held on 14 November 2019 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel held on 14 November 2019, be approved as a correct record, subject to the following corrections:

Minute Reference PCP/19/37, in relation to the recent passing of Councillor Steven Smith, should read 'the recent passing of Councillor Steven Murphy, a former Chair of the GM Police Authority'.

Minute Reference PCP/19/39 - Councillor Mike Freeman declared a personal declaration in Item 6 – Police Precept Setting Process, but did take part in the discussion.

PCP/06/20

LEARNING FROM INCIDENTS FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES – 2019

Julie Walker, Strategic Resilience Lead, Civil Contingencies and Resilience Unit introduced a report that outlined the learning identified from major incidents in Greater Manchester during 2019, and provided a comprehensive update on key areas of activity, including an overview of emergency responses to civil emergencies and events, the Kerslake Arena Review, and local planning, training and exercising.

The Deputy Mayor in welcoming the report said that there was a lot of working happening at local level that was advising and informing the overarching Greater Manchester Resilience Forum that was in the process of developing a GM Resilience Strategy, which it was envisaged would be available for consultation towards the end of March. She added that the learning detailed within this paper would inform that strategy on account of the experiences that we have had and because of the Chief Resilience Officer's connection to the global resilience cities network. It was noted that the Chief Resilience Officer was also strategic advisor to the Grenfell Enquiry, in recognition of her expertise. It would also provide a close insight to what was coming through the Grenfell enquiry, which will inform our strategy.

There followed a general discussion and members made various comments and asked a variety questions.

The Chair in receiving the report said that it was very pleasing to see that there was a great deal of multi-agency working and shared learning across GM. He thanked Julie Walker for her update and the Civic Contingencies and Resilience Team for all their efforts.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the learning from local and national incidents and the work being put in place to develop resilience and support the response to future emergencies and planned events in Greater Manchester.
2. To support the development of a protocol for role of Leaders and City Mayors in emergencies.
3. To approve two additional reports in relation to civil contingencies on the development of community resilience in Greater Manchester from the Phase 1 report from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

PCP/07/20 STANDING TOGETHER: PRIORITY 3 – STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES AND PLACES

The Deputy Mayor introduced a report that updated Members regarding progress against the commitments under priority three of the Standing Together Police and Crime Plan – Strengthening Communities and Places. She added that it was important to recognise that in achieving the priorities under this pillar, depended crucially on the work within localities and the report provided some examples of how these priorities were being delivered across GM.

Laura Mercer, Principal (Victims and Vulnerability), GMCA provided an overview of progress and activity across GM in relation to each commitment of the priority areas and how working in partnership locally was making a difference in communities.

The Chair said that the report very clearly demonstrated the positive impact made within our communities and suggested that moving forward it would be useful to share this information with scrutiny panels within our respective districts.

A member welcomed the report and said that there were many positive examples highlighted. She added that in terms of her authority it had made great gains through this plan in that it provided a focus on what needed to be done at a local level adding that it was not prescriptive that rather allowed flexibility at a local level to meet those priorities.

A member said that the GMP Travel unit had made a significant difference, and cited problems that had been an issue on the Bury/Altrincham corridor, and which had now been addressed and local residents were noticing the difference and feeling much safer.

The Deputy Mayor said that an event would be taking place on 13 February, whereby community safety managers, elected members and partners would be showcasing and speaking about some of the innovations happening across GM.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the progress made be noted.

PCP/08/20

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Consideration was given to a report which highlighted decisions made by the Deputy Mayor in the period from 31 October 2019 to 20 January 2020.

The Chair commented that the support given to The Arc project, to continue community support sessions for rough sleepers, had been very beneficial to the other services being provided.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the report.

PCP/09/20

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION REVIEW

The Deputy Mayor provided a verbal update in relation to the Child Sexual Exploitation Review. She reported that the GM Mayor had commissioned the review following a television programme in which allegations were made about the failure of authorities and the police to protect mainly young women, and mainly those in the care of local authorities, from sexual exploitation, and failing to pursue perpetrators.

The Deputy Mayor said that the terms of reference for the review consisted of three strands; to look at former GMP officer Maggie Oliver's allegations in relation to Op Augusta in Manchester; to look at former sexual health worker, Sarah Rowbotham in relation to OP Span in Rochdale, and to look at what matters were like now in terms of the way we respond to allegations of sexual exploitation. She further added that the full scope of the review had not yet been concluded, however the necessary resources would be made available to complete the review.

The Chair and members said that it was important that this panel was kept informed on developments and therefore it should appear as a standing item on the panel agenda moving forward.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the update.

PCP/10/20

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday 31 January 2020

Tuesday 24 March 2020

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MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON FRIDAY 31 JANUARY 2020 AT CHURCHGATE HOUSE, MANCHESTER.

PRESENT:

Councillor Nadim Muslim	Bolton Council
Councillor Sharon Briggs	Bury Council
Councillor Nigel Murphy	Manchester City Council – (In the Chair)
Councillor Steve Williams	Oldham Council
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford City Council
Councillor Amanda Peers	Stockport Council
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside Council
Councillor Mike Freeman	Trafford Council
Councillor Kevin Anderson	Wigan Council
Majid Hussain	Independent Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Andy Burnham	GM Mayor
Baroness Beverley Hughes	GM Deputy Mayor

OFFICERS:

Carolyn Wilkins	Chief Executive Oldham Council and Lead GM Chief Executive for Police, Crime and Civil Contingencies
Stephen Wilson	GMCA Treasurer
Ian Pilling	Deputy Chief Constable
Clare Monaghan	Director Policing, Crime and Fire, GMCA
Jeanette Staley	Salford City Council & GM Police and Crime Policy Lead
Gwynne Williams	Deputy Monitoring Officer, GMCA
Steve Annette	GMCA Governance and Scrutiny

PCP/11/20

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Paula Boshell, Salford City Council, Ian Hopkins, Chief Constable GMP, and Angela Lawrence Independent Panel Member.

PCP/12/20

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair opened the meeting at the appointed time and members present introduced themselves. It was reported that the Greater Manchester Mayor and Deputy Mayor were en route from a previous meeting, and it was proposed and agreed that the meeting stand adjourned until they arrive

PCP/13/19

RESUMPTION

Business was resumed at 3.30 pm

PCP/14/20

2020/21 PCC COMPONENT OF THE MAYORAL PRECEPT

The Greater Manchester Mayor presented the proposals for the core budget of Greater Manchester Police for 2020/21. He indicated that raising the level of Council Tax was something that had to be approached with consideration of all the pressures that it places upon the local community, but also against the over-riding needs to protect that community. The top priority for the communities of Greater Manchester was to see greater investment in the police service and the Authority had been responding to that call since 2018/19 when additional resources funded from the precept began to allow for the recruitment of additional police officers, a process that had been continued in 2019/20 when funds had been made available to recruit 300 officers. For 2020/21 the budget sought to use the full increase in the precept (£10 for Band D properties) allowed by the Government which would raise £7.6M, but other changes in the Council Tax Base would also lever in a further £2.5M to support of an overall Force Budget of about £50M. 347 new police officer posts would be created in 2020/21, which is our share of the 6,000 that were being recruited in this first phase, not all being recruited nationally this year. He added that overall it is thought that our share would be 1156 officers; however, the Deputy Mayor added that this figure had not yet been confirmed. This would enable a number of things to be done, to make a commitment to the things that that members of this Panel have been calling for, and to allow the Force to begin to make a clearer commitment to the communities of Greater Manchester, part of which would be guarantees -

- that each ward in Greater Manchester would have a named beat officer and a named PCSO
- an allocation of funding to recruit full time school based police officers in schools demonstrating the greatest need; and
- to achieve improvements in 101 service responsiveness by the recruitment of 40 additional call handlers

The Deputy Mayor (Policing and Crime) whilst welcoming the opportunities to begin the process of restoring police numbers, voiced caution that the budget was essentially a flat cash settlement and that in overall terms the settlement failed to match the needs of policing in Greater Manchester without recourse to a precept contribution from local tax payers. There were key elements of the Government's budget settlement for 2020/21 where a degree of uncertainty remained, in respect of which the constraints of time since the settlement had been received had not allowed for detailed clarifications to be received. The settlement had been received very late due to delays created by the General Election in December 2019, and she paid tribute to the Treasurer for his efforts to construct the budget now before members in the time available since that settlement was notified.

The Treasurer then gave a visual presentation of the budget structure overall. He indicated that the statutory consultation process had been difficult and that in the absence of a government settlement the process had been largely modelled on assumptions. The Settlement received essentially predicates that the maximum precept allowed would need to be used to deliver the necessary resource level for the Force.

Members then posed a number of questions -

Recruitment target for 2019/20 – a member sought assurances that the targeted budget for the recruitment of 300 additional officers in 2019/20 would be achieved by year-end. Deputy Chief Constable Ian Pilling indicated that the recruitment process was on track to deliver within 10/12 of the 300 target. The Panel was reminded that the recruitment of 300 additional officers was unprecedented and had taken place on top of the 400/500 appointments made annually. The recruitment process could not be looked at in isolation from the need for subsequent training which also placed demands on the Force. The Deputy Mayor indicated that the recruitment process had been rigorously monitored throughout the year, and though it presented real challenges for the organisation, she was confident that the targets would be achieved.

District establishment – a member reminded the Panel that there had been agreement that there should be a review of police officer numbers at district level. Deputy Chief Constable Ian Pilling indicated that the review had taken place, and that where areas of inequality had been identified these would be addressed in the allocation of new officers being recruited. A report was requested to a future meeting on where the 300 new officers had been placed and where future officers would be placed

Back Office staff – members were concerned that the increase in the number of police officers was not reflected in back office support staff. The Deputy Mayor indicated that whilst there were no earmarked resources to extend back office support a comprehensive review was taking place under the direction of an Assistant Chief Constable to review where improvements could be made in support service capability and effectiveness.

School based police officers – this proposal was broadly welcomed but members sought information about proposed locations. The Deputy Mayor indicated that some school already had part time provision and there were others that had the ability to make a financial contribution to costs. The proposals would need to be firmed up with input from headteachers to establish where the priorities lay.

Commitment of 2019/20 budget – in response to questions the Treasurer indicated that the spend pattern as at December indicated that the budget spend profile was broadly in line with that originally set, and that the surplus going forward would be between £1M to £2M. A reports was requested to a future meeting detailing the spend in relation to the 19/20 budget

Community based budgets – members welcomed the retention of the community led delegated budgets that had resulted in real and tangible impacts on communities. The Deputy Mayor clarified that the Community Safety Grants, the monies to support Safeguarding Boards, support for voluntary organisations and monies for the development of interventions in conjunction with Violence Reduction Programmes had each been reserved in the budget presented

Welcoming all the comments made and the constructiveness of the meeting, the Mayor said that the budget proposals presented gave us the opportunity to begin to be ambitious again

in terms of the Force's responsiveness and to send out clear messages to both the communities of Manchester and to criminals about the Force's ability to respond on each crime committed. The past week had demonstrated there was much still to be done with partner agencies in terms of child sexual exploitation, hate crime, cyber-crime and fraud.

Whereupon -

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED/-

In agreeing to increase the precept, it is frustrating that instead of fairly funding the police directly, the Government has continued to expect the precept to be increased by the maximum amount, despite the inequalities and unfairness of the Council Tax system.

The increase will see the continued investment in neighbourhood policing including a named Neighbourhood Beat Officer and Police Community Support Officer for each ward in Greater Manchester. In addition, GMP will allocate a full time school based officer to schools across Greater Manchester in the greatest need. Investment will be made in new digital recording equipment and in an Interactive Voice Response telephone system that will improve the 101 service.

We welcome the support given to Community Safety Partnerships and voluntary sector organisations giving them additional resources to tackle on a local basis issues including ASB, support victims of domestic and sexual abuse, and work on reducing offending and re-offending, and therefore -

- support the Mayor's proposal to increase the Greater Manchester Police precept by £10 for a Band D property, with effect from 1 April 2020.
- note the budget assumptions relating to the budgets for 2020/21, including the proposals for the Community Safety Fund, and the process and context within which the PCC component of the precept has been proposed.

The Motion then being put and voted upon, it was

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY/-

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- note the budget assumptions relating to the budgets for 2020/21, including the proposals for the Community Safety Fund, and the process and context within which the PCC component of the precept has been proposed.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
HELD ON FRIDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY, 2020 AT BOLTON COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2ND FLOOR, BOLTON
TOWN HALL, VICTORIA SQUARE, BOLTON, BL1 1RU**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham (In the Chair)
Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor	Baroness Bev Hughes
Bolton	Councillor David Greenhalgh
Bury	Councillor David Jones
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese
Oldham	Councillor Sean Fielding
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

IN ATTENDANCE:

Tameside	Councillor Leanne Feeley
GM Transport Cttee	Councillor Mark Aldred

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA - Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA - Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Geoff Little
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Carolyn Wilkins
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Jim Taylor
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Nicola Ward
GMCA	Claire Norman
GMCA	Ross Macrae

GMCA 36/20 APOLOGIES

That apologies be received and noted from Councillors Andrew Western (Trafford), Arooj Shah (Oldham), Sara Rowbotham and Janet Emsley (Rochdale) and Jenny Bullen (Wigan) and Eamonn Boylan (GMCA), Sara Todd (Trafford) and Pam Smith (Stockport) - Michael Cullen attending.

GMCA 37/20 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The GM Mayor paid tribute to Councillors Ray Bowker from Trafford and Councillor Christine Wild from Bolton who had both recently passed away with their funerals taking place on the day of this meeting. Members heard that Councillor Ray Bowker was a lifelong Timperley resident, elected in 1973 and serving Trafford Council with great distinction during his political career working on nearly every committee and receiving an MBE in 2002 for a lifetime of service to the community. Councillor Christine Wild had a strong passion for education and was the Executive Member for Children's Services for Bolton, serving as the Chair of the Governing Body for Sharples High School where she would particularly be remembered very fondly.

The GM Mayor proposed to table the Better Buses Fund Report as an item urgent at this meeting in order to progress submission to Government prior to the deadline of the 13 March 2020. It was also proposed that the Revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement for Waste Disposal Levy be taken as an urgent item due to the requirement that the methodology be approved before the levy be set.

The GM Mayor welcomed the recent announcement from the Prime Minister on the future of HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail with a move away from the initial North-South terminus project and a proposed move to a more integrated East-West North-South rail solution, which was something GM had been lobbying for. It was highlighted that there had been a commitment to set up a body called High Speed North to facilitate the East-West aspects of the project. GM would be pressing for an earliest possible timetable to achieve the project, but that this should be balanced with the need to work closely with the new body to assure designs were fit for purpose and avoid any future capacity issues. It was also reported that in the run up to the Budget the case would be made strongly for infrastructure investment at Manchester Piccadilly Rail Station for platforms 15 and 16. This was stated as an essential 'shovel ready project' which would benefit the whole of North of England as it would remove the pressures on the Castlefield Corridor bottle neck to ease trains passing through from other areas.

The GM Mayor and City Mayor of Salford called for a national lobby of Parliament on 25th February ahead of the budget in support of GM residents of high rise buildings experiencing extreme difficulties due to cladding being deemed unsafe. Residents were suffering hardships as a result was being laid with residents whilst also encountering difficulties in onward selling. The GM Mayor welcomed any additional Members who wished to travel to Westminster in support, stating that it was time recognition was given that unsafe cladding needed to be removed and that it was Government's responsibility to provide reassurance to residents on these matters.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the condolences of the GM Mayor and all members of the GMCA be extended to the families of Councillor Ray Bowker (Trafford) and Councillor Christine Wild (Bolton) whose funerals were taking place today.
2. That the following reports be considered as items of Urgent Business:
 - Better Buses Fund
 - Revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement for Waste Disposal Levy
3. That the recent announcement by the Prime Minister regarding HS2 and Northern PowerHouse Rail, with the establishment of High Speed North tasked to progress the work be welcomed.
4. That it be noted that Government would be pressed for the earliest timetable, recognising that the emphasis must be on delivering the right railway network to ensure that network capacity was future proof and was a North - South and East – West service for the North.
5. That it be noted that strong representations would be made to Government for the essential investment required at Manchester Piccadilly Rail Station, in particular in relation to platforms 15 & 16, which would deliver benefits by easing the Manchester bottleneck and allowing services to run more freely across the whole of the North of England.
6. That it be noted that on the 25 February 2020 the GM Mayor Andy Burnham and City Mayor Paul Dennett had called for a national lobby of Government to support the residents of Greater Manchester who are victims of unsafe cladding on residential buildings.
7. That it be noted that the High Rise Task Force would be publishing their report on 25 February 2020.

GMCA 38/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

That the GM Mayor, Andy Burnham declared a personal interest in relation to items 11 & 14 (GM Investment Framework Approvals).

GMCA 39/20 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 31 JANUARY 2020

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 31 January 2020 be approved.

GMCA 40/20 GMCA REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2020/21 - OVERVIEW

Cllr David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources introduced a report which presented an overview of the proposed GMCA budgets for 2020/21 and summarised the position on The GM Mayoral General Budget/Precept Proposals, GMCA General Budget, GMCA Transport budgets including Transport Levy and Statutory Charge and the GM Waste Services Levy.

It was noted that this had been Steve Wilson's first budget since taking over from Richard Paver as the GMCA Treasurer, Members welcomed working with him.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to Steve Wilson (GMCA Treasurer) and officers of the GMCA Finance Team for their work in preparing the budget.

GMCA 41/20 GMCA MAYORAL GENERAL BUDGET & PRECEPT PROPOSALS (KEY DECISION)

Councillor Richard Leese, Deputy Mayor took the Chair for this item of business, given the GMCA was considering the budget proposal from the GM Mayor.

The GM Mayor outlined the proposals for his General Precept for 2020/21 including Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service and set the context which had guided the approach to setting the levels of these proposals. It was acknowledged that Council tax was a regressive form of tax, and that increases had the potential to hit the poorest communities the hardest, a proposed precept increase had unfortunately been necessary in order to support public service priorities in the absence of increased Government funding support.

Members were asked to consider this proposal alongside the police precept which was £10 in line with Government guidance. It was highlighted that this commitment would enable a named neighbourhood Police Constable and a named PCSO for every local authority ward in each Borough within Greater Manchester. The GM Mayor reminded Members that following the police precept for 2018/19 had resulted in an accelerated recruitment process resulting in an additional 150 officers recruited so far.

The GM Mayor introduced the changes to The GM Mayor's general precept which were proposed as increase of £14 for a band D property and £10.88 for Bands A-B. The majority of the single biggest allocation of £6.65 per household was highlighted for the GM Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) with an aim to adopt a front-line approach. The precept increase would also allow for recruitment of an additional 108 firefighters. In response to previous concerns raised around crewing levels for GMFRS, crewing levels would be maintained at 5 for single pump vehicles, and 8 for double pump vehicles.

The GM Mayor highlighted the invaluable service provided by the emergency services, in particular the GMFRS response to the Cube Fire in November 2019.

Members were also advised that the proposal to merge fire stations in Bolton would be deferred to facilitate further consultation with Bolton Council and community leaders.

The GM Mayor acknowledged the financial challenges of the last few years, with available funds utilised as best as possible. It was stated that there was a need for Government to increase their support for crucial emergency services and that campaigning for this would continue.

Members heard that part of The GM Mayor's general precept would continue to support the process for GM bus reform, and also continue to fund the Our Pass scheme. The Bed Every Night scheme was also highlighted as receiving a modest contribution from the Mayor's general precept, and that Government would be lobbied to provide match-funding. It was noted that the Scheme had so far contributed to a 37% reduction in people sleeping rough across Greater Manchester.

Members echoed the views of The GM Mayor in expressing disappointment and frustrations at the insufficient levels of funding support from Government which had resulted in GM being required to increase precepts in order to fund its Emergency Services. Government needed to do more to assist with the challenges relating to high rise buildings which had created an industrial regulatory crisis. Members acknowledged the limitations of setting a 1-year budget during a period of uncertainty, and that there was a need to set a budget over longer periods. The Fair Funding Review had highlighting that northern local authorities were disproportionately losing significant funds.

Members asked The GM Mayor for a commitment around digitally enabled crime, both The GM Mayor and Deputy Mayor acknowledged that this was increasingly a more concerning issue. It was clarified that the response to Cyber Crime was constrained by national arrangements which were conducted by the Home Office Action Fraud, with limitations from local response due to the geographical nature of this crime. It was clarified that locally, GM had resources to assist victims and scam-busters that work with particularly vulnerable people. It was also noted that work had taken place to increase resilience in businesses for this risk. In relation to the child sexual exploitation element of this threat, The GM Mayor highlighted ongoing work with GMP's Chief Constable to fully resource Operation Green Jacket, and to explore the possibility of introducing more school based police officers.

Members were updated on general GMP resourcing. It was highlighted that there were 6660 Police Officers currently in place now, with 7000 projected by 2021 which was up from 6000 in 2017. It was stated that recent recruitment had been aimed to strengthen neighbourhood policing as front line officers had been particularly stretched by the impacts of funding cuts. Members heard that there had been an aim to improve engagement between the police and the public through interventions including the utilisation of digital channels such as live-functions for crime reporting. The police precept was also noted as supporting the appointment of an additional 40 police call handlers. The Deputy Mayor stated that a more detailed breakdown on the proposals included in the budget funded by the precept would be brought to a future meeting of the GMCA.

The meeting was advised that a named vote was required to approve the proposals for The GM Mayoral General Budget. Members voted on the recommendations as follows:

District	GMCA Member	
Bolton	Cllr David Greenhalgh	Not in attendance
Bury	Cllr David Jones	Agreed
Manchester	Cllr Richard Leese	Agreed
Oldham	Cllr Sean Fielding	Agreed
Rochdale	Cllr Allen Brett	Agreed
Salford	Mayor Paul Dennett	Agreed
Stockport	Cllr Elise Wilson	Agreed
Tameside	Cllr Brenda Warrington	Agreed
Trafford	Cllr Andrew Western	Not in attendance
Wigan	Cllr David Molyneux	Agreed

RESOLVED/-

1. That The GM Mayor's General budget for 2020/21, as set out in this report, together with the calculation of the precepts and Council Tax rates set out in Appendices 3 to 6 of the report be approved.
2. That the overall Mayoral General Precept of £90.95 (Band D) (an additional £14 on the current £76.95) comprising of £66.20 for functions previously covered by the Fire and Rescue Authority precept (an additional £6.25 for 2020/21 on the current £59.95) and £24.75 (an additional £7.75 for 2020/21 on the current £17.00) for other Mayoral General functions be approved.
3. That it be noted that it was proposed that The GM Mayoral General Precept for 2020/21 was part of a multi-year strategy for setting The GM Mayoral precept baseline which would be adjusted in future years as further Mayoral functions were covered by the funding raised.
4. That the following be approved:
 - i) the overall budget proposed for the Fire and Rescue Service, noting the changes in relation to Programme for Change
 - ii) the use of the reserves to support the revenue and capital budgets, and the assessment by the Treasurer that the reserves as at March 2021 are adequate
 - iii) the proposed capital programme and proposals for funding
 - iv) the medium term financial position for all functions covered by The GM Mayoral precept
5. That the budget for other Mayoral functions be approved, including the use of £0.5 million of Earnback grant to be used to support GMCA costs relating to bus related activity, including bus reform.
6. That it be noted that approval to set a Statutory Charge of £86.7 million as set out in Part 4 of the Transport Order, apportioned on the basis of mid-year population as at June 2018 was requested as part of the Transport Revenue Budget report elsewhere on the agenda.

7. That the use of reserves as set out in paragraphs 5.1 and at Appendix 2, paragraph 9.1 be approved.
8. That it be noted that in accordance with legal requirements, the minutes would record the names of those Members voting for or against The GM Mayor's budget and precept proposals.
9. That the GM Mayor's commitment to providing a named Police Constable and Police Constable Support Officer for every ward in Greater Manchester be noted.
10. That it be noted that following a number of raised concerns, the GM Mayor had determined that the proposed merger of fire stations in Bolton be put on hold to allow for further consultation.
11. That it be noted that the GM Mayor would be asking Government to match fund the contribution made towards 'Bed Every Night' by the GMCA.
12. That the GMCA recorded its thanks to the people of Greater Manchester for their ongoing support to public services in recent times of austerity.
13. That in relation to the issue of cyber-crime, it be noted that the GMCA would seek to raise the issue again with the Home Office, as despite the implementation of a range of local measures, there was a need for increased capacity to ensure resources could meet this growing area of crime.
14. That it be noted that the GMCA would ask the Government to reaffirm its commitment to maintain the level and increase the length of term of Local Authority budgets to allow for longer term planning, and minimise further cuts to services.

GMCA 42/20 GMCA TRANSPORT REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21 (KEY DECISION)

Cllr David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources introduced the report which set out the transport related (GMCA) budget for 2020/21.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the issues affecting the 2020/21 transport budgets, as detailed in the report, be noted.
2. That the GMCA budget relating to transport functions funded through the levy, as set out in this report, for 2020/21, be approved.
3. That a Transport Levy on the district councils in 2020/21 of £105.773 million, as set on in paragraphs 3.2 – 3.5 of the report, apportioned on the basis of mid-year population as at June 2018, be approved.

4. That a Statutory Charge of £86.7 million, as set out in Part 4 of the GMCA (Functions and Amendment) Order 2019, apportioned on the basis of mid-year population as at June 2018, be approved.
5. That the use of reserves in 2020/21, as detailed in section 5, be approved.
6. That the position on reserves, as identified in the report, be approved.
7. That the proposal to drawdown £10 million of funding from retained Business Rates to fund the ongoing development of schemes and the Greater Manchester Infrastructure Programme, subject to the preparation and approval of a business case, be noted.
8. That it be noted that the report to GMCA on 7 October 2019 set out and explained the recommendation to the GMCA to approve proceeding to the next stage in the consideration of a proposed franchising scheme, following on from the work undertaken in connection with bus reform; and included a full assessment of how the GMCA could afford to make and operate the proposed scheme.
9. That it be noted that it was anticipated that the £17.8 million of contributions by Local Authorities as a proposed one off increase in the statutory contribution in 2020/21 referred to in section 4.4, would be held (in aggregate) by Local Authorities pending a decision by the GM Mayor as to whether to introduce bus franchising.
10. That the proposal to extend the Women's Concessionary Travel Scheme (WCTS) to a further cohort of women in Greater Manchester from 1 April 2020 be approved, noting that the estimated costs of c£300,000 are included in TfGM's 2020/21 budgets.
11. That the delegation of decisions required to ensure the delivery of the extension of the WCTS be approved, including any updates required to the Local Concessionary Travel Scheme. The delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the TfGM Director of Finance and Corporate Services, in consultation with the GMCA Treasurer.

GMCA 43/20 BETTER BUSES FUND (URGENT BUSINESS) (KEY DECISION)

The GM Mayor introduced a report which outlined the Better Buses fund set up by Government and the funding available.

RESOLVED/-

1. That Greater Manchester's intention to submit a statement of intent to DfT for £1.589,489 for supported bus services be approved.
2. That authority be delegated for the approval of the Greater Manchester approach, bidding criteria and submission of Statement of Intent to DfT by 13 March, to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA and TfGM, in consultation with the GM Mayor, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources and Chair of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee (GMTC).

3. That it be noted that a further report would be submitted to a future GMCA meeting on other opportunities for Greater Manchester to apply for funding as part of the Better Deal for Bus Users programme.

GMCA 44/20 GMCA REVENUE GENERAL BUDGET 2020/21 (KEY DECISION)

Cllr David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources, introduced a report, which sets out the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) General budget for 2020/21.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the budget relating to the GMCA functions, excluding transport and waste in 2020/21, as set out in section 2 of the report, be approved.
2. That the use of Retained Business Rates to fund the 2020 GM Mayoral election (£3.800 million); GM Spatial Framework (£1.045 million) and to continue to fund a number of other ongoing schemes for two further years, as set out in paragraphs 2.9 – 2.29 of the report, at a cost of £2.710 million per annum, be approved.
3. That District Contributions of £9.039 million, as set out in section 3 of the report, be approved.
4. That the use of reserves, as set out in section 4 of the report, be approved.

GMCA 45/20 REVISED LEVY ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY AGREEMENT FOR WASTE DISPOSAL LEVY (URGENT BUSINESS) (KEY DECISION)

Steve Wilson GMCA Treasurer, introduced a report which made recommendations to allocate the Waste Disposal Levy to the Greater Manchester Districts via a revised Levy Allocation Methodology. The change required unanimous support from all nine Districts which had been obtained.

RESOLVED/-

That the Revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement for Waste Disposal Levy be approved.

GMCA 46/20 GM WASTE BUDGET & LEVY 2020/21 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023/24 (KEY DECISION)

Steve Wilson, GMCA Treasurer introduced a report which sought Member comments on the budget and levy for 2020/21 and on the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for a further three year period to 2023/24.

Specifically. These plans were to be delivered by\;

- A total levy requirement for 2020/21 of £167.242m, which represents a 4.2% average decrease over 2019/20. At a District level the levy changes range from -2.3% to -6.6%;

- The MTFP then proposes levy charges of £164.982m in 2021/22, £168.296m in 2022/23 and £170.643m in 2023/24.

It was highlighted these proposals were to be considered alongside the base budget proposals 2020/21 in order to get formal confirmation of the revised allocation methodology for waste disposal.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the proposed revised budget for 2020/21, which was expected to be broadly in line with the approved budget after transfers from earmarked reserves, be noted.
2. That the proposed 2021/22 Trade Waste rate of £102.30 to allow forward planning by Districts be approved.
3. That the capital programme 2020/21 to 2023/24, as set out in Appendix A of the report, and inclusion of consequential revenue effects in the budget and levy from 2020/21, be approved.
4. That the budget and levy for 2020/21 of £167.242m (4.2% decrease) and allocation to Districts based on latest estimates of tonnages, including street sweepings be approved.
5. That the expected levy amounts of £164.982m, £168.296m and £170.643m in 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 respectively be noted.
6. That the risk position set out in the Balances Strategy and Reserves be noted.

GMCA 47/20 GMCA CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2019/20 – 2022/23 (KEY DECISION)

Cllr David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources, introduced a report which provided an update in relation to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority capital expenditure programme for transport and economic development and regeneration functions.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the revisions to the 2019/20 capital forecast, as set out in Appendix A and detailed within the report, be approved.
2. That the capital programme budget for 2020/21 and the forward commitments, as detailed in the report and in Appendix A, be approved.
3. That it be noted that the capital programme was financed from a mixture of grants, external contributions and long term borrowings.
4. That it be noted that provision has been made in the revenue budget for the associated financing costs of borrowing.

5. That expenditure of £0.80 million for the Albert Street, Hollinwood (Oldham) Growth Deal 2 Minor Works scheme, as set out in section 7 of the report and Appendix B, be approved.
6. That it be noted that the capital programme would continue to be reviewed, with any new schemes which had not yet received specific approval but were included within the programme would be the subject of future reports.

GMCA 48/20 GMCA REVENUE BUDGET UPDATE 2019/20 (KEY DECISION)

Cllr David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources, introduced a report which set out the GMCA General budget for 2020/21.

RESOLVED/-

1. That The GM Mayoral General forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20, which showed an underspend against budget of £1.3 million, be noted.
2. That The GM Mayoral General – Fire forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20, which showed an underspend against budget of £2.468 million, be noted.
3. That the GMCA General budget forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20, which showed an underspend against budget of £0.128 million, be noted.
4. That the Transport forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20, which was in line with the budget, be noted.
5. That the GM Waste forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20, which was in line with budget, be noted.
6. That the TfGM forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20, at paragraph 4.1 of the report, be noted.
7. That the use of £1.5 million from reserves to support transport scheme development, as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the report, be approved.
8. That the increase to the GMCA General budget of £0.633 million, as detailed in paragraphs 3.6 – 3.8 of the report, be approved.
9. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, to transfer loans from GM Housing Investment Loans Fund (GMHILF) to GMCA where this was required to provide the necessary headroom within the GMHILF to meet commitments in excess of the funding provided by MHCLG, as detailed in paragraphs 3.9 – 3.14, of the report.

GMCA 49/20 TROUBLED FAMILIES FUNDING (KEY DECISION)

The GM Mayor introduced a report which provided an update on the position of the troubled families funding for 2019/20 and 2020/21.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the allocation of Troubled Families funding for 2019/20 to all GM districts in line with the previously agreed process be agreed.
2. That the announcement of a further year's funding for the Troubled Families Funding for 2020/21 be noted.
3. That a similar process for managing the 2020/21 allocation of Troubled Families funding through the GM Reform Investment Fund in line with the devolved arrangements agreed with Government be approved.

GMCA 50/20 GMCA CULTURE FUND BENEFICIARIES 2020/21 (KEY DECISION)

Cllr David Greenhalgh, Portfolio Lead for Culture, introduced a report with proposals for organisations to be funded from the new GMCA Culture Fund 2020-2022. This process was highlighted as being important in fulfilling GM's equalities duties, improving diversity of the portfolio and potential audience diversity with minimal negative impacts on any one organisation.

Members heard that the portfolio sees the support of 35 organisations across all 10 GM districts included for the first time, and a particular, an increase in provision for Salford, Wigan and Tameside. It was highlighted that 13 new organisations have been included, incorporating literature for the first time and further increased provision for carnival arts. It was stated that the proposed increase in funding available to the GMCA Culture Fund would create a strong new portfolio of GM cultural organisations recognising the important role of culture across many aspects of the GM Strategy such as the benefit to health and wellbeing. Members heard that this presented a significant opportunity for GM to work strategically with Arts Council England as this 2 year strategy aligning GM with the Arts Council funding stream.

The GM Mayor highlighted the historic investment that GM had committed to cultural organisations, and that this work would put GM in a strong position benefiting from wider economic benefits from strong cultural investment and enhance eligibility for Arts Council Funding. It was specifically highlighted that this package benefits all boroughs.

Members welcomed the report, and noted the importance of culture, arts and creativity to GM in aspects such as place making and creating communities where people wanted to live. The Salford City Mayor also reassured Members that culture was an integral part of the Plan for Homes, Jobs and Environment and also embedded through The GM Mayors Town Centre Challenge. The proposals presented a collective way-forward that was a step-change, focusing on future-working in a collective way. Members commented that this work linked to digital creativity and its importance moving forward. The recognition that arts and culture was across the city region in all districts was welcomed, and Members agreed the importance

that smaller organisations were supported and nurtured. It was highlighted that the funding stream could help to serve as a legacy, to both the existing centres of excellence such as Bury's current Town of Culture status.

RESOLVED/-

1. That a budget of £8.6m over 2 years from April 2020 for the GMCA Culture Fund to fund the balanced portfolio of applications detailed within the Part B item of this report be approved.
2. That the list of organisations detailed within the Part B item of this report, to be funded by the GMCA Culture Fund be approved and that it also be agreed that the report be made public within one month of this meeting.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead Chief Executive and Portfolio Lead for Culture, to enter into grant funding agreements with the organisations, and for the amounts, listed in the Part B report.
4. That it be agreed that a report would be submitted to GMCA over the following months that would set out a new sustainable approach to the funding of GM's culture organisations from 2022.
5. That the list of organisations detailed within the part B report to be funded by the GMCA Culture Fund 2020-2022 be approved.
6. That the GMCA record its congratulations to Bury on becoming the first Town of Culture for Greater Manchester.
7. That the GMCA record its thanks Councillor David Greenhalgh (Portfolio Lead for Culture), Alison McKenzie-Folan (Lead Chief Executive for Culture) and officers within the cultural team at the GMCA for their work on this agenda.

GMCA 51/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – 2019/20 UPDATE REPORT

Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, introduced a report which informed the GMCA of the position the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund at 30 September 2019, i.e. the mid-point of the current financial year.

RESOLVED/-

That the position of the GM Housing Investment Loan Fund at 30 September 2019 be noted, specifically that there had been no requirement for GMCA to account for any impairments as a result of the performance of the Fund.

GMCA 52/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND (HILF) – RECOMMENDATIONS (KEY DECISION)

Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, introduced a report which sought GMCA approval of applications to GM Housing Investment Loans Fund (HILF) as detailed in the reports recommendation.

Members heard that the HILF had approved £300 million as of the middle of the current financial year. Members were reminded that the HILF was launched in March 2015 and that the GMCA and Local Authorities had underwritten 80% of the loans fund for which there had been no impairments to date. It was stated that by 30 September 2019, 49 loan offers had been made. Members heard that encouragement had been given to develop activity across GM rather than focussing on schemes those located in the city centre. The HILF was noted as supporting the GM Housing Strategy to tackle empty homes and rogue landlords. Members were further updated that out of 5500 units delivered, 91% of these had been on brownfield land, with the HILF continuing to support town centre regeneration.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loans, as included in the table below be approved, as detailed further in this and the accompanying Part B report:

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Built Homes Ltd.	Hebron Street	Oldham	£0.810m

2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, acting in conjunction with the GMCA Monitoring Officer, to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements in connection with the loan recommended at 1.
3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Planning, Housing & Homelessness, to approve projects for funding in the period 15 February 2020 to 26 March 2020.

GMCA 53/20 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVALS (KEY DECISION())

Councillor Richard Leese, Deputy Mayor took the Chair for this item of business

Cllr David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment & Resources, introduced a report which sought GMCA approval for a loan to Sharp Futures Manchester C.I.C. The report detailed that investment would be made from recycled funds and also provided an update on James Briggs Limited.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the funding application for SharpFutures Manchester C.I.C. (loan facility of £250,000) be approved, and progressed to due diligence.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the company, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transactions, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the investment at 1. Above.

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Leader for Investment and Resources, to approve funding requests for projects for the period 15 February 2020 to 26 March 2020, in the absence of a GMCA meeting at the end of February and approve any urgent variations on amounts and terms for already approved loans.
4. That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation would be subject to the usual due diligence processes and would be reported to the GMCA Authority at the next available meeting.
5. That the update on James Briggs Limited be noted.

GMCA 54/20 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items on business on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

GMCA 55/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – RECOMMENDATIONS

This item was considered in support of the Part A - GM Housing Investment Loans Fund Recommendations (minutes reference GMCA 52/20)

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

GMCA 56/20 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVALS

This item was considered in support of the Part A - GM Investment Framework Approvals (minutes reference GMCA 53/20)

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

GMCA 57/20 GMCA CULTURE FUND 2020-2022 PROPOSED PORTFOLIO

This item was considered in support of the Part A - GMCA Culture Fund Beneficiaries 2020/21 (minutes reference GMCA 50/20)

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

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**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
HELD ON FRIDAY, 29 MAY 2020 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham (In the Chair)
Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor	Baroness Bev Hughes
Bolton	Councillor David Greenhalgh
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese
Oldham	Councillor Sean Fielding
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA – Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA - Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA - Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Carolyn Wilkins
Salford	Jim Taylor
Stockport	Pam Smith
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Nicola Ward
GMCA	Ross Macrae

GMCA 58/20 APOLOGIES

That apologies be received and noted from Steve Rumbelow (Rochdale) and Geoff Little (Bury).

