

Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting
Wednesday 24 March 2021**

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 16 March 2021

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 6.10 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, for the following purposes:

- 1 Civic Appreciation Award
- 2 To receive apologies for absence and attendance
- 3 To order that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16th December 2020 and 4th March 2021 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 80)
- 4 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 5 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 6 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 7 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council (Pages 81 - 82)

(time limit 20 minutes)

- 8 Youth Council

(time limit 20 minutes)

During 2020 we were able to consult over 8,600 young people for the UK Youth Parliament's consultation 'Make Your Mark', although lower than previous years due to the pandemic restrictions it represents a 34% turnout (the highest in the UK).

The top issue that came out from this ballot, with more than a quarter of all votes, was Free University: Investing in young people by providing free university; This will help more young people reach their full potential without suffering financial hardship.

With young people now reported leaving university with upwards of £45,000 worth of debt, it is no surprise that young people must seriously consider this cost before even applying to university. For some young people in Oldham, fees plus the cost of living and other financial requirements will implicate their decision to apply and continue into higher education regardless of their passion or ability. This in turn may restrict or hinder their prospects to gain a full-time job in equal measure of pay and opportunity compared to that of their peers who attend university.

At the time of running Make Your Mark over 3,000 young people aged 18-24 were unemployed, a youth unemployment rate of 15.2%, the highest rate across Greater

Manchester and higher than the national rate of 9.2%. With unemployment rising due to the pandemic it is likely that youth unemployment will rise further and stay high for longer than for adult unemployment. We know that the reality is that not all young people may want to attend university even if it is free. However, if we can give every opportunity to those who wish to be socially mobile then it will free up space within the labour market.

Oldham Council is committed to providing quality educational opportunities for all its young people.

We ask that the Chief Executive writes to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson and the Minister of State for Universities, Michelle Donelan to show the Council's support of its young people and support of scrapping University Fees.

9 Question Time

a Public Questions

(time limit 15 Minutes)

b Questions to Leader and Cabinet

(time limit 30 minutes)

c Questions on Cabinet Minutes (Pages 83 - 110)

(time limit 15 minutes)

14th December 2020

25th January 2021

22nd February 2021

d Questions on Joint Arrangements (Pages 111 - 202)

(time limit 15 minutes)

Greater Manchester Combined Authority	27 th November 2020 18 th December 2020 29 th January 2021
Greater Manchester Transport Committee	11 th December 2020
Commissioning Partnership Board	22 nd October 2020 28 th January 2021
GM Police, Fire and Crime Panel	16 th November 2020
Health and Wellbeing Board	10 th November 2020
AGMA	11 th December 2020
Greater Manchester Waste and Recycling Committee	14 th October 2020
Miocare	22 nd October 2020
National Park Authority	13 th November 2020

10 Notice of Administration Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Councillor Shah to MOVE and Councillor Chadderton to SECOND:

Islamophobia

Oldham has a rich history of people from different backgrounds and cultures living and working together. However, we know that there are groups of people that are marginalised, who are more likely to face inequality and discrimination than others. We believe the people of Oldham want to live in a place that is committed to fairness and equality of opportunity, a borough that tackles discrimination and prejudice, helping communities come together and celebrating our differences.

As champions of inclusivity, we take a no-tolerance approach to hate crimes. Hate crime victims are more likely to suffer repeat victimisation, more likely to suffer serious psychological impacts, and are less likely to report these crimes to the police. Hate crime can limit people's opportunities and can lead to isolation and segregation. It is also damaging to the community, undermining integration and cohesion, and eroding shared values of acceptance and respect for others.

The Council adopted the working definition of Anti-Semitism as set out by the International Holocaust remembrance Alliance in 2017, and recognises the need additionally to recognise the working definition of Islamophobia set out below.

A study by the Muslim Council of Britain found that 59 percent of headlines in the British Press portray Muslims in a negative light, with Islam being misinterpreted and utilised by racists to create fear and promote hatred. Following an extensive consultation, the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for British Muslims has formulated a working definition of Islamophobia as:

"ISLAMOPHOBIA IS ROOTED IN RACISM AND IS A TYPE OF RACISM THAT TARGETS EXPRESSIONS OF MUSLIMNESS OR PERCEIVED MUSLIMNESS."

Contemporary examples of Islamophobia in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in encounters between religions and non-religions in the public sphere could, considering the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, instigating or justifying the killing or harming of Muslims in the name of a racist/fascist ideology, or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Muslims as such, or of Muslims as a collective group, such as, especially but not exclusively, conspiracies about Muslim entryism in politics, government or other societal institutions; the myth of Muslim identity having a unique propensity for terrorism and claims of a demographic 'threat' posed by Muslims or of a 'Muslim takeover'.
- Accusing Muslims as a group of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Muslim person or group of Muslim individuals, or even for acts committed by non-Muslims.
- Accusing Muslims as a group, or Muslim majority states, of inventing or exaggerating Islamophobia, ethnic cleansing or genocide perpetrated against Muslims.
- Accusing Muslim citizens of being more loyal to the 'Ummah' (transnational Muslim community) or to their countries of origin, or to the alleged priorities of Muslims worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying Muslim populations, the right to self-determination e.g., by claiming that the existence of an independent Palestine or Kashmir is a terrorist endeavor.