GMCA 59/20 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The GM Mayor welcomed attendees to the first virtual meeting of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority which was also being livestreamed via the GMCA website.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GMCA record its thanks to all those who participated, especially Cllr David Greenhalgh, as the Portfolio Lead for Culture and Rose Marley, in the Together in One Voice event on 28 May, celebrating how communities have pulled together through these unprecedented times.
2. That recognition be given to Councillor David Greenhalgh and the cultural team, in partnership with businesses, the arts and charities for ensuring young people who don't have on-line access to benefit from activities through the delivery of over 22,000 cultural packs.
3. That the GMCA record its thanks to all GM Local Authority Leaders and Staff, public bodies of GM, Community & Voluntary Organisations who continue to work together to support people in response to the Covid-19 crisis, with special thanks to front line services supporting those most vulnerable.
4. That the current position on Covid-19 related response be noted and that it also be noted that hospital admissions for non-covid related issues have begun to increase, with the public encouraged to present to their doctor if they experience any health issues and Covid-19 symptoms to ensure they are assessed appropriately.
5. That it be noted that the GM 'Test and Trace' scheme will work in conjunction with a national system and that the local element of the scheme would be crucial to ensure all communities could be reached.
6. That it be noted that work was underway to ascertain the level of resources, both financial and personal to support Mass Testing and Contact Tracing to inform the 'Ask' of Government.
7. That it be noted that the Government has responded to GM's request for a further financial package for Metrolink services, providing support up to 4 August 2020, which has enabled the frequency to be increased to a 12 minute service.
8. That it also be noted that discussions would continue with Government regarding longer term public transport funding, with an update on progress to be reported to a future meeting of the GMCA.
9. That it be noted that GM has some concerns regarding the Government's Registration Prospectus for the Building Safety Fund announced on 11 March, specifically in relation to the size, scope, 'first come first served' approach, restricted eligibility in terms of building height and individuals who have already commissioned works, timetable and the tight application window from 1 June to 31 July 2020.
10. That City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure and Chair of the High Rise Task Force would respond to the Secretary of State regarding the Prospectus for the Building Safety Fund on behalf of the GMCA.

11. That it be agreed that the report circulated on GM Bounce Back Loans Scheme be considered as an item of Urgent Business.

GMCA 60/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

That Councillor Richard Leese and City Mayor Paul Dennett declared a personal interest as Directors of the Growth Company in relation to item 16a (GM Bounce Back Loans).

GMCA 61/20 APPOINTMENTS TO THE GMCA

RESOLVED/-

1. That the appointment of Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, the newly appointed Leader of Bury Council to the GMCA be welcomed.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to Councillor David Jones for his work on behalf of the GMCA, and as the Portfolio Lead for Children and Young People.
3. That the appointment of Councillor Nigel Murphy, as Manchester City Council's substitute member, to the GMCA be noted.
4. That the GMCA record formerly acknowledge and recognise the work particularly on the reform agenda and 'A Bed Every Night' that Councillor Sue Murphy undertook to benefit residents from across GM.

GMCA 62/20 APPOINTMENTS: GMCA PORTFOLIOS, GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, GMCA AUDIT COMMITTEE & TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH

The GM Mayor introduced a report which detailed the reconstitution and appointments to the GMCA Audit, Overview & Scrutiny and Transport for the North Committees.

RESOLVED/-

1. That it be noted that the appointment of Portfolio Leads, Assistants and Lead Chief Executives by the GM Mayor and GMCA Head of Paid Service, will continue for 2020/21, with a review to be undertaken in May 2021.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to Lord Peter Smith, Wigan MBC, for leading the work on the health portfolio and steering health devolution in GM.
3. That the re-constitution of the GMCA Audit Committee and the reappointment of Councillors Colin McLaren (Oldham) (Lab), Sarah Russell (Manchester) (Lab), Chris Boyes (Trafford) (Con) and Mary Whitby (Bury) (Lab) and substitute members James Grundy (Wigan) (Lab) and Peter Malcom (Rochdale) (Lab) to the GMCA Audit Committee be approved for the period up to 31 May 2021.

4. That it be noted that the Audit Committee has 4 Independent Members; Gwyn Griffiths and Catherine Scivier, appointed in June 2017 for a term of office of three years, to be reviewed later this year and reported to the GMCA; and Grenville Page and Susan Webster appointed in January 2020 for a term of office of three years.
5. That it be agreed to re-constitute and appoint to the three Overview & Scrutiny Committees as detailed below for the period up to 31 May 2021:

CORPORATE ISSUES & REFORM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY		
1	Bolton	Bev Fletcher (Con)
2	Bury	Vacancy (Lab)
3		Tim Pickstone (Lib Dem)
4	Manchester	Vacancy (Lab)
5	Oldham	Colin McClaren (Lab)
6		Chris Goodwin (Lab)
7	Rochdale	Kallum Nolan (Lab)
8	Salford	Dave Jolley (Lab)
9		Tanya Burch (Lab)
10	Stockport	Dena Ryness (Lab)
11		John McGahan (Con)
12	Tameside	Teresa Smith (Lab)
13	Trafford	Anne Duffield (Lab)
14		Dave Morgan (Cons)
15	Wigan	Joanne Marshall (Lab)

ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH & SKILLS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY		
1	Bolton	Samantha Connor (Con)
2		Susan Howarth (Lab)
3	Bury	Mary Whitby (Lab)
4	Manchester	Luke Raikes (Lab)
5		June Hitchen (Lab)

6	Oldham	George Hulme (Lab)
7	Rochdale	Daniel Meredith (Lab)
8		Mike Holly (Con)
9	Salford	Jim King (Lab)
10	Stockport	Kerry Waters (Lab)
11		Becky Senior (Lib Dem)
12	Tameside	Stephen Homer (Lab)
13	Trafford	Barry Brotherton (Lab)
14	Wigan	Charles Rigby (Lab)
15		Michael Winstanley (Con)

HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY		
1	Bolton	John Walsh (Con)
2	Bury	Martin Hayes (Lab)
3		Dorothy Gunther (Con)
4	Manchester	Mandie Shilton-Godwin (Lab)
5		Jon-Connor Lyons (Lab)
6	Oldham	Barbara Brownridge (Lab)
7	Rochdale	Linda Robinson (Lab)
8	Salford	Sharmina August (Lab)
9	Stockport	Janet Mobbs (Lab)
10		Charles Gibson (Lib Dem)
11	Tameside	Mike Glover (Lab)
12		Liam Billington (Con)
13	Trafford	Kevin Procter (Lab)
14		Amy Whyte (Lab)
15	Wigan	Fred Walker (Lab)

6. That the appointment of up to 16 members to the GMCA scrutiny substitute's pool, as detailed below for the period up to 31 May 2021 be agreed:

	LABOUR	CONSERVATIVE	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Bolton	Akhtar Zaman	Diane Parkinson	n/a
Bury	TBC	Roy Walker	n/a
Manchester	n/a	n/a	Greg Stanton
Oldham	TBC	n/a	Hazel Gloster Sam Al-Hamdani
Rochdale	Ray Dutton	Pat Sullivan	n/a
Salford	n/a	Ali Leitner Karen Garrido	n/a
Stockport	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tameside	Adrian Pearce	Ruth Welsh	n/a
Trafford	n/a	Sean Anstee	n/a

7. That it be noted that there were still some vacancies to be resolved, which would be reported to the GMCA at its meeting on 26 June 2020.
8. That the appointment of the GM Mayor to the Transport for the North Board be noted.
9. That the appointment of Councillor Roger Jones (same as 2019/20) to act as the GMCA's member and Councillor Elsie Wraighte (substitute member), to the Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee for the period up to 31 May 2021 be agreed.

GMCA 63/20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GMCA HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2020

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held 14 February 2020 be approved.

GMCA 64/20 GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES - MINUTES: FEBRUARY 2020

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings (Corporate Issues & Reform – 11 February 2020 and Planning, Housing & Environment – 13 February 2020) be noted.

GMCA 65/20 REPORT ON DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS DURING MARCH - MAY

Liz Treacy Monitoring Officer of the GMCA reported on the decisions taken under delegated powers by the GMCA's Statutory Officers during the period of March-May 2020 which had been published in accordance with the Constitution and were available to view via the GMCA website.

RESOLVED/-

That the decisions taken under delegated powers during the period March – May 2020 be noted.

GMCA 66/20 GM RECOVERY RESPONSE

The GM Mayor outlined Greater Manchester's high level recovery approach, which detailed three key stages; the short term release from lockdown, the medium term of living with Covid and the longer term recovery through building back better.

He described how the current situation had highlighted inequalities across the sub region, especially in relation to the financial security and employment status of many front line staff who have been delivering services throughout the pandemic. The report looked at the potential to use these challenging times to reset many of these inequalities to create a stronger, fairer Greater Manchester in order to achieve greater prosperity for all.

RESOLVED/-

That the work to date in developing GM's recovery response, and approach to be adopted going forward be endorsed, noting that the response and approach would continue to evolve.

GMCA 67/20 GM CLEAN AIR PLAN: UPDATE

The GM Mayor introduced a report which set out Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan proposals including work to develop minimum taxi licensing standards to be delivered in tandem, with additional support through a 'clean commercial vehicle fund, and a 'hardship fund' to ensure that no jobs or businesses would be lost through the delivery of a Clean Air Zone.

Councillor Andrew Western, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, took members through further details of these proposals including the requirement for further funding agreements, revised plans for the consultation phase as a result of Covid-19 and the integral links to minimum taxi licensing standards. All of which were crucial to ensuring the best outcomes for Greater Manchester, whilst delivering on a range of ambitions from cleaner air to reforming our public transport system.

Reference was made specifically to the Strategic Road Network, which is currently exempt from the Clean Air Zone proposals, yet considerably contributes to emission levels. Furthermore, hotspots on the local road network were evidenced as being predominantly close to the motorway network, and therefore resolution on this discrepancy was required from Government to ensure an accurate picture could be given.

Further clarity and evidence as to the required level of funding from Government was imperative to deliver these schemes for Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles, as members of the GMCA agreed that the impact of these proposals should not have any detriment to businesses. The exemption for RGVs was welcomed, as would be the opportunity to tailor a scheme specifically for Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the progress of the GM Clean Air Plan be noted.
2. That the progress in the development of the Clean Commercial Vehicle and Hardship funds be noted.
3. That the initial funding award of £41m for clean vehicle funds to award grants or loans to eligible businesses be noted.
4. That it be noted that the Government has accepted the need for vehicle replacement funds for Hackney Carriages, and Light Goods Vehicles, and has requested further development of shared evidence on the needs within that complex sector before responding and does not support the sustainable journeys measure.
5. That it be noted that TfGM was seeking confirmation that the funding award for Bus Retrofit was a continuation of Clean Bus Technology Funds to be distributed as soon as possible as per previous arrangements.
6. That it be noted that the Government would not support electric vehicle charging infrastructure through Clean Air monies, however the Government has committed to work with GM on securing funding from OLEV.
7. That the GM Local Authorities be commended to move to a statutory public consultation on the GM Clean Air Plan as soon as reasonably practicable.
8. That the GM Local Authorities' decision to commence a public consultation should be taken once there is a clear timeframe for exiting lockdown and moving to the next phase of the COVID-19 response.
9. That it be noted that the implementation of a GM Clean Air Zone will be delayed to 2022 with a revised implementation date to be confirmed in the consultation commencement report.
10. That the Department for Transport's positioning paper "Decarbonising Transport – Setting the Challenge" be noted.
11. That the assessment of the possible impacts of COVID-19 to inform a technical briefing note for decision makers be noted.
12. That the GM Local Authorities intention to consult on GM's proposed Minimum Licencing Standards, alongside the Clean Air Plan consultation be noted and that the GM Local Authorities be commended to agree the proposed position for consultation, on when taxi/PHV fleets should be Zero Emission Capable as contained in paragraph 11.12.
13. That it be agreed that the inclusion of the Strategic Road Network was imperative to successfully addressing the clean air agenda.
14. That it be noted that discussions have continued with the Department for Transport including Transpennine goods and heavy goods vehicles and the inclusion of the Mottram By-Pass,

which will be delivered in the current investment period, with a commitment that it will be included in the Clean Air Zone.

15. That that it be noted that discussions with Government regarding funding with a view to ensure the costs will not be borne by Local Authorities, businesses and taxi/private hire companies.

GMCA 68/20 GM BIKE HIRE - PROCUREMENT

The GM Mayor updated the Combined Authority on proposals for a docked bike hire scheme in Greater Manchester, with the initial scheme beginning in Salford, Trafford and Manchester to support the first/last mile ambitions of an integrated public transport system. Phase two would see the scheme rolled out across the ten boroughs to support the wider public transport system and its increased pressures. He reported that there had been a significant increase of cycling over the past couple of months, and that this would be just one of a number of interventions to keep the momentum for more active forms of travel.

The increase in walking since Covid was also noted, and should be taken into account when planning how road space will be used going forward. Enforcement powers would also be imperative to ensuring safe spaces for walking and cycling, especially when encouraging more vulnerable residents to choose active travel options.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the proposal to move to commence the formal procurement of a GM Bike Hire scheme, in accordance with the proposed delivery strategy set out in the report, be endorsed.
2. That it be noted that Tameside would be willing to participate as a pilot area for phase two of a GM Bike Hire Scheme.
3. That the increased number of individuals walking and the need to move safely around the conurbation be recognised.
4. That it be noted that work was underway with the Cycling & walking Commissioner to explore opportunities to widen the availability of bikes to all the residents of GM.
5. That it be noted that discussions continue with Ministers around the increased use of cars and management and traffic management enforcement powers to create a safe space for everybody.
6. That it be noted that electric bikes were included in the scheme.

GMCA 69/20 A BETTER DEAL FOR BUS USERS UPDATE

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM introduced a report which explained how the bus market had changed shape since the impact of Covid and as a result, changed the course of the Better Deal for Bus Users scheme. The GMCA would submit a revised Statement of Intent to Government on 26 June that would include proposals that were deemed feasible in this new

landscape. The report further sought delegation to officers to develop the relevant set of proposals for this investment.

Members of the GMCA urged that any decisions in relation to final routes should be done in consultation with Leaders. It was confirmed that there was already an agreement with the Department for Transport for some flexibility of these funds over a longer period.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the revised approach being adopted by TfGM to develop GM's Statement of Intent to Department for Transport for £1,589,849 for supported bus services, in the light of the wider implications on the bus network, and commercial bus operators, of the on-going coronavirus situation be noted.
2. That it be agreed that the submission of the proposed bus routes to be included in the Statement of Intent be circulated to Leaders in advance of submission to the Department for Transport.
3. That it be agreed that the final approach and submission of the Statement of Intent to Department for Transport by 26 June 2020, be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA and TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor, Portfolio Lead for Finance and Chair of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee (GMTC).
4. That the work which is being undertaken to determine whether there were feasible proposals for the other funding opportunity for which GMCA was eligible be noted and that it be agreed that the approval for the final approach and submission of any expression of interest by 4 June 2020, be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA and TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor, Portfolio Lead for Finance and Chair of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee (GMTC).
5. That it be noted that a report on the progress of work on Bus Reform would be submitted to the GMCA as soon as possible.

GMCA 70/20 A BED EVERY NIGHT PHASE 3 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMME (KEY DECISION)

The GM Mayor updated members on phase three of 'A bed Every Night' which since its launch in November 2018 had supported 3000+ people into permanent accommodation. Alongside this, the 'Everyone In' scheme which has been running through the Covid-19 pandemic has ensured that another 600 people had been safely accommodated in hotel provision. Long term funding for both schemes was now even more critical than before, as there has been a national increase in people identifying as homeless and concern that this number may increase further as the economic implications of Covid begin to unfurl.

The report requests approval for £4.75m to support a further 445 households of accommodation, including 50 places specifically for women, and also specific provision for those who would identify as LGBT.

Concerns remain that Government policies removing the ability for some demographic groups to have recourse to public funds was incompatible with Greater Manchester's ambition to end rough

sleeping and that these matters must be addressed. The Prime Minister's recent public commitment and appointment of Louise Casey has been noted as a move in the right direction. However, members of the GMCA still felt that there was a much broader agenda to address, including the availability of local authority housing, the increased demand on welfare support and even broader, how we can prevent people from being homeless in the first instance.

Thanks were expressed to the voluntary sector and key partners who had continued provisions for homeless people, especially through the pandemic, but that stronger Government structures were needed in order to reduce the demand on these services and permanently support people into better accommodation.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the approach to Phase 3 of A Bed Every Night to provide a Covid-safe environment for people who were rough sleeping or are at imminent risk of rough sleeping be noted.
2. That the approach to Phase 3 of A Bed Every Night to be provided through both grant and welfare reclaim funding to ensure viability for self-contained/non-shared accommodation model be noted.
3. That it be agreed that the expenditure allocations of £4,750,000, with any further minor amendments to Local Authority grant payments, be delegated to the Treasurer in consultation with the GM Mayor and Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure.
4. That it be noted that the GMCA will underwrite from Mayoral reserves any shortfall arising from Greater Manchester Mayors Charity fundraising to support 60 'No Recourse to Public Funds' beds between October 2020 – March 2021.
5. That it be agreed that a guarantee for long term funding be sought from Government to enable GM to continue its support to homeless people.

GMCA 71/20 GREATER MANCHESTER'S ADULT EDUCATION PLAN FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021 (KEY DECISION)

Councillor Sean Fielding, Portfolio Lead for Digital, Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeships introduced a report which sought approval for proposed changes to GM's Adult Education Budget policy and processes for 2020/21 in order to provide continued support for Greater Manchester's residents/employers.

Members of the GMCA recognised the significant opportunity that devolution had given GM to tailor the adult education programme to meet the needs of our residents, and that these proposals for the academic year 2020/21 would be an essential element to our post Covid recovery.

It was felt that this work should be aligned with the new arrangements for the GM Probation Service, as there would be cross over with many of the AEB priority cohorts.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the proposed approach for the management and administration of devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2020/2021 academic year be approved.
2. That the proposed provider allocations for the 2020/2021 academic year be approved.
3. That it be noted that the GMCA has already approved a 2 year stable approach for Grant funded providers to bed in GMCA approaches to AEB and that it be agreed that the GMCA extend this to Independent Training Providers ensuring performance management in year where appropriate.
4. That it be agreed to delegate authority to GMCA Treasurer in consultation with the Leader & Chief Executive Portfolio Leads for Skills, Work & Digital to agree in year changes to:
 - Make decisions relating to distribution of funding for continuing learners. Current indicative allocations indicated in Appendix 2.
 - Make decisions relating to procurement of any new AEB activity which relates and responds to local needs, to the skills gaps outlined in the GM LIS and specific needs identified by GM priority groups i.e. care leavers, over 50's, offenders etc.
 - Make in-year provider exception funding decisions.
 - Make decisions on provider re-allocations mid-year and at the end-of-year reconciliation.
5. That it be noted that the Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime would raise the issue of ensuring effective links between the Probation Service and Adult Education Programme with their new director, Chris Edwards.

GMCA 72/20 ECONOMIC RESILIENCE DASHBOARD

Councillor Elise Wilson, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business informed the Combined Authority that this report would be a standing item on the agenda going forward, as it would help to inform members as to the economic position of GM. She reported that over £450m in business grants had been distributed since Covid, and in addition GM had established its own £3m fund for businesses who did not meet the initial criteria or had fallen through the gaps in other ways. The work of the Growth Company in tangent with the Combined Authority and Local Authorities to support businesses through this unprecedented period had been significant and a testament to how Greater Manchester responds promptly and works across organisation boundaries to deliver effectively, the impact of these initiatives on people's lives should not be under estimated.

The next challenge will be the re-opening of shops and businesses, whilst ensuring safety standards are met, and ensuring that people feel confident in returning to work. Concern was raised regarding the night time economy, as this would be one of the last sectors to come out of lockdown, and longer term support to this sector would inevitably be required. Further to this, would be the potential increase of Universal Credit claimants, as the Furlough scheme changes and the possible increase of redundancies.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the latest update of the Greater Manchester Economic Resilience Dashboard be noted.

2. That it be agreed that the Economic Resilience Dashboard be a standing item on future agendas of the GMCA.

GMCA 73/20 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA took members through a report which summarised the financial implications of the GMCA and Local Authority response to the impact of measures put in place to support residents and businesses through the Covid-19 crisis and the direct implications from this loss of income and additional expenditure.

He reported that this was an estimated impact at this stage, as this was a moving financial picture but had been based on the monthly returns from each GM Local Authority to MCHLG. However, this estimated analysis had already indicated a significant cost pressure across Local Authorities and the Combined Authority, which despite £168m Government funding, a gap of £406m remained.

In relation to Metrolink, there had been an additional £13.3m received from Government, however there would still be a shortfall of £1.4m for the period up until 4 August, and an ongoing operational cost of £23m for the remainder of this year.

Local Authority Treasurers were undergoing significant work to keep an accurate record of costs whilst supporting recovery and minimising the impact to residents. They were also looking at longer term options in relation to the use of retained business rates.

Members of the GMCA added that this funding shortfall was on top of ten years of Local Authority austerity, and therefore budgets were already stretched and any further removal of services would have serious implications for the most vulnerable in our communities. It was felt that this message needed to be clearly articulated to Government, to ensure that the potential devastating impact to Local Authorities was considered in detail and that the required funding was made available. Concern was raised as without the necessary funding, there would be another recession, and the plans for economic growth for our region would have to be scaled down, therefore not achieving their potential outcomes.

Treasurers were also urged to consider how the Fire Service and Waste surpluses may also be most effectively used.

The unprecedented times, and unprecedented support from Government to date was noted. However, Members were aware that further challenges would come as Furlough finishes, unemployment potentially rises and people find themselves in rent arrears, and that further devolution in relation to welfare support and front line provision was needed to ensure that GM were in the best position to support residents effectively.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the estimated financial impacts of COVID 19 on GMCA and TFGM budgets be noted.
2. That the utilisation of £1 million of transport reserves held by GMCA and TfGM to fund the shortfall in Metrolink net revenues in the period to 31 March 2020 be approved.

3. That it be agreed that authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in conjunction with the TfGM Finance and Corporate Services Director to make the necessary 'Capital / Revenue switch' to enable the funding of GMIP development costs of up to £7m from the Transforming Cities 2 fund.
4. That the proposed approach to finance in the recovery phase of the COVID 19 response be noted.
5. That it be agreed that a Special meeting of the GMCA be held on Wednesday 24 June to specifically discuss the financial challenge for Local Authorities and the GMCA.
6. That it be noted that Councillor David Greenhalgh would support the GMCA in lobbying for funding to support the shortfall in Local Authority budgets, however, there was also a need for GM to prioritise its 'Asks' of Government recognising the current economic pressures that they were also facing.

GMCA 74/20 GMCA TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT, BORROWING LIMITS AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2020/21

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA introduced a report which set out the proposed Treasury Management Strategy Statement, borrowing limits and prudential indicators for 2020/21 to 2022/23 for the GMCA including the approved 2020/21 capital programmes for GMCA transport, economic development, Fire, Police and Waste.

RESOLVED/-

That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy be approved, with effect from the 1 April 2020 be approved, in particular:

- The Treasury Management Scheme of Delegation at Appendix A.
- The Treasury Management Policy Statement at Appendix C.
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Strategy at Appendix E.
- The Treasury and Prudential Indicators listed in Section 6.
- The Borrowing Strategy outlined in Section 8.
- The Annual Investment Strategy detailed in Sections 9.
- Delegation to the Treasurer to step outside of the investment limits to safeguard the GMCA's position, as outlined in paragraph 8.16

GMCA 75/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND - INVESTMENT CAPACITY (KEY DECISION)

Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure outlined the proposed strategy to maintain and increase the investment capacity of the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the strategy to maintain and increase the investment capacity of the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund through the use of other funding available to GMCA be approved.

2. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer to identify and implement appropriate funding solutions in line with the strategy.
3. That the update on James Briggs Limited be noted.

GMCA 76/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND - INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS (KEY DECISION)

Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure introduced a report which sought approval of the GMCA for the G M Housing Investment Loans Fund loans and equity investments detailed below. The report also set out details of two loans which were approved under emergency powers by the Chief Executive acting in consultation with the Portfolio Lead Leader for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure in April 2020.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loans detailed in the table below be approved:

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Maya Property Developments Ltd	Riley's Snooker Centre, Altrincham	Trafford	£1.990m
The Sheridan Group	Diamond Hall, Woodhouses	Oldham	£1.967m

2. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund equity investments detailed in the table below be approved;

PARTNERSHIP	FUND	DISTRICT	EQUITY INVESTMENT
Resonance Limited	Resonance Impact Investment Property Fund	GM wide	£5.000m
Resonance Limited	Resonance Learning Disabilities Fund	GM wide	£5.000m

3. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer acting in consultation with the GMCA Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
4. That the following loans which were approved in April 2020 under emergency powers be noted.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
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Heath Farm Lane LLP	Heath Farm Lane, Partington	Trafford	£5.000m
Specialist Care Developments Ltd	Stephenson Street	Oldham	£0.981m

GMCA 77/20 GREATER MANCHESTER BOUNCE BACK LOANS (KEY DECISION)

Councillor Richard Leese and City Mayor Paul Dennett declared a personal interest as Directors of the Growth Company and left the meeting for discussion of this item.

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA set out a report which requested that Combined Authority approved in principle the establishment of a Greater Manchester Bounce Back Loan Scheme. The scheme would be established under the Government scheme announced on 4th May 2020 and would be 100% underwritten by Government through the British Business Bank.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the establishment of a Greater Manchester Bounce Back Loan Scheme under the Government scheme be approved in principle.
2. That the amendment to the GMCA capital programme to fund £10m of capital for the scheme, subject to appropriate funding arrangements, be approved.
3. That the delivery of the scheme via the Growth Company Business Finance Team be approved.
4. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer to authorise a contract to be awarded directly to the Growth Company by way of exemption from GMCA constitution Contract Procurement Rules (Part 6 section B) on the basis of urgency (Rule 3.2ii).
5. That it be agreed to delegate to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to the finalising of arrangements for the scheme.
6. That it be noted that the report was exempt from call in ensure the loan scheme can be introduced urgently to benefit Greater Manchester businesses as they recover from the Coronavirus crisis.

GMCA 78/20 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVALS

RESOLVED/-

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items on business on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

**GMCA 79/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND - INVESTMENT APPROVAL
RECOMMENDATIONS (PART B)**

This item was considered in support of the Part A - GM Housing Investment Loans Fund - Investment Approval Recommendations (minutes reference GMCA 76/20)

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

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**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
HELD ON FRIDAY, 24 JUNE 2020 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham (In the Chair)
Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor	Baroness Bev Hughes
Bolton	Councillor David Greenhalgh
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese
Oldham	Councillor Sean Fielding
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford	Councillor Andrew Western
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

IN ATTENDANCE:

Bolton	Councillor Susan Baines
Rochdale	Councillor Janet Emsley
Wigan	Councillor Jenny Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA – Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA - Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA - Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Mike Woodhead
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Carolyn Wilkins
Salford	Jim Taylor
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
TfGM	Steve Warrener
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Nicola Ward
GMCA	Ross Macrae
Growth Co	Mark Hughes

GMCA 80/20 APOLOGIES

Resolved /-

That apologies be received and noted from Geoff Little (Bury), Pam Smith (Stockport) and Steve Rumbelow (Rochdale).

GMCA 81/20 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Chair's announcements or items of urgent business.

GMCA 82/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in relation to any item on the agenda.

GMCA 83/20 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD 29 MAY 2020

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held 29 May 2020 be approved.

GMCA 84/20 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19 ACROSS GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES

The GM Mayor introduced the substantive item for the meeting, the financial implications of Covid-19 across Greater Manchester. He commented that the paper before Members gave a clear picture as to where Local Authority finances were currently, and where they were projected to be by the end of this municipal year. It forms a basis for discussion with Government about a way forward in partnership.

The GM Mayor expressed particular thanks to public servants and the community and voluntary sector for their efforts during the pandemic, and the support that they had offered GM residents in this time of great crisis. However, he urged that we were still not through the pandemic and there would be some significant challenges as we begin to learn to live with Covid over the next 12 months at least.

He acknowledged the recent announcement from the Prime Minister and the shift to a local level of crisis management, however in order to deliver this it was imperative that Local Authorities were adequately resourced. At the end of the first financial quarter, there were already large holes in every GM Local Authority budget, and the Government needed to recognise the challenge that this presented.

The GM Mayor also asked members to consider an additional recommendation which was to agree that this Combined Authority notes the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday and the

previously announced changes to the shielding policy due at the start of August and believes that these changes will increase the funding pressures on local councils and that it is essential that they are properly resourced to manage them. The Combined Authority calls on the Government urgently to commit to cover, in full, the shortfall in this year's budgets.

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Resources and Leader of Wigan Council, said that Covid-19 had created the largest ever financial challenge for Local Authorities that would ultimately have a greater impact than the 2010 recession. Its unprecedented nature and uncertain future was cause for further concern for LAs, and an honest conversation with Government about both the short and long term impacts was needed.

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA, gave further context to the report, and explained how it summarises the scale of the current financial picture, yet relies on a number of caveats in its forecasted numbers. For example, if there was to be a second wave of Covid-19, this would have a significant impact on the overall figures. The current forecasted costs for GM to March 2021 were £732m, following receipt of Government funding to date, there was still a shortfall of £460m (£368m after the use of LA reserves).

The paper further highlighted the lost revenue and potential investment to Local Authorities and how this would negatively impact economic growth across the sub region if not addressed. It was clear from the response to date, that Local Government had a key role in the immediate response and also throughout the recovery phase.

The report also detailed the specific package of support requested from Government, including further direct funding with flexibility as to how these monies could be deployed.

The GM Mayor added that there would not just be a financial impact for this municipal year, but for potentially a number of years to come. Without adequate support for Local Authorities the foundations for local economic recovery would not be able to be put into place.

Councillor Brenda Warrington, Leader of Tameside Council, welcomed the report, but asked whether there had been any consideration as to the contribution from GMCA and TfGM reserves in addition to those from Local Authorities. Local Authorities will be undertaking a line by line budget review to avoid a Section 114 notice, and it was considered important that this was done across the board as the GMCA levy made up 15% of Tameside Council's current budget. She expressed concern that the Government's promise to reimburse the cost of Covid had not been realised, and that there would be a shortfall of £42m to Tameside, which would have a significant impact as to how the Authority would be able to support their residents through the next challenges of this pandemic. Councillor Warrington also felt that the Government's handling of the crisis had been 'shambolic' and there was a lot of work to do in order to regain people's trust of National Government. However, this may also prove an opportunity to reset the relationship between Local and National Government.

Paul Dennett, City Mayor of Salford, thanked officers across GM for this robust report, however recognised how difficult it was to capture the total costs, and implications for budgets going forward. He shared recent findings from the IPPR North that showed an 86% cut in MHCLG's budget since 2010, resulting in austerity, a reduction in Local Authority officers and a widening of health inequalities across the conurbation. Furthermore, there had been an increase of 39% of 'Looked After' Children in care, at the same time as 59% of social care services had been deemed

inadequate, and an increase to teacher/pupil ratios to 27/1. More children were now living in poverty, with a reported increase of 22% in the North. Alongside this, there had been a significant increase (to 3875) in the number of households living in temporary accommodation, with 50% of these households including children. There had only been a 2% increase in the labour market since 2009, evidencing a significant job quality crisis. All of which was a clear proxy as to why so many more families were currently struggling to make ends meet.

City Mayor, Paul Dennett, further reported that to simply move all Salford's social care staff to the real living wage, would be a cost of £3.7m to the Authority, but that they, along with other frontline staff and the voluntary sector were the real heroes of these past months. Without the required additional funding from Central Government, there would not be the ability to level up, and this would have significant impact on people's lives. Another period of austerity was not acceptable, and these discussions must be set within this broad framework on a strong evidence base, in order to contextualise to Government what this would really mean for residents and economic prosperity for GM.

Councillor Sean Fielding, Leader of Oldham Council, commented that the reduction in Local Authority officers, yet a growth in Central Government employees was evidence of Government's lack of commitment to devolution. Local Authority funding had tended to come in narrow funding pots, ring-fenced to specific schemes with little or no flexibility. A call to Government was imperative to ensure that they were aware of the astounding work to date from Local Authorities, but also the future demand to services having highlighted further vulnerable residents who previously were not identified. These were people who needed real opportunities made available to them. Councillor Fielding also added that devolution could make a significant difference to our communities, but that there needed funding with a significant level of flexibility in order to deliver the best outcomes.

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Leader of Bury Council, expressed the need for Central Government to effectively finance Local Government to allow them to meet the scale of the challenge and remove the risk of bankruptcy. Local Authorities were able to bring together a borough community in ways that only localism could do, with strong partnerships that enabled the system to work. This significant role needed to be recognised, and reflected to Government to ensure that they were aware as to how secure recovery could be at risk without the required level of funding.

Councillor David Greenhalgh, Leader of Bolton Council, expressed his thanks to officers for their work on the paper, and gave his support to the recommendations including the additional recommendation suggested by the GM Mayor. He acknowledged in particular the incredible work of 'Team Bolton' and the voluntary sector over the past few months, and how they would continue to play a forefront role in recovery particularly around the adults and children portfolios. He added that Central Government had already presented an unprecedented package through the pandemic, not only to Local Government, but also to businesses. However, this was clearly not enough. He was aware that we were all involved in political theatre today, but that he and all GM leaders were equally aware that there were ongoing cross-party conversations with the LGA, lobbying for those extra tranches of money. Councillor Greenhalgh further added that Government had listened to the needs of local residents, businesses, and also Local Authorities in GM through a package of funding totalling £1.5b which should be recognised.

It was also important that GM continued to lead from the front, making the best use of reserves, with a review of those priorities established pre-covid. Furthermore, it was important to recognise

that Local Authorities, working together were best placed to deliver on the ground and working together and in partnership with Government was necessary in order to meet the scale of the challenge.

The GM Mayor reiterated that a partnership approach was very much wanted, and that the recent announcement regarding further funding to support the homeless was greatly welcomed.

Councillor Elise Wilson, Leader of Stockport Council, echoed previous comments made, and reiterated that the role of Local Government was key to making a difference and bringing together partners from across Greater Manchester in a unique way. She recognised the very unprecedented times, and hoped that both Central and Local Governments could evaluate lessons learnt in order to apply this learning to the recovery phase. Councillor Wilson further added that working together was key to its success.

Councillor Andrew Western, Leader of Trafford Council, re-iterated the need for Government to recognise the need for the right level of Local Authority funding in order for services to function and deliver what residents need. Trafford Council's current budget highlights a shortfall of £25m which is an extremely serious issue that requires Government to take note before any Authority is in the position of a Section 114 notice and he felt the meeting today was not 'political theatre' as was suggested but was a critical meeting necessary to highlight these very serious issues.

The GM Mayor concluded the discussion and thanked those in attendance for their powerful comments.

Note: The meeting was adjourned at 11.50am and reconvened at 12.05pm in order to ensure public livestreaming was available in accordance with the virtual meetings regulations.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the report be received and officers thanked for their work on producing it.
2. That the estimated financial impacts of COVID 19 on local authority, GMCA and TFGM budgets be noted.
3. That the ongoing financial impact of COVID 19 into 2021/22 and beyond be noted.
4. That the role of local authorities and the GMCA in the work to deliver an economic recovery from COVID 19 across Greater Manchester be noted.
5. That the request for further support for GM authorities in terms of both funding and other measures such as increased local flexibilities be noted and supported.
6. That this Combined Authority notes the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday and the previously announced changes to the shielding policy due at the start of August and believes that these changes will increase the funding pressures on local councils and that it is essential that they are properly resourced to manage them. The Combined Authority calls on the Government urgently to commit to cover, in full, the shortfall in this year's budgets.

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**(MioCare Group CIC, Oldham Care and Support Ltd,
MioCare Services Ltd)**

Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

Thursday 23rd January 2020

Public Minutes

Present:	Board Members Cllr Steven Bashforth (Cllr SB) – Chair Cllr Zahid Chauhan (Cllr ZC) Peter White – Deputy Chair, Non-Executive Board Member (PW) – Chair Jeff Jones – Non-Executive Board Member (JJ) Cathy Butterworth – Non-Executive Board Member (CB) Karl Dean – Managing Director (KD)	In attendance Rick Vogan – Director of Care Valerie Perrins – Associate Director QPC (VP) Mark Warren – Shareholder's Advisor & DASS (MW) Paul Wilkinson – Finance Manager (PWi) Karen Wilson – Business Support Manager (Minutes)
Apologies:	Cllr Louie Hamblett (Cllr LH)	

No	Agenda Item	Action
1	In Confidence Section There were no items to discuss.	
2	Welcome, Introduction, attendees and apologies Apologies were received from Cllr LH. SB welcomed all attendees.	
3	Declaration of Interest MW is the MD of the Community Health and Adult Social Care Service (CHASC), Shareholder's Advisor & DASS for Oldham.	
For Information		
4	Minutes of Last Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The confidential minutes of the last Board meeting held on 23rd October 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record. b) The public minutes of the last Board meeting held on 23rd October 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record. c) The Board action log was discussed and updated accordingly. d) The minutes of the last Operations Committee held on 28th November 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record. e) The minutes of the last Finance, Audit and Risk (FAR) Committee held on 7th November 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record. The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and actions noted.	

5	<p>MioCare Group Board Work Plan</p> <p>VP informed the members there had been some small changes made to the 2020 work plan. Changes include the date of Operation Committee and a deferment of 2 items. If members have anything to add to the workplan please inform VP who will ensure it is updated.</p>	
	For Discussion	
6	<p>iTrent Payroll</p> <p>KD informed members the presentation has been deferred to a later date because the system is currently in the testing phase. It has been requested that the presentation is given at February's Operations Committee.</p>	
7	<p>Committee Updates</p> <p>JJ began with an update of the FAR Committee meeting and advised that the management of risk had come a long way. Generally, we are in a good position and have made good progress although some concerns remain in terms of ongoing liability. An invite to all members to future FAR Committee meetings was offered. Members noted the progress that had been made in relation to risk and concerns about viability.</p> <p>PW informed that the last Operations Committee meeting was good. The performance report continues to be developed and with good progress made. The work to date on KPI's is good, but it still has challenges. The presentation about mental health was excellent and it will be revisited at future Operations Committee meetings.</p> <p>PW enquired if the spotlight reviews had taken place. RV provided an update and informed there have been some good inclusive discussions with managers. KD recommended the outcomes of the first round be presented at Operations Committee.</p> <p>KD stated an Enablement Board meeting invite will be sent out to CB and PW. PW concluded that as a Board there is a need to maintain focus on the integration process and there is concern Members can't and won't have complete assurance of the risks around integration.</p> <p>Action: RV to present the outcome of the spotlight reviews at the next Operations Committee.</p>	RV
8	<p>Performance and Assurance Report</p> <p>VP informed members the report allowed them to be sighted on assurance activity across all areas although some items in the report have been previously covered at the Committees. Members were asked to consider the report and provide feedback on the content, format and purpose. VP also offered that due to timings the information may be different to that which was presented to Committees.</p> <p>A comprehensive discussion took place in relation to recent repatriation activity and some of the challenges the team have faced.</p> <p>ZC offered thanks to VP for the report and stated the dashboard was appreciated. ZC also enquired if the Board can do anything to assist with problems around sickness. RV informed that there is confidence that over the next reporting quarter the members will see the actions from the spotlight review have an effect.</p> <p>PW concluded that a review of information that is taken to the Committees will be completed, but as a Board it could be acceptable to ask for further assurances.</p>	

	<p>KD provided an explanation of service of last resort to support CHASC and the staffing of a rest centre to the members that were unfamiliar with the arrangement.</p>	
	<p>MD Update</p> <p>KD gave an update in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Group’s reported consolidated end of year financial performance was a loss of £229k. - Approx. 40 stakeholders attended 2 recent Enablement engagement events, including the Deputy Chair, PW. Both events were well received. – The Community Health and Adult Social Care (CHASC) team, which MioCare work collectively with on community services, recently had an away day to consider the year ahead. – The Director of Policy from the National Care Forum visited MioCare on 20th January which went very well. – Interim management arrangements are in place at Holly Bank – Acknowledgment was given of the sad passing of Derek Heffernan. Praise for his long service and the excellent work he did for the residents of Oldham was offered. – Further challenges surrounding the opening of Holly Bank continue. – The urgent care system in Oldham has been under sustained pressure for many weeks. – A meeting with all Extra Care stakeholders will take place on 24th January 2020 to clarify roles and responsibilities in relation to fire, particularly when MioCare are the only agency on site. A full update will be provided to members once it has taken place. <p>PW stated that with regards to integration it is a very ambiguous situation and total assurance is difficult to find.</p> <p>Action: KD to send the enablement video to members.</p>	
10	<p>Management Accounts Period 12 (2019)</p> <p>Accounts for period 12 were discussed during agenda item 11.</p>	
11	<p>Draft Budget 2020 – 2021 Paper</p> <p>PWi informed members that to bring MioCare’s financial cycle into line with Oldham Council the intention is to have a 15-month financial “year” from January 2020 to April 2021. This will enable future financial decisions made by Oldham Council to be timelier for MioCare’s financial planning. The 2020 draft budget was presented and after a thorough discussion it was decided that the budget be reworked following the Council’s budget being signed off and the management fee income agreed. KD offered that the 2020/21 group budget will be redrafted and meetings will take place with MW and Director of Finance ahead of the final budget paper being presented to Board in April 2020</p> <p>Action: A paper be presented to Board in April with details of the final budget.</p> <p>MW exited the meeting at 5.40pm</p>	KD

12	External Audit Update Board members accepted the recommendation of the external auditors, Grant Thornton that members do not sign off the final accounts until the 2020 Council budget has been signed off and the MioCare Group budget has been agreed. CB suggested the Chair of FAR Committee revisit the risk rating around the company finances.	
13	MioCare Strategic Plan KD informed members that enclosed with the report is a list of feedback and comments received and how these have been incorporated into the updated strategic plan. KD suggested that due to the discussion on the 2020 budget he recommended that it remain a proposed strategic plan until the budget is confirmed.	
14	Digital Care Planning Business Case RV informed members he had researched different areas of digitalisation to assist the Group achieve the strategic objectives. The report and attached appendices set out the business case for the preferred approach to introduce a digital care planning system. The paper also makes the case for the rollout of the existing staff scheduling system called Staff Plan that is already in use in Reablement. The Council, supported by Unity Partnership recently launched its commitment to a new digital programme for Team Oldham (Oldham Council, Unity Partnership, Oldham CCG and MioCare) and engagement with the Council to discuss supporting the MioCare journey has commenced. KD closed the discussion informing that in principle fees will be met by the corporate Team Oldham digital programme budget. Members decision was to go ahead with the agreement and ask that RV would check in throughout the process. Decision: Members agreed to approve the approach to implement a digital care planning and the roll out Staff Plan across the Group, subject to securing the resources required from the Team Oldham digital programme budget or other Council capital monies.	
15	AOB No further business.	
	Next Meeting Thursday 23 rd April 4pm – 6pm Ena Hughes Resource Centre	



MINUTES

Meeting:	National Park Authority
Date:	Friday 13 March 2020 at 10.00 am
Venue:	The Board Room, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell
Chair:	Cllr A McCloy
Present:	Cllr D Chapman, Mr P Ancell, Cllr W Armitage, Mr J W Berresford, Cllr P Brady, Cllr M Chaplin, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr A Gregory, Prof J Haddock-Fraser, Cllr A Hart, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr I Huddleston, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr V Priestley, Mr K Smith, Cllr P Tapping and Ms Y Witter
Apologies for absence:	Cllr J Atkin, Cllr D Birkinshaw, Cllr C Furness, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Cllr B Lewis, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Miss L Slack, Cllr R Walker, Mrs C Waller, Cllr G D Wharmby and Cllr B Woods.

14/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting of the Authority Meeting held on 14 February 2020 were approved as a correct record.

15/20 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

16/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

17/20 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Member declarations of interest.

18/20 AUTHORITY CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair reported the following items:

- Defra Group Chairs meeting – the Chair had attended this meeting in London and it had included representatives from Natural England, Environment Agency and National Park Authorities. The meeting had discussed issues including the Landscapes Review and climate change. In particular Defra had positively received the Landscapes Review and would like to take it forward. Also COP 26,

the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties being hosted by the Government in November at Glasgow, was discussed. The National Park Authority representatives had urged Defra to use National Parks as case studies/good examples of how protected areas are taking forward the climate change and sustainability message. National Park Chairs will try to progress this via National Parks UK. Defra are very keen to make the link between climate change and biodiversity to look for nature based solutions and National Parks could help to take this forward.

- Climate Change Summit hosted by Derbyshire County Council – the Chair had attended this summit held on 3 March and had signed a pledge to support Derbyshire County Council to achieve zero carbon by 2050. Other Members who had attended the event included Mr James Berresford, Prof Janet Haddock-Fraser, Cllr David Chapman and Cllr Barry Lewis.
- Over Haddon Community Event – the Chair had attended a community event at Over Haddon, on 6 March, looking at sustainability and he had spoken on how the Authority and communities can work together on this issue. He had also passed on details of other groups that could help including Hope Valley Climate Action Group who were coming to give a presentation to Members today during their Members' Forum meeting.

19/20 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (SLF)

Members noted the Chief Executive's report which included confirmation of the National Park Grant settlement for 2020/21 and updates on current work and issues both nationally and within the National Park.

The Chief Executive gave a verbal update on plans to deal with any disruption to National Park work by the Coronavirus. The Authority was following current advice from the Government and was regularly updating both staff and Members by email. The Authority's Scheme of Delegation had emergency powers to enable the Chief Executive to make decisions and the Authority had a business continuity plan in place. Preparations had been made for remote working when required but the Authority could not hold virtual committee meetings as current legislation did not allow for this. If any Member meeting needed to be cancelled this would be communicated as soon as possible. The Chief Executive stated that the Authority was emphasising the current preventative advice of good hygiene. She advised Members to keep a regular check on emails for updated information.

In response to Members' queries the Chief Executive stated that they were considering the possible effects on income streams and how to overcome them, including the Government's Bellwin scheme of emergency financial assistance to local authorities.

RESOLVED:

To note the report.

20/20 TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY (A1327/PN)

Members considered the report which requested approval of the over-arching Treasury Management Policy Statement and the Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy.

In introducing the report the Chief Finance Officer highlighted the following issues:

- An amendment to the accounting standard for leases for which an extra half million had been identified to accommodate this.
- In providing financial services to the Peak District National Park Foundation the Authority will borrow funds from the Foundation in return for the same investment rate earned by the Authority through its Investment Strategy with North Yorkshire County Council.
- The recent Bank of England cut in interest rates could mean a shortfall of up to £50,000 but this will be reviewed at mid-year.

In response to Members' queries the Chief Finance Officer stated that the reduction in finance from revenue estimated for 2022/23, shown in paragraph 6 of Appendix 2 of the report, was due to the use of reserves for one off projects and he would email a fuller explanation to Members after the meeting. He also answered a query regarding ethical investment.

The recommendation was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the Authority approves the Treasury Management Policy Statement in Appendix 1 of the report.**
- 2. That the Authority approves the Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy in Appendix 2 of the report, with specific approval of the Prudential Indicators and borrowing limits (paragraphs 5-13), and the policy on Minimum Revenue Provision (paragraphs 14-15), and adopts the Investment Strategy of North Yorkshire County Council (Appendix 3 of the report).**

21/20 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BLOCK 2 2019/20 (A1362/7/PN)

The Chief Finance Officer introduced the report which gave details of four areas covered under the Internal Audit Report Block 2 and these were:

- Main Accounting – High Assurance
- Performance Management – High Assurance
- Income Generation – Substantial Assurance
- Information Security Compliance Check – Substantial Assurance

With regard to the recommendations of the report on Income Generation the Director of Commercial Development and Engagement stated that plans for a Commercial Strategy were in place and it would be produced within 6 months.

RESOLVED:

That the internal audit reports for the four areas covered under Block 2 for 2019/20 be received (in Appendices 1 – 4 of the report) and the agreed actions considered.

22/20 AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS - PART 7 DELEGATION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Members considered the report which proposed additions to the Delegation to the Chief Executive in part 7 of Standing Orders with regard to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, following a recommendation from the Authority's Planning Committee.

The recommendation was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

To amend the Scheme of Delegation to the Chief Executive set out in part 7 of Standing Orders to authorise the Chief Executive:-

a) To determine whether an appropriate assessment is required under regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

b) To carry out appropriate assessments under regulations 63 and 64 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) including, without limitation, to require further information, to carry out consultations (and for that purpose to determine whether the opinion of the general public should be taken) and to have regard to any representations received.

23/20 PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK: NATIONAL PARKS SUPPORTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOR ALL (SW)

Sarah Wilks, Head of Engagement, gave a presentation on the report which gave details of the work of the National Parks England's Supporting Health and Wellbeing task and finish group. The task and finish group had now become the Health and Wellbeing Strategic Steering Group. She highlighted opportunities and challenges for the Authority including partnership working.

Members queried recommendation 2 and asked that it be made clearer.

Members welcomed and praised the report but expressed concern over how actions could be implemented. Partnership working would be needed and discussions with Councils within the National Park may be useful.

The Head of Engagement noted Members' comments and the need for partnership working and resources.

11.14 Cllr D Chapman left the meeting.

It was noted that the audience plan would be made clearer within the next 2 months and that some actions were already being progressed. Members would be kept up to date via further reports.

The recommendation with an amended recommendation 2 was moved and seconded. The motion was put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To confirm support for the universal offer and action plan around prevent, restore, excel and the Peak District National Park Authority following this template to focus health and wellbeing actions.**
- 2. To support further national advocacy through National Parks England to align the NHS 10- year plan with the National Parks England offer as set out in the report.**
- 3. To consider what the next steps for Members might be to build and develop support for health and wellbeing work in the Peak District National Park.**

The meeting ended at 11.34 am

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MINUTES

Meeting: **National Park Authority**

Date: Friday 22 May 2020 at 10.00 am

Venue: Cisco Webex Meeting Room

Chair: Cllr A McCloy

Present: Cllr D Chapman, Cllr J Atkin, Cllr W Armitage, Mr J W Berresford, Cllr P Brady, Cllr M Chaplin, Cllr C Farrell, Cllr C Furness, Cllr A Gregory, Prof J Haddock-Fraser, Mr Z Hamid, Cllr Mrs G Heath, Mr R Helliwell, Cllr B Lewis, Cllr C McLaren, Cllr Mrs K Potter, Cllr V Priestley, Miss L Slack, Mr K Smith, Cllr P Tapping, Cllr R Walker, Cllr G D Wharmby, Ms Y Witter and Cllr B Woods

Apologies for absence: Mr P Ancell, Cllr A Hart, Cllr I Huddleston and Mrs C Waller.

24/20 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2020

The minutes of the last Authority meeting on 13 March 2020 were approved as a correct record.

25/20 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business

26/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public speakers

27/20 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 13

The majority of Members had received an email from Anne Robinson on behalf of Friends of the Peak District regarding this item.

Cllr Mrs K Potter also declared she had a personal interest as a member of Friends of the Peak District.

Cllr B Woods declared a personal interest as the Derbyshire County Council Councillor for the area of the county where the project would take place.

28/20 AUTHORITY CHAIR UPDATE

The Chair reported the following items:

- The Chair of the Authority paid tribute to Cllr Doug Birkinshaw who had recently passed away after serving as a Member of the Authority since 2012 and as Vice Chair of Planning Committee since 2014. The Chair asked the meeting to pause for a moment as a mark of respect for Cllr Birkinshaw and also all those who had lost their lives and suffered as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- The Chair thanked the Chief Executive for her leadership through this difficult time and all Officers for their continued work through the Covid-19 pandemic. It was noted that emergency procedures for Planning Committee had been invoked and it was noted that Chairs and Vice Chairs had regular updates with the Leadership Team of the Authority. The Chair identified the following three key messages:
 - i. The importance of National Parks as a National Asset for mental and physical health
 - ii. Respecting and protecting the communities
 - iii. Post Covid opportunities to make National Parks centre of environmental and economic recovery.

29/20 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT (SLF)

The Chief Executive thanked the Chair and Members for their support and outlined the following key areas:

1. Community Support – clear messaging on support for communities including asking visitors to consider the impact of their visit and the safety of the communities.
2. All Authority owned car parks had been opened to relieve the pressure on roads and communities with a trial car park status report system providing information regarding which car parks were open or full. It was confirmed that all other visitor-facing services remained closed.
3. Rangers were working with the police and continued to monitor the high fire risk.

30/20 INTERNAL AUDIT 2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT (DH)

Ian Morton, Audit Manager, Veritau, introduced the report and confirmed that there were no special investigations during the year and the overall opinion of the Head of Internal Audit on the framework of governance, risk management and control operating in the Authority in 2019/20 was that it provided Substantial Assurance.

A qualification had been added to the report in light of the current coronavirus pandemic which had occurred at the end of the audit year but Veritau had no specific concerns regarding the Authority's approach.

The Internal Audit team thanked Officers for their cooperation throughout the year.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To note and accept the 2019/20 Annual Report from the Internal Auditors as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.**

31/20 OUTTURN REPORT (A.137/22/PN)

The Chief Financial Officer introduced the outturn report for the 2019/2020 financial year, the final year of the four year National Park Grant commitment confirmed in 2016. It was noted that some income targets for the year had not been reached due to the impact of poor weather during 2019. Adjustments had been made to the end of year figures to take into account the impact of closures due to Covid-19 and adjustments had been made to the budget for 2020/21. No specific assistance was expected from Defra to deal with the impact of Covid-19 on budgets and a recommendation was made in the report to set up a Covid Emergency Reserve to cover income gaps.

Further consideration would be given to the likely cost to the Authority during the first and second quarters of the financial year to enable a more accurate calculation of costs and which reserves would be needed to cover the losses.

Clarification was provided on cycle hire centres under performance due to work on merging management roles resulting in an increase in the use of casual staff and a loss of income due to wet weather.

The Director of Corporate Strategy & Development and the Chief Financial Officer provided clarification on large variances shown in Appendix B of the report.

Variances on the South West Peak Project were due to the nature of the funding for the project.

The Head of Policy & Communities confirmed that funding received for brown field sites was a set amount for all local authorities to be used for community initiatives and development.

The Chair requested that Members received regular updates on the budget and the impact of the Covid-19 Emergency.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, voted on and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the outturn be noted, and the slippage requests and specific reserve appropriations shown in Appendix C of the report be approved.**

The meeting adjourned for a short break at 11.05 and reconvened at 11.15.

32/20 2019/20 YEAR END PERFORMANCE REPORT, 2019-20 PERFORMANCE AND BUSINESS PLAN AND 2020/21 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

The Senior Strategy Officer – Research introduced the Performance & Business Plan section of the report which provided monitoring information for the end of Quarter 4 2019/20, the first year of the Corporate Strategy for the period 2019-24. Changes to the

format of the 2020/2021 report were outlined including the inclusion of a summary from Leadership Team on their respective areas of the Performance & Business Plan.

The Chief Executive confirmed that there were no amber indicators in the 2019/20 report as they were not used at the end of the year report. Those actions with red indicator showed what action management need to take. Not all of the resolutions were within the control of the Authority as they relied on work with partners or were pioneering or new work.

It was noted that consideration would be given to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on performance during the last two weeks of the 2019-20 year. The financial plan and strategy would be reviewed and a report presented to Members when there was a clearer understanding of the impact.

The following points were noted in response to questions from Members:

- KPI6 - it was confirmed that a presentation on the Tree Strategy which had been deferred from a previous Member Forum would be rescheduled to address the issues Members had raised. Members were asked to report back to the Director of Conservation and Planning any tree planting they were aware of so the information could be included in the statistics.
- KPI7 - Breeding Birds Survey – It was confirmed that discussions were taking place with the consultants that carried out the work to check the methodology used for the report.

Members were invited to send more detailed queries to the Director of Conservation and Planning following the meeting.

The Director of Commercial Development & Engagement provided an update on the status of the Peak District National Park Foundation, confirming that £80,000 had been raised and distributed to several projects.

The Director of Commercial Development and Engagement also provided an update on the response to Covid-19 regarding facilities within the National Park and confirmed that the Authority was benchmarking against other organisation regarding provision of toilet facilities and working with partners to address issues caused by the lockdown rules being eased. He confirmed that the Peak District Proud message was an important campaign and would be at the heart of the National Park's recovery. Members were asked to promote the campaign.

The Chief Executive confirmed that further funding from the Discover England Fund had not been received as it had been reallocated to support Destination Management Organisations (DMOs) during the Covid-19 lockdown.

The Head of Policy & Communities confirmed that over half of the Peak District Parishes had responded to the engagement on the Parish Statements and added more detail. The documents would be regularly updated and promoted as ongoing documents.

The Senior Strategy Officer – Research introduced the Corporate Risk Registers section of the report. A new risk had been added for the 2020/21 year relating to the Covid-19 impact.

The Chief Executive provided an update on the Recovery Plan both for the National Park and the organisation as follows:

- The recovery plan for the National Park included communication with communities and visitors and the management of visitor facing activities. The aim was to provide a safe home for communities and a safe welcome within the remit of what the National Park Authority was able to do.
- The recovery plan for the National Park Authority as an organisation focused on staff and the financial impact on the Authority. Leadership Team were meeting twice a week to look at the impact on staff and to plan and work with them. Weekly communications from the Chief Executive and Human Resources were sent out to staff and a survey sent to staff had had a good response and showed that staff were feeling supported. The survey also provided good information to help plan the next stages of recovery for staff and the work of the Strategic Leadership Team with the Chief Financial Officer continued.

The recommendation as set out in the report was moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

1. **That the Q4 and year end performance report, set out in Appendix 1b of the report, be noted and any actions to address issues agreed.**
2. **That the Performance and Business Plan content in Appendix 2 of the report be approved and completion of details delegated to the Chief Executive, to allow publication by the statutory deadline of 30 June 2020.**
3. **That the 2019/20 year end corporate risk register given in Appendix 3 of the report be noted and the status of the risks accepted.**
4. **That the start of year 2020/21 corporate risk register given in Appendix 4 of the report be noted and the proposed risks agreed.**
5. **That the status of the complaints, Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations requests, given in Appendix 5 of the report be noted.**

Cllr Mrs Potter left the meeting during this item.

33/20 AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS - VIRTUAL MEETINGS (JS)

The Democratic Services Manager introduced the report and confirmed that the proposals reflected the issues identified in a previous presentation to the Members Forum. The report provided clarification on the temporary changes during the Covid-19 Lockdown to support the Governments emergency legislation which would end in May 2021.

RESOVLED:

1. **To approve the temporary amendments to Standing Orders as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.**
2. **To note the etiquette for virtual meetings of the Authority and its Committees as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.**

The meeting adjourned for a short break at 12.15 and reconvened at 12.25 with Cllr B Lewis and Cllr Mrs G Heath leaving the meeting during this time.

34/20 SECOND REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE REVIEW WORKING GROUP

The Chair introduced the report and confirmed that the Authority's Annual General Meeting on 3 July would take place as a virtual meeting. Members were invited to contact the Chair if they wished to discuss any concerns regarding the proposal.

Members requested clarification on how a secret ballot would be held during a virtual meeting and the Democratic Services Manager confirmed that work to enable this would continue. The Chair confirmed that a virtual AGM would not take place unless a secret ballot was possible.

It was noted that appointments would be made to the Governance Review Working Group at the AGM with a view to carry out a six month review of the impact of the changes introduced.

The Chair took the meeting through the 16 recommendations as set out in the report which were moved, seconded, put to the vote and carried.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To note the recommendations of the Governance Review Working Group as set out in Appendix 1 of the report**
- 2. To approve the Appointment Principles as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.**
- 3. To confirm that the Member Appointment Process Panel should continue to be part of the process for preparing for Annual Meetings.**
- 4. To continue to receive an annual report on Member attendance based on Member attendance at meetings of the Authority, Standing Committees and essential learning and development events/workshops only.**
- 5. To approve the changes to the terms of reference of the Programmes and Resources Committee as set out in Appendix 2.**
- 6. To confirm that no changes are made to the existing arrangements for Member Scrutiny.**
- 7. To confirm that quarterly meeting of the Local Joint Committee should be scheduled on the understanding that they will only take place if there are sufficient items to make a meeting viable.**
- 8. To confirm that there is no need for Member representation on the Health and Safety Committee.**
- 9. To approve the continuation of the Governance Review Working Group and agree to make appointments to it at the 2020 Annual Meeting.**
- 10. To approve the amendments to the Scheme of Delegation to the Chief Executive as set out in Appendix 3.**

- 11. To ask the Chief Executive to carry out a review of the format and content of the Officer Delegation Scheme.**
- 12. To continue to use the current format of the Revenue Budget.**
- 13. To ask Officers to explore the options for using the annual workshops to give Members greater ownership of budget proposals including the possibility of inviting a selection of budget holders to a session where they can provide more detail about their budgets, how they are used to support the Corporate Strategy and what the key issues were around delivery.**
- 14. To approve the Member Champion Role Description set out in Appendix 4.**
- 15. To appoint Members to the following Member Champion roles at the 2020 Annual Meeting:**
 - **Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Farming.**
 - **Cultural Heritage and Landscapes**
 - **Engagement (includes sustainable tourism, recreation, health and wellbeing)**
 - **Thriving and Sustainable Communities (including social housing)**
 - **Climate Change (including transport) (This Member's Champion should chair the Climate change Working Group)**
 - **Business Economy**
 - **Member Learning and Development**
- 16. To approve the Guidance for Members appointed to Outside Bodies as set out in Appendix 5.**
- 17. To remove the following from the list of Outside Bodies to be appointed to at the 2020 Annual Meeting:**
 - **Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership Rural Forum**
Derbyshire Partnership Forum
 - **National Parks UK**
 - **Peak Park Parishes Forum Annual Liaison Meeting**

35/20 TRANS-PENNINE TUNNEL STUDY AND A628 UPGRADE (JRS)

The Director of Conservation and Planning introduced the report confirming that there was a delay regarding the decision to proceed with the project as the Department of Transport Investment Panel would not meet until July 2020. If the funding was confirmed by the Investment Panel the project team would develop a more detailed scheme, if funding were not approved it was likely that the scheme would be shelved.

The Director of Conservation and Planning agreed to keep Members informed of the progress of the project.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To note the contents of the report.**

The meeting ended at 1.05 pm

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Report to COUNCIL

Oldham's COVID-19 Response

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Shah, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Covid-19 Recovery

Officer Contact:

Rebekah Sutcliffe, Strategic Director of Communities & Reform

Report Author: Jonathan Downs (Corporate Policy Lead)

15.07.2020

Reason for Decision

Following the June 2020 report on Oldham Council's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this report provides an update on how we are continuing to monitor and manage the spread of the virus as lockdown restrictions are relaxed.

Executive Summary

COVID-19 is still circulating across the UK and we are still seeing new cases across Oldham every day. We have a clear plan in place in case of an outbreak locally. This report summarises those plans, demonstrating how we will collectively manage and prevent the spread of COVID-19 across our communities.

Recommendations

To note the content of the report.

1 Background

- 1.1 On 23 June 2020, Prime Minister Boris Johnson set out further changes to lockdown measures in England. From Saturday 4th July, the Prime Minister announced that pubs, restaurants and hairdressers could reopen, providing they adhere to COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- 1.2 It was also announced that some leisure facilities and tourist attractions may also reopen, if they can do so safely – this includes outdoor gyms and playgrounds, cinemas, museums, galleries, theme parks and arcades, as well as libraries, social clubs, places of worship and community centres.
- 1.3 “Close proximity” venues such as nightclubs, soft-play areas, indoor gyms, swimming pools, water parks, bowling alleys and spas will remain closed, reducing the risk of virus transmission.
- 1.4 Though lockdown measures are being relaxed across the UK, local lockdowns can be applied to any localised spikes in infections. On 29 June, Matt Hancock, the health secretary, announced that the first local lockdown would be applied in Leicester, and would include the closure of schools (except for the children of key workers), which partially reopened on 1 June, and non-essential retail, which was allowed to reopen across England on 15 June. In Leicester, infection rates are currently running at around 135 cases per 100,000 people
- 1.5 However, Coronavirus is still circulating across the UK and we are still seeing new cases across Oldham every day. We have a clear plan in place in case of an outbreak locally. This report summarises those plans, demonstrating how we will collectively manage and prevent the spread of COVID-19 across our communities. We are also working to address the wider impacts of COVID-19, for example the impact it’s having on Oldham’s economy, and this will be considered in future update reports.

2 COVID-19 in Oldham

- 2.1 As of the 5th July 2020 there has been 1,833 cases of COVID-19 identified in Oldham. There has been speculation in the media about the possibility of local lockdowns affecting Oldham. However, the number of cases of coronavirus in Oldham is not at a level where local lockdown is an imminent risk. In Oldham, infection rates are currently running at around 20 cases per 100,000 people.¹
- 2.2 Over the past 30 days, 10,454 people have been tested for COVID-19 in Oldham. This includes 3,561 from Pillar 1 data (tests undertaken in hospitals, care homes and staff employed by the health and care sector) and 6,890 from Pillar 2 data (commercial labs that process at-home and drive-through tests). Out of the 10,454 tests undertaken, 481 people tested positive (101 in Pillar 1 and 380 in Pillar 2).
- 2.3 A total of 383 coronavirus related hospital admissions were recorded at Royal Oldham over the period March to April 2020, with 81.5% from White British & Irish background, 53.8% were males. Directly standardised rates (DSR) show that at population level there was no

¹ 19.9 cases per 100,000 population for the 7 days up to 3rd July, as reported up to 5th July.

significant difference in admissions based on ethnicity. As anticipated following national trends, admission rates followed an age gradient with those aged 70 years or older most likely to be admitted due to COVID-19 while those age 39 years or younger least likely.²

2.4 There have been 224 deaths in Oldham (up to 28th June) with the majority (94.1%) were White/White British. The death rate at population was 118.6/100,000 among White/White British compared with 21.8/100,000 among Asian/Asian British and 13.3/100,000 among Black/Black British.

2.5 It's important to note that the data on testing and confirmed cases is still being analysed. We have only recently received Pillar 2 data, so we are working quickly to identify any disproportionate impacts and potential virus hot-spots, allowing us to target our resources as detailed in Oldham's Outbreak Management Plan (section 4.0).

3.0 **Equality and COVID-19**

3.1 The analysis and data are still developing, but there are increasing reports that some groups are being hit harder by the pandemic than others. For example, in addition to the nationally reported impact on BAME communities, it appears the pandemic exploits gender disparities too. While it appears men may be suffering more from the illness itself, women are in more precarious social situations and are likely to experience long-term impacts of the global crisis. The Women's Budget Group reports that there are over three million people in jobs at high risk of exposure to COVID-19 in the UK, and 77% of them are women.

3.2 Experts across groups, who campaign for better lives for minority groups have sought to highlight how the pandemic has revealed the existing inequalities and fragility in the health, housing and finances of many in society. People experiencing homelessness are particularly vulnerable due to prevalent health conditions and lack of appropriate housing. Trans communities, who were already experiencing a mental health crisis and issues accessing healthcare, will have long-awaited gender-affirming medical support and procedures postponed.

3.3 In Oldham we are committed to minimising the impact of COVID-19 across our communities. The steps we are taking to tackle the pandemic and the subsequent recovery planning, aim to support people, especially those groups with protected characteristics who are often most impacted. To support this approach, we have established an Equality Advisory Group which will provide insight and expertise, helping us capture the voice of lived community experience in our COVID-19 response and recovery planning.

3.4 The Equality Advisory Group is made up of key representatives from across Oldham's communities, representing: women, older people, younger people, people from ethnic groups, disabled people, groups with faiths or beliefs, LGBTQI, and people on low incomes or in poverty. This group provides a wealth of experience which will be used to find practical solutions to any barriers that may present themselves in Oldham's COVID-19 response and recovery planning. This group is meeting regularly to anticipate and identify any discriminatory or negative consequences of the pandemic, helping us positively respond to any disproportionate impact COVID-19 has on our communities.

4.0 **Contact Tracing and Outbreak Management Planning** (Information provided by Katrina Stephens – Director of Public Health)

² The data analysed was for admissions to the Royal Oldham and may have missed those admitted to other hospitals especially at the beginning of the pandemic.

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- 4.1 Contact tracing and outbreak management are essential tools in limiting the spread of infectious diseases. Effective tracing and isolation of people exposed to COVID-19 can reduce the spread of infection and may allow for greater relaxation of social distancing requirements than would otherwise be possible.
- 4.2 The Oldham COVID-19 Outbreak Control Plan has been developed to meet national requirements for local Outbreak Control Plans. The plan provides local direction and guidance to collectively manage and prevent the spread of COVID-19 across our communities. The plan supplements the existing Oldham Health Economy Outbreak Plan (2018) by providing specific management arrangements to effectively respond to the unique threats posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

National and Greater Manchester Context

- 4.3 The contact tracing system in England is made up of three operational tiers:
- Tier 3 consists of call handlers who speak to contacts of confirmed cases and advise them to isolate;
 - Tier 2 consists of case handlers who interview confirmed cases of COVID-19 to identify their contacts; and
 - Tier 1b is an integrated regional and local system to deal with contact tracing and outbreak management in complex settings.
 - Tier 1a provides strategic oversight of the whole system and sets guidance and policies.
- 4.4 Oldham forms part of the Greater Manchester (GM) Tier 1b system. Within Tier 1b, most contact tracing is expected to be done by the Greater Manchester Integrated Contact Tracing Hub (GM ICTH). Local authorities and systems will be involved where their support is needed in managing complex cases or outbreaks, and in providing support to individuals and settings that have been affected by COVID-19. This might include supporting people who have been told to isolate, or managing the consequences of closing a particular setting, such as a school or GP practice.
- 4.5 The GM Combined Authority and GM Health & Social Care Partnership have developed a COVID-19 Management Plan which follows the same principles as the outbreak control plans in each of the 10 GM local authorities. The GM plan supports our local plans with clear approaches across the city region to each of the seven key themes of the outbreak control plans including the overlapping systems of command and control required during outbreak response, which feed into the Local Resilience Forum.

Oldham's Approach to Preventing and Managing the Spread of COVID-19

- 4.6 The following seven key themes have been identified nationally as key priorities on which to focus our local work to manage and control COVID-19. These are based on the priority areas and actions based on experience of the pandemic to date, and highlighting the key mechanisms through which to deliver on these priorities and associated actions:

Theme	Actions required	Local activity
Care homes and schools	Planning for local outbreaks in care homes and schools (e.g. defining monitoring arrangements, identifying potential scenarios and planning the required response).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Resource packs developed for care homes and schools, including actions to take and templates to use. •Advice provided on Infection prevention & control and action to take in response to cases. •Scenario planning undertaken to inform development of standard operating procedures.
High risk places, locations and vulnerable communities	Identifying and planning how to manage other high-risk places, locations and communities of interest including sheltered housing, dormitories for migrant workers, transport access points (e.g., ports, airports), detained settings, rough sleepers etc (e.g. defining preventative measures and outbreak management strategies).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Key settings identified and relevant services involved in scenario planning to inform development of standard operating procedures. •Letters sent to high risk businesses to communicate local arrangements and measures to prevent outbreaks.
Local testing capacity	Identifying methods for local testing to ensure a swift response that is accessible to the entire population. This could include delivering tests to isolated individuals, establishing local pop-up sites or hosting mobile testing units at high-risk locations (e.g. defining how to prioritise and manage deployment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Local testing available through satellite site, mobile testing unit and local pop up testing. •Working with Department of Health & Social Care to improve access to local testing for vulnerable groups. •Additional testing capacity available through GM Mass Testing Strategy to respond to outbreaks.
Contact tracing in complex settings	Assessing local and regional contact tracing and infection control capability in complex settings (e.g., Tier 1b) and the need for mutual aid (e.g. identifying specific local complex communities of interest and settings, developing assumptions to estimate demand, developing options to scale capacity if needed).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Local Single Point of Contact (staffed by public health) in place to receive referrals from the GM Integrated Contact Tracing Hub. •Environmental Health Officers identified to undertake local contact tracing. •Protocols developed with place-based teams to support response to cases and outbreaks. •Additional Infection Prevention & Control Nurse posts established.
Data integration	Integrating national and local data and scenario planning through the Joint Biosecurity Centre (JBC) (e.g., data management planning including data security, data requirements including NHS linkages). The JBC will collect data about the prevalence of the disease, analyse that data to understand infection rates across the country, and provide expert advice on responding to spikes in infection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Available data subjected to daily review by public health intelligence leads and DPH. •Dashboard developed to allow Boards to monitor and track local position. •Data sharing agreement with PHE being put in place to provide access to postcode level data on testing and contact tracing.

Theme	Actions required	Local activity
Vulnerable people	Supporting vulnerable local people to get help to self-isolate (e.g. encouraging neighbours to offer support, identifying relevant community groups, planning how to co-ordinate and deploy) and ensuring services meet the needs of diverse communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Support available via Helpline & Place-based Hubs.
Local Boards	Establishing governance structures led by existing Covid-19 Health Protection Boards and supported by existing Gold command forums and a member-led Board to communicate with the general public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Test and trace bronze group will become the COVID-19 Prevention & Control Board responsible for technical health protection function and delivery of the COVID-19 management plan. •Health Protection Sub-Committee of Health and Wellbeing Board will be responsible for oversight of the plan and building public trust and engagement in testing and contact tracing, and other prevention and control measures.

Responding to Cases and Managing Outbreaks

- 4.7 The Oldham COVID-19 Prevention & Control Board, under the leadership of the Director of Public Health, will have the responsibility for declaring and managing local outbreaks in consultation with PHE North West and GM Integrated Contact Tracing Hub (GMICTH).
- 4.8 Notifications of cases and/or outbreaks will come either via local reporting direct to the Oldham Single Point of Contact (SPOC), or via the GM ICTH to the Oldham SPOC.
- 4.9 The Director of Public Health (or designated deputy) will convene the Outbreak Control Team (OCT) including members of the COVID-19 Prevention & Control Board, plus representatives related to the particular setting and/or community where the outbreak has occurred.
- 4.10 Following the declaration of an outbreak, the Director of Public Health (DPH) will lead the local response to an outbreak within Oldham, which will include the following elements:

Contacting an affected setting (e.g. head of school; manager of care home) to get details of the situation, which would include numbers of possible and confirmed cases (and whether any are at high risk of severe COVID-19 disease), dates of onset of symptoms, numbers of people potentially affected (including numbers at high risk of severe COVID-19 disease), any wider risks, and potential impacts that would need support from the system.

Contact tracing: Much of the contact tracing will be done by the NHS Test and Trace service and GM Integrated Contact Tracing Hub. Local contact tracing will be carried out by the Council's Environmental Health Team following referral to the Single Point of Contact, and local settings/services leads appropriate to the outbreak.

Providing initial infection prevention and control advice. This may include signposting to existing guidance and sources of support, advice on isolation and exclusion and other infection prevention and control advice. This will be led by community infection prevention & control nurses/Health Protection Team.

Ensuring that any symptomatic people who have not yet been tested are tested promptly. This will ensure actions are based as much as possible on confirmed cases, as well as helping to rule out situations that are not linked to COVID-19. In care homes all

residents and staff will be tested regardless of their symptom status. This will be coordinated by the Test and Trace Manager, in collaboration with the commissioned testing service.

Identifying any urgent support needs. This would include meeting health needs among cases and contacts to prevent detrimental effects on any underlying medical conditions (e.g. access to medication) as well as wider social impacts on individuals and communities and impact on services. The response to meet these needs will be coordinated through the Helpline and Place-Based Hubs.

Notifying the wider system and communication. Early notification to the lead(s) for the wider system for that setting will ensure timely support for consequence management is available as early as possible and impacts on the wider system can be managed. It will also allow wider information and intelligence about the situation to be included in the risk assessment. Early warning to the communications lead can make sure that proactive and reactive communications messages are in place early.

Communications and engagement: At every stage in this process communications will be important both to make sure that all parties are operating on the same information, to ensure transparency of actions taken, and to build trust across the system and with the public. Accurate recording of actions and decisions will also be important, both for management of the situation and to provide an audit trail of situation management.

Enforcement of control measures: Oldham will rely mainly on proactive engagement with communities to facilitate adherence to control measures. Legal enforcement under schedule 21 of Coronavirus Act 2020 will be an act of last resort and would be approved through the local SCG/Gold structure. Schedule 21 confers powers relating to potentially infectious persons and makes related provision.

5.0 Reopening Safely

Reopening Businesses

- 5.1 As Greater Manchester recovers from the coronavirus pandemic, more people are returning to work and using shops and services. The latest relaxation of COVID-19 lockdown measures includes a reduction in the two-metre social distancing rule to one-metre (with appropriate precautions, for example, face coverings) enabling thousands of additional businesses to reopen.
- 5.2 From the 4 July, food and drink businesses including pubs, restaurants and cafes can reopen, as well as hairdressers, barbers, cinemas and theatres. To reopen, businesses must demonstrate they are COVID-secure and have implemented detailed sector-specific Government guidance. So, we are working closely with our partners to help businesses reopen safely. Neighbourhood police officers are also visiting venues to liaise with landlords and managers.
- 5.3 We are working with our town centre retailers to ensure they have the assistance they need in controlling queuing outside their stores, particularly in terms of barriers, signage and floor markings; the intention being to create safe queuing zones and pedestrian flows in these areas
- 5.4 Updated advice for those businesses allowed to reopen from July 4 is now being signposted via Safely Reopening GM - #SafeGM, a coordinated campaign across Greater Manchester which was launched to coincide with reopening of non-essential retail on June 15.

Town Centre Signage

- 5.5 The Government has allocated £50m of additional funding to support the safe reopening of high streets and other commercial areas. The Council has been allocated £0.210m. This money will allow additional measures to establish a safe trading environment for businesses and customers, particularly in high streets, through measures that extend to the end of March 2021.
- 5.6 The safety of those who live, work and shop in our town centres is the Council's number one priority. People visiting our town centre will see a number of physical changes, including signage reminding people to follow social distancing guidelines. The Council has also been helping businesses/market traders reopen, ensuring they are trading safely.

Oldham Library Service

- 5.7 From Monday, July 6, Oldham Central Library will be reopening, but offering a reduced service. Residents will be able to access a limited range of facilities, such as checking out books and using the computers. Due to social distancing rules visitors won't be able to browse the bookshelves.
- 5.8 The Lifelong Learning Centre and Gallery Oldham are not currently open to the public while they are being prepared to open safely. Services are continuing to be delivered online.

6.0 Financial Impact on Oldham Council (Information provided by Anne Ryans – Director of Finance)

- 6.1 The finances of the Council have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial pressures have been experienced since the middle of March but especially since the lockdown was announced on 23 March 2020. This has required the Council to incur additional expenditure to support the residents of Oldham during these extraordinary times. The Council has also lost income from fees and charges including commercial income from its investments and trading activities.
- 6.2 There has been a requirement to report to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and provide financial returns to inform the Government of costs being incurred/income lost as a result of the pandemic and to enable an assessment of the additional level of grant needed by Councils to support the continued provision of services. The first return was completed on 15 April, the second on 15 May and the third on 17 June 2020. Each of the returns has been completed in response to revised guidance as the MHCLG has refined its information gathering processes. It is expected that monthly reporting to the MHCLG will continue for the immediate future.
- 6.3 The completion of the returns and forecasting of the likely impact of the pandemic on the Councils budget relies on a series of assumptions, particularly about how long the effects are likely to last and what the new normal will look like. The base assumption is that all other spending remains the same and that the reporting relates to the extra burdens associated with COVID-19. The in-year position will, however, become clearer as more detailed financial monitoring takes place on non-COVID related activities and this will be incorporated in financial monitoring reports presented to Cabinet during the financial year.
- 6.4 The June 2020 MHCLG Return showed an overall impact of £56.4m with increased expenditure pressures of £30.7m and reduced income of £25.7m (including £9.3m in relation to lost Council Tax and Business Rates). As the impact of lost Council Tax and Business Rates will occur in 2021/22, the adjusted potential shortfall is £43.5m. After offsetting £12.1m of ringfenced grant for specific purposes (Hardship Fund Grant of £3.0m,

Infection Control Grant of £2.3m and Test, Track and Trace Grant of £1.6m) together with funds that can be recharged to the NHS for Adult Social Care related costs and the £14.2m of un-ringfenced Government grant, it left a potential in year shortfall of £20.8m. This is of course subject to change, as outlined at paragraph 6.5

6.5 On 2 July the Government announced a further package of support for Local Government. This was comprised of:

- A further £500m of un-ringfenced funding to cover Local Authority spending pressures
- A co-payment mechanism for irrecoverable Sales, Fees and Charges income, with the Government covering 75% of losses beyond 5% of planned income
- Phased repayment of Collection Fund deficits over the next 3 years
- A commitment to determine the support needed to help Councils meet the pressures of irrecoverable tax income at the Spending Review.

6.6 It is important to note that given the lack of detail that has been issued, it is impossible, at the time of preparing this report, to be confident about the level of financial benefit that the Council will receive as:

- The methodology for the distribution of the £500m of un-ringfenced funding has not been announced, but the Government has advised it will be different from the way in which the two previous funding allocations have been made (totalling £14.2m as referred to above)
- The operating arrangement for the co-payment scheme for compensating for income losses has not been announced. Of particular concern is that this does not include compensation for commercial income losses and the payment of grant compensation may be based on actual losses which it may not be possible to calculate for some time.
- By deferring to the Comprehensive Spending Review (the timing of which has not been announced) the detail as to how Council's will be compensated for Business Rates and Council Tax losses, the uncertainty is heightened.
- The spreading of Collection Fund deficits (losses arising from the inability to collect Council Tax and Business Rates as planned) is welcomed but until there is clarification of the detail of the compensation referred to at the point above, the financial implications cannot be determined.

6.7 Despite the comments outlined at 6.6, the Council will be in a much better financial position for 2020/21 than when the June MHCLG return was submitted, although it is disappointing that Government is expecting Local Government to "share the burden" as clearly at this stage, there is no intention to provide funding for all income losses. A major challenge still remains in relation to 2021/22 and future years. It is inevitable that COVID-19 will have an impact on the financial position for 2021/22. This is on top of the already challenging budget reduction target that had already been established and was presented within the reports approved at Budget Council on 26 February 2020. The Council and the Local Government sector urgently needs the Government to announce its funding intentions for 2021/22 and future years, in addition to the clarity for 2020/21. Once there is more detailed information upon which to base estimates, the projected budget shortfall for 2020/21 will be recalculated and revised estimates will be prepared for 2021/22 and future years.

7	Consultation
7.1	N/A
8	Financial Implications
8.1	The financial implications for the Council arising from its response to the COVID-19 emergency are as outlined in Section 6 and are subject to constant revision. (Anne Ryans, Director of Finance (S151 Officer))
9	Legal Services Comments
9.1	There are no direct legal issues arising from the report, however, Central Government has issued emergency legislation and guidance in relation to many functions affected by the pandemic and it is important that such functions comply with or have regard to such provisions or guidance to ensure that the Council is acting lawfully. Further, the Council is required to maintain its decision-making processes, ensure good governance and that appropriate health and safety risk assessments are in place and operational to avoid legal challenge. (Colin Brittain)
10.	Co-operative Agenda
10.1	As a Co-operative Council, Oldham is committed to tackling the impact of COVID-19, protecting our most vulnerable residents and communities. We are putting the voice of the resident at the heart of our response, ensuring the voice of lives experience and the people impacted by COVID-19 shapes our approach to mitigation and recover. (Jonathan Downs – Corporate Policy Lead)
11	Human Resources Comments
11.1	N/A
12	Risk Assessments
12.1	N/A
13	IT Implications
13.1	N/A
14	Property Implications
14.1	N/A
15	Procurement Implications
15.1	N/A
16	Environmental and Health & Safety Implications
16.1	N/A
17	Equality, community cohesion and crime implications

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- 17.1 The response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, and the emergency legislation powers introduced to tackle it, has had a significant impact on Oldham's communities.
- 17.2 In Oldham we are committed to minimising the impact of COVID-19 across our communities. The steps we are taking to tackle the pandemic and the subsequent recovery planning, aim to support people, especially those groups with protected characteristics who are often most impacted.
- 17.3 To support this approach we have established an Advisory Group, made up of council, community and partnership representatives, to support Oldham Council and the wider partnership with its commitment to integrate Equality and Diversity throughout its Covid-19 response and subsequent recovery planning.
- 18 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**
- 18.1 Yes
- 19 **Key Decision**
- 19.1 No
- 20 **Key Decision Reference**
- 20.1 N/A
- 21 **Background Papers**
- 21.1 Council Report – COVID-19 Response – June 2020
- 22 **Appendices**
- 22.1 N/A

DELETE THE SIGNATURE BOX IF THE REPORT IS A CABINET DECISION

Signed _____ Cabinet Member (specify whom)	Dated _____
Signed _____ Strategic Director/Deputy Chief Executive	Dated _____

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COUNCIL

Update on Actions from Council

Portfolio Holder: Various

Officer Contact: Director of Legal Services

Report Author: Elizabeth Droган, Head of Democratic Services
Ext. 4705

15th July 2020

Reason for Decision

The decision is for Elected Members to note the updates to the actions from previous Council meetings.

Executive Summary

1. This report provides feedback to the Council on actions taken at the Council meeting on 17th June 2020.
2. This report also provides feedback on other issues raised at that meeting and previous meetings.

Recommendations

Council are asked to agree the action taken and correspondence received regarding motions and actions agreed at previous Council meetings.

Update on Actions from Council**1 Background**

- 1.1 The report sets out the actions officers have taken on motions of outstanding business and notice of motions approved at the Council meeting held on 17th June 2020.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 The current position from actions as a result of motions is set out in the table at Appendix One. Letters are attached at Appendix Two in response to the actions approved at Council.

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 N/A

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 N/A

5 Consultation

- 5.1 N/A

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1 N/A

7 Legal Services Comments

- 7.1 N/A

8. Co-operative Agenda

- 8.1 N/A

9 Human Resources Comments

- 9.1 N/A

10 Risk Assessments

- 10.1 N/A

11 IT Implications

- 11.1 N/A

12 Property Implications

- 12.1 N/A

13 Procurement Implications

13.1	N/A
14	Environmental and Health & Safety Implications
14.1	N/A
15	Equality, community cohesion and crime implications
15.1	None
16	Equality Impact Assessment Completed?
16.1	No
17	Key Decision
17.1	No
18	Key Decision Reference
18.1	N/A
19	Background Papers
19.1	<p>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 not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agenda and minutes of the Council meeting held 17th June 2020 are available online at: http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails
20	Appendices
20.1	Appendix 1 – actions taken following the Council meeting held on 17 th June 2020
20.2	Appendix 2 – Letters and other information received in response to actions approved at previous Council meetings.

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Actions from Council 17th June 2020

ACTION	ISSUE/RESPONSE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Administration Motion: Black Lives Matter	New Equalities Strategy to be produced	Communities & Reform	In Progress.
	Letter to be sent to Mayor of Greater Manchester	Chief Executive	2 July 2020
Opposition Motion 1: Tax Relief for Public Transport	Motion referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Board	Overview and Scrutiny Board	In progress. Report being prepared for O&S Board in September.
Opposition Motion 2: Accessible Shopping Districts	Ensure investment took account of good practice in improving access; members be encouraged to consider bids to the Local Improvement Fund and continue to promote and support the work of the Oldham Dementia Partnership, Oldham Dementia Alliance and Oldham Dementia Friends Network	People and Place	In progress – information sent to relevant officers
Opposition Motion 3: Chatty Checkouts and Cafés	Letter to be sent to Chatty Café Scheme offering support	Chief Executive	29 June 2020
	Response received from Chatty Café Scheme received 29 Jun 20		
	Ask the Health Scrutiny Board to examine issue	Health Scrutiny	In progress.
	Letters to be sent to Town Centre Partnership Board and major supermarket chains in the Borough	Chief Executive	2 July 2020

	<p>Ensure Link to Council's website</p> <p>Engage with local market stall holders and vendors to ask them to participate</p>	<p>Webteam</p> <p>Town Centre Manager</p>	<p>Link already in place under 'Connect 5 Ways to Wellbeing'</p> <p>In Progress.</p>
Oldham's Covid-19 Response	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oldham's Partnership Response to the COVID-19 pandemic be noted. 2. The questions and responses provided be noted. 3. The observation be noted. 	Council	Council noted the report on 17 th June 2020
Update on the Actions from Council	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The actions taken regarding motions and actions from previous Council meetings be agreed and correspondence and updates received be noted. 2. That the question and response provided be noted. 	Council	Council approved the report on 17 th June 2020.
Corporate Peer Challenge	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The contents of the report and the feedback report received, as attached as an appendix to the report, be noted; 2. It be noted that a report would be presented to the Cabinet over the coming months, which would set out the Organisation's action plan against each of the key 	Council	Council noted the report on 17 th June 2020.

	recommendations as set out within this paper.		
Political Balance Review	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The composition of the political groups as shown at paragraph 1.1 of the report be noted. 2. The several Committees detailed at paragraph 1.5 of the report be constituted with the Terms of Reference and delegated powers as detailed in the Constitutional Amendments Report. 3. The number of seats on the various Committees for the 2020/21 Municipal Year as detailed at paragraph 1.6 of the report be approved. 4. The allocation of seats to the political groups be confirmed and appointments made to fill the seats in accordance with Sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 199 as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report. 5. Any outstanding Chair and Vice-Chairs of each of the various Committees for the 2020/2021 Municipal Year be appointed as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report with the exception of the Selection and Appeals Committees and the District 	Council	<p>Council approved the report on 17th June 2020.</p> <p>Committees updated on 30th June 2020; Outside Bodies notifications provided week commencing 29th June 2020.</p>

	<p>Lead for each of the District Areas be reaffirmed</p> <p>6. The outstanding appointments to Outside Bodies as detailed at Appendix 2 of the report be agreed.</p> <p>7. The Standards Committee remained outside of political balance as in previous years be confirmed to ensure appropriate representation.</p> <p>8. The Traffic Regulation Order Panel remains outside political balance be confirmed.</p> <p>9. Any outstanding appointments be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Main Opposition Group.</p>		
Constitutional Amendments	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>1. The suggested amendments to Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions), Part 4E (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules) and Part 4H (Employment Procedure Rules) as detailed at Appendices 1, 4 and 5 to this report as part of the refresh of the Council's Constitution and the review of Planning Committee and Delegations, subject to the date of the implementation of the revised Overview and Scrutiny</p>	Council	Council approved the report on 17 th June 2020

	<p>Committee arrangements being agreed at a future meeting of the Council be agreed.</p> <p>2. The suggested amendments to Part 4A (Council Procedure Rules) and Part 4B (Access to Information Procedure Rules) as detailed at Appendices 2 and 3 to this report in compliance with the statutory provisions of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panel (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 and to ensure alignment with the agreed amendments to Parts 3, 4E and 4H of the Council's Constitution be agreed.</p> <p>3. The inclusion of the suggested amendments to Part 5(e) (Land and Property Protocols) into the Council's Constitution as detailed at Appendix 6 to the report be agreed.</p> <p>4. The suggested amendments to Part 8 (Appendices) Appendix 3 (Protocols) as detailed at Appendix 7 to the report in respect of procedures related to the consideration of planning applications as part of the review of Planning Committee</p>		
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	<p>and related procedures be agreed.</p> <p>5. Any further consequential amendments arising from the amendments to the Council's Constitution as presented in the report be delegated to the Director of Legal Services.</p>		
Members Allowances Scheme	<p>RESOLVED that;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel be noted. 2. The Members Allowances Scheme for 2020/21 as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report be approved. 3. The exception to the one SRA rule to be applied to a discretionary SRA payment be approved. 	Council	Council approved the report on 17 th June 2020.
Appointment of Independent Person- Standards Committee	<p>RESOLVED that Karen Williams be appointed as an Independent Person to the Standards Committee for a four-year term.</p>	Council	Council approved the report on 17 th June 2020.
Council Meetings and Municipal Calendar 2020/2021	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The meetings of the Council to be held on the following dates in the 2020/2021 Municipal Year, commencing at 6.00 p.m. unless otherwise shown be approved: <p>15 July 2020</p>	Council	Council approved the report on 17 th June 2020.

	<p>9 September 2020 4 November 2020 16 December 2020 24 February 2021 (Budget) 24 March 2021 19 May 2021 (Annual at 12.00 noon)</p> <p>2. The Council's Calendar of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2020/21 be approved.</p> <p>3. Approval of any outstanding dates or changes to dates be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with Group Leaders.</p>		
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Previous to 17 Jun 2020 Council:			
ACTION	RESPONSE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Opposition Business 1: Keeping Our Villages and Rural Areas HGV Free (12 Sept 2018)	Overview and Scrutiny to examine the merits of establishing a lorry watch scheme	O&S Board	In progress. Lorry watch isn't currently in progress in Delph as some signing issues need rectifying at a cost currently being identified by Traffic Officers. An update has been requested for Board for 22 July.
Opposition Motion 1: Tackling Dog Fouling and Nuisance (20 March 2019)	Consultation be undertaken on application of maximum on the spot penalty and O&S Board asked to examine current examples of best practice and confer with the Dog Trust	People & Place / O&S Board	The motion was taken to the O&S Board at the meeting held on 18 June 2019. It was reported to Council on 17 July 2020 that work on progressing the motion via the Overview and Scrutiny Board had been delayed. A councillor had been nominated from the Board to work with officers to progress the points raised and this work would now be prioritised.
Opposition Motion 2: Tackling Speeding (20 March 2019)	O&S Board asked to identify locations, explore availability of funding, investigate how to work with residents' groups and explore establishing 'bus gates'	O&S Board	The motion was taken to the O&S Board meeting held on 18 June 2019. A workshop was held on 24 Sep 2019. Three areas are to be explored further and reported back to the O&S Board. A report has been requested for 22 July 2020.

Opposition Motion 1: Making a Commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (10 July 2019)	<p>Replicate as far as possible to identify work being done and what more can be done by the Council and its partners.</p> <p>O&S Board discussed the motion at the meeting held on 23 July 2019. The Board requested information be sent to relevant officers for a report to be brought back to the O&S Board.</p>	O&S Board and Health Scrutiny	In progress. Report was submitted to O&S Board on 3 March 2020 and will be submitted to Health Scrutiny on 7 July 2020. The matter was due to be presented to Health Scrutiny in March, however, the meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic. The report can then be provided to Council in September.
Councillor Sykes Question 2: GMSF – Arrangement for Extraordinary Council Meeting (11 Sep 2019)	Arrange meeting to discuss GMSF to discuss proposals	Constitutional Services	In progress.
Opposition Motion 3: Ban on Fast Food and Energy Drinks Advertising (11 Sep 2019)	Referred to O&S Board	O&S Board	The motion has been referred to Health Scrutiny. This will be discussed at the meeting to be held on 7 January 2020. A further report is to be submitted to the Health Scrutiny Committee on 7 July 2020.
Youth Council Motion: Make Your Mark (8 Jan 2020)	Task and Finish Group with Relevant Cabinet Members	Cabinet Members / Youth Council	In progress.

Opposition Motion 3: A Sensible Approach to Firework Displays (8 Jan 2020)	Motion referred to O&S Board under Council Procedure Rule 8.4(d)	O&S Board	O&S received a report at its meeting on 3 March 2020. It was recommended and agreed that officers from Public Protection would work in partnership with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service and the Council's Community Safety Team to develop an action plan that could be reported back to the Board for further recommendations.
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Response from Jenny Bimpson from the Chatty Café Scheme received 29 June 2020 via email:

Hi Lori

Thank you for your email. The Chatty Café would very much like to assist the people of Oldham by helping to reduce loneliness and social isolation in as many venues as possible. As the scheme was created in Oldham, it's very important to us that we are a familiar concept in the town.

Do let me know what you need from us going forward.

Please also note that whilst venues have been closed, the scheme started Virtual Chatty Cafes – on line Zoom chats for up to 12 people, 3 times a week. Anyone that wishes be to added, simply emails myself for the Zoom Meeting ID.

In addition we are also offering 1 to 1 calls, every week at the same time, to people that do not have access to technology. NHS link works refer people across the UK to us. Many of the people we talk to have no friends or family, do not know their neighbours, have no garden or balcony and are suffering from increased social isolation and loneliness. Some of them have told us we are the only people they speak to in a week.

One of our hopes is that we can encourage some members of our local community in calling some of these people from around the UK, which in turn will help them feel connected and reduce their own feelings of isolation.

Finally can I mention that the scheme has recently been invited by Government to become one of 40 members to be involved in the Tackling Loneliness Network.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.

Kind regards

Jenny Bimpson

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Report to COUNCIL

Members Allowances - Transport

Officer Contact: Paul Entwistle, Director of Legal Services

15 July 2020

1 Background

- 1.1 At the Council meeting in July 2019, members decided to continue a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) of £4,069 payment for members undertaking duties on the Greater Manchester Transport Committee pending a final decision.
- 1.2 It has been ascertained that the Combined Authority cannot pay remuneration and the decision as to whether to pay an SRA for these duties is a matter for the districts to determine. Across Greater Manchester, Rochdale, Tameside, Manchester, Salford and Bury are paying an SRA. Stockport, Trafford and Bolton are not paying. It is subject to review in Wigan.
- 1.3 The Council have two members who are members of this Committee
- 1.4 It is a matter for members to determine, given the responsibilities of the duties on this committee, as to whether the continuance of the SRA should be paid.

2 Financial Implications

- 2.1 The cost of £4,069 can be financed from within the budget for Members allowances
(Anne Ryans – Director of Finance)

3 Legal Services Comments

- 3.1 None

4	Human Resources Comments
4.1	None
5	Risk Assessments
5.1	N/A
6	IT Implications
6.1	N/A
7	Property Implications
7.1	None
8	Procurement Implications
8.1	N/A
9	Environmental and Health & Safety Implications
9.1	N/A
10	Equality, community cohesion and crime implications
10.1	N/A
11	Equality Impact Assessment Completed?
11.1	N/A
12	Key Decision
12.1	No
13	Key Decision Reference
13.1	N/A
14	Background Papers
14.1	Members allowance file



Report to Council

Annual Reports 2019/20

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Fielding, Leader of the Council

Report Author: Liz Droган, Head of Democratic Services
Ext. 4705

18th March 2020

Reason for Decision

As part of strengthened accountability, every Councillor is required to produce a report each year. The reports are published on the Oldham Council web-site on the Councillors page (www.oldham.gov.uk/councillors).

Recommendations

That Council note the attached annual reports.

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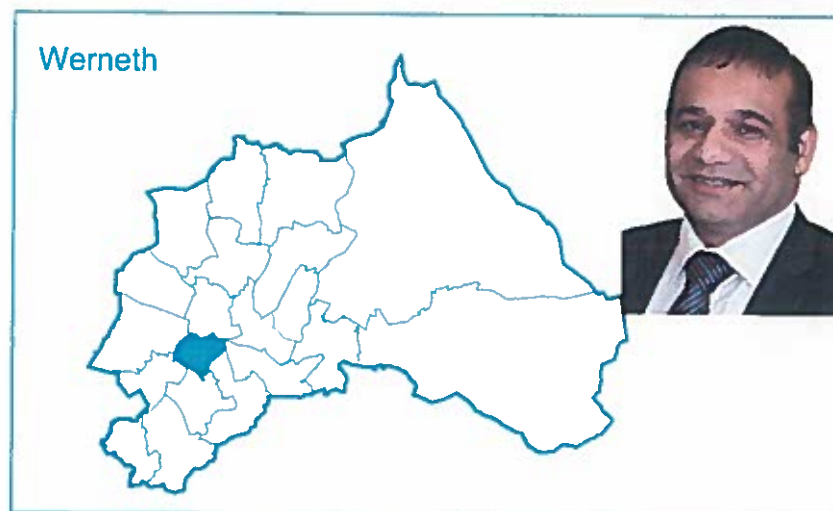
Cllr Shoab Akhtar – Werneth Ward

My Ward priorities

- Environment
- Highways
- Education
- Health and Well-being
- Harford Mill Site

Training completed

- Vulnerable adult and child safeguarding
- Corporate parenting



Work in the community

- Hartford Mill demolition has commenced and the site will be used for housing
- Two Local Improvement Fund bids have been submitted awaiting outcome. The bids are for Tudor Street kick pitch and to address parking issues in Werneth.
- Various roads across the ward have been resurfaced such as Chelmsford Street, Napier Street, Wellington Road, Tamworth Street, Oxford Street and Werneth Hall Road (partially)
- Various alleyways across the ward have been gated
- Working with ASRA to address issues around phase 1 & 2 of Suthers Street development
- Working with Oak Chase Mill residents to address the issues around the open space and ASB
- Attended the opening of the St Thomas Church community room
- Working with residents to address parking issues on Primrose Bank
- The work on the Custom Build Housing scheme has started.
- Werneth Cricket club site - new housing development completed
- Keepmoat have started the second phase in Primrose Bank and Suthers St
- St Augustine's School site – New housing developed completed
- Various litter picks have been held and numerous sites have been cleared of flytipping

Participation on outside bodies and partnerships

Details of participation in groups and bodies attended as a representative of the Council;

- Board member of Sixth Form College
- Director of Oldham Enterprise Trust
- Planning Committee
- Oldham West District Partnership
- Primrose Community Centre

Contact me

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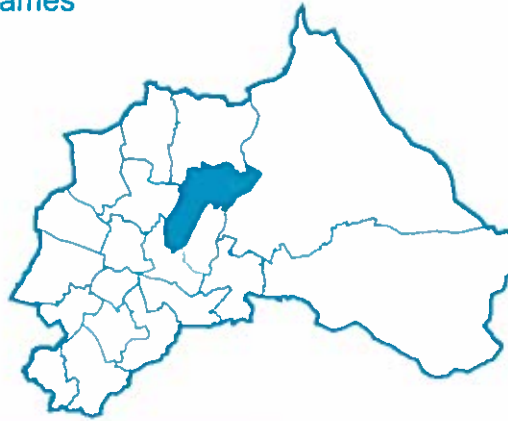
Surgeries

Cllr Ginny Alexander – St James Ward

My Ward priorities

- Pot holes
- Dog fouling
- Fly tipping
- Anti Social behavior
- Isolation
- Parking

St James



Work in the community and the Borough

- I have attended most of Oldham Full Council meetings as I am the chair.
- I have spent the year visiting various organisations, charities and volunteer groups, I have been all over the Borough and beyond.
- Through the Mayor of Oldham Facebook Page, I have promoted all the events I attended.
- I had a meeting with The Comms team, they are going to create a blog for the Mayor of Oldham on the Council Website, which will enable the public to view the engagements.
- It will also enable future Mayors to put their posts on to this blog.
- It is important that the people of Oldham know where to go if they need advice or assistance, or somewhere to go so they are not in isolation.
- I have run various events to help fundraise for various charities.

Contact me

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ginny.alexander@oldham.gov.uk

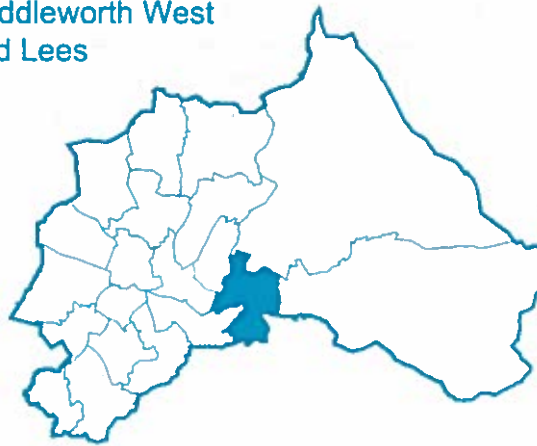
M: 07720 187763

Cllr Sam Al-Hamdani – Saddleworth West and Lees Ward

My Ward priorities

- Environmental issues – locally, including OPOL land, fly tipping, flooding, dog fouling; and wider with a local impact, climate change and development plans
- Local services and neighbourhood maintenance, including roads, footpaths etc.
- Community engagement – working all year round to talk to residents and ensure their needs are met.
- Addressing anti-social behaviour

Saddleworth West and Lees



Training completed

- Enforcement issues (licensing, planning, waste, housing)
- Data protection (GDPR)
- Safeguarding
- Planning
- Next Generation (Local Government Association)

Work in the community

Council positions and appointments

- 100% attendance at Oldham full Council meetings
- Shadow cabinet member for housing
- Board member at Oldham Coliseum, Oldham Credit Union, Oldham Economic Development Board, Oldham Music Service Awards
- Substitute member for Planning Committee, Traffic Regulation Order Panel, GMCA, overview and scrutiny (performance and value for money)
- On the council, I have put forward or supported a number of motions, including the Liberal Democrat Budget Amendment, a sensible approach to firework displays, clean air outside our schools, and on making a commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- I spoke in favour of the motion on declaring a climate emergency; the Abolition of Section 21 No Fault evictions; and on the Council's Housing Strategy.
- I have also raised questions on the council's response to drug use in the community, particularly nitrous oxide; the need for funding for the replacement or repair of vehicle activated signs; the five-year housing plan; and on the council's approach to developing a thematic plan on buildings, energy and transport.

Community engagement and activity

- As well holding twice monthly councillor surgeries, I engage with my residents through regular surveys, knocking on doors, and delivering regular newsletters to every house in the ward.
- Campaigning against the Knowls Lane development, in particular the use of OPOL (other protected open land) to extend the development
- Working with residents to respond to the potential Stonebreaks Quarry proposals – again in particular, the use of OPOL land to extend the potential development
- Worked with residents on other planning issues
- Working with and supporting community groups, in particular, the work of the Grotton Residents Association and Springhead Community Centre, Ashbrook Wildlife Watch, Springlees Court, and Save Our Valleys.
- Working with the flooding and highways teams to address a number of flooding issues across the ward; with some issues still ongoing – in particular in Springlees Court, Astbury Close, Beechfield, Bracken Close, Turner Street, Station Road (and more).
- Working with the environmental management team to respond to residents' concerns about trees in Hood Square, Springhead Avenue, Stoneleigh Road, Beechfield (and more).

- Working with the highways and enforcement teams to respond to a number of issues across the ward; in particular speeding; parking in restricted areas; potholes and road damage; repairs and reinstatement after works; introduction on restrictions on parking;
- Reporting and ensuring a response on incidents of dog fouling and fly tipping.
- Supporting two applications to the LIF fund for the area (alongside the other ward councillors); the first being an application to improve the public area outside the Lees Library Hub (approved and ongoing), the second to improve the Springhead Community Centre.
- Further initiatives being pursued include an approach to highlight areas of historical interest in the ward; improving the public area around Hood Square (retirement housing); developing new signage to help promote the area and events; and public consultation and information sessions on local crime and anti-social behaviour.

Contact me

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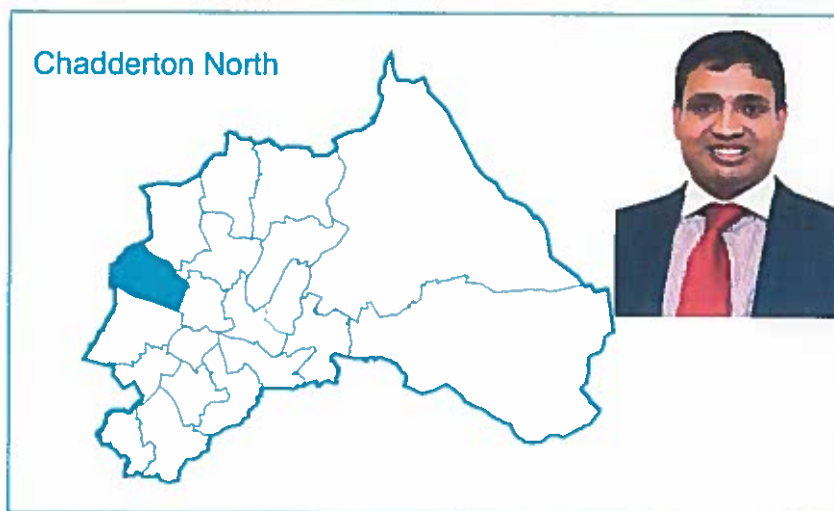
Surgeries

4 – 6pm on the last Friday of each month at Oldham Community Centre.

Cllr Mohon Ali – Chadderton North Ward

My Ward priorities

- Road safety
- Dog fouling
- Creating new jobs



Work in the community

- Member of Planning Committee, Council Leadership Team, Deputy Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods.
- Improved road safety outside North Chadderton Secondary School by funding new planters preventing vehicular access to the verge and making it visually more attractive.
- Lobbied for the installation of new lighting at subway at Broadway, which was finally installed.
- Organised community workshops to encourage recycling and arranged trips for younger people to visit recycling facilities to see how it all works.
- Organized a meeting between a major employer and local people to encourage people to take advantage of opportunities.
- Worked with community groups to transform alleyways into growing hubs.
- Organized several community clean ups in the area and arranged funding security gates (Milne St/ Stanley St) with the alleyways.
- Worked with police to tackle anti-social behavior at Fitton Park (Burnley Lane) and Milne St leading to a reported reduction in incidents
- Spoke at Council to oppose cuts to Oldham Council's budget. Presented a motion at Council urging the Home Secretary to increase police numbers to safeguard our residents and communities.
- Supported and led on several community initiatives to improve Educational Performances, Literacy and ensure our Children are school ready from an early age.
- Re-developed Victoria Street Pocket Park into an accessible space for locals to learn new skills around growing food.
- Developed and supported several community organizations, helping them grow and become self-sufficient.
- Continue to work with colleagues to fund and support projects that benefit residents. These include projects around oral health, young people's mental health, Citizens advice bureau and variety of advice sessions relating to health matters.
- Help to organize a community link day, by bringing a range of information and advice surgeries together for the benefit of our residents.
- Held surgeries each month at Chadderton Wellbeing Centre, meeting residents to tackle a range of problems.

Contact me

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Twitter @MohonAli10

Surgeries

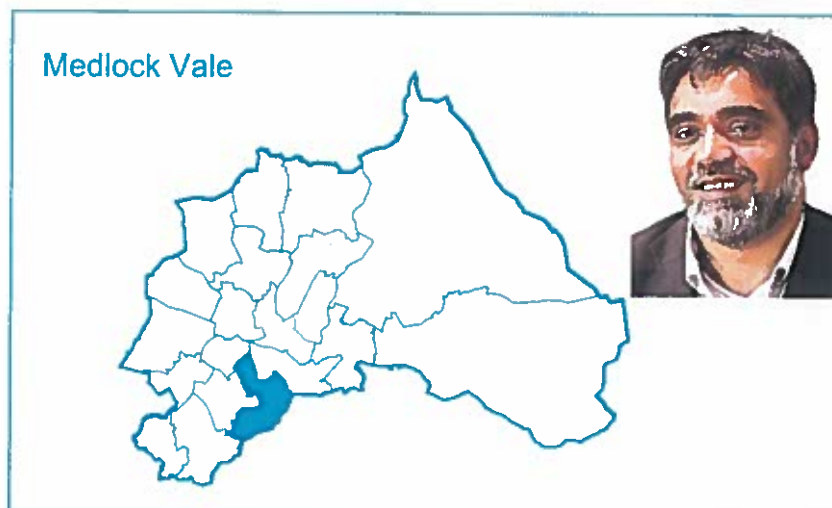
11- 12pm on the last Saturday of each month at Chadderton Wellbeing Centre.

Drop in or email Mohon.Ali@oldham.gov.uk to book an appointment.

Cllr Mohammed Alyas – Medlock Vale Ward

My Ward priorities

- Housing and Tackling Health inequalities
- Environmental improvements
Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour



I Was Elected as the Medlock Vale Councilor in 2019 and represent on the following:

- Member of Health Scrutiny Committee
- Member CGN (Community Groups Network)
- Board Member: For Housing Association

Work in the community

I have supported the following organisations/groups/Services

- CAB Advice Surgeries Jan 2020-Dec 2020
- Glodwick Dynamos (Werneth)
- Remembrance Sunday Band
- Oldham Volleyball Club – Volleyball Tournament
- Saheli Women's Group-Building Relationships
- WW2 Gravestone – Rochdale Memorials
- Gainsborough Ave Grit Bin
- UKEFF Winter appeal for homeless
- Keb Lane Grit Bin
- CNG Schools Out For Summer
- Bulldogs Skip Hire
- Oldham Community Outreach
- Pakistani Community Centre – NADRA card surgery
- Chai Women's Group – Hathershaw College
- 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings
- Attended "safeguarding" training.
- Worked with the police to tackle Anti-social behaviour
- Held regular surgeries at Bardsley, Fitton Hill and Coppice/Hathershaw
- Raised concerns about speeding on Fredrick Street near Hulme Grammar school and paid to undertake a speed and volume survey.
- Worked with individuals and families to help raise and in most cases resolve their issues

Contact me

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M: 07866502184

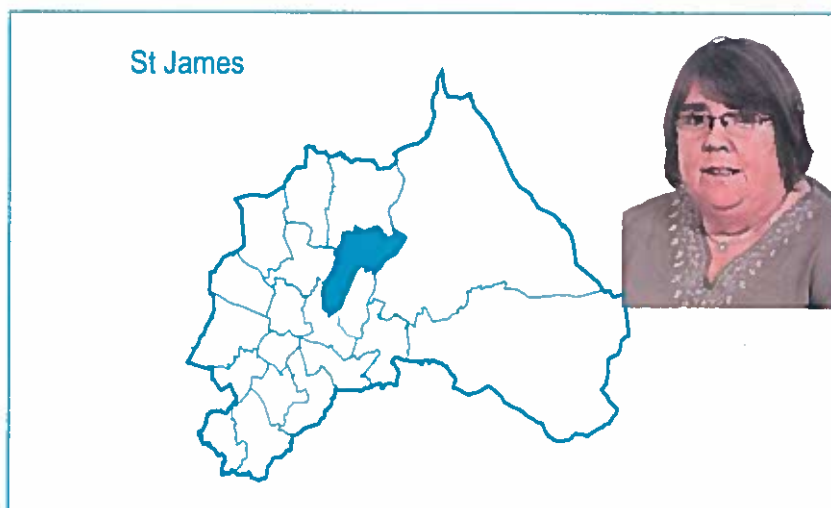
Cllr Cath Ball – St James Ward

My Ward priorities

- Improving the environment
- Supporting residents
- Supporting voluntary groups
- Working to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour

Training completed

- Scrutiny Training
- How to have Co-operative conversations
- Being an ambassador of Oldham
- Employment Appeal Panel training
- Early Years Summit
- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- SEND Transport appeals
- Various Poverty sessions with Greater Manchester Poverty Action
- Poverty Proofing a Childs Day Training
- Enforcement training



Work in the community

- Member of East Oldham District Executive, Deputy Cabinet Member for Education, Employment and Skills with responsibility for Poverty
- 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings
- Campaigned strongly against the proposed development of new homes on greenspace on Bottom Sholver and Haven Lane
- Worked with the police to tackle Anti-social behaviour over the ward
- Held surgeries each month at Sholver Community Centre
- A Trustee of Sholver and Moorside Community Team
- A Trustee of ACE Centre in Hollinwood, a charity which works with people of all ages who have communication problems.
- Armed Forces Champion, Chair Armed Forces Partnership meeting
- Vice Chair Governor St Theresa's School Derker.
- Chair of Oldham Remembers, a group of residents who have set up commemorations of WW1. I have also worked towards the new Memorial of the Forgotten, finding names of 2,500 men who died in WW1, who had a connection to Oldham, whose names do not appear on any of our municipal memorials
- Member of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Contact details

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Facebook Cath Ball Cllr for St James

Surgeries

11am-12pm on the second Tuesday of each month at Sholver Community Centre.

Drop in or email cath.ball@oldham.gov.uk

Cllr Marie Bashforth – Royton South Ward

My Ward priorities

- To inspire the next phase of the regeneration of Royton Town Centre through the renovation of the Town Hall and creating a brand-new fit for purpose library.
- Work with private and public sector partners to support the growth and development of District Centre and be part of the Mayor's Town Centre Challenge.
- Building on our unique heritage and working with partners to make Royton a thriving place to live, work and socialise.
- Promoting volunteering opportunities and community organisations so residents can get involved in the community and do their bit.
- Increasing the use of our outdoor spaces.
- Work with the partners to engage positively with young people and reduce anti-social behaviour.
- Provide opportunities in Royton for residents to take control and improve their own health for example through support to local sports and park clubs.
- Support the growth and development of voluntary groups and work with new and developing voluntary groups.

Royton South



Work in the community

Personal Casework directed to me from residents

Meeting with residents one to one or in larger groups and meetings

Attending Royton Executive Meetings and Community Forum

Holding a surgery on the first Saturday of each month in Royton Town Hall

Attending meetings with residents and other partners such as the Police to talk about issues and concerns

Residents have and working towards bringing about changes to help.

Along with this work I am also involved in;

- Street Surgeries
- Royton Events Group
- Agenda Setting for Community Forums
- Police and Residents meeting on a regular basis
- Attend meetings between the staff and owners of a local children's care home and the residents who live close to the home. We arranged these meetings because at one time neighbours of the children's home did have some major issues around anti-social behavior. However, through sustained conversation and listening during these regular meetings and also an understanding with the company involved, and how they intend to use the home going forward, we are now experiencing a much calmer time. Anti-social behavior has lessened greatly and the company are communicating on a weekly basis directly with their close neighbours and local councilors.
- Heyside Homewatch meetings – We organized these meetings to help residents of Heyside to come together to discuss setting up their own Heyside Homewatch Group.
- Family Sports Days

Work Undertaken in my role of Deputy Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

The Health and Wellbeing Board

This board comprises of health and social care commissioners and other local leaders such as care providers, housing providers, the police and the community and voluntary sectors who all have a vital role in tackling health inequalities in the borough.

Chairing the Learning Disability Partnership Board

This board brings together a valuable group of people, working to make Oldham a better place to live for people with learning disabilities. Holding to account professional bodies, to account for improving the design and delivery of services for people with learning disabilities. To ensure money is spent on good quality services and to be consulted and involved with regard to plans or changes that will affect everyone with a learning disability or their carers.

Some of the projects and work pathways I have been involved in include;

- **Implementation of The Greater Manchester Learning Disability Strategy** - To progress implementation of the key commitments of this strategy and to ensure it starts to make a difference to people's lives, all GM localities were asked to work with their local Learning Disability Partnerships Boards to seek active participation and a commitment to action. In addition, a 100-day Challenge was launched to encourage local and GM level organisations to make positive changes to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities, particularly around the area of employment and health.

I have been leading on 'Early Support for Children and Young People' as part of this Strategy – our Actions have been;

- Action 1: Engaging with the published written statement of action in relation to SEND for children and young people following the recent Ofsted/CQC inspection, and subsequent action and implementation plans.
- Action 2: Support the implementation of the Oldham Joint Autism Strategy 2016 - 2019.
- Action 3: Development of a Joint Commissioning Strategy children and adults through CAMHS
- Action 4: Increase take up of health checks - now offered age 14+ joint approach with adults
- **Transforming Care Agenda - Transforming Care Approach**
 - Transforming care is all about improving health and care services so that more people with learning disabilities and/or autism can live in the community, with the right support, close to home and have the same opportunities as anyone else.
 - **The programme of work will ensure that families are:**
 - Getting the support they need to live long and healthy lives
 - Being treated with the same dignity and respect
 - Having a home within their community
 - Being able to develop and maintain relationships and getting the support they need to have a healthy, safe and fulfilling life
- **Learning Disability and Autism Friends** - This group came about from things people were telling OPAL about, such as not feeling welcome in some community groups. Feedback had been that there was nothing for people to get involve in or join in and if they did, they were not always made to feel welcome. The project was developed based on the dementia friend's initiative, raising awareness about learning disabilities and or autism, in Oldham, with a view to hopefully widening the number of places that people with learning disabilities and autism could go and feel welcome.
 - The project is to develop the disability and autism friends project
 - The project is aimed at raising awareness
 - A new website had been developed for OPAL and information was on the site about who they are and where to meet and get in touch
 - There were 5 groups signed up on the website already

The Domestic Violence Partnership

Tackling domestic violence and abuse is a priority and the purpose of this partnership is to ensure and work towards a coordinated response from all partners including the Police, the MASH Team, Social Services and all voluntary organisations.

These are a selection of the projects I have been involved in over the last two years through meetings and discussions.

- **White Ribbon Accreditation** – This accreditation will see the council drive social change, strengthen gender equality and end violence against women and girls in Oldham.
The White Ribbon Accreditation programme ensures organisations take a strategic approach to ending male violence against women by engaging with men and boys, changing cultures and raising awareness.
- **Greater Manchester Domestic Abuse Partnership** – Discuss and action any outcomes or feedback from this Partnership.
- **Discuss up to date Data and Feedback from MARAC** - This a (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) Safeguarding Victims of Domestic Abuse. A MARAC is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), probation and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.
At the heart of a MARAC is the working assumption that no single agency or individual can see the complete picture of the life of a victim, but all may have insights that are crucial to their safety.
- **Working on the Domestic Abuse Strategy and Action Plan**
- **Developing Domestic Abuse Training offer**
- **Presentations from the following Projects – Reports and Feedback from the Projects will happen on a regular basis over the next year:**
 - **Project Choice** This is a project to work with referral of honour-based violence (HBV) victims and to offer support.
 - **Strive Project** -The STRIVE initiative is a partnership with [Greater Manchester Police](#). STRIVE is an intensive project which recruits local volunteers to attend homes where the police have attended but no crime has been logged. The volunteers then support individuals, couples and families, signposting them to further support. This intervention supports local community relationships and ensures people who would potentially not receive any support, have access to the help they need.

Contact me

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Surgeries

The first Saturday of each month at 11am
at Royton Town Hall

The role of a Councillor in a co-operative borough

#Ourbit – Being the voice of the local community within council and helping local residents solve problems

#Yourbit – Get in touch and let your councillors know if you have a problem or suggestion

#Result – Working together to solve problems and make our community better

Cllr Steven Bashforth – Royton South Ward

My Ward priorities

- Protecting our green spaces
- A safe and clean community
- Excellent and accessible leisure services
- Thriving businesses

Royton South



Work in the community

I have pledged my full and active opposition to any detrimental development in Royton and will continue to use my experience to oppose anything which is against the interests of Royton's people. At the same time, I will never hesitate to use my considerable experience to the benefit of Royton and its people.

I am a grass roots councillor who has a long record of helping many individual Royton people; and have always been involved Royton's excellent community groups. I am very proud to be a founder member and the first Chair of the Royton Royal British Legion branch and to be the President of the Royton Veterans Bowling Club. I have been involved with bringing a number of interesting and well attended car shows to Heyside and with the help of a local Roytoner, instigated the former Royton Real Food Market.

Amongst the many groups I have supported are local sporting clubs, Scouts, Brownies, Royton Local History Society the Heyside Neighbourhood Council and I am fully involved in the Royton Christmas and summer events.



Amongst the many ward issues dealt with on a regular basis are: -

- Anti-social behaviour.
- Dog fouling.
- Alleyway clean ups.
- Dealing with utility Companies.
- Council tax problems and queries.
- Issues relating to ground rent.
- Allotments.
- Noise from clubs and pubs.
- Abandoned vehicles.
- Speeding problems.
- Homelessness.
- Fly tipping.
- Vandalism in our parks.
- Underage drinking.
- Planning and licensing issues.
- Parking problems.
- Street lighting.
- Home adaptations for disabilities.
- School placements.
- Bus routes and fares.



I am a member of Royton Executive Committee and Community Forum, and currently serve as Chair of the MioCare Group.

Over the years I have served Royton and the Council on:-

- Oldham Planning Committee, both as a member and many years as Chair.
- Traffic Regulations Order Panel, again both as a member and as Chair.
- Oldham Licencing Committee.
- Commons Registration Committee.
- Oldham Distress Fund Trustee.
- Royton Sick and Needy Trustee.
- Appeals Committee.
- Greater Manchester Geological Unit.
- Oldham Children's Holiday Home Management Committee.
- Parking Regulations Outside London (PATROL) Adjudication Joint Committee.
- Oldham Credit Union.
- Greater Manchester Geological Unit.
- Greater Manchester Police Authority
- Deputy Cabinet Member with responsibility for Oldham's link to the Crime and Police Commissioner.



I have always had an excellent attendance record at official council meetings, ward surgeries and meeting with local people. Up to fairly recently I have maintained a high profile on the various social media sites but the rise in "anti-social social media" has led me to take more of a back seat approach, however at the time of writing, I do intend to make a come back over the next few months.

Best regards

Steve Bashforth

Contact me

Email:

steven.bashforth@oldham.gov.uk

Tel: 01706 290313

Twitter [@roytoncldr](https://twitter.com/roytoncldr)

Surgeries

11am on the Saturday of each month at Royton Town Hall.

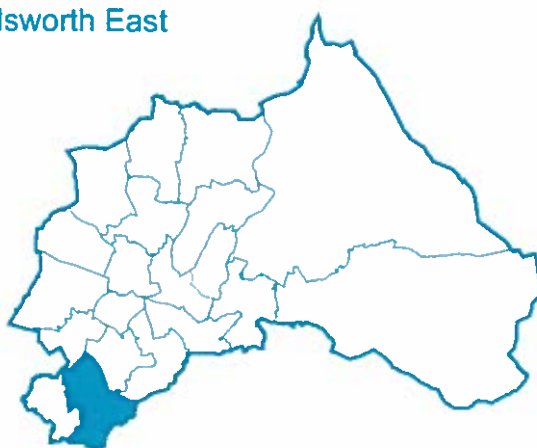
Drop in or email to book an appointment.

Cllr Norman Briggs – Failsworth East Ward

My Ward priorities

- I am the Chair of Trustees and a keen supporter of Oldham Cancer Support Centre which is based in Failsworth.
- As I have always said that “As long as I am a Councillor my number one and overriding priority is - and always will be – representing the people of Failsworth, through my ward work, I will always work hard and to the best of my endeavors for them

Failsworth East



Work in the community

- I believe my first priority is to the people of Failsworth who have a problem that I can help them with. I have dealt with many and varying issues including housing repairs & allocations, housing development, education & school placement, highway & pavement problems, care & health issues and Policing issues.
- As Chair of the Licensing Committee, I have introduced a pioneering ongoing NVQ Qualification for all taxi drivers, so as to raise quality and standards for taxi users. We are also currently working on the introduction of CCTV in taxis and restricting taxis from other authorities operating within Oldham.
- I am a member of the Labour Party, Labour Animal Welfare Society, The Co-op Party, Unite the Union, Oldham Cancer Support (Chair of Trustees), The Humane Society, The League Against Cruel Sports, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), International Federation for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and Millstream Animal Shelter.
- I am the Chair of the Licensing Committee and Licensing Panel, The Standards Committee and Clayton Playing Fields Committee. I am also a substitute on the Petitioners Panel, and Traffic Regulation Order Panel.
- The outside bodies that I sit on are Pennine Acute NHS Trust Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Pennine NHS Trust (Mental Health), Pennine Acute Trust Governor, Greater Manchester Combined Authorities, Statutory Functions Committee and GM Culture and Social Impact Fund Committee.
- I have received Training on Child & Adult Safeguarding, Corporate Parenting, Finance, Licensing, Health, Greater Manchester Devolution & Codes of Conduct.

Contact me

E: Norman.briggs@oldham.gov.uk

T: 0161 684 1020

Surgeries

10am – 11am on the last Saturday of each month at Failsworth Town Hall.

Cllr Barbara Brownridge – Chadderton North Ward

My Ward priorities

- ASB
- Littering
- Housing

Training completed

- Safeguarding



Work in the community

- Member of GMCA Planning and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings
- Chair of Coliseum Theatre Trust
- Vice Chair Planning Committee
- Non Executive Director FCHO
- In response to concerns about speeding on Burnley Lane supported traffic calming at the junction with Mora Ave and investigating possibility of installing further measures
- Worked with the police and Guinness Housing to tackle anti-social behaviour at St Mark's Court which will result in the installation of improved security measures
- Contributed to alley gating out of my personal budget
- Held surgeries each month at Chadderton Wellbeing Centre

Contact

E: barbara.brownridge@oldham.gov.uk

T: 0161 678 0752

Surgeries

11-12 on the last Saturday of each month at Chadderton Wellbeing Centre.

Drop in or email

barbara.brownridge@oldham.gov.uk
to book an appointment.

Cllr Pam Byrne – Saddleworth North

My Priorities:

- Keeping in contact with residents of the Ward.
- Flooding and old culverts
- Housing and Greenbelt.
- Ensuring smooth transition of the new Saddleworth School.

Saddleworth North



Work in the community

- Attended meeting and training sessions as listed on the website.
- Supported Village groups and GMP in setting up of Crime Watch Groups.
- Held a surgery each month in Delph and attended Village community meetings for consultation.
- Serve on Saddleworth Parish Council
- Have assisted residents with complaints on Road Surfaces, Potholes, Bin Collections and missing bins. Salt Bins
- Successful bid for Highways project for Denshaw village
- Parking issues in the villages, road signs. Speeding
- Planning applications- support and advice.
- Event applications. Noise complaints
- Flooding, Culverts
- Private rented housing advice
- Complaints from 1st Choice home residents – not really successful
- Trees, drains, inappropriate fencing.
- Assisted in procedure with sale of Council property and Asset managed sites.
- Visits to support after break-ins and Flooding.
- Public Transport support for Saddleworth Rambler
- Meetings on Motorway Emergency routes. Highways England
- Supported GMP in Restorative Justice hearing.
- Saddleworth School Governor and supporter of a New School in Diggle.
- Chairman of Uppermill Whit Friday Band Contest
- Vice Chairman of Saddleworth Outdoor Pursuits Association.
- Member of Saddleworth Parish Council Chairman's Charity Committee.
- St Marys Charity Shop, Greenfield on Tuesday Mornings.
- Organiser Winter Wonderland and Uppermill Christmas Light Switch On.

Contact me:

E: Pam.byrne@oldham.gov.uk

T: 01457 820149

M: 07855517261

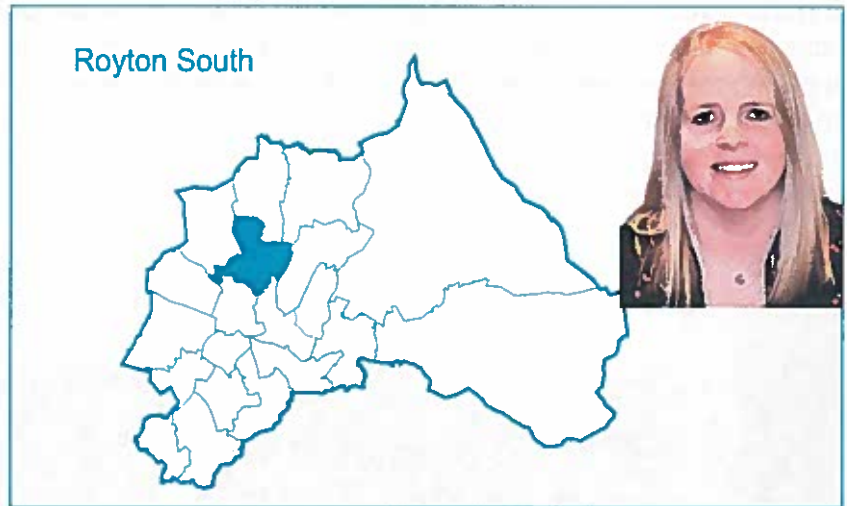
Surgeries:

Surgery 2nd Saturday in the month at
Delph Methodist Hall 10.30-11.30am

Cllr Amanda Chadderton – Royton South Ward

My Ward priorities

- Highways
- Safer communities
- Getting the basics right
- Young people
- Cleaner and greener Royton



I was first elected to Oldham Council in 2012 and I am one of three councilors in Royton South. Alongside my ward work, I am also Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Work in Royton

As a Royton Councillor I hold monthly ward surgeries at Royton Town Hall every first Saturday of the month. I am active in the regularly speaking to residents on their doorstep and dingo roving street surgeries in areas where residents have highlighted issues and I attend Royton Community Forum every 8 weeks.

My priorities over the past twelve months have been; highways improvements, a cleaner and greener Royton and creating a safer and more vibrant community.

There have been a number of highways improvements across Royton, there have been longstanding complaints regarding the state of some of our roads and last year was the first year of a three year programme of highway improvements which I helped to deliver.



Royton has had a huge number of positive changes in the time I had been a councillor, one of these being the building of the new health centre. The demolition of the previous health centre was welcomed but the hoarding that surrounded the land, over the years became one of the most complained about aspects of Royton. Along with the other Royton Councillors, we wanted to do something with that land, to open it up and for it no longer to be an eyesore. It is now a wild flower meadow, it has absolutely transformed that area of Royton making it look cleaner, brighter and a huge improvement on the hoardings.



The regeneration of Royton Town Centre has been a priority for me over the past 8 years. We have worked as a community together to welcome a new leisure centre, a new health centre, seen the demolition of the Assembly Hall and welcomed Lidl and a range of other new businesses into Royton.

Shop front improvements are now a priority as is the regeneration of Royton Town Hall and Library. As Royton Councillors we pooled our ward budgets and have allocated £25,000 to shop front improvements along Rochdale Road and Middleton Road, this funding is match funded by any businesses that some extra help carrying out works on their business.

Royton Town Hall regeneration has been a long time coming, it has taken longer than expected but we have spent time Royton Historical Society to ensure that any changes are sympathetic to the original character of the building. We have also managed to secure an additional £1M worth of funding for this project and it will begin in 2020.



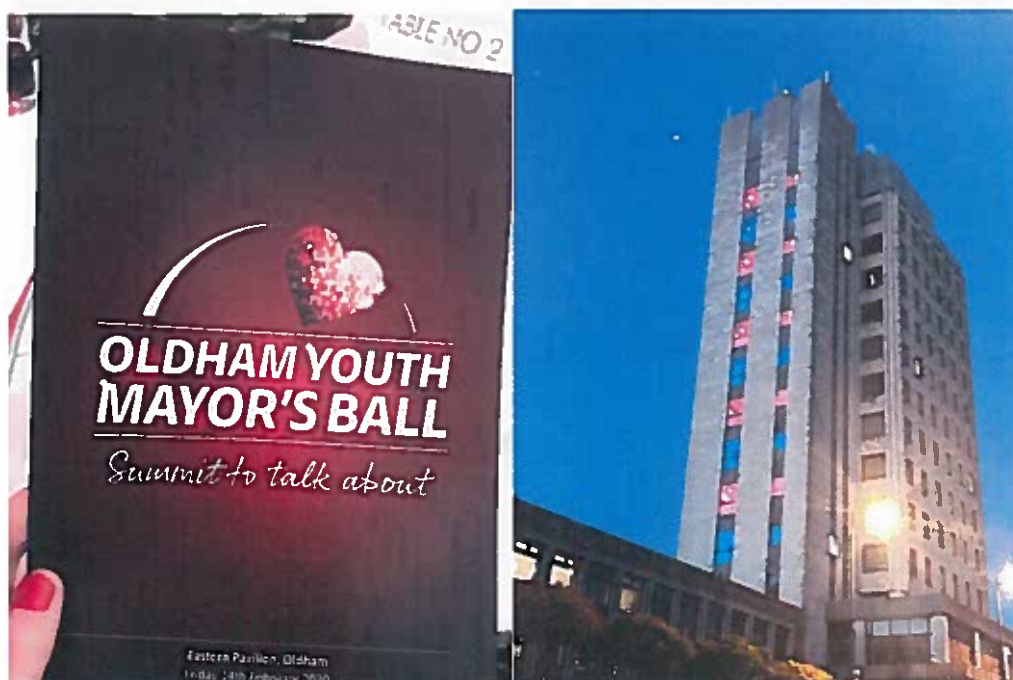
Cabinet Member for Children's Services

As Cabinet Member for Children's Services, I oversee all aspects of social care and safeguarding across Oldham. I am also Chair of Oldham Corporate Parenting Panel and my number one priority is to drive children and young people further up the agenda in Oldham, ensuring the Council is doing everything it can to support them.

I have secured an additional £12M investment into Children's Services, ensuring that children's social care and safeguarding is a priority for Oldham Council.

A priority for me over the past twelve months is ensuring that our care leavers are looked after and that they are prepared and given the best start into adulthood. We became the first council in the country to provide free prescriptions, up to the age of 25, for our care leavers. We have extended the principle of homelessness legislation to all care leavers up to 25, meaning no care leaver will be intentionally homeless.

Oldham was the first council in the country to make the Youth Council a constituted part of the Council Constitution, this year that was extended to the Children in Care Council and to Barrier Breakers. This year we also held the first ever Youth Mayors Ball. We for the second time, lit up the civic tower in aid of Babyloss Awareness Week.



Contact me

E:

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M: 07595 201269

Twitter @AmandaOL2

Facebook

www.facebook.com/CllrAmandaChadderton

Surgeries

11-12 on the first Saturday of every month
at Royton Town Hall

L Cllr Dr Zahid Chauhan – Alexandra Ward

Training completed

- Adult and Child Safeguarding
- Basic Life Support Training
- Prevent Training
- Information Governance
- Dementia Awareness
- Conflict Resolution



This is not an exhaustive list; I regularly take part in CPD training due to my role as both a Councillor and GP.

Work in the community

I have worked hard to represent the residents of Alexandra Ward since election in 2013. My Ward colleagues and I are working towards a cooperative borough, implementing the key Labour administration visions in Oldham and our Ward. Working cooperatively with residents I have helped with a variety of issues; fly tipping, anti-social behavior, alley gating, bad landlords, traffic measures on high risk roads and missed bin collections.

I regularly carry out ward walks with my ward colleagues and district team; we hold ward surgeries and offer telephone advice. I have been regularly contacted by residents via mobile, Twitter and email. Please do contact me with any problems or council related issues. We welcome input from residents and welcome residents contributing in any way they can. *(My contact details are below).*

My ward colleagues and I discuss all applications for funding and jointly come to a decision on what projects and groups we fund to avoid any duplication.

Recent projects and groups funded include;

- Alexandra Ward Security Lighting Scheme.
- Oldham Greenhill Community Sports and Recreation Club- half term practical cooking workshops.
- Grit bins for Alexandra Ward.
- Holiday Hunger.
- Fly tipping signs.
- Green Areas in Holts, Alt and Hathershaw.
- Red Star Bengal FC – fitness fun project for Oldham Young People.
- Pakistan Community Centre – Pakistan Day Project.
- Decorating at Café Alt.
- Howell House Community Garden Project
- FC Paris

If you would like any more information on the above projects or funding please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself.

Participation at Council Meetings

I have attended Full Council meetings, answering questions from the public and colleagues relating to my portfolio - Health and Social Care in Oldham.

I am chair of the Commissioning Partnership Board

Cabinet Role

In my role as Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, I meet with senior officers regularly and ensure that the best decisions are being made for the residents of Oldham relating to Health and Social Care.

I regularly represent Oldham at the Greater Manchester Health and Care Board.

Health Impact Assessment's – reducing the number of takeaways, especially near schools and the Clean Air Plan.

Other Roles

- School Governor for Oldham Hulme Grammar School.
- School Governor for Alexandra Junior School.
- MioCare Board Member.
- OCL Board.
- Consort to Deputy Mayor of Oldham
- Member of Health and Wellbeing Board

Other Activities

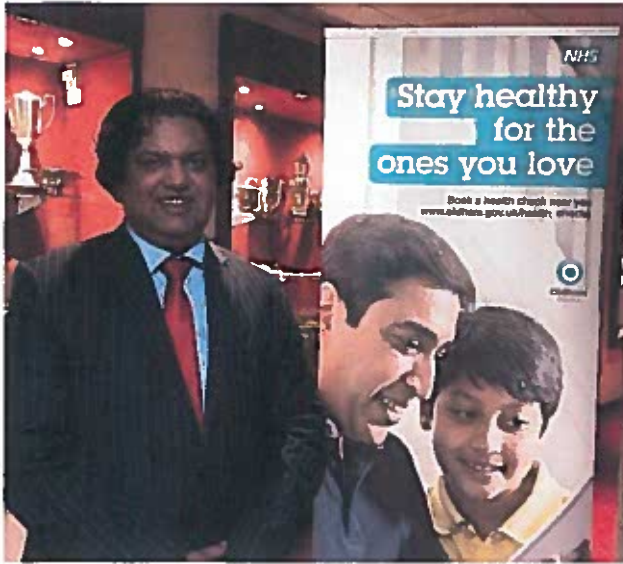
I have most recently campaigned for Jean Purdy and Sr Muriel Harris to be recognised for the vital work they carried out in the development of IVF. Sir Robert Edwards and Patrick Steptoe are recognised for their work with a plaque at the Royal Oldham Hospital, we are now working with the Northern Care Alliance NHS Group to correct this historic mistake and recognise Jean Purdy, Sr Muriel Harris and their other colleagues, who were the unsung heroes of this important work.

I am the founder of the charity Homeless Friendly, who aim to make services more accessible to people who find themselves homeless, particularly healthcare. There have been many healthcare providers in Oldham who have signed up to the pledge and also cafes offering their services to people who are homeless. Oldham Council have recently signed the Homeless Friendly pledge to ensure the services we provide are accessible to people who find themselves homeless.

Achievements during the Year

I have worked with my colleagues to promote peace, respect and harmony during difficult times in Oldham.

I have supported the local communities in Alexandra Ward and it is an honour to be in a position to be able to help my constituents.



At the recent Health Check launch in Oldham where we also announced Healthcare workers and carers won't have to pay to park in Oldham while visiting vulnerable residents under new plans introduced by the town hall.



Green Day at Butler Green.

Dr Kershaws Hospice became the first Hospice in the UK to become Homeless Friendly.



Campaign to save our post office in Oldham Town Centre.





With FC Paris

Get Eldon talking event at Eldon Precinct Oldham.



Contact me

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T: 0161 770 0000

M: 07729 186 598

Twitter @ChauhanZahid

Facebook

www.facebook.com/zahid.chauhan

Surgeries

1st Tuesday of the month and 1st Friday of the month. Surgeries will alternate between St Paul's Church, Café Alt and ROC and Rolls Café.

Drop me an email to book an appointment.

The role of a Councillor in a co-operative borough

#Ourbit – Being the voice of the local community within council and helping local residents solve problems

#Yourbit – Get in touch and let your councillors know if you have a problem or suggestion

#Result – Working together to solve problems and make our community better

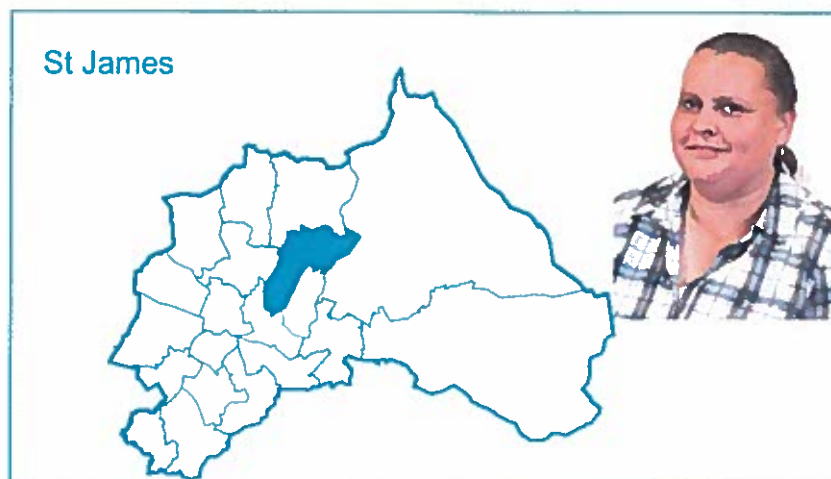
Cllr Angela Cosgrove – St James Ward

My Ward priorities

- Community engagement
- Highways and traffic concerns
- ASB & Crime
- Family & Youth provision
- Environmental – Parks and Open spaces

Training completed

- Safeguarding Adults, Children & Prevent
- Planning
- GDPR New Regulations
- Enforcement Issue
- Improving Health and Wellbeing



Work in the community

- Vice-Chair of the Licensing committee, substitute member for Planning, Overview and Scrutiny
- Secretary of the Friends of Stoneleigh Park, Member of the Poverty Action Group and Stoneleigh Park Bowling team
- Campaigned against the proposed developments at Arncliffe Rise, Hodge Clough and Pearly Bank on community greenspace at Sholver and Moorside in Oldham on behalf of the residents of St James.
- Raised concerns about speeding and commuter traffic through Derker which is resulting in several speed/traffic reduction schemes and safety measures. Encouraged schemes to address dangerous parking at our local schools, to keep our children safe.
- Working with the Police and Oldham Council Community Safety team to tackle anti-social behavior in the St James Ward, but also ensure an increase of family and youth provision throughout the St James Ward.
- Held surgeries each month at Stoneleigh Park Community Cabin, community walkabouts and street surgeries each week which involves meeting residents to tackle a range of problems and address their concerns.
- Worked with Highways to improve and re-surface many roads in St James - Coleridge Road, Westminster Street, London Road, Vulcan Street, Waverley Street, St Ambrose and Goldsmith.
- Helped to secure funds for major flood prevention schemes for Derker- Chepstow Drive, Redcar Close, Rosedale and Roseberry Close.
- Ensured full resident engagement for the proposed plans for the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and future developments throughout Derker on the vacant plots.
- Help to fund various community projects and events throughout the St James ward
-

Contact me

E: angela.cosgrove@oldham.gov.uk
M: 07515 190476

Surgeries

3-4pm on the first Thursday of each month at Stoneleigh Park Community Cabin.

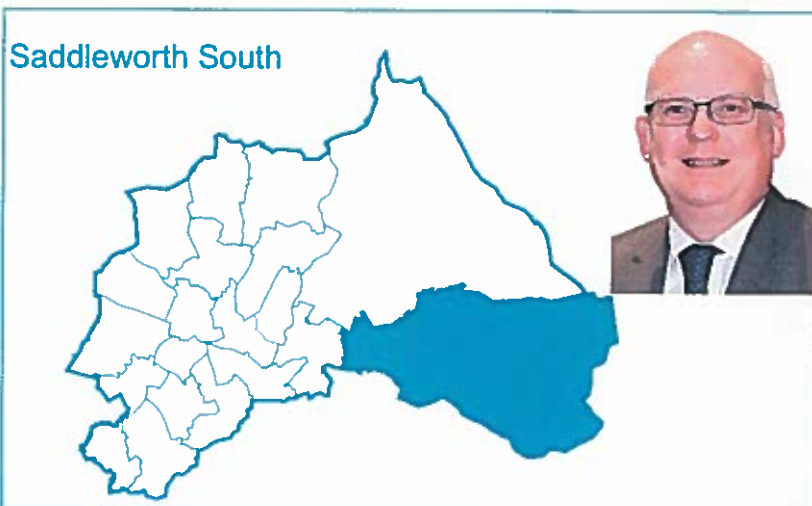
Cllr Jamie Curley – Saddleworth South Ward

My Ward priorities

- Road safety
- Dog fouling
- Preservation of Green Spaces

Training completed

- Adult and Childrens Safeguarding



Work in the community

- Member of Conservative Councillor's Association, Saddleworth District Executive, Saddleworth Parish Council.
- Served on Overview and Scrutiny Board
- Worked with Trustees of SSYCA to write successful LIF funding bid
- Worked with residents and Highways Team to create safe school zone and new crossing for Chew Valley Road Greenfield
- Acted as advisor to the highly successful Chatty Café Scheme
- Arranged and chaired first meeting between Saddleworth Parish Council and Oldham Council Leader which ended in a mutual recognition of need for closer working and regular meetings to work together in the interests of Saddleworth and Oldham residents.
- Attended many functions to support local groups and causes including, Saddleworth Musical Society, Diggle Diamonds, Millgate Theatre, Yanks are back in Saddleworth, Saddleworth Show, Yorkshire Day,
- Continued to raised concerns about speeding on roads in Saddleworth and campaigned for better speed measures at major junctions.
- Provided targeted funding for local groups and projects including Dovestone WI, Street Scene Greenfield, SSYCA.
- Represented community at Remembrance and Civic Events across Oldham and Rochdale, Kirklees.
- Raised concerns about state of road surface repairs at major road junctions in Saddleworth following failed resurfacing project. With successful outcome.
- Continued to support Oldham Mountain Rescue Team, with fundraising.
- Spoken at community events including Holocaust Memorial Day and Churches together events.
- Worked and volunteered with Greenfield Whit Friday committee to ensure a successful event.
- Wrote and submitted response for Saddleworth on GMCA consultation on Bus Services.
- Campaigned strongly with residents against the proposed development of 100 new homes on green space at Shaw Hall Bank Road Greenfield
- Spoke at Council to oppose reduction in funding for Saddleworth Parish Council, to gain more funding for Dovestone Marshalls.
- Continued to work with residents' groups to liaise on community issues and raise concerns with relevant OMBC Officers and local Policing Team
- Held surgeries each month at Greenfield Library and Uppermill Civic Hall, dealing with a range of issues.

Contact me

E: jamie.curley@oldham.gov.uk

Facebook

www.facebook.com/councillorjamiecurley

Surgeries

10.30 – 11.30am on the first Saturday of each month at Greenfield Library or Uppermill Civic Hall on alternate months.

Drop in or email jamie.curley@oldham.gov.uk

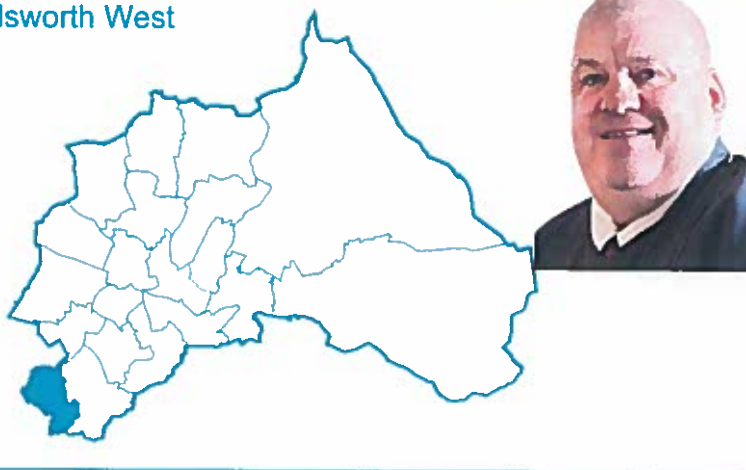
book an appointment.

Cllr Peter Davis – Failsworth West Ward

My Ward priorities

- Clean up campaigns
- Schemes to slow down local traffic
- Every school to receive a good or outstanding outcome

Failsworth West



Training completed

- Adults & Children's Safeguarding
- Background to The Oldham Plan
- Being an Ambassador for Oldham
- Making the most of Social Media
- Code of Conduct and Decision Making

Work in the community

- Set up my own monthly surgery at Ridgefield Street held on the fourth Tuesday of every month
- I volunteer with Oldham Street Angels
- Set up a Wednesday drop in at Oldham Street Angels providing hundreds of meals a year.
- Oldham Community Night Shelter member of the Steering Group where we have helped to set up a Bed Every Night in Oldham
- I support homeless people with housing issues.
- I volunteer for the Failsworth Community clean ups.
- I volunteer for the Failsworth Canal clean ups.
- I volunteer at The National Football Museum
- Attended and supported Community fundraising events

Contact me

E: peter.davis@oldham.gov.uk

T: 0161 688 6065

M: 07966297203

Twitter @1davisellesse

Facebook www.facebook.com/peterdavis

Ridgefield Street Community Centre, the fourth Tuesday of the month from 6pm to 7pm

Drop in or email peter.davis@oldham.gov.uk to book an appointment.

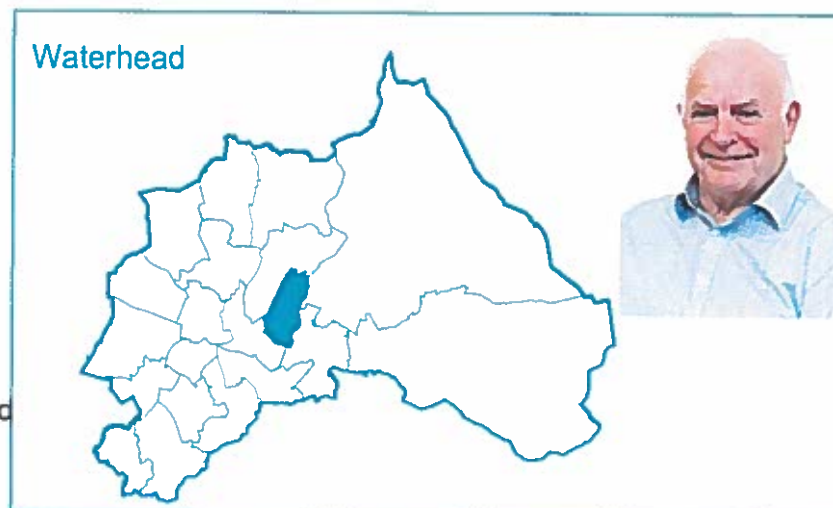
Cllr Peter Dean – Waterhead Ward

My Ward priorities

- Clean streets, alleyways
- Promoting health and fitness
- Provision of play space and green areas
- Improving educational facilities

Attendance at Meetings

- I have attended 95% of programmed meetings



Council Work

- Chair of Planning Committee
- Audit Committee Member
- Chair of Growing & Feeding Group

Work in the community

- Brought in funding and supported the work for the Waterhead Park growing hub and new building
- Worked to bring traffic safety schemes to Wellyhole Street and Greenacres Road
- Attended most meetings and events for Clarksfield Community Group and Big Local as well many other groups of residents.
- Organised Area Community meetings in four areas of Ward
- Took part in bringing £5 million of funding to renovate Clarksfield School, also supporting an achieving resource to build a new secondary school at Salem.
- Successful in winning bid to refurbish landscaped area on Counthill Road.
- Now working with residents to further improve Arundel Street Park.
- Have submitted a funding bid based on residents' choices to refurbish Bullers Park in Greenacres.
- Now bringing together to create an exercise and fitness area based in Waterhead Park.
- Organised several clean ups in areas of the Ward.

Contact me

E: peter.dean@oldham.gov.uk

T: 0161 652 5866

M: 07718 785134

Post: 11 Oozewood Road Royton
Oldham, OL2 5SQ

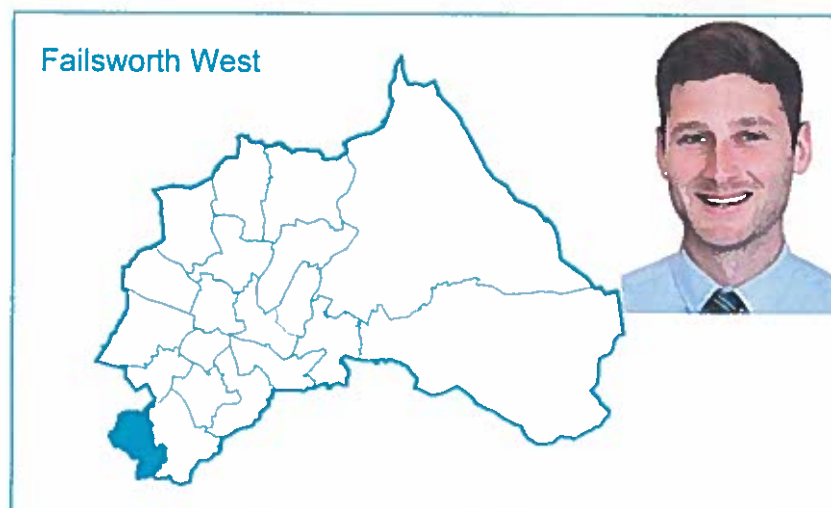
Cllr Sean Fielding – Failsworth West Ward

My Ward priorities

- Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Support independent local businesses
- Improve road safety
- Tackle fly tipping and littering

Training completed

- All statutory safeguarding training completed



Work in the community

- Event organiser for the Failsworth Remembrance Sunday Service.
- Sponsored a "Local Improvement Fund" bid for the refurbishment of Failsworth Cenotaph.
- Called a community meeting to discuss how to tackle anti-social behavior around Alder Road.
- Organise and attend "Big Failsworth Clean Up" litter picks and support the canal clean up.
- Marshalled at Failsworth Christmas Lights Switch On and arranged for additional lights this year.
- Negotiated use of Failsworth Sports Centre for new Friday night youth provision.
- Volunteered on the gates of the carnival, collecting admission fees.
- Secured funding for the resurfacing of Cosgrove Rd, Woodlands, Old Rd and Stanhope Way.
- Part funded the provision of Citizens Advice Bureau services in Failsworth Town Hall.
- Played in the brass band at Failsworth Christmas Lights Switch On.
- Ran the Oldham Half Marathon to raise money for the homeless, raising over £2000.
- Met with "M35 Save Our Green Belt" campaign group to provide advice and updates directly.
- Attended pub and business watch meetings to advise and support.
- Sponsored a Local Improvement Fund Bid for local traffic calming measures
- Contribute to funding of floral displays at Lord Lane shopping parade.
- Negotiated and part funded youth provision from Oldham Athletic Community Trust.

Contact me Direct

sean.fielding@oldham.gov.uk
07912 774980

Social media

www.twitter.com/cllrsfielding
www.facebook.com/cllrsfielding

Surgeries

6pm on the third Tuesday of the month
at Holy Family, Lord Lane, Failsworth.

10 am on the third Saturday of the month at
Failsworth Town Hall, Oldham Road, Failsworth.

Drop in or email sean.fielding@oldham.gov.uk
to book an appointment.

Cllr Elaine Garry – Failsworth West Ward

My Ward priorities

- Making Failsworth greener
- Ensuring children are school ready
- Creating new jobs
- Ensuring roads, pavement and greenspaces are maintained
- Encourage affordable housing offer
- Improve and enhance health and wellbeing
- Support and enhance community groups
- Reducing anti-social behavior
- Making Failsworth a cleaner place



Training completed

- Moorhey Street Depot Tour
- Enforcement Issues
- Members induction
- Understanding Effective Scrutiny
- Work in the community
- GMCA and GM priorities
- Being an effective leader
- Effective Partnerships
- Safeguarding
- Place based challenges and co-operative conversations

Work in the community

- Hold surgeries every month at Failsworth Town Hall
- 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings
- Member of Pub Watch
- Member of Business Watch
- Lobbied for s106 monies for improvements for Failsworth Lower Park
- Worked with the police to tackle Anti-social behaviour in Failsworth
- Support and raise money for the Mayor's charities
- Organised the Peterloo exhibition at Failsworth Town Hall
- Support the Failsworth Community forums
- Support the Failsworth play days
- Support the Failsworth Carnival
- Support Christmas Switch on
- Supported residents to turn Hardman Street ally into a play area for children
- Join in the monthly clean ups in Failsworth
- Worked with Action for Ageing to make Failsworth an aged friendlier place to live

Contact me

E: elaine.garry@oldham.gov.uk

T: 0161 682 8755

M: 07866 575375

Surgeries

18-19pm on the first Thursday in the month

Drop in or email elaine.garry@oldham.gov.uk to book an appointment.

Cllr Chris Gloster – Shaw Ward

My Ward priorities

- Education
- Local policing
- ASB/crime
- Protecting Green Belt
- Transport
- Bus and tram services
- Shaw High Street
- Council services
- Community groups



Work in the community

I am a strong voice for Shaw residents and businesses ensuring their views and concerns are articulated and turned into action by Oldham Council where appropriate and in my 5 years as a Councillor I hold a 100% attendance record for attendance at Full Council Meetings.

I am the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrat opposition on Oldham Council and have a responsibility as Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Resources.

- I am up to date with local people's views and regularly contact residents this may be by our Leaflet Campaign, Door Knocking or at local Surgeries that are held weekly.
- I support residents with housing repairs, rehousing, neighbour disputes, healthcare complaints, council bins and rubbish removal, dog waste and new street litter or grit bins.
- I am a governor at Crompton House School and my daughter attends Sixth Form there. I have been supportive of the expansion of the school recognizing the need to ensure that Shaw and Crompton children who are of alternate or no faith are entitled to an outstanding education which every parent strives to give to their children, and which Crompton House are now more able to deliver.
- As the former Shaw and Crompton Police Inspector, I continue to work closely with our local Police, the District Partnership, Parish Council, residents and businesses of Shaw to resolve the problem of anti-social behaviour. This work remains an on-going battle to ensure that residents have a safe place to live and I am pleased anti-social behaviour is falling.
- Along with my colleagues, I continue to challenge the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, and work to achieve the best outcome possible for residents' homes, jobs, and the environment by opposing the appalling loss of our green spaces. Brownfield First!
- I have worked with residents to ensure that we maintain adequate bus services in Shaw and Crompton to meet the needs of residents, and supported challenges to TfGM with regards to Metrolink Zonal Charges, and antisocial behaviour on the trams.
- I am looking forward to working with my colleagues to meet the next challenge which is working with Transport for Greater Manchester to achieve a fully integrated, high capacity transport system.
- I have been the lead Councillor in Shaw dealing with the aftermath of the St Paul's Church roof collapse. This is an uphill battle complicated by a restrictive attitude of Historic England who are happy to obstruct demolition of this site but incapable of providing anything other than words to remediate the problem that has so far cost hundreds of thousands of pounds to reduce to a pile of rubble.

- Along with my colleagues I formally object to planning applications if I believe they are inappropriate or not a benefit to residents - We have had some success with this.
 - I continue to drive the campaigns forward for a new Health Centre for Shaw and Crompton and from these campaigns I am hopeful of a positive update soon.
 - I constantly deal with issues surrounding speeding vehicles, Buckstones Road and Crompton Way are two examples, and I have had some success in getting the relevant authorities to look at education, engineering and enforcement solutions to deal with this problem.
 - I work with the Highways Department to have the potholes, blocked grids and poor footpaths resurfaced or repaired.
 - I regularly pursue complaints of fly tipping around Shaw and I work very closely with the Environmental Health Department on this matter.
 - Along with my ward colleagues and in my role as Ward Councillor, I meet regularly with local groups, ensuring that our most asset, our countryside, remains well looked after and ecologically sustainable. I continue to ensure that this area is maintained and safe to use by all. Most recently we have been instrumental in agreeing a new dog sign that will hopefully be introduced by the start of the nesting season.
 - I continue to work with residents and a variety of agencies for a resolution to on-going flooding problems, primarily in the areas of Dunwood Park, Grains Road, Beal Lane.
 - I worked with residents regarding the ongoing issue of more parking on Osbourne Street and Elizabeth Grove and I am pleased to confirm this is now approved.
-

Contact me

E: chris.gloster@ddham.gov.uk

T: 01706 847709

Twitter: @cllrchrisg

Surgeries

7:30pm to 8:30pm

Held every Thursday at Shaw Lifelong Learning Centre

(no appointment necessary)

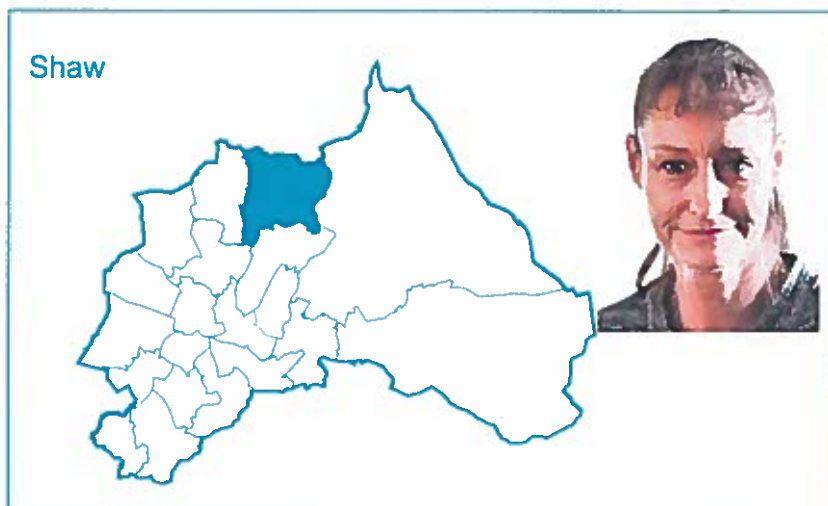
Cllr Hazel Gloster – Shaw Ward

My Ward priorities

- Highways & Footways
- Environmental Crime
- Health for All
- Combatting Crime and Anti Social Behaviour

Training completed

- Safeguarding Children & Adults
- Planning
- Prevent
- Effective Scrutiny
- Enforcement Issues



Work in the community

- Demanding Better for Shaw
- Member of LGA Councillors Forum, Oldham Planning Committee and Oldham Corporate Parenting Panel
- Shadow Cabinet Member for Children's Services
- Attended Full Oldham Council meetings, asking ward and cabinet questions together with submissions of motions to influence future policy decisions
- Attended Corporate Parenting Panel meetings to ensure our responsibilities are maintained in a professional manner
- Raised concerns about our highways and footways, fixing potholes, surface erosion and making sure poor roads are programmed for replacement where required
- Worked with Dogs Trust to tackle dog fouling
- Attended training on Safeguarding Children's & Adults, Social Media amongst others
- Worked with key partners such as First Choice Homes and Guinness to resolve housing issues
- Continued to campaign for a new health centre in Shaw
- Worked with the police to install automatic number plate recognition cameras to tackle crime in Shaw
- Paid with ward budget to have parking barriers installed on Church Road to increase pedestrian and road safety at this busy junction.
- Attendant Shaw & Crompton Parish Council meetings and served on the Environmental Committee
- Held surgeries each month at Shaw Lifelong Learning Centre, meeting residents to tackle a range of problems

Contact me

E: hazel.gloster@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07966 297 202

Cllr Chris Goodwin – Chadderton South Ward

My Ward priorities

- Road Safety
- Environmental Improvements
- Social Isolation
- Tackling Deprivation

Training completed

- Enforcement Issues
- Making the Most of Social Media



Work in the community

- In addition to my regular monthly drop in advice surgeries, I also take part in events which are organised by various community groups throughout the ward.
- I also arrange meetings of residents who may wish to speak to officers of the council regarding a particular matter.
- I attend Chadderton and District Homewatch meetings listening to and acting on residents' concerns where possible. I also attend the Chadderton Pub and Club watch meetings.
- I work closely with Highways England to ensure the A663 Broadway is suitably maintained and that road safety measures are as effective as practicable.
- I am regularly out and about in the ward to ensure that I can report matters that are in need of repair or enforcement.
- I am an unpaid Director of Oldham Community Power and Unity Partnership Ltd.

Contact

E: chris.goodwin@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07515 188783

Twitter @ChrisGoodwin73

Surgeries

Usually at 6pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Turf Lane Lifelong Learning Centre.

Please check the Council website to confirm.

Cllr Louie Hamblett – Crompton Ward

My Ward priorities

- Listening to residents
- Environmental Issues
Campaigning New Health Centre for Shaw and Crompton
- Championing highway and footpath issues
- Protecting Greenbelt and OPOL Land
- Demanding better for Crompton
- Working all year round not just at Election time
- Highway improvements which includes footpaths and safety
- Tackling Dog Fouling

Crompton



Work in the community

- Demanding better for Crompton.
- Working with our fantastic Royton, Shaw and Crompton District Team to deliver services and aspirations to Shaw and Crompton wards.
- Ensuing that Oldham Council's Chief Executive is aware of some of the projects we are working on as well as bring to her attention some of the issues where we require her assistance by organised ward walks.
- Working with Oldham Council's amazing staff from, Chief Executive, Directors and Officers to deliver services for Crompton. Thank you for all your hard work I really appreciate everything each and every one does to make sure Crompton and Oldham is a great place to live, work and enjoy 😊
- Knocking on doors all year round not just at election time and ensuring regular newsletters are delivered to every household in the ward.
- Provide regular updates on Twitter and Facebook
- Working with partners such as First Choice Homes Oldham, Greater Manchester Police and Shaw and Crompton Parish Council.
- Member of the Shaw and Crompton Community Forum where we have an informal approach to the meetings: members of the public can interject during the meeting.
- Worked alongside ward colleagues to bring together the "I Love Crompton" campaign – banners are on lampposts around the ward, together with stickers on bins to remind residents to pick up after their dog and remember to put their own rubbish in it.
- Attended all Full Oldham Council meetings have asked questions, made observations and asked questions on minutes as well as submitted motions to influence policy and procedures.
- Attend ward surgeries, organised every week, on a rota basis with my Shaw and Crompton colleagues – this allows me to listen to residents concerns personally, rather than them trying to put it in an email
- I am the Shadow Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care, which I really enjoy as it gives me the opportunity to hold to administration to account whilst also offering other alternatives.
- Attended the mandatory training on "Safeguarding – Children and Adults" – "Appeals Home to school Transport Committee"
- Continue to campaign to get a Health Centre for the residents of Shaw and Crompton.
- Continuing to sort local environmental issues such as dog fouling, litter and fly tipping
- I Continue to raise concerns about the state of the roads and working to fix potholes, surface erosion and making sure poor roads are part of a programmed works plan for replacement or treatment.
- Supporting community groups such as High Crompton Park Friends Group and Home watch Groups.
- Member of MIO (Made In Oldham) Care appointed by the Council –Thoroughly enjoyed participating in the meetings as board member, Attend Health Scrutiny Board where I can look at and scrutinise Oldham and GM wide health plans plus adding in my own suggestions, I also sit on many other

outside GM Health related bodies.

- In addition I offer general support for Crompton Cricket, Crompton Bowling Clubs, and Crompton Football Club – where we have used our ward budget to purchased football kits with the message 'Love Crompton' to inspire the next generation of young people to 'Love Where They Live'.
- Worked with the Shaw and Crompton Events Group to host the Christmas Lights Event in Shaw town centre and support them in their fundraising attempts as well as their St George's Day Event.
- Support Events such as The Tour of Britain Bike Race and hope to see a continuation of such a great legacy.
- Attended the Holocaust Remembrance Service at Crompton War Memorial.
- Support the High Crompton Park Friends together we have achieved funding for a trim trail.
- Event lighting has now been achieved on The Big Lamp roundabout the tree will be lit in various colours to celebrate the saints of the UK as well as Easter, Christmas and Pride events.
- My colleagues are committed to providing AEDs in the ward of Crompton.
- Working to achieve poppies to project on Crompton War Memorial.
- Continue to support local residents by providing a refill for the grit bins that we have bought them, when the area does not meet the Council's criteria
- Safeguarding land as well as saving Council money by introducing Wildflower Meadow Schemes at sites in Crompton ward.
- Working with tenders for the High Crompton Park to provide a Community Café.
- Working with Council Officers to safeguard a car park in High Crompton to ensure resident continue to have free parking.
- Established and continue to support the Homewatch schemes in Crompton, I continue to work with my colleague Cllr's Williamson and Murphy we have already established and support two and will work with other areas to set up more.
- Support the Autism Strategy and hope to work on the Oldham Autism Board in the future.
- New bin installed at the junction of Thornham Road / Cherry Hall Drive
- A scheme in place to protect High Crompton Post Office from ram raiders – (location junction of Thornham Road/Rochdale Road)
- Funded guard rails to ensure highway safety at High Crompton Post Office.
- Delivered the project of Love Where You Live banners showing the message of no dog fouling and no litter fitted to columns at gateways such as Shaw Road – (location - Shaw Road nr Albion Gardens Close) with more banners in other areas.
- Just under 5000 dog fouling leaflets enough for each household delivered by Crompton Councillors and Liberal Democrat volunteers to each house in the ward.
- Continue to attend Flooding meetings with a project in Crompton working with partners such as United Utilities, Environment Agency and Oldham Council Officers – also cross party working with colleagues in Royton North and Royton South.

Contact me

E: Louie.Hamblett@oldham.gov.uk

T: 01706 660806

M: 07971 363794

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Councillor-Louie-](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Councillor-Louie-Hamblett/1015666666666666)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LouieHamblett?s=09>

Parish Website: <https://www.shawandcromptonparishcouncil.co.uk/>

Surgeries

7:30pm to 8:30pm every Thursday at Shaw Lifelong Centre.

No appointment necessary

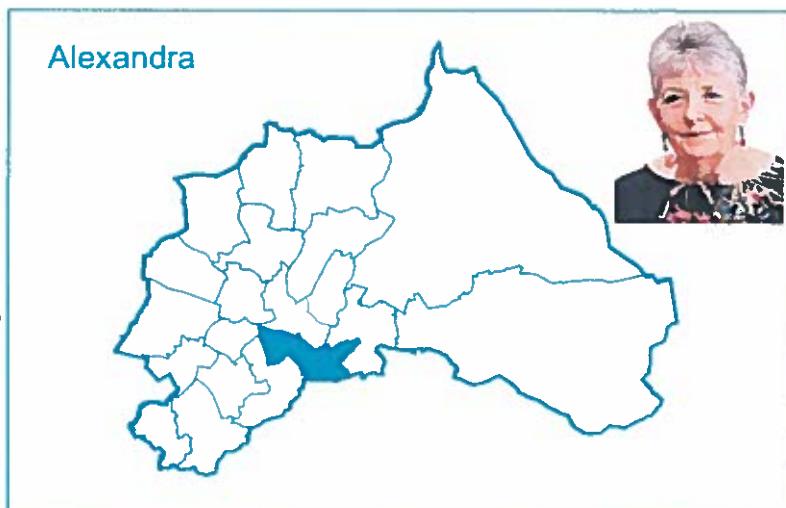
Cllr Jenny Harrison – Alexandra Ward

My Ward priorities

- Improve educational outcomes and employment
- Work for a clean, green and safe environment
- Reduce social isolation
- Improve health and wellbeing of Alexandra residents
- Work with voluntary and faith groups to support and involve their communities in making a positive difference.

Training completed

- Safeguarding Adults and Children
- The Oldham Delivery Model
- Using Social Media
- Enforcement Issues
- Integrated Public Services in the Community
- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Design by Digital
- Making Every Adult Matter



Additional Roles

- Deputy Mayor
- Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board
- Leadership Board
- Licensing Committee
- Standards Committee
- Music Centre Awards Panel
- Vice Chair of Alexandra Park Junior School Governing Body

Work in the community

- Supported numerous residents with a wide range of issues including nuisance neighbours, housing problems, education, disabled parking and much more.
- Held monthly ward surgeries at three venues across the ward.
- Worked on various projects at Café Alt including Hallowe'en Parade and worked with ROC & Rolls Café staff on Bread and Butter Thing Charity.
- Worked with council officers, police and PCSOs to resolve a range of community issues and reduce tension.
- Joined in several community clean up sessions.
- Improved security in two areas with the installation of solar powered security lights.
- Very active in my school governor role, supporting the school in achieving the best outcomes for its students.
- Successful resurfacing of several roads in the ward.
- Supported and joined in several Play Street sessions.

Contact me

E-mail jenny.harrison@oldham.gov.uk

Phone 07875 676 731

Please leave a message if I'm unable to answer when you ring.

Follow Me

Twitter @cllrjennyoldham

Facebook Cllr Jenny Harrison

Surgeries

St Paul's Church, Broadway St, Hathershaw
09.30-10.30 on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

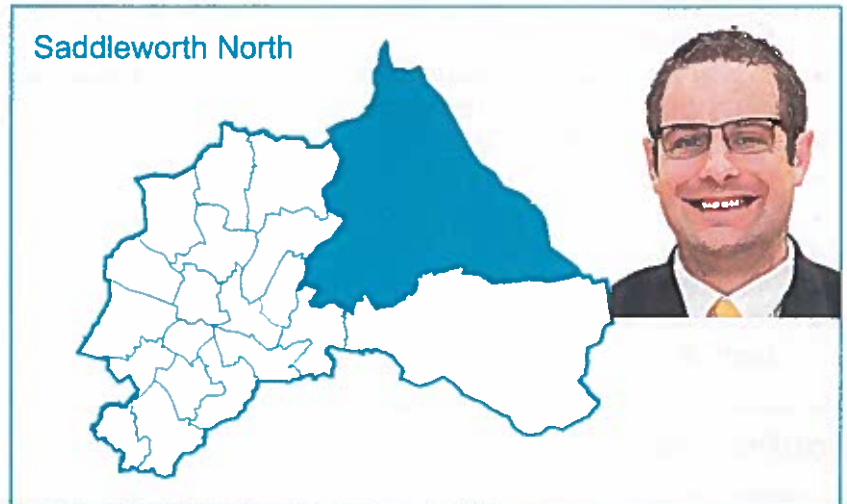
Café Alt, Cherry Avenue, Alt 09.30-10.30 on the first Friday of every month.

ROC & Rolls Café, Near Birches Parade, Holts
11.00-12.00 on the first Friday of the month.

Cllr Garth Harkness – Saddleworth North Ward

My Ward priorities

- Better Transport
- Improve local health facilities
- including mental health
- Protect the environment and
- green space
- Campaign for measures to address speeding



Work in the community

- School safety scheme in Denshaw
- Bridge work in Dobcross.
- In terms of ward budgets a significant portion of my ward budgets has gone towards the funding gap for Christmas lights, trees, plants and the band contests. This was created when the administration axed the Saddleworth and Lees District fund.
- Funding for grit bins,
- street pastors
- Whit walks,
- Village Olympics,
- Diggle Blues festival,
- Diggle Band club,
- Dobcross Youth band,
- Denshaw Village Hall ,
- Scouthead and Austerlands Community Christmas lights,
- Parish council Climate Change project
- Defibrillator at Friemere Cricket club.
- Campaigned to Save our Limekiln Café
- Create a fund to invest in footpaths
- Reverse cuts to funding for local projects and Saddleworth Parish Council
- Create a fund for the Band Contests like there is a fund for events in the town centre
- Create a fund to replace and maintain signs and road safety measures.
- Proposed the establishment of an Environmental Task Force to combat environmental crime such as fly tipping and dog fouling across the Borough
- Campaigned to improve health facilities in Saddleworth
- Suggested measures to tackle speeding
- Proposed tougher action on people using BBQs on the moorlands
- Proposed tougher action on dog fouling and fly tipping
- Call for Council action to tackle HGV gridlock
- Challenge the Council on education standards
- Champion support for the most vulnerable in education and in the work place
- Support the training of Mental Health First Aiders
- Campaign to save the greenbelt – calling for withdrawal from the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework
- Campaign for improvements to bus and train services
- Working with officers on addressing flooding issues
- Campaign on overzealous benefit sanctions
- Campaign to save Manchester's heart services
- Regular updates on Twitter and website
- Member of the Saddleworth and Lees District Partnership and District Executive

- Support Whit Friday and Band Contests
- Attended all Full Oldham Council meetings have asked Ward Questions, Cabinet Questions, made observations and asked questions on minutes as well as submitted motions to influence policy and procedures.
- Continues to raise concerns about the state of the roads and working to fix potholes, surface erosion and making sure poor roads are part of a programmed works plan for replacement or treatment
- Positive Steps Board Member
- Oldham Economic Development Association Board
- Southlink Board Member
- Planning Committee
- Attended Overview and Scrutiny Board, and Full Council meetings
- Shadow Cabinet Member for Employment and Skills where I meet with officers and scrutinizes the portfolio

Contact me

E: garth.harkness@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07894 839205

Twitter @garthharkness

or Facebook @cllrgarthharkness

Surgeries

First Saturday of the month at Delph
Methodist Church in Delph

Drop in, or email to book an appointment.

To find out more information
about my work you can visit my
website:

<https://garthharkness.mycouncillor.org.uk>

Cllr Brian Hobin – Failsworth East Ward

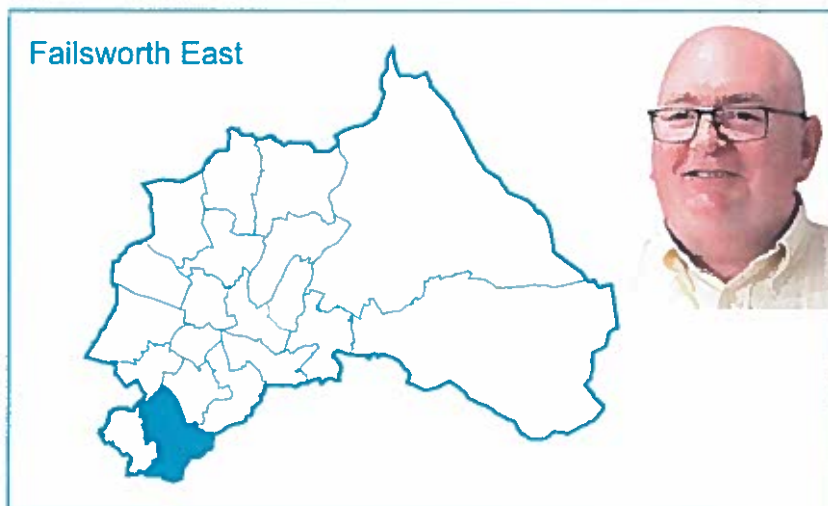
My Ward priorities

- Cleaner streets
- Community cohesion
- To be visible and available for all constituents in the Failsworth area.

Training completed

- GDPR
- Audit Training
- Enforcement Issues
- Safeguarding
- Code of Conduct
- Finding Your Way Around the Council
- Members Induction 2019

Failsworth East



Work in the community

- Challenged Failsworth War Memorial repair plans following it falling into disrepair, preventing a substandard plastic repair being made. This resulted in a comprehensive review of repair needs being undertaken and a plan to fully refurbish the site being agreed.
- Worked with local businesses to secure sponsorship of defibrillators so that all schools within the Failsworth area now have a unit.
- Worked with residents to facilitate the restoration of Willow Park pond and create a residents committee. The committee's focus is on the ponds upkeep, ongoing maintenance and other matters on the estate.
- Support M35 Save Our Greenbelt group to fight building houses on the precious greenbelt land in the area.
- Supporting and contribution towards a Citizens Advice Bureau presence in Failsworth.
- Contributed to refurbishment of St Johns Mission Hall.
- Liaised with travellers and the appropriate authorities to remove and prevent unauthorized encampment on Lord Lane playing fields.
- Joined Failsworth Carnival committee, working with them to organise future annual events
- Supported numerous local community events, including:
 - OAP Christmas party
 - Christmas lights switch on
 - Failsworth Carnival
 - Remembrance Day parade
 - Litter picks in Failsworth and Daisy Nook.
- Involved in working with local businesses in supporting the local Pubwatch scheme, supporting the establishment of the local Shopwatch scheme and attending and contributing towards their monthly meetings.
- I hold two regular surgeries per month.
- I am a member of the Audit committee and have sat on a council appeals panel.

Contact me

E: brian.hobin@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07971363791

Twitter @brianhobin1

Facebook www.facebook.com/Brian.Hobin.Failsworth.East

If you have any queries or problems that need to be discussed with your Failsworth Independent Councillor please contact Brian.Hobin@oldham.gov.uk, or call into one of the surgeries.

2nd Tuesday of the month, 12-2pm - St Johns Mission Hall, Church Street, Failsworth
4th Thursday of the month 7-8pm, Woodhouses Cricket Club, Medlock Road, Woodhouses

Cllr George Hulme – Saddleworth North Ward

My Ward priorities

- Environment & Climate Change
- Road safety
- Public Transport

Training completed

- All Statutory Training

Saddleworth North



Work in the community

I am a member of Saddleworth and Lees District Partnership; Oldham Council Music Awards; Oldham Council's Overview and Scrutiny Performance and Value for Money & Planning Committee; Greater Manchester Combined Authority's Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

One of the main issues raised by residents has been the safety of roads in Saddleworth North. Using money from the new Local Investment Fund, road safety works are now being undertaken in Denshaw to make both the A672 & road outside the school safer. I am working with the Council on a solution to the issue of the narrow footpath on bridge in Dobcross and speeding in the village, something which has been raised by hard working local campaigners.

I am working with the Leader of Oldham Council, Cllr Sean Fielding, to get a new station or halt at Diggle included in Greater Manchester's 2040 Transport Strategy. Although it is outside my own ward, an issue that affects Saddleworth North residents is the lack of access for the Huddersfield Bound platform at Greenfield Station, I have been working with Debbie Abrahams MP on solutions to this.

I have used full Council meetings to highlight issues that affect residents in Saddleworth North. This includes seconding a motion calling on the Government to reverse its cut to the free license fees for over 75s. I also helped bring a motion that called on the Council to support the franchising model as the way buses are run in Greater Manchester in the future. The current deregulated system does not work for people in my ward and I have been campaigning to bring back local control of our bus network in Greater Manchester, away from private companies. I also spoke on a motion welcoming the work on the Northern Forest which will see 50 million trees planted across the North of England and urged people to sign up to the Woodland Trust's Charter for Trees, Woods and People.

At the Council I am part of the cross-party working group on climate change and Oldham's Green New Deal. Oldham Council has set itself two ambitious targets, for the Council to be carbon neutral by 2025 and Oldham to be carbon neutral by 2030 and the group is working innovative ways to meet the targets. I have also been named Oldham's tree champion and we are seeing tree planting programs across the borough adding thousands of trees. On the planning committee I have been pushing to ensure we aim for more ambitious targets on tree replacement from developers. I have voted against building any new buildings in the green belt in line with the NPPF. After the devastating fires we saw in the summer of 2018, the moorland in Saddleworth is also being protected with a Public Space Protection Order banning anyone lighting a fire or barbeque or objects like fireworks on the moors.

Contact me

E:
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M: 07534079371
Twitter @george_hulme

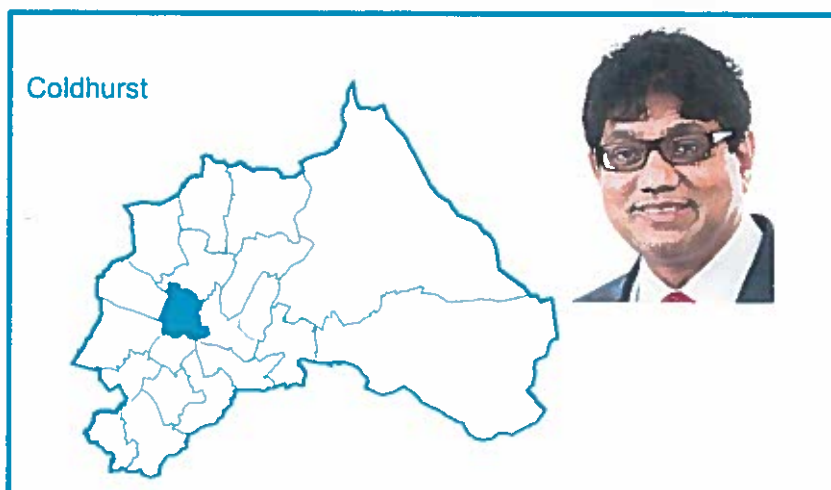
Surgeries

I hold regular street surgeries across the ward, knocking on doors and speaking to people about local issues. Please get in touch by phone or email if you would like to raise anything or meet with me.

Cllr Abdul Jabbar – Coldhurst Ward

My Ward priorities:

- Secure funding for building large family homes
- Campaigning against littering
- Tackling anti-social behaviour
- Campaigning against Welfare Benefits cuts
- Raising awareness of green issues and tackle climate change



Work in the community

- Director of Local Government Information Unit
- Member of the Oldham Leadership Board
- Member of the Cabinet
- Member of Oldham West District Executive
- 100% attendance at Oldham Full Council Meetings
- Campaigned strongly against litter dropping in various parts of Coldhurst
- Worked with the Police and other partner agencies to tackle anti-social behaviour in various locations in the ward including Berriesfield Park
- Campaigning to raise awareness on all green issues including using renewable technology to produce clean electricity
- Secured funding for pocket park at Martha Street/Ripon Street from the Local Improvement Fund
- Installation of alley gate after consultation with residents at Main Road/Ashley Mews
- Installation of CCTV camera to stop flytipping at Davies Street

Contact me

E: abdul.jabbar@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 4031
Twitter: @cllrabduljabbar

Surgeries

Normally - Every Tuesday at 10am – 12noon
OBA Millennium Cultural Centre,
Featherstall Road North, Oldham,
OL9 6QB

The role of a Councillor in a co-operative borough

#Ourbit – Being the voice of the local community within council and helping local residents solve problems

#Yourbit – Get in touch and let your councillors know if you have a problem or suggestion

#Result – Working together to solve problems and make our community better

Cllr Elizabeth Jacques – Failsworth East Ward

My Ward priorities

- Community safety
- Cleaner streets
- Ensuring Failsworth is a happy, healthy place to live

Training completed

- Planning
- Safeguarding
- The Oldham Delivery Model
- Enforcement Issues

Failsworth East



Work in the community

- District lead for Failsworth and Hollinwood
- Accompanied local MP Angela Rayner on school visits in Failsworth
- Regularly organise and participate in community clean up's
- Organised several community engagement events including meeting key staff, volunteer groups and a health and well-being forum.
- Raised concerns at Full Council meeting about air quality at Failsworth/Hollinwood junction
- Successfully submitted a LIF bid for improvements to Westminster Gardens
- Supported and financed several Play Days in the Higher Memorial Park
- Regularly hold surgeries at Failsworth Town Hall
- Asked for a review of policing in Failsworth.
- Supported local community groups to provide activities for young people and those suffering social isolation
- Am a Children's Champion for a Care Leaver through the Children in Care Council
- Attend Business Watch meetings

Contact me

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M: 07595 087425

Twitter @LizEllenJacques

Surgeries

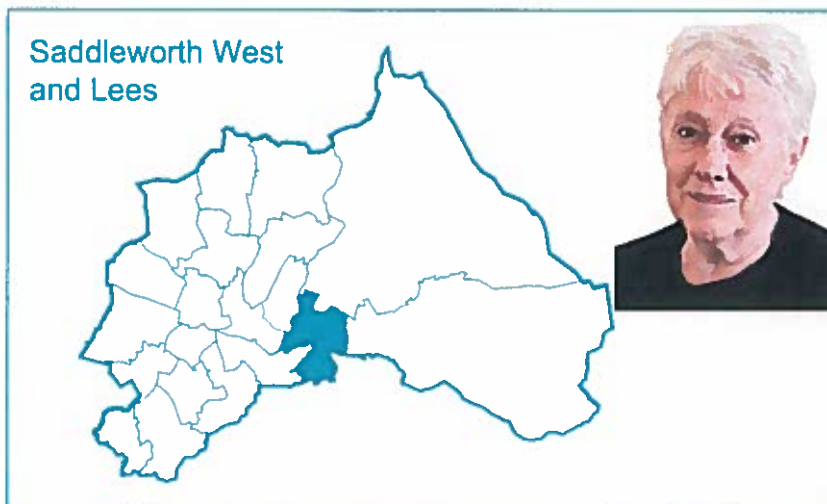
4th Saturday of each month at Failsworth Town Hall

Cllr Valerie Leach – Saddleworth West and Lees Ward

My Ward priorities

- A strong voice for Saddleworth West and Lees
- Revitalizations of Lees village
- Improved sports and other amenities for young people in the ward

Saddleworth West and Lees



Work in the community

- Actively supported the operation of the Lees, Springhead and Grotton Business Hub, provided funding for their community activities and participated in their monthly meetings. The Hub is now well constituted, involving local small businesses.
- Worked with District Officers to develop a scheme to physically improve the central Lees village area with funding from the Local Investment Fund.
- Trying to reduce unhealthy impact on children of air pollution, met with council officers to identify the most adversely affected area in the ward and possible course of action. Met with Heads of Hey with Zion and St Edwards primary schools to develop a plan for funding from OMBC and the Mayor for Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham and Chris Boardman.
- Continued support for the Lees Park Eco Centre and Growing Hub which provides training and facilities for residents, with a special focus on working with children and young people.
- Continued work with the Springhead Football Club in its efforts to improve the pitch and the club's facilities.
- With fellow Labour Councillor Steve Hewitt held surgeries in Lees library twice a month and followed up on resulting case work.
- Appointed Deputy Cabinet Member for housing, with a special focus on improving conditions for tenants in poor quality private rental accommodation. Worked with officers to develop plans for a scheme for licensing private landlords in areas of the Borough with the greatest proportion of bad conditions.
- Attended meetings of the full Council and the local district partnership.
- Participated in training sessions on the Council's appeals procedures, on enforcement, on national policies and strategies to tackle poor private rented housing,

Contact me

E: valerie.leach@oldham.gov.uk
M: 07966 297 171

Surgeries

11am – noon on the third Saturday of each month at Lees library.

Drop in or email valerie.leach@oldham.gov.uk to book an appointment.

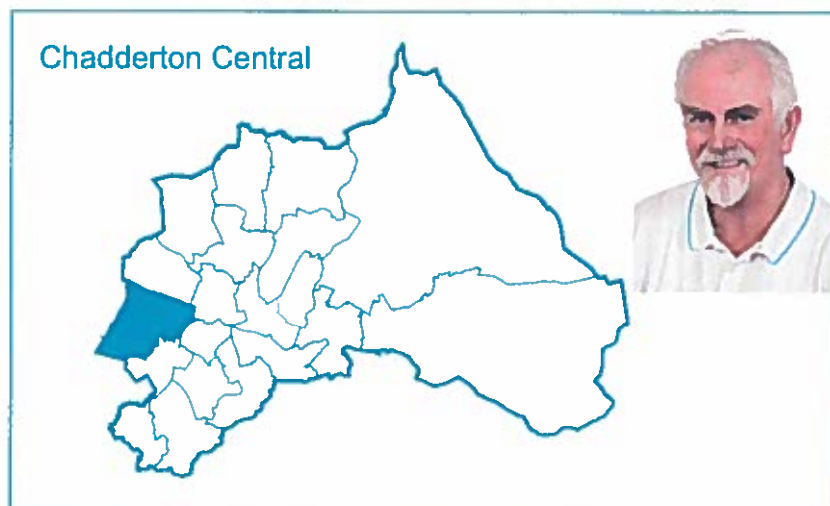
Cllr Colin McLaren – Chadderton Central Ward

My Ward priorities

- Promoting Health & Wellbeing
- Community Safety
- Preserving our heritage

Training completed

- Skills for Chairing Meetings
- Home School Transport
- Safeguarding



Work in the community

- Member of Chadderton District Executive
- Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Management Board, Vice-Chair of Health Scrutiny Sub Committee, Member of Licensing Committee, Member of GMCA Audit Committee, Member of GMCA Corporate Issues and Reform Scrutiny Committee, Member of Peak District National Park Authority, Trustee of Chadderton Together, Trustee of Crossley Community Association, Trustee of Hollinwood Amateur Rugby League Football Club, Trustee of Peak District National Park Foundation, Vice President of Chadderton Historical & Heritage Society, Governor of The Radclyffe School.
- Supported various voluntary organisations working to access the grant system to fund activities within the local community
- Regular attendance at Oldham Council and Committee meetings
- Worked with Oldham Council Officers and the Police to tackle anti-social behavior at Foxdenton Park and other locations leading to a reported reduction in incidents.
- Worked with individual residents and community groups on issues relating to planning applications, some of which were referred to Oldham Council Planning Committee
- Spoke at Council on closure of Oldham Central Post Office
- Supported individual residents on various issues including environmental matters, housing, road safety, council tax and parking issues
- Held surgeries each month at the Crossley Community Centre, Mills Hill Primary School or Kingfisher Community Special School
- Worked with ward colleagues to improve community by the introduction of No Cold Calling zones on Diary Street and Kempsey Court, the installation of security gates on car parks serving the Crossley Playing Fields at Fold Green and Petworth Road.

Contact me

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colin.mclaren@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 627 4197
M: 07581 464535

Surgeries

Crossley Community Centre
Saturday between 10-11am
Kingfisher Community Primary School
Friday 5-6pm
Mills Hill Primary School
Friday 5-6pm

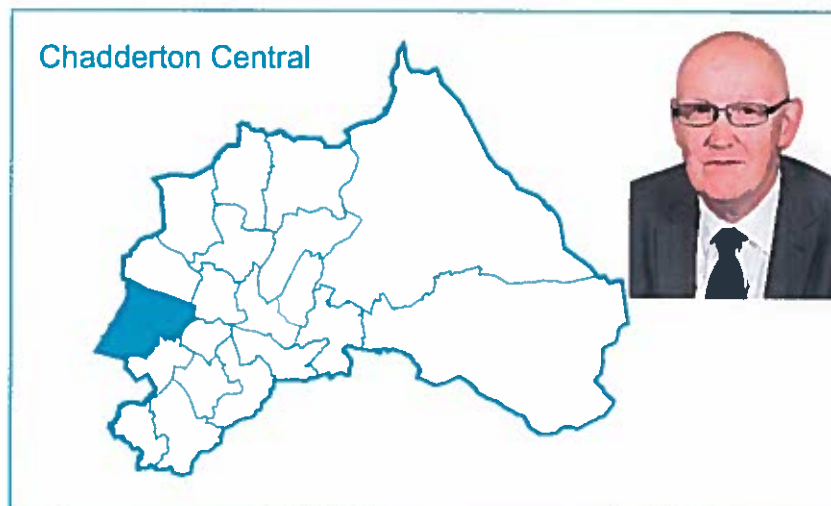
Cllr Eddie Moores – Chadderton Central Ward

My Ward priorities

- Promoting Health & Wellbeing
- Community Safety
- Preserving our Heritage

Training completed

- Skills for Chairing Meetings
- Licensing
- Safeguarding



Work in the community

- Member of the Chadderton District Executive, Governor at the Christie NHS Foundation Trust, Trustee Oldham Enterprise Trust, Board Member Cranmer Education Trust, Trustee Henshaw Education Trust, Trustee Oldham Enterprise Trust, Governor Mills Hill CPS, Governor at the Radclyffe School, Governor of the Blue Coat School, Trustee Chadderton Federation of Community Organisations.
- Representing OMBC on the regional adoption panel (Adoption Now).
- Regular attendance at Oldham Council and committee meetings.
- Worked with Oldham Council officers and the police to tackle Anti-social behavior (ASB) at Foxdenton Park leading to a reported reduction in incidents
- Worked with individual residents and community groups on issues regarding planning applications.
- Spoke at Council on cuts to school budgets.
- Supported individual residents on various issues, including school places, housing, blue badge applications, council tax and parking issues.
- Held surgeries each month at the Crossley Centre Centre, Mills Hill School/Kingfisher School.
- Worked with ward colleagues to improve community by the introduction of "No Cold Calling" zones on Dairy Street and Kempsey Court, the installation of security gates on the car parks serving the Crossley playing fields at Fold Green and Petworth Road.

Contact me

E:
eddie.moores@oldham.gov.uk
M: 07764621491

Surgeries

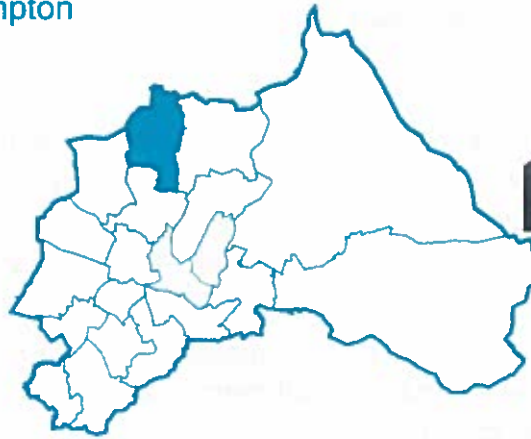
Surgeries details are available on the OMBC website:
<http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgUserInfo.aspx?UID=696>

Cllr Dave Murphy – Crompton Ward

My Ward priorities

- Listening to residents
- Environmental Issues
- Championing highway and footpath issues
- Protecting Greenbelt and OPOL
- New Health Centre for Shaw and Crompton
- Demanding better for Crompton
- Working all year round not just at Election time.
- Highway improvements which includes footpaths and safety
- Tackling Dog Fouling

Crompton



Work in the community

- Demanding better for Crompton.
- Working with our fantastic Royton, Shaw and Crompton District Team to deliver services and aspirations to Shaw and Crompton wards.
- Ensuing that Oldham Council's Chief Executive is aware of some of the projects we are working on as well as bring to her attention some of the issues where we require her assistance by organized ward walks.
- Working with Oldham Council's amazing staff from, Chief Executive, Directors and Officers to deliver services for Crompton. Thank you for all your hard work I really appreciate everything each and every one does to make sure Crompton and Oldham is a great place to live, work and enjoy 😊
- Knocking on doors all year round not just at election time and ensuring regular newsletters are delivered to every household in the ward.
- Regular updates on Twitter
- Working with partners such as First Choice Homes Oldham and Greater Manchester Police.
- Member of the Shaw and Crompton Community Forum where we have an informal approach to the meetings: members of the public can interject during the meeting.
- Worked alongside ward colleagues to bring together the "I Love Crompton" campaign – banners are on lampposts around the ward, together with stickers on bins to remind residents to pick up after their dog and remember to put their own rubbish in it.
- Attended all Full Oldham Council meetings have asked questions, made observations and asked questions on minutes as well as submitted motions to influence policy and procedures.
- Attend ward surgeries, organised every week, on a rota basis with my five ward colleagues – this allows me to listen to residents concerns personally, rather than them trying to put it in an email
- I am the Shadow Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services, which I really enjoy as it gives me the opportunity to hold to administration to account whilst also offering other alternatives.
- Attended the mandatory training on "Safeguarding – Children and Adults"
- Continue to campaign to get a Health Centre for the residents of Shaw and Crompton.

- Continuing to sort local environmental issues such as dog fouling, litter and flytipping.
- Continues to raise concerns about the state of the roads and working to fix potholes, surface erosion and making sure poor roads are part of a programmed works plan for replacement or treatment.
- Supporting community groups.
- Member of Hopwood Trust appointed by the Council – continue to support them with their fundraising events and attend their meetings, plus general support for Crompton Cricket, Crompton Bowling Clubs, and Crompton Football Club – where we have used our ward budget to purchased football kits with the message 'Love Crompton' to inspire the next generation of young people to 'Love Where They Live'.
- Worked with the Shaw and Crompton Events Group to host the Christmas Lights Event in Shaw town centre and support them in their fundraising attempts as well as their St George's Day Event.
- Support Events such as The Tour of Britain Bike Race.
- Attended the Holocaust Remembrance Service at Crompton War Memorial.
- Support the High Crompton Park Friends together we have achieved funding for a trim trail.
- Event lighting has now been achieved on The Big Lamp roundabout the tree will be lit in various colours to celebrate various saints as well as Easter and Christmas.
- My colleagues are committed to providing AEDs in the ward of Crompton.
- Working to achieve poppies to project on Crompton War Memorial.
- Continue to support local residents by providing a refill for the grit bins that we have bought them, when the area does not meet the Council's criteria
- Safeguarding land as well as saving Council money by introducing Wildflower Meadow Schemes at sites in Crompton ward.
- Working with tenders for the High Crompton Park to provide a Community Café.
- Working with Council Officers to safeguard a car park in High Crompton to ensure resident continue to have free parking.
- Established and continue to support the Homewatch schemes in Crompton, I continue to work with my colleague Cllr Williamson and Louie Hamblett we have already established and support two and will work with other areas to set up more.
- Support the Children's Champion Scheme and have a young person under my wing.
- New bin installed at the junction of Thornham Road / Cherry Hall Drive
- A scheme in place to protect High Crompton Post Office from ram raiders – (location junction of Thornham Road/Rochdale Road)
- Funded guard rails to ensure highway safety at High Crompton Post Office.
- Delivered the project of Love Where You Live banners showing the message of no dog fouling and no litter fitted to columns at gateways such as Shaw Road – (location - Shaw Road nr Albion Gardens Close) with more banners in other areas.
- Just under 5000 dog fouling leaflets enough for each household delivered by Crompton Councillors and Liberal Democrat volunteers to each house in the ward.
- Continue to Chair Flooding meetings with a project in Crompton working with partners such as United Utilities, Environment Agency and Oldham Council Officers – also cross party

working with colleagues in Royton North and Royton South.

- Supporting residents close to the new second entrance following planning approval at Crompton Gate.
- Establishing new groups such as High Crompton Park Friends
- Working with faith organisations such as Holy Trinity Church and St Paul's Methodist Church.
- Working with Holy Trinity Church with the outcome to get the clock operational.
- Getting commitments by Oldham Council that The Link and other problematic roads are to be resurfaced.
- Replacement of streets signs that do not meet the Councils criteria, but we believe leaving them as they are make the ward look uncared for.
- A repaired the road surface at the junction of Kenton Avenue/Surrey Avenue.
- Supporting new School builds at Royton and Crompton and Crompton House Schools
- Nominated an amazing Council Officer for a Top Award to recognise her work in the community endorsed by community groups and other individuals.

Contact me

E:

dave.murphy@oldham.gov.uk

T: 01706 840056

M: 07894 598250

Twitter @CllrDaveMurphy

Surgeries

7:30pm to 8:30pmpm every Thursday at
Shaw Lifelong Centre.

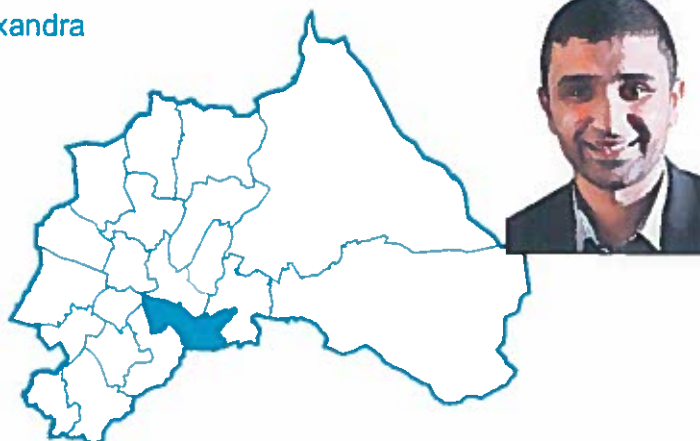
No appointment necessary

Cllr Shaïd Mushtaq – Alexandra Ward

My Ward priorities

- Improving educational outcomes and employment.
- Work towards achieving a clean and safe environment.
- Reducing social isolation.
- To work with the local community, voluntary and faith sectors to support local residents, improve cohesion and play an active role in their community.
- Improve health and wellbeing of residents.

Alexandra



Training completed

- Safeguarding Refresher Training
Adult and Child Safeguarding
Dementia friends
- The Oldham delivery Model
- Prevent Training

Work in the community

- Held three monthly ward surgeries spread across the ward covering Hathershaw, Holts and Alt.
- Have attended and taken part in community events including The Bread and Butter Thing in Holts, the Halloween Parade in Alt and Play Street events in the ward.
- Continued to work with council officers, police, PCSO, residents and other relevant people to resolve community issues and reduce community tensions.
- Worked with residents to keep their local area clean an example of which is successful installation of internal alley gates in the Hathershaw area allowing residents to monitor and focus on a more manageable area.
- Successful resurfacing of a number of roads in Alexandra Ward including Queens Road adjacent to Alexandra Park.
- Worked with schools and parents on educational issues.
- Have assisted numerous residents across the ward with varying issues ranging from housing, council tax, planning and much more.

Myself and my ward colleagues do a lot more work in the ward and always welcome input, suggestions and feedback from residents. There is too much to put in this report I would encourage residents to contact me if they require more information or if they'd like to get involved in improving their area.

Additional Roles

Cabinet Member for education and Skills
Governor at The Oldham College
Governor at Glodwick Infant and Nursery School
Consort to Deputy Mayor
Member of the Opportunity Area Board
Chair SEND Partnership Board
Chair Early Years and Childcare Board

Contact me

E: Shaïd.mushtaq@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07988114409

Twitter @shaidmushtaq

If you cannot get to a ward surgery or your issue is urgent please contact me another way.

Surgeries

St Paul's Church, Broadway Street, Hathershaw – 9.30 to 10.30 on the first Tuesday of every month

Café Alt, Cherry Avenue, Alt – 9.30 to 10.30 on the first Friday of every month

ROC & Rolls café, Near Birches Parade, Holts 11.00 to 12.00 on the first Friday of every month

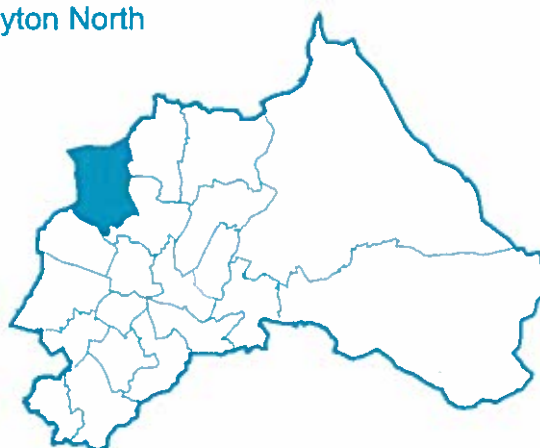
If unable to take your call when you ring, please leave me a text message and I'll call you back.

Cllr Clint Phythian – Royton North Ward

My Ward priorities

- Road safety
- Royton Town centre
- Crime and ASB
- Highways
- GMSF
- Housing
- Education
- Health and well-being
- Social care

Royton North



Training completed

- Safeguarding
- Understanding scrutiny
- Chairing meetings
- Planning committee training
- Appeals training
- Social media

Work in the community

- Lead Councillor for Royton North
- 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings
- Attended training on "the role of the 21st century Councillor", "Adult safeguarding", "Social media" amongst other things
- Campaigned strongly against building houses on the greenbelt on Thornham Old Road and Hanging Chadder
- Working with GMP on anti-speeding schemes throughout Royton North
- Implemented the "Ask Angela" Beer mats being distributed in all the pubs and bars in Royton Town centre
- Held surgeries the first Saturday of each month at Royton Town Hall, meeting many of our residents and solving many of the day to day problems in the ward
- Campaigned to get roads resurfaced especially Middleton Road
- Member of PVFM select committee
- Member of the planning committee
- Foundation Governor at St Paul's C of E primary school

Contact me

E: clint.phythian@oldham.gov.uk
T: 0161 622 1224
M: 07973 407499
Twitter @ClintPhythian

Surgeries

10 – 11 the first Saturday of the month
Royton Town Hall

Drop in or email clint.phythian@oldham.gov.uk
to book an appointment.

Cllr Hannah Roberts – Royton North Ward

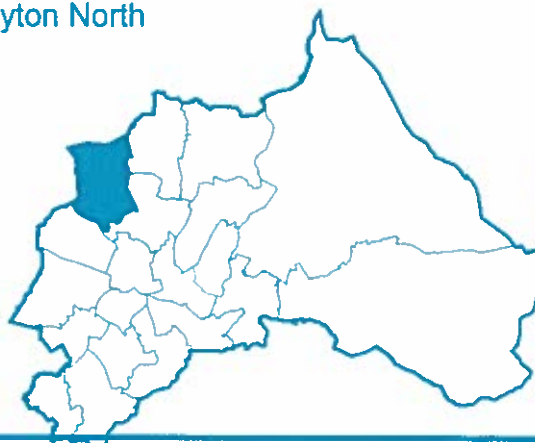
My Ward priorities

- Royton Town Centre
- Children and young people
- The local environment

Training completed

- Charing Skills
- Effective enforcement action
- Children's Safeguarding;
- Developing affordable housing
- Tackling homelessness

Royton North



Work in the community

- Member of Cabinet as Cabinet member for Housing, Corporate Parenting Panel, Royton Sick and Needy Trustee, Greater Manchester Housing & Planning Commission, Tree Partnership
- 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings
- Trustee of Positive Steps Oldham supporting young people, Governor of Blackshaw Lane School and Chair of District Advisory Board of Children's Centre
- Member of Oldham's Foster Panel assessing new foster parents and supporting children in the care of the Council. Attended Stars in Our Eyes & Foster Carer celebration events
- Together with other Royton Councillors developed grant scheme to improve shopfronts in Royton; worked with the Royton Historical Society on design for Town Hall refurbishment. Continued to support the Christmas light display and the light switch on; funded free activities for children in the school holidays; attended community litter picks
- Attended consultation events and met local people to discuss the GMSF. Taken action to find extra brownfield sites, including over 2,000 in Oldham Town Centre to minimise allocation of greenbelt land for homes and reduce loss of greenbelt in Royton
- Organised memorial to Peterloo on Tandle Hill and supported the Peterloo Picnic to commemorate Royton's part in Peterloo and the centenary of Tandle Hill being given to Royton
- Attended all meetings of Royton's Community Forum discussing issues including policing, traffic and speeding, Royton Town Hall, street lighting, parking, planning and buses
- Supported residents of Cherry Grove to successfully object to local development
- Continued to support action to combat flooding in Grasmere Road area
- Held regular meetings with residents of Throstle Court to hear and act on their concerns
- Responded to many individual residents' problems raised with me by phone, text and e mail

Contact me

E: hannah.roberts@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07816 335548

Twitter @hulmeroberts

Facebook

www.facebook.com/RoytonNorthLP

Surgeries

10-11am first Saturday of the month,
Royton Town Hall (e mail or phone to
double check as Town Hall closes for
refurbishment later in 2020) Drop in or
email hannah.roberts@oldham.gov.uk
to book an appointment.

Cllr Arooj Shah – Chadderton South ward

My Ward priorities

- Every school to be rated good or outstanding
- Cleaner and greener streets
- Community Cohesion

Training completed

- All required training



Work in the community

- It has been a pleasure and privilege to meet and work alongside so many positive residents and partners in my first year representing Chadderton South.
- I know that the quality of our local environment is important to everyone and I am determined to continue doing all that I can to help maintain and improve this beautiful part of our borough.
- I've been grateful to my ward colleagues, Cllr Graham Shuttleworth and Cllr Chris Goodwin, for their support in this and our efforts encouraging people to 'Love Where You Live' have been well received.
- Community clean-ups targeting hotspot areas for flytipping and litter have been held regularly and we've been joined on these by people from all kinds of backgrounds and interest groups, including the likes of the Chadderton WI, and residents living in affected areas.
- We've also been helping people to improve gated areas near their homes through financial and advisory support to transform it into something they can admire once again.
- I regularly participate in the fortnightly roving surgeries with my colleagues Cllr Graham Shuttleworth and Chris Goodwin. We leaflet the area we intend to walk around and the residents who would like to speak to us will display a leaflet in the window so we know to knock on the door! .
- This method of communication with our residents is particularly effective and a great way to pick up casework or just for a general meet and greet.
- I've attended many local events this year which have often led to me offering assistance, wherever possible, to important local causes. Through my ward member's budget, for example, I have funded Gentle Exercise classes at Turf Lane Community Centre, Operation Christmas Child which saw many children living in poverty receive Christmas presents, Specialised transport St George's Church to ensure that elderly residents could continue to access the social activities at the church, in addition I also contributed to the payment of the heating system as this needed repairing, the Meeting point project and the funding for basket swing at Coalshaw Green Park.
- Public health is also important to me as is tackling social isolation. To address this, we have held regular morning coffees at the Turf Lane Community Centre. The coffee mornings are free to attend and take place every Monday from 9-11am.
- Chadderton South is blessed with some fantastic natural assets but, in my experience, the best of all of them is its people. I am looking forward to continuing to work together and contributing #ourbit so that we can carry on making a real difference to this fantastic place.

Contact

E: arooj.shah@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07966 297179

Surgery

The first Monday of every month at South Chadderton Methodist Church (Times vary - email for an appointment)

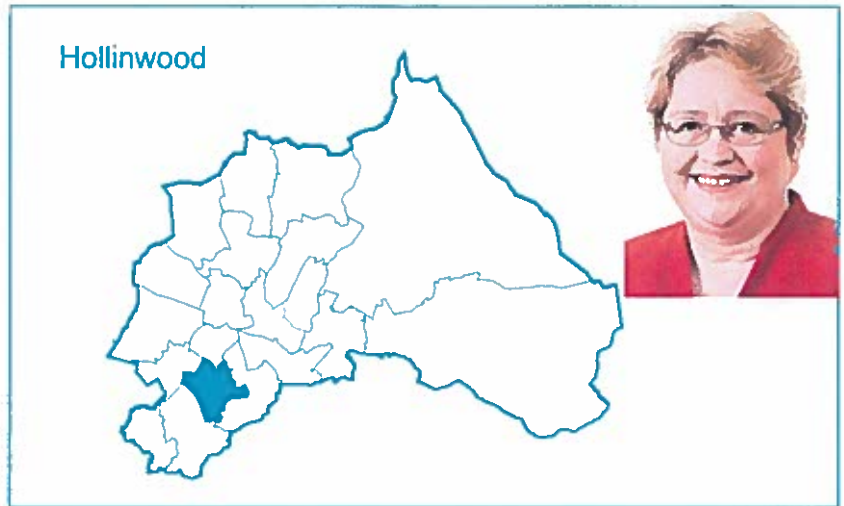
Cllr Jean Stretton – Hollinwood Ward

My Ward priorities

- Community Safety
- Housing
- Environmental issues
- Education

Training completed

- Prevent e-learning
- Up to date with training for Safeguarding Children and Adults



Work in the community

- Governor at Limehurst Primary School
- Member of Oasis Academy Hub
- Chair of Oldham Credit Union
- I hold surgeries each month at St Chads Centre and deal with cases raised with me by telephone or email by residents.
- Many of the individual issues that residents raise with me are confidential but they include problems with council tax and housing benefit; highways defects; flytipping; housing issues, including homelessness, threats of eviction, inadequate private sector housing and landlord issues and difficulties getting appropriate housing; concerns about planning applications; school admissions... and various other issues. If you have any concerns that you think I can help with please get in touch by telephone or email.
- All councillors have a ward member budget. I use part of mine to help fund the Citizen's Advice Bureau sessions that take place twice a month at St Chad's Centre. I also support the Hollinwood Christmas Event and contribute to funding for hanging baskets along Hollins Road. The rest of the funding can be used to support community groups – past examples include funding for gardening equipment at a sheltered housing scheme, for computer equipment, for sports kit/equipment for voluntary sports groups, for tables and chairs for community centres, to provide holiday time activities for young people. If you are a member of a community group in Hollinwood and have a funding request, please get in touch.

Attendance at Council Meetings

- I have 100% attendance at Oldham Council meetings

Contact me

E: jean.stretton@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07875676710

Twitter @cllrjstretton

Surgeries

6 - 7pm on the second Friday of each month at St Chads Centre, Lime Green Parade, Limehurst, OL8 3HH.

Drop in or email jean.stretton@oldham.gov.uk to book an appointment.

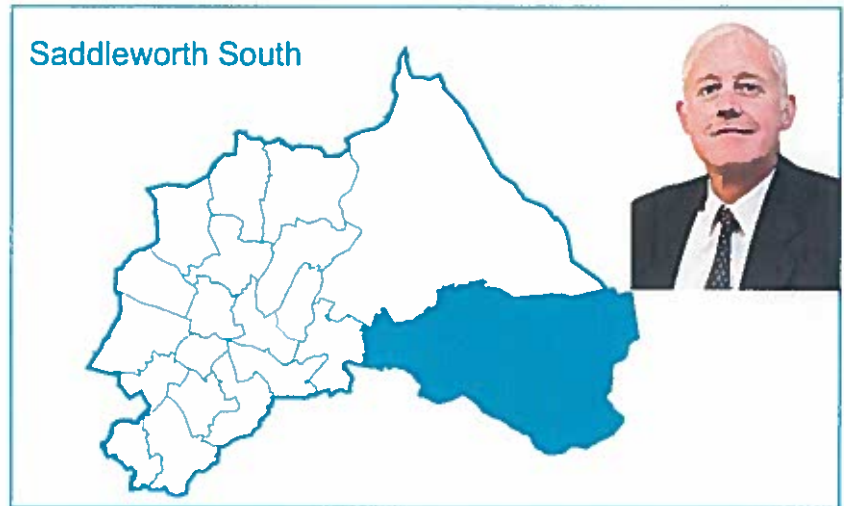
Cllr Graham Sheldon – Saddleworth South Ward

My Ward priorities

- Road safety
- Dog fouling
- Flooding Issues
- Protecting Green spaces
- Traffic flow Greenbridge lane
- Maintaining public footpaths

Training completed

- Audit Committee



Work in the community

- Member of Audit Committee
- Member of the Licensing Committee
- Attend Oldham and Saddleworth and Lees District Meetings
- Attended training on Adult and Child safeguarding.
- Working with Flood and Highways teams to reduce the risk of flooding at the Clarence area in Greenfield.
- Held several meetings to improve the flood drainage ditch around Kenworthy Gardens Uppermill. I believe this ditch should be part of the Environmental Agency remit as it now forms part of the river system.
- Met with Highways and the Environment Agency to discuss the land slip at Bridge Street in Uppermill.
- Working with residents, the Historical Society and Unity to determine a way forward to reopen the public footpath from Bridge Street to Spring Street Uppermill.
- Worked with First Choice homes to clear overgrown shrubs etc. at the car park to the sports center Uppermill, following reports of anti-social behavior.
- Requested Highways team to investigate continuous flooding outside the Co Op and old Nat West bank in Uppermill. Also flooding at new Zebra crossing in Greenfield. This I still believe is situated in the wrong place.
- I will keep persisting with the request to reduce the speed limit at the Royal George Junction to 30mph. This is the only junction I know in the borough where motorists are encouraged to increase their speed on approach.
- Don't hold surgeries but I am contactable 7 days by email. Messages can also be left on my landline 01457 513236.
- Support the Whit Friday Walks and Band contests and believe Oldham should be contributing £15,000 directly to the Saddleworth Band Contest Committee.
- Contributed almost £1000 to the repair of the path from Kenworthy Gardens to the canal.

Contact me

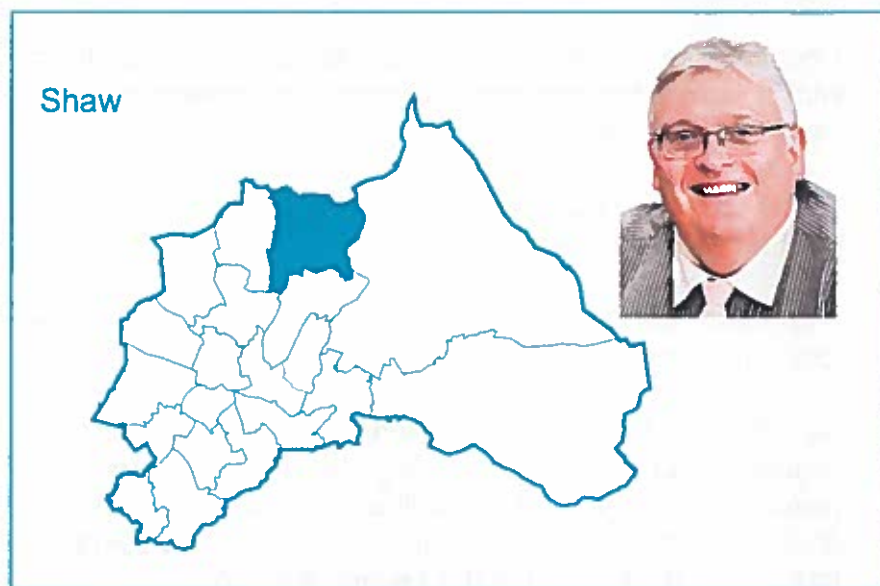
E: graham.sheldon@oldham.gov.uk

T: 01457 513236

Councillor Howard Sykes MBE – Shaw Ward

My Ward Priorities

- Community work
- Education
- Local policing
- ASB/crime
- Protecting Green Belt
- Transport
- Bus and tram services
- Shaw High Street
- Council services
- Community groups



Work in the community

I champion all issues for Shaw residents and ensure they have a strong voice within Oldham Council and the wider business community.

- I am up to date with local people's views and regularly contact residents this may be by a Leaflet Campaign, Door Knocking or at local Surgeries that are held weekly.
- I support residents with housing repairs, rehousing, neighbour disputes, healthcare complaints, council bins and rubbish removal, dog waste and new street litter or grit bins.
- I am a governor at St Joseph's school and as a caring parent myself I strive for our children's right to receive an education appropriate to their needs.
- I continue to work closely with our local Police, the District Partnership, Parish Council, residents and businesses of Shaw to resolve the problem of anti-social behaviour. This work remains an on-going battle to ensure that residents have a safe place to live.
- I continue to challenge the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, and work to achieve the best outcome possible for residents' homes, jobs, and the environment by opposing the appalling loss of our green spaces. For further information about the work I do for this please refer to my website.
- I work with Transport for Greater Manchester resolving residents' issues about bus services or Metrolink.
- I am looking forward to the next challenge working with Transport for Greater Manchester to achieve a fully integrated, high capacity transport system.
- I work with the Council Planning Department and other agencies to ensure Shaw High Streets empty properties are revitalised and not left to decline by irresponsible landlords.
- I formally object to planning applications if I believe they are inappropriate or not a benefit to residents - I have had some success with this.

- I continue to drive the campaigns forward for a new Health Centre for Shaw and Crompton and from these campaigns I am hopeful of a positive update soon.
- I continue to request regular vehicle speed monitoring on roads such as Buckstones Road – with a view to the instalment of speed enforcement measures that can be taken to address and resolve these issues.
- I work with the Highways Department to have the pot holes, blocked grids and poor footpaths resurfaced or repaired.
- I regularly pursue complaints of fly tipping around Shaw and I work very closely with the Environmental Health Department on this matter.
- As Chair of the Crompton Moor Users Group and in my role as Ward Councillor, I meet regularly with the group, working closely for this area of countryside that within our community remains very important. I continue to ensure that this area is maintained and safe to use by all. Most recently I have been instrumental in agreeing a new dog sign that will hopefully be introduced by the start of the nesting season.
- I continue to work with residents and a variety of agencies for a resolution to on-going flooding problems, primarily in the areas of Dunwood Park, Grains Road, Beal Lane.
- I worked with residents regarding the ongoing issue of more parking on Osbourne Street and Elizabeth Grove and I am pleased to confirm this is now approved.

Contact me

E: howardsykes@odham.gov.uk
T: 0161 770 4016

Surgeries

7:30pm to 8:30pm
Held every Thursday at Shaw Lifelong Learning Centre
(no appointment necessary)

Website: <http://howardsykes.mycouncillor.org.uk>

Twitter: @Howard_Sykes

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Councillor Howard Sykes](http://www.facebook.com/CouncillorHowardSykes)

The role of a Councillor in a co-operative borough

#Ourbit – Being the voice of the local community within council and helping local residents solve problems

#Yourbit – Get in touch and let your councillors know if you have a problem or suggestion

#Result – Working together to solve problems and make our community better

Cllr Graham Shuttleworth – Chadderton South Ward

My Ward priorities

- Tackling Fly-tipping
- Environmental Improvements
- Highways

Training completed

- All and any training to enable me to provide a better service to residents

Chadderton South



Work in the community

- Regular attendee at community organised monthly events
- Frequently out and about in the ward
- Meeting with and discussing issues raised by residents
- Visiting the junior youth sessions throughout the year
- Working with residents on gated area clean-ups

Contact me

Email:
graham.shuttleworth@oldham.gov.uk
M: 07800 648 377

Surgeries

First Saturday of each month between 10-11 at St George's over 60's Club.
Drop sessions so no appointment required.

CLlR Ruji Sapna Surjan – Coldhurst Ward

My Ward priorities

- Engagement and Empowerment
- Education and Employment
- Stronger Communities
- Healthy Environment



Work in the community

- **Committee Appointments:**
Council
Overview and Scrutiny Board
Overview and Scrutiny Performance and Value for Money Select Committee (Substitute)
Planning Committee (Substitute)
- **Appointments to Outside Bodies:**
Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale
Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust- Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Pennine Care NHS Trust – Joint Mental Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- 88% attendance at Oldham Council meetings with apologies being sent for 12%
- **Registered Training:**
03/12/2019 - Charing Skills
13/11/2019 - Improving Health and Wellbeing
23/10/2019 - GM, The Mayor and 10 Priorities
17/10/2019 – GDPR
10/09/2019 - Enforcement Issues
04/09/2019 – Safeguarding
29/05/2019 - Planning Training
14/05/2019 - Members Induction 2019

Ward Priorities:

- **Engagement and Empowerment**
Better and wider engagement with residents, particularly women and young people.
To give everyone chances to voice their concerns and have greater representation.
- **Education and Employment**
Help and support young people to have higher educational attainment and pathways to employment towards the career of their dreams.
Create opportunities to work shadow local businesses and gain essential work experience.
- **Stronger Communities**
Building new large family homes, both in quality and affordable housing.
Work alongside the community, police and authorities to tackle anti-social behavior and crimes. Support families by raising awareness on how to access relevant provisions and services.

- **Healthy Environment**

Reduction on fly-tipping and littering by prosecuting offenders.
Continue to maintain public footpaths and roads

- **Councillor Budget contributions:**

JTPS - GCSE Award Ceremony
Derai Probashi Kollan Porishad (Oldham)
Westwood Street play
Westwood Cricket Club - 10 indoor cricket sessions
Annual contribution towards grit bins in the Coldhurst area
Chadderton Badminton Club Tournament
Sur Sangeetaloy
Contribution to Ashley Mews gating scheme

Contact me

E: Ruji.Surjan@oldham.gov.uk
M: 07971 363 796

Surgeries

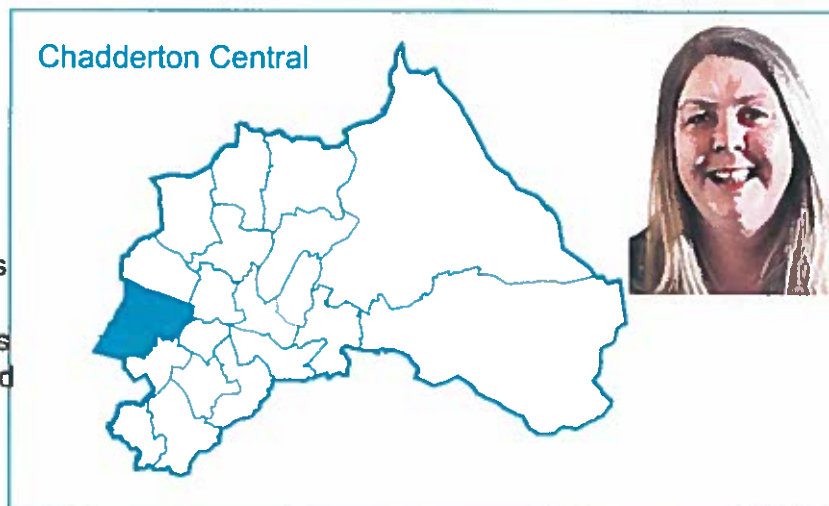
10.00am – 12.00 noon on Tuesdays
weekly at the OBA Millenium Centre, 1st
Floor, Featherstall Road

Drop in or email Ruji.Surjan@oldham.gov.uk
to book an appointment.

Cllr Elaine Taylor – Chadderton Central Ward

My Ward priorities

- Community Safety
- Building Greater Community Cohesion
- Tackling Deprivation and Food Poverty
- Supporting local Community Groups and working with residents
- Ensuring the local roads, pavements and green space are well maintained
- Working with Partner Organisations to provide adequate affordable housing



Work in the community

- As well as holding regular advice surgeries and engaging with residents and groups on a wide range of different issues, I also sit on the Overview & Scrutiny Board which scrutinises council decisions.
- I have worked in partnership with local community groups and organisations on a number of issues to make sure that local facilities are maintained and provided. This ranges from attending litter picks to improving the state of the pond in Foxdenton Park, seeking funding for handrails on public steps and using my council budget to clear up un-adopted green spaces.
- Locally, I have helped residents with their campaign for the return of the 415 bus service and moved a motion at Council to try and prevent the closure of the Crown Post Office in Oldham Town Centre.
- I am a School Governor at the Radclyffe School, and as part of my commitment to tackling poverty and deprivation, I have worked across local schools to enable us to share information and gain a better understanding of the growing issue of food poverty and holiday hunger for our children.
- I have also worked with my Ward colleagues to support the introduction of vehicle activated signs to help combat speeding, sought funding for road surface improvements, and in conjunction with the Council's Community Safety Team, helped to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) across many parts of the Ward. We are also currently involved in a number of local heritage projects and creating a neighbourhood plan to promote town centre improvements and develop a shared vision for Chadderton.
- I have promoted the co-operative agenda by working with residents and voluntary groups to help organise local fundraising events and to help tackle social isolation for our elderly residents and build greater community cohesion on the Crossley estate.
- I also volunteer at Chadderton Day and attend local Homewatch/ residents meetings and the regular walk about on the Crossley estate.
- In the last year all 3 Chadderton Central Councillors have supported events to commemorate Peterloo and Armistice Day.

Contact me

E: elaine.taylor@oldham.gov.uk

M: 07966 297200

Surgeries

We hold monthly surgeries at Mills Hill and Kingfisher School on a Friday evening between 5 – 6pm and at the Crossley Community Centre on a Saturday morning between 10-11am. Please contact me or check the website for dates.

We also hold roving surgeries throughout the Ward on a regular basis

Cllr Yasmin Toor – Medlock Vale Ward

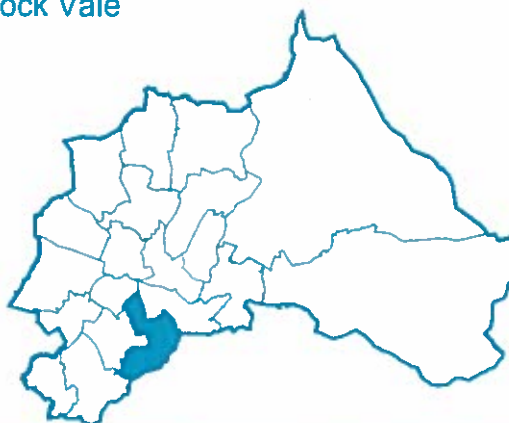
My Ward priorities

- Housing
- Environmental Improvement
- Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour
- Tackling Health Inequalities

Training completed

- The role of 21st Century Councillor
- Adult Safeguarding
- Social Media amount

Medlock Vale



Work in the community

- District Lead for West Oldham.
- Greater Manchester Waste & Recycling Committee
- Chairman of Heathcot Pre-School
- Ex-Chair and current member of Royal Oldham Hospital League of Friends
- Member of Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Health Scrutiny Committee
- Honorary Graduate of University Campus Oldham
- Member of Mayor's Appeal Fund Committee
- Lay Member of Oldham's Deputy Lieutenant's Committee
- First Asian female Councillor in Medlock Value since 2010
- Former positions as Governor at Medlock Valley Primary and St Thomas Primary Schools
- Mayoress of Oldham 2015-16
- Co-ordinator Tameside General Hospital (LIPS Service)

I have supported the following organisations, groups and services

- Glodwick Dynamos (Werneth)
- PCC Pakistan Independence Day
- Oldham Volleyball Club – Volleyball Tournament
- Saheli Women's Group Building Relationships
- Gainsborough Avenue and Keb Lane Grit Bins
- CAB Advice Surgeries January-December 2020
- CNG Schools Out For Summer
- Bulldogs Skip Hire
- Oldham Community Outreach
- Remembrance Sunday Band
- WW2 Gravestone – Rochdale Memorials
- Pakistani Community Centre
- Chai Women's Group – Hathershaw College (declared an interest as a school governor)
- Member of LGA Councillors Forum, Member at Oldham District Executive
- Regularly attend Oldham Council meetings
- Worked with Police to tackle anti-social behavior
- Spoke at Council to oppose £20M of cuts to Oldham Council's budget
- Held surgeries regular Councillor's surgeries at Bardsley, Fitton Hill and Coppice/Hathershaw.

Contact me

E: Yasmin.toor@oldham.gov.uk

T: 0161 284 7777

M: 07973 392078

Cllr Ateeque Ur-Rehman – Medlock Vale Ward

My Ward priorities

- Housing & tackling Health Inequalities
- Dog fouling
- Creating new jobs

Training completed

- The role of the 21st Century Councillors
- Adult Safeguarding
- Social Media

Medlock Vale



Work in the community

- Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services
- Greater Manchester Transport Committee
- Greater Manchester Waste & Recycling Committee
- Chairman of Hathershaw College of Technology and Sports
- Vice Chairman of Pinnacle Learning Trust
- Member CGN (Community Groups Network)
- Honorary Chairman of Fitton Hill Bulldogs
- Board Member for Housing Association
- Councillor in Medlock Vale Ward since 2004
- Former positions of Lecturer at Oldham College, Mayor of Oldham 2015-16, Cabinet Member for Policing and Community Safety

I have supported the following organisation, groups and services

- Glodwick Dynamos (Werneth)
- PCC Pakistan Independence Day
- Oldham Volleyball Club Tournament
- Saheli Women's Group – Building Relationships
- Gainsborough Avenue and Keb Lane Grit Bins
- CAB Advice Surgeries January-December 2020
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- Spoke at Council to oppose £20M cuts to Oldham Council's budget
- Held surgeries regular Councillors surgeries at Bardsley, Fitton Hill and Coppice/Hathershaw

Contact me

E:

ateeqe.urrehman@oldham.gov.uk

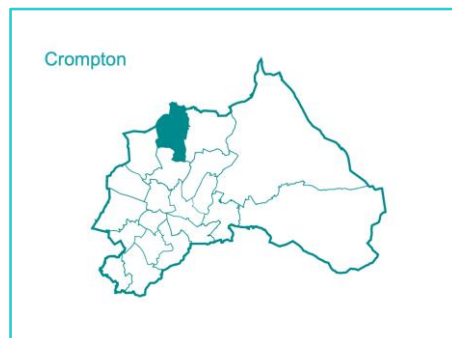
T: 0161 284 7777

M: 07973 392078

Cllr Diane Williamson – Crompton Ward 2019-20

My Ward priorities

Demanding better for Crompton
New Health Centre for Shaw and Crompton
Protecting Greenbelt and OPOL
Engaging with residents
Environmental Issues
Championing highway and footpath issues
Tackling Dog Fouling



Work in the community

- As District Lead, I work closely with the Royton, Shaw and Crompton District Team, delivering services to the wards of Shaw and Crompton. I Chair the Community Forum meetings where members of the public are able to ask for items to be on the agenda, question Councillors and the police. I have made the meetings informal rather than rigid to allow the meeting to flow in a freer way – residents enjoy our meetings and I was recently praised by a resident for chairing a tense meeting where residents were raising concerns about burglary and crime
- A number of campaigns, which have rolled into one, is the “Love Where You Live” campaign in Crompton ward, has seen over the last 3 years 15,000 dog fouling leaflets hand delivered to every house in the ward (every year). We have banners installed at various locations around the ward, which identifies the different areas of our lovely ward. High Crompton, Crompton and Shaw. Myself and my colleagues have been praised by residents for doing this and want more banners in the inner parts of the ward. We are hoping to extend the campaign to the bins in the ward, which would remind residents to pick up after their dogs with the slogan “Bag It and Bin It”
- Together with my five colleagues in Shaw and Crompton we hold ward surgeries, where members residents can come along and speak me, confidentially, and without interruption about sometimes their very personal issues which they cannot put into an email
- I continue, along with my colleagues are campaigning for a new Health Centre in Shaw for the people of Shaw and Crompton. As the District Lead, I have written to both GP Practices in Crompton Health Centre, requesting a meeting to discuss what they envisage for a new Health Centre and whether they want to be part of this fantastic journey when it comes to fruition. I have still not heard from them, despite three letters
- I have had meetings with partners:
 - First Choice Homes Oldham – about housing issues
 - Greater Manchester Police – crime issues
 - Transport for Greater Manchester – trying to save 403 bus service; Travelsafe and issues relating to conductors on trams
 - Highways Officers – to explain what roads are the ones that need doing for example the ones the residents keep telling us about
- As Shadow Cabinet Member for Policing and Social Justice I have the opportunity to ask questions to senior offices in the Council, and hold the Administration to account
- Member of Hopwood Trust appointed by the Council – continue to support them with their fundraising events and attend their meetings, plus general support for Crompton Cricket, Crompton Bowling Clubs, and Crompton Football Club – where we have used our ward budget to purchased football kits with the message ‘Love Crompton’ to inspire the next generation of young people to ‘Love Where We Live’

- There are a number of events and groups which happen in Shaw and Crompton and I am pleased to support these through funding or time:
 - Shaw and Crompton Events Group who host the Christmas Lights Event in Shaw town centre
 - Two Homewatch Schemes
 - St George's Day event
 - Tour of Britain
 - High Crompton Park Friends Group
 - Holocaust Memorial Day Service at Crompton War Memorial
- After many years of trying to get the right lights installed on the four big trees on the Big Lamp Roundabout, we have managed to get some Event lighting on it so that we can celebrate the nation's saints and other events like Holocaust Memorial Day and St David's Day
- A part of an initiative to make sure the ward has access to AEDs (defibrillators) we have funded a number in Crompton Ward – the last one has been put up on Fir Lane Methodist Church Chapel. These AEDs are life-saving pieces of equipment and the locations chosen are for areas where there is a clear need.
- Some of the funding projects that myself and my colleagues support are:
- I am very proud to have supported Crompton FC by funding football shirts for the Rainbows and Butterflies team
- A scheme in place to protect High Crompton Post Office from ram raiders – (location junction of Thornham Road/Rochdale Road)
 - Funded guard rails to ensure highway safety at High Crompton Post Office.
 - Supporting residents close to the new second entrance following planning approval at Crompton Gate.
- Working with faith organisations such as Holy Trinity Church, St Andrew's High Crompton and Fir Lane Methodist Church
- Supporting new School builds at Royton and Crompton and Crompton House Schools
- I have also made sure that Crompton ward puts in bids to the new Local Improvement Fund. This is the fund where wards can bid in for large projects rather than have their own funds. We have already secured funding for a Trim Trail in High Crompton Park and in the second stage of bidding to fix the clock in Holy Trinity Church.

As a Crompton Councillor I am proud to represent this lovely part of Oldham and I continue to work hard, all year round.

Contact me

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Diane.williamson@oldham.gov.uk
T: 01706 558036
M: 07805 587327

Twitter @CllrDWilliamson

Surgeries

7:30pm to 8:30pmpm every Thursday at Shaw Lifelong Centre.
No appointment necessary



Report to COUNCIL

Review of Whistleblowing Policy

Portfolio Holder:

Cllr A Jabbar, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services

Officer Contact: Rebekah Sutcliffe

Report Author: Elisabetta Coccia, Senior Employee Relations Advisor

Ext. 4673

15th July 2020

Reason for Decision

This review of the council's Whistleblowing Policy was commissioned to ensure our policy is robust and that complaints are managed, processed and actioned by the council appropriately.

Executive Summary

The format and layout of the policy have been significantly changed to make it more accessible. The table below outlines the key content of each of the sections. The italics denote where, in addition, changes have been made or additional information included. The policy in its entirety can be found at Appendix 1 of this report.

Introduction	<p>Outlines the council's commitment to the highest standards of honesty, openness, probity and accountability.</p> <p>Introduces the Whistleblowing Policy as the mechanism by which employees can report disclosures of wrongdoing for the council to investigate and act upon, if required.</p> <p><i>Confirms that the council encourages employees to report concerns in order that the organisation can ensure high standards.</i></p>
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Policy Scope	Details that the policy applies to all employees of Oldham Council, employees of contractors working for the council, employees of suppliers, voluntary workers and people who in the course of their work come into contact with employees of the council.
Principles	Outlines the provisions of the policy; what the council wants employees to do if they have concerns that wrong doing is being perpetrated by others at the council (including the encouragement to report to the police, if they wish), clarifies employees' rights in terms of the protection afforded by the Public Disclosure Act 1998 and sets out how the council will handle and respond to complaints made under the policy.
Definition of Whistleblowing	<p>Clarifies that whistleblowing is the confidential disclosure by an individual of concerns (as defined by the policy) relating to a perceived wrongdoing involving any aspect of the council's work or those who work for the council.</p> <p>States that the disclosure of the alleged wrongdoing must be in the public interest in the context of the Public Disclosure Act 1998 and the Employment Rights Act 1996.</p> <p>Confirms that if an employee has a complaint relating to their own employment, this should be raised under the council's Grievance Policy.</p>
Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998	Outlines the provision of the Public Disclosure Act 1998 (PIDA) and the legal protections it provides to employees who report a concern which is in the public interest (also known as a qualifying disclosure).
Safeguarding Employees When Raising a Disclosure	<i>Confirms that the council will seek to treat whistleblowing allegations as confidential (subject to legal parameters) in order to protect employees, where</i>

	<p><i>possible. States that if an allegation relates to a child or vulnerable adult, prioritisation is given to a prompt and through investigation over anonymity of the whistleblower.</i></p> <p><i>States that anonymous complaints can be submitted and will be investigated fully, however, the council encourages employees to put their name to whistleblow complaints.</i></p> <p>This section also outlines the council's zero tolerance to any harassment or victimisation of employees who make a whistleblowing disclosure.</p> <p>In addition, this section confirms that the council will consider any deliberately false or malicious whistleblowing allegations made as a serious offence where disciplinary action will be taken.</p>
How Employees Can Raise a Whistleblowing Disclosure	<p><i>Provides a clear process by which an employee can report a concern or allegation.</i></p> <p><i>The points of contact for reporting are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• The Audit and Counter Fraud Team (via email, telephone or through the submission of the whistleblowing form);</i> <i>• The Chief Executive or;</i> <i>• The Monitoring Officer (Director of Legal Services)</i> <p><i>The process for submission, investigation and resolution is also outlined pictorially in Appendix 2 of the policy to aid clarity for employees.</i></p>
How the Council Will Respond to Whistleblowing	<p><i>Confirms that the council will always respond to a whistleblowing allegation to acknowledge receipt (this acknowledgement will be within 48 hours of receipt in cases which relate to a potential safeguarding matter where there may be an immediate risk).</i></p> <p><i>States that a further acknowledgement will be sent to all whistleblowers within 10 working days to indicate how the council</i></p>

	<p><i>proposes to deal with the matter, whether the disclosure meets the definition under the Public Disclosure Act 1998, contact details for the investigating officer and an estimate of how long it may take to provide a response on the outcome.</i></p> <p><i>This acknowledgement may state that no action is planned, together with summary reasons as to why this decision has been made.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, this section outlines the steps which the council may choose to take in order to ensure that the investigation is conducted in a thorough, fair and appropriate manner.</i></p>
Outcomes of Whistleblowing	<p>Outlines the council's position with regard to sharing outcomes of any whistleblowing investigations. Confirms that information shared will be in accordance with the data protection requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations (2018).</p>
Data Protection and Freedom of Information	<p>Confirms how the council will manage all information pertinent to whistleblowing cases; subject to the requirements of the General Data Protection Requirements (2018) and the council's Privacy Notice.</p>
Monitoring Whistleblowing Disclosures	<p>Confirms that the Monitoring Officer (Director of Legal Services) has overall responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the Whistleblowing Policy.</p> <p><i>States that the Audit and Counter Fraud Team will keep and maintain a central record of all whistleblowing complaints made which will be summarised (together with learning points and actions) in a quarterly report for SMT consideration / review.</i></p>
Training and Awareness	<p>States that Chief Officers and Heads of Service are responsible for ensuring that their employees are aware of the Whistleblowing Policy and that any training needs in relation to it are</p>

	addressed promptly. <i>In order to ensure all new employees to the council are aware of the policy, it is included in the Corporate Induction.</i>
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Recommendations

Council is asked to consider the Whistleblowing Policy and give final approval for its adoption by the Authority.

Review of Whistleblowing Policy

1 Background

- 1.1 The Whistleblowing Policy provides the means for these disclosures to be reported, investigated and actioned. In addition, the policy outlines the statutory protection afforded by the Public Disclosure Act 1998 to employees who make a complaint which meets the 'public interest test.' This provides them with protection from any detriment in the workplace, including harassment, victimisation or dismissal.
- 1.2 The purpose of this review of the policy was to:
- Improve policy accessibility for employees to promote a culture of openness and transparency where employees feel able to report concerns;
 - Provide employee assurance that the council will investigate and act upon matters appropriately and on a timely basis;
 - Provide clear contact points for employees to submit a whistleblowing complaint to;
 - Provide clarity as to what constitutes a whistleblowing complaint as defined in the context of the Public Disclosure Act (1998) and the Employment Rights Act 1996;
 - Provide examples of complaints which may constitute a whistle blow for employee reference;
 - Include clarity in terms of what information will / can be shared with the complainant; and;
 - Provide a clear process (with timeframes) by which the council will investigate whistle blow complaints.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 Extensive consultation has been conducted across the organisation including with the Trade Unions, Legal Services, Audit and Counter Fraud Services, and the Customer Complaints Service

3 Options/Alternatives

- 3.1 The revisions to the policy are comply with legislation and reflect best practice. Alternative options with reference to content, main headings and structure have been considered and incorporated where appropriate and necessary. The policy is now regarded as being sufficiently comprehensive to comply with legislation and the council's obligations as an employer, but also suitably accessible to be fit for purpose.

4 Preferred Option

- 4.1 To implement the revised Whistleblowing Policy to ensure legal and HR best practice is maintained.

5 Consultation

- 5.1 The policy revisions have been developed by a joint working group with input from Legal Services, Audit and Counter Fraud and the Customer Complaints Service; ensuring legal and best practice compliance.
- 5.2 Trade union colleagues have been consulted at various stages of the development and their views have influenced and shaped the final document. In addition, senior officers have been consulted and have approved the version now submitted to Full Council.

-
- 6 **Financial Implications**
- 6.1 There are no known specific financial implications associated with this report.
(Nicola Harrop)
- 7 **Legal Services Comments**
- 7.1 Legal Services have provided input to the development of the revised policy and consider that the revised policy provides a robust and legally compliant process.
(Colin Brittain)
8. **Co-operative Agenda**
- 8.1 The principles of transparency, accountability, fairness and equality underpin the Whistleblowing Policy, which ensures that council employees are safely able to raise legitimate concerns and serious allegations of wrongdoing which are in the public interest. It is these same principles upon which the council's co-operative agenda is built.
- 9 **Human Resources Comments**
- 9.1 The Whistleblowing Policy outlines the process and procedure for employees of the council, including temporary and agency workers, to raise their concerns if they have reason to believe that wrongdoing is being perpetrated by others at the council. This review has improved the accessibility of the policy and has included further clarity in terms of process, timeframes, key responsibilities and outcomes which reflects HR best practice and legislative requirements. (Martyn Bramwell)
- 10 **Risk Assessments**
- 10.1 The current Officer Whistleblowing Policy has not been updated for a significant period of time. An updated policy is considered appropriate to the council's terms and conditions and thus reduce its risk around compliance to current employment legislation. (Mark Stenson)
- 11 **IT Implications**
- 11.1 None
- 12 **Property Implications**
- 12.1 None
- 13 **Procurement Implications**
- 13.1 None
- 14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**
- 14.1 Any work to improve the accessibility of the council's Whistleblowing Policy serves to allow better channels for employees to raise concerns in relation to potential breaches of health and safety legislation. This, in turn, allows the council to address any issues and mitigates against risk around health and safety. (Laura Smith)
- 15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**
- 15.1 The Whistleblowing Policy applies to all employees equally and provides clarity as to expectations of all, regardless of equality group.

16 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

16.1 No – see 15

17 **Key Decision**

17.1 No

18 **Key Decision Reference**

18.1 N/A

19 **Background Papers**

19.1 N/A

20 **Appendices**

20.1 Whistleblowing Policy (Appendix 1)

Whistleblowing Policy

May 2020

Whistleblowing Policy

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Whistleblowing Policy

1. Introduction to the Whistleblowing Policy

- 1.1 Oldham Council is committed to the highest standards of honesty, openness, probity and accountability and will not tolerate malpractice or wrongdoing.
- 1.2 The Council's Whistleblowing Policy is a critical element of our governance arrangements and is designed to allow those employed by the Council to come forward and report disclosures and serious allegations of wrongdoing, involving the actions of the Council's employees, its Councillors, contractors or any aspect of the Council's activities. As such, the Council encourages all employees to report any concerns which they believe should be investigated.
- 1.3 The Council is also committed to a policy, which seeks to protect those individuals who report certain disclosures, regarding any instance of malpractice or wrongdoing and to investigate them in the public interest.
- 1.4 Whistleblowing is generally the term used when someone who is employed in an organisation reports a concern about suspected wrongdoing, malpractice or illegality, which may include:
 - criminal offences/unlawful behaviour by an individual or a collective body;
 - failure to comply with a legal duty;
 - miscarriages of justice;
 - corrupt or fraudulent behaviour;
 - abuse of authority;
 - serious breaches of Council rules including the Financial Procedure Rules / Regulations;
 - discrimination on the grounds of sex, race or disability;
 - sexual, physical, verbal or financial abuse of clients, employees or the public
 - forced labour or human trafficking of clients or the public;
 - harassment or victimisation
 - the health and safety of any individual has been, or is likely to be, endangered by unsafe working practices;
 - the environment has been, is being or is likely to be, damaged (as a result of the Council's actions or inactions); and
 - information about any of the above has been, is being, or is likely to be, deliberately concealed.
- 1.5 The above list is not exhaustive and further examples of disclosures which may be reported can be found as **Appendix 1**.

2. Policy Scope

- 2.1 This policy applies to all employees of Oldham Council, employees of contractors working for the Council (e.g. agency workers, builders and drivers), employees of suppliers, voluntary workers working with the Council and people who in the course of their work come into contact with employees of the Council.

-
- 2.2 This policy is non-contractual and, in line with all non-contractual policies, Oldham Council may review, amend or withdraw this Policy from time to time in line with changes to employment legislation or organisational needs.
 - 2.3 This policy has been developed in consultation with the Trades Unions who can provide additional support to staff.

3. Principles

- 3.1 The Whistleblowing Policy seeks to outline the process and procedure for employees of Oldham Council, including temporary and agency staff, to raise their concerns if they have reason to believe that wrong doing is being perpetrated by others at the Council. It explains what the Council wants employees to do if they have concerns, clarifies their rights and responsibilities, identifies the steps which employees can take and puts this into the context of the **Public Disclosure Act 1998** and the **Employment Rights Act 1996**.
- 3.2 The Policy seeks to set out how the Council will handle and respond to serious allegations of perceived wrongdoing.
- 3.3 Although this policy provides details on how issues should be raised with the Council, the Council would encourage employees to report an issue to the police ,in conjunction with the whistleblowing process, where it is believed that criminal activity is involved.
- 3.3 Whistleblowing is viewed by the Council as a positive act that can make a valuable contribution to the Council's efficiency and long-term success.
- 3.4 The Council encourages and enables employees to raise their concerns at an early stage and to do so in the right way. It is not disloyal to colleagues or to the Council to make a disclosure. It is essential issues are addressed expeditiously so employees should 'blow the whistle' as early as possible to prevent any real damage being done
- 3.5 Concerns will be treated seriously, dealt with sensitively and with due confidentiality.
- 3.6 Employees will be given full support from Senior Management and the HR Advisory Service. Employees will not be expected to prove the wrongdoing but will need to demonstrate that there are sufficient grounds for concern.

4 Definition of Whistleblowing

- 4.1 Whistleblowing is the confidential disclosure by an individual of concerns (as defined by this policy) relating to a perceived wrongdoing involving any aspect of the Council's work or those who work for the Council. The whistleblowing process assists individuals, who believe they have discovered malpractice, impropriety or wrongdoing, to raise a concern, in order that this can be addressed.
- 4.2 Whistleblowing includes any occasion when an employee is concerned that their colleagues or the Council are acting unlawfully or dangerously and / or where there are concerns that colleagues or councillors are breaching operational or financial rules. It can involve sharing potentially vital information about health and safety risks, environmental factors, possible fraud, harm of children or vulnerable adults, covering up for someone and other serious activities. For further information on issues for which we encourage disclosure under this policy, see **Appendix 1**.

-
- 4.3 The wrongdoing disclosed must be in the public interest, as defined in the context of **Public Disclosure Act 1998** and the **Employment Rights Act 1996**. Therefore, the alleged wrongdoing must affect others, e.g. the general public.
- 4.4 Conversely, if an employee has an individual complaint relating to their employment, for example, their contract of employment, pay or conditions, this should be raised under the **Council's Grievance Policy**.

5. Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998

- 5.1 The alleged wrongdoing disclosed must be in the public interest. The **Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 (PIDA)** is often referred to as the Whistleblowing law and is designed to encourage and enable employees to "speak out" and to report suspected wrongdoing at work; commonly known as "blowing the whistle".
- 5.2 PIDA legislation legally protects employees (including those employed in schools maintained by the Council, temporary workers and agency staff), from any detriment from their employer or colleagues that arises as a result of making a "protected disclosure" (a qualifying disclosure) in the public interest. This includes protection from harassment, victimisation or dismissal by their employer.
- 5.3 A qualifying disclosure means a disclosure of information made to the Council or other prescribed person, which in the reasonable belief of the worker making the disclosure, is made in the public interest.
- 5.4 PIDA 1998 and the Employment Rights Act (ERA) 1996 clearly define what types of disclosures qualify employees for protection against dismissal and detrimental treatment by their employer. These are known as "protected disclosures" and are covered by the following Section of the above laws;
- a) that a criminal offence has been committed, is being committed or is likely to be committed - **Section 43B(1)(a), ERA 1996**;
 - b) that a person has failed, is failing or is likely to fail to comply with any legal obligation to which he is subject - **Section 43B(1)(b), ERA 1996**;
 - c) that a miscarriage of justice has occurred, is occurring or is likely to occur - **Section 43B(1)(c), ERA 1996**;
 - d) that the health or safety of any individual has been, is being or is likely to be endangered - **Section 43B(1)(d), ERA 1996**;
 - e) that the environment has been, is being or is likely to be damaged - **Section 43B(1)(e), ERA 1996**; or
 - f) that information tending to show any matter falling within any one of the preceding paragraphs has been, is being or is likely to be deliberately concealed - **Section 43B(1)(f), ERA 1996**.
- 5.6 A disclosure of information is not a qualifying disclosure if the person making the disclosure commits an offence by making it.
- 5.7 Employees are protected when they make a disclosure. In making a protected disclosure the employee must:
- reasonably believe that the disclosure they are making is in the public interest;
 - reasonably believe that the information detailed and any allegation in it are substantially true; and
 - the matter disclosed must fall within the matters prescribed for that regulator.

-
- 5.8 The earlier an employee expresses a concern, the easier it will be to act. Employees should raise a concern as soon they have a reasonable suspicion and are not expected to investigate the concern themselves to prove their suspicions are well-founded.
- 5.9 A disclosure will also be protected if the information disclosed is of a nature that shows that any of the above is likely to be deliberately concealed

6. Safeguarding Employees When Raising a Disclosure

- 6.1 This policy has been written to take account of the PIDA, which protects workers making disclosures about certain matters of concern, when those disclosures are made in accordance with the Act's provisions.
- 6.2 The Act makes it unlawful for the Council to dismiss anyone or allow them to be victimised, as a direct consequence of them making an appropriate lawful disclosure in accordance with the Act.
- 6.3 A disclosure will also be protected if the information disclosed is of a nature that shows that any of the above is likely to be deliberately concealed.
- 6.4 Allegations should be investigated in the appropriate spirit to ensure the correct outcome. This requires the application of the following principles and safeguards, which are discussed in **Sections 6.5, 6.6 and 6.7:**
- ensuring confidentiality and, where possible, anonymity to the whistleblower;
 - zero tolerance to harassment or victimisation; and
 - guarding against malicious and false allegations.

6.5 Confidentiality and Anonymity

- 6.5.1 The Council will seek to treat a whistleblowing allegation as confidentially as possible, subject to legal parameters.
- 6.5.2 However, in cases of alleged serious wrongdoing, it must be appreciated that the Council cannot guarantee that this will be maintained particularly if external legal action results from the disclosure. In some cases, an employee's concern may require further action and they may have to act as a witness and/or provide evidence, for example serious criminal offences which are referred to the Police.
- 6.5.3 If a disclosure relates to a child at risk or abuse of a vulnerable adult then the Council is required to investigate this under separate procedures and this takes priority over any request for anonymity.
- 6.5.4 Whilst the Council encourages employees to put their name to any whistleblowing allegation, as concerns expressed anonymously are much less powerful, they will be still be considered, based on the following:
- the seriousness of the issues raised;
 - the credibility of the concern; and
 - the likelihood of confirming the allegation from other, attributable, sources.

-
- 6.5.5 Employees cannot be told the outcome of any investigation of a concern which was brought forward anonymously.

6.6 Harassment or Victimisation

- 6.6.1 The Council will not tolerate harassment or victimisation by those involved with the matters of concern or from others. It will take action to protect employees when they raise a concern in the public interest. The Council takes its responsibilities in this seriously as it is accountable as the employer for any detriment caused.
- 6.6.2 Due regard and sensitivity will be exercised by all involved in the process to ensure that employees do not suffer detrimental treatment as a result of raising a referral.

6.7 False and Malicious Allegations

- 6.7.1 While encouraging employees to bring forward matters of concern, the Council must guard against claims which are untrue. This is because of the risk of claims made to deliberately damage the reputation of other employees or the Council, as a corporate body, and not least because the cost of investigation is high.
- 6.7.2 If an employee makes an allegation, but it is not confirmed by the investigation, no action will be considered or taken against them. However, if an employee makes false, malicious or vexatious allegations this will be treated as a serious disciplinary offence and disciplinary action will be taken. The PIDA only offers protection from dismissal or detriment if the worker reasonably believes their disclosure was made in the public interest.
- 6.7.3 The Whistleblowing Policy is designed to promote and encourage reporting genuine concerns. The policy is not designed to allow:
- individuals who have acted inappropriately to escape punishment by highlighting any malpractices they were involved in;
 - employment protection in relation to a redundancy situation or pre-existing disciplinary issues as a result of reporting a wrongdoing; and
 - an individual to raise a concern for some private motive and not to prevent or correct the wrongdoing.

7. How Employees Can Raise a Whistleblowing Disclosure

- 7.1 Once an employee has decided to raise a concern, then wherever possible, it should be expressed either verbally or in writing. This should set out the background and history of the concern, giving names, dates and places where possible, and the reason why the individual is particularly concerned about the situation.
- 7.2 The route to raising a concern depends on the seriousness and sensitivity of the issues and who is thought to be involved. It is the intention of Oldham Council that any employee with a concern about any aspect of the Council's operations or its conduct, feels able to first raise those concerns with the Audit and Counter Fraud Team (**Section 7.3**) or with one or more of the officers listed in **Section 7.4**.
- 7.3 Those who have a whistleblowing concern relating to the Council can use our whistleblowing reporting procedures. An employee who wishes to report a concern or

suspected serious wrongdoing (a disclosure) should contact the Audit and Counter Fraud Team at Oldham Council in one of the following ways:

- E-mail: investigations@oldham.gov.uk.
- Telephone: [Whistleblowing Hotline - 0161 770 4897](tel:01617704897)
- Online Whistleblowing reporting form: [Appendix 3 \(hard copy version\)](#)
- In writing to the following address:

Confidential
Oldham Council
Level 14, Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham, OL1 1UH

7.4 Alternatively, employees can report matters of concern to:

Oldham Council Officer	Contact Number
Chief Executive	0161 770 3542
Monitoring Officer (Director of Legal Services)	0161 770 4822

7.5 The final route is to request that a Trade Union or a Professional Association raises the matter through the council's whistleblowing procedure on the employee's behalf.

7.6 If an employee does not feel able to put the concern in writing, they can request to meet a member of the Audit and Counter Fraud Team who will listen carefully to the concerns raised and deal appropriately and confidentially with the matters raised.

7.7 Although individuals raising concerns are not expected to have supporting evidence to prove the truth of an allegation before reporting, he or she must reasonably believe that the information is substantially true to enable the matter to be taken forward. The Council expects that any person reporting a disclosure should provide as much information as possible to inform the investigation, including:

- who the allegations are against;
- full details on the nature of the alleged wrongdoing;
- any evidence they have in support of the allegation;
- name and contact details (unless they wish to remain anonymous, where possible).

7.8 Once a call is made to the Council's Whistleblowing Hotline, the Audit and Counter Fraud Team will gather as much information as possible about the concerns raised. If contact details are provided, they may get in touch to seek further information.

7.9 Once a disclosure has been reported, the process is summarised in **Appendix 2**.

7.10 The Audit and Counter Fraud Team will maintain a central record of whistleblowing cases.

8. How the Council will respond to Whistleblowing

8.1 The Council will always respond to you to acknowledge receipt of a disclosure.

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- 8.2 If the concern is a safeguarding matter, where there may be an immediate risk to vulnerable people, the Council will formally respond to you to acknowledge receipt of the disclosure within 48 hours. Where concerns are a safeguarding nature, they will be progressed in line with the safeguarding procedures for Children and Vulnerable Adults.
- 8.3 A further acknowledgement will be sent within 10 working days to indicate:
- how the Council proposes to deal with the matter; and the policy under which it will be investigated;
 - whether the Council considers it to be a protected disclosure;
 - contact details for the officer handling the investigation;
 - arrangements for confidentiality;
 - an estimate of how long it will take to provide a response on the outcome
 - any initial enquiries which may have been made; and
 - if no action is planned, why not.
- 8.4 On receipt of a whistleblowing allegation, the Council will make an assessment as to whether the matter meets the criteria of a protected disclosure (see **4.3**) and manage the matter as regulations require.
- 8.5 All proposed actions by the Audit and Counter Fraud team will be in consultation with the relevant service manager, where appropriate.
- 8.6 All allegations will be handled confidentially and discreetly by those managers who are directly involved in the investigating process. The ongoing point of contact for the whistleblower will be given in the acknowledgement letter.
- 8.7 If necessary, further information will be sought from the whistleblower. This will depend on the nature of the matters raised, the potential difficulties involved in conducting an investigation and the clarity of the information provided.
- 8.8 At any meeting arranged to discuss an employee's concerns the employee has the right, if they so wish, to be accompanied by their Trade Union representative or a friend who is not involved in the area to which the concern relates.
- 8.9 The action taken by the Council will depend on the nature of the concern. The matters raised may:
- be investigated internally;
 - be referred to the Police;
 - be referred to the External Auditor; and
 - form the subject of an independent inquiry.
 - The Council may take one or more of the actions listed above depending on the circumstances of the case.
- 8.10 To protect individuals and the Council, initial enquiries will be made to decide whether an investigation is appropriate and, if so, what form it should take. Most matters will, initially, be investigated internally. Concerns or allegations which fall within the scope of specific separate procedures (for example, child protection or discrimination issues) will normally be dealt with through those routes.

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- 8.11 The Council will do what it reasonably can do, to minimise any difficulties that an employee may experience as a result of raising a concern. For example, if an employee is required to give evidence in criminal or disciplinary proceedings, the Council will provide support about the procedures in terms of what will happen and what will be expected. The Audit and Counter Fraud team will provide initial support and reassurance to those who make a whistleblowing allegation and may signpost them to further appropriate sources of support.
- 8.12 Some concerns may be resolved by immediate action without the need for an investigation.
- 8.13 The amount of contact between the Officer(s) considering the issues and the employee will depend on the nature of the matters raised, the potential difficulties involved and the amount and clarity of the information the employee provided. If necessary, further information will be sought. **Appendix 1** sets out the key service managers that may be called upon to support the investigation into different types of Whistleblowing allegations.
- 8.14 If an employee, who raises a whistleblow is already the subject of disciplinary, capability, absence management or redundancy procedures, those procedures will not automatically be halted as a result of an employee whistle-blowing except where it is identified that it would be in the interests of natural justice. The Council will appoint independent officers to manage each of the processes as appropriate. There may be instances where information is required to be shared between such officers in order for appropriate actions to be taken and, in this case, officers from HR Advisory will be involved to ensure that due regard is made of confidentiality and data protection.

9. Outcomes of Whistleblowing

- 9.1 The Council will, subject to legal constraints, seek to advise the whistleblower on the outcomes of the investigation in order to assure them that that the matter has been properly addressed. Some concerns raised may be resolved by agreed action, once the whistleblowers concerns have been explained, without the need for investigation.
- 9.2 Confidential investigation reports / briefing notes are required for all cases. These will usually be issued by the Investigating Officer to the Head of the department involved and to the Monitoring Officer. Audit and Counter Fraud will also require confirmation of the outcome of the work and any system risk issues which arise from it. Internal Audit may carry out follow up work as a result of any identified areas of risk.
- 9.3 The Council accepts that employees need to be assured that the matter has been properly addressed so, subject to legal constraints, the employee may receive a summary of the outcome of the investigation. This information will be provided in accordance with data protection requirements outlined in the General Data Protection Regulations (2018). **See Section 10.**
- 9.4 The Council hopes its investigations, and any actions arising from them, will resolve the employee's concern. If not, and the employee feels it is right to take the matter outside the Council, the employee should report this to the Council's Head of

Corporate Governance to ensure correct procedures are followed and that confidential information is not disclosed.

10. Data Protection and Freedom of Information

- 10.1 The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives a general right of access to all types of recorded information held by public authorities. As such the Council often receives requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act.
- 10.2 The Council has a legal obligation to provide the information unless it falls under one of the exemptions of the Act.
- 10.3 The Freedom of Information Act contains exemptions which may be applicable to permit the withholding of information identifying the whistleblower, including:
- Section 40 Personal Data; and
 - Section 41 Information which, if disclosed, would give rise to an actionable breach of confidence.
- 10.4 Many people making a disclosure to the Council will wish to protect their identity and the Council will seek to protect the identity of individuals, where possible, during the course of progressing an investigation. If the Council receives a request for information that identifies a whistleblower, the Council will contact the whistleblower to seek their views beforehand and will, wherever possible, seek to comply with those views.
- 10.5 The principle of maintaining confidentiality should also be applied to the identity of any individual who may be the subject of a disclosure.
- 10.6 The Council will ensure that our handling of concerns meets the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. A Privacy Notice for the Whistleblowing Policy is available on the Council's website.

11. Monitoring Whistleblowing Disclosures

- 11.1 The Monitoring Officer (the Director of Legal Services) has overall responsibility for the maintenance and operation of this policy. The Monitoring Officer will maintain a record of concerns raised and their respective outcomes (but in a form which does not compromise employee confidentiality).
- 11.2 Details of all concerns raised, and subsequent information will be retained for 5 years. The purpose of this is to ensure that a central record is kept which can be cross referenced with other complaints in order to monitor any patterns of concern and to assist the Monitoring Officer to monitor the effectiveness of this policy.
- 11.3 The Audit and Counter Fraud Team will log and allocate each case a reference number whether or not Internal Audit are involved in the investigation work. The outcome of the investigation should be notified to Audit and Counter Fraud by the Investigating officer.
- 11.4 The Audit and Counter Fraud team will prepare a regular management action report based on the outcomes of the investigation of whistleblowing referrals, which will be considered by the Senior Management Team on a quarterly basis. Where specific

actions are required, a report will be issued to service managers. Management reports will outline the Council's response as well as any learning and necessary actions to be taken.

- 11.5 The records held by Audit and Counter Fraud will be used to analyse the impact and effectiveness of the arrangements in place in statistical terms and records held in HR sections may be subject to review. The detailed case records form part of the process of reporting back to Members on the effectiveness and outcomes of the Policy and form the record of actions taken in the case of any matters raised under the Public Interest Disclosure Act. This information will be referred to for monitoring purposes and periodic assurance reports provided to the Audit Committee by the Head of Internal Audit as part of this process.
- 11.6 The Monitoring Officer retains responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of the Council's Whistleblowing policy and process.

12. Training and Awareness

- 12.1 Chief Officers and Heads of Service are responsible for ensuring that their employees are aware of the Whistleblowing Policy and process and that any training needs are addressed which may arise from the application of the policy. Raising awareness of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy should form part of the induction training for all employees and should be addressed as refresher training for all employees.
- 12.2 Employees have a responsibility to ensure that they are aware of and understand the Council's policy in relation to Whistleblowing.

Version	Author	Changes	Approval Forum	Date approved
1.0	ELC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change of format 	n/a	Reviewed July 2017
2.0	ELC/JW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change of format. 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of new content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examples of Protected Disclosures. Data Protection and Freedom of Information. Training and Awareness. Appendices. Inclusion of flowchart 		

Appendix 1

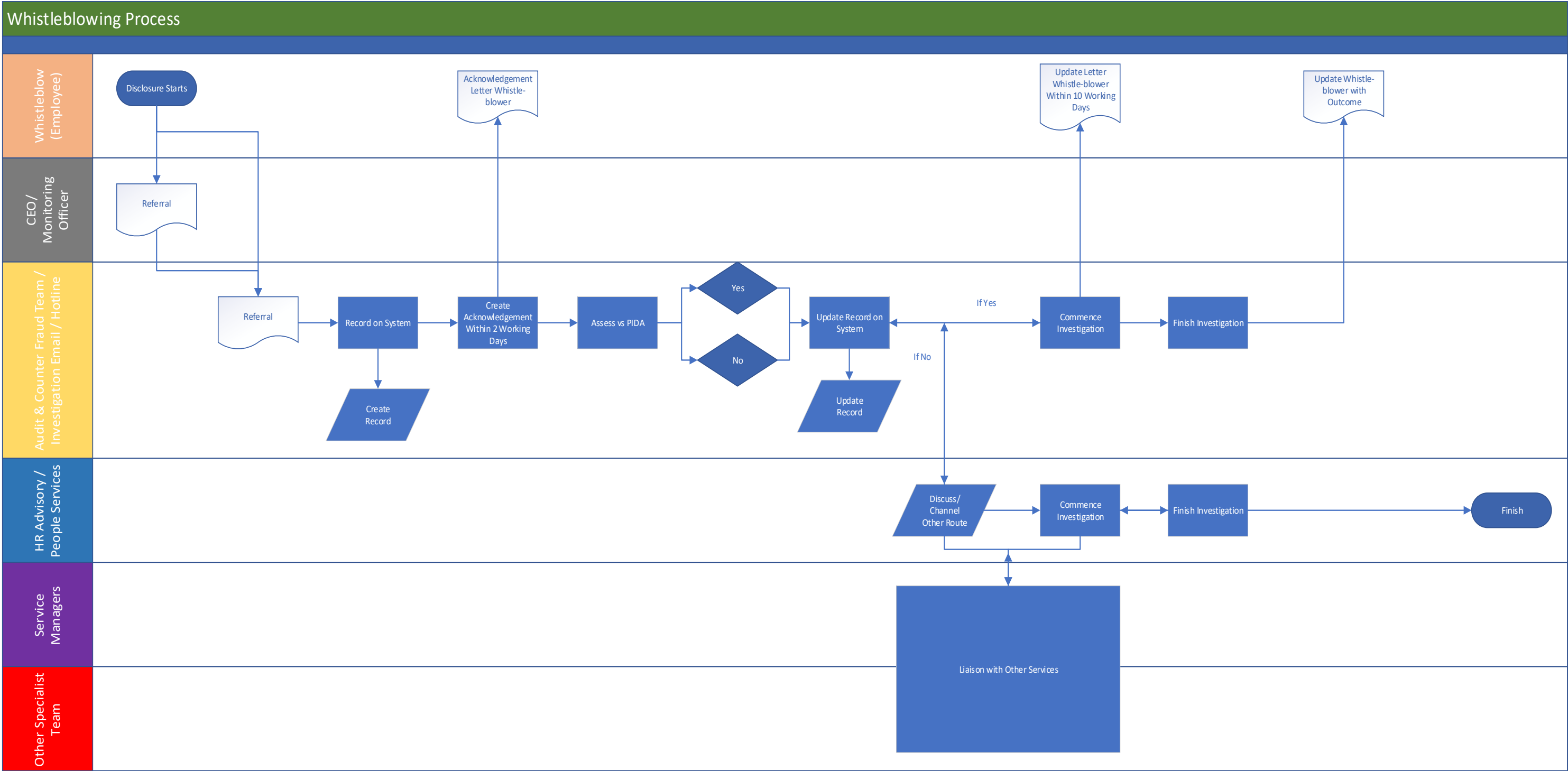
Examples of Disclosures which could be raised through the Whistleblowing Policy

In addition to Legal Services, the Finance Department and the HR Advisory Service, the investigation may require support from service managers (and/or their colleagues) as set out below:

Nature of Whistleblowing Allegation	Additional Support Required
Financial irregularities.	Service Managers
The unauthorised use of public funds (e.g. expenditure for improper purchase).	Service Managers
Maladministration (e.g. not adhering to procedures, negligence)	Service Managers
Payments being made in exchange for awarding contracts.	Service Managers, Head of Procurement
Any unlawful act (e.g. theft).	Service Managers
Fraud and corruption (e.g. to give or receive any gift/reward as a bribe)	Service Managers
Misuse of Public Money	Service Managers
A breach, or potential breach of Health and Safety legislation	Service Managers
Damage to the environment (e.g. pollution)	Service Managers
Harassment of a service user, customer or other individual	Service Managers
The abuse of children and / or vulnerable adults (physical or psychological)	Children's Services
Domestic servitude, human trafficking, slavery	Adults Social Care/ MASH Team
Failing to safeguard personal and / or sensitive information (Data Protection)	Information Management
Abuse of position of authority.	Director of Service
Deliberate concealment of information tending to show any of the above.	Director of Service/ Service Manager

The list above is not exhaustive but is intended to provide an indication of the types of concerns which should be raised.

Whistleblowing Procedure: Process Map



Whistleblowing Reporting Form

What is Whistleblowing?

Specific examples of issues covered by the Whistleblowing Policy include:

- any unlawful act
- health and safety issues
- damage to the environment
- unauthorised use of public funds
- fraud and corruption of any description
- inappropriate or improper conduct (including bullying or harassment)
- serious failure to comply with appropriate professional standards
- breach of the council's Constitution or other policy or code of practice
- offering, taking or soliciting bribes
- misreporting performance data
- neglect of people in care

Reporting your concerns

All reported concerns will be fully investigated by one of the council's specialist teams.

When reporting concerns, please provide as much information as possible as this will help us to conduct a thorough investigation. All information provided will be treated in the strictest of confidence. You may remain anonymous when reporting concerns, but the chances of a successful outcome are increased if we are able to contact you to clarify details and ask additional questions.

Customers, suppliers and members of the public are requested to report their concerns to:

- E-mail: investigations@oldham.gov.uk
- Telephone: **0161 770 4897**

Oldham Council
Internal Audit
Civic Centre
West Street
Oldham
OL1 1UT

If you notice any behaviour in the workplace that could threaten customers, colleagues, the public or the organisation's own reputation, please let us know about your concern.

This form is a copy of the Whistleblowing Referral Form available on the Council's website.

What type of activity does your concern involve?

Type of Activity	Please tick
Any unlawful act	
Health and Safety issues	
Damage to the environment	
Unauthorised use of public funds	
Fraud and Corruption of any description	
Inappropriate or improper conduct	
Serious failure to comply with appropriate professional standards	
Breach of the Council's Constitution or other policy or code of practice	
Offering, taking or soliciting bribes	
Misreporting performance data	
Neglect of people in care	

Who is the allegation against?

What do you believe they are doing?

Please provide as much detail as possible about the activity that is causing your concerns.

Where and when did this happen?

Please provide as much detail as possible about the activity that is causing your concerns.

What evidence can you give to support this?

Please provide as much detail as possible about the activity that is causing your concerns.

Please upload any evidence you may have to investigations@oldham.gov.uk

Have you reported this previously?

Yes/No

When did you previously report this?

Who did you previously report this to?

Do you wish to remain anonymous?

Yes/No

If no, please provide details below:

Name

Address

Preferred Contact Phone or Email

Phone

Email