- Applying double standards by requiring of Muslims behavior's that are not expected or demanded of any other groups in society, e.g. loyalty tests.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic Islamophobia.
- Holding Muslims collectively responsible for the actions of any Muslim majority state, whether secular or constitutionally Islamic.

This list is not exhaustive but forms guidelines to recognise markers of Islamophobia in today's context.

Oldham Council resolves:

1. To formally adopt the working definition of Islamophobia as formulated by the APPG for British Muslims.
2. To ask the Leader and Chief Executive of the Council to write to government ministers asking them to listen to Muslim communities and the cross-party group of MPs and peers and to adopt this definition of Islamophobia which classifies discrimination against Muslims as a form of racism.

Motion 2

Councillor Stretton to MOVE and Councillor Goodwin to SECOND:

Fully funded and proper pay rise for council and school workers

This council notes:

Local government has endured central government funding cuts of more than 50% since 2010. Between 2010 and 2020, councils lost 60p out of every £1 they have received from central government. Over the last year, councils have led the way in efforts against the Covid-19 pandemic, providing a huge range of services and support for our communities. Local government has shown more than ever how indispensable it is. But the pandemic has led to a massive increase in expenditure and loss of income, and the Government has failed to provide the full amount of promised support. Local government workers have kept our communities safe through the pandemic, often putting themselves at considerable risk as they work to protect public health, provide quality housing, ensure our children continue to be educated, and look after older and vulnerable people. Since 2010, the local government workforce has endured years of pay restraint with the majority of pay points losing at least 23 per cent of their value since 2009/10. At the same time, workers have experienced ever-increasing workloads and persistent job insecurity. Across the UK, 900,000 jobs have been lost in local government since June 2010 – a reduction of more than 30 per cent. Local government has arguably been hit by more severe job losses than any other part of the public sector. The funding gap caused by Covid-19 will make local government employment even more precarious. There has been a disproportionate impact on women, with women making up more than three-quarters of the local government workforce. Recent research shows that if the Government were to fully fund the unions' 2021 payclaim, around half of the money would be recouped thanks to increased tax revenue, reduced expenditure on benefits, and increased consumer spending in the local economy.

This council believes:

Our workers keep our communities clean and safe, look after those in need and keep our towns and cities running, without the professionalism and dedication of our staff, the council services our residents rely on would not be deliverable. Local government workers deserve a proper real-terms pay increase. The Government needs to take responsibility and fully fund this increase; it should not put the burden on local authorities whose funding been cut to the bone and who have not been offered

adequate support through the Covid-19 pandemic.

This council resolves to:

1. Support the pay claim submitted by GMB, Unison and Unite on behalf of council and school workers, for a substantial increase with a minimum of 10 per cent uplift in April 2021.
2. Call on the Local Government Association to make urgent representations to central government to fund the NJC pay claim.
3. Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Chancellor and Secretary of State to call for a pay increase for local government workers to be funded with new money from central government.
4. Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and consider practical ways in which the council can support the campaign.
5. Encourage all local government workers to join a union

11 Notice of Opposition Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

Councillor Sykes to MOVE and Councillor Williamson to SECOND:

A Tax on Excess Online Profits

Council notes that whilst smaller High Street non-food retail outlets have been forcibly closed, and are facing business failure, because of the COVID-19 Lockdown, larger national businesses and multi-national businesses offering on-line products have thrived, reporting bumper profits.

Council notes that recent proposals from the UN and the EU are working to establish an international consensus on business taxation, to minimise profit-shifting for the purpose of avoiding corporation tax, but that these proposals are not likely to be introduced in time to have any impact on the excess online profits that some companies have made off the back of the coronavirus epidemic.

Raising a bespoke tax on excess online profits has precedent in the UK, and Council expresses its disappointment that the Chancellor has not yet introduced such a tax and believes that if we are, as the Prime Minister claims, 'all in this together', then the excessive profits of such on-line businesses should be subjected to a greater level of tax, and that the revenue raised employed to support our hollowed out public services (local government, schools and health) and the financial recovery of our High Street retailers.

Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to:

- The Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, urging him to introduce such a tax as soon as possible as one means to ensure that we are 'all in this together'.
- Our three local MPs, the Greater Manchester Mayor and the Leaders of the other nine AGMA authorities to seek their support for such a tax.

Motion 2

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

Consultation on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Council notes that:

- The Conservative Party Manifesto for the 2017 General Election contained the following commitment:

'We will use the structural fund money that comes back to the UK following Brexit to create a United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund, specifically designed to reduce inequalities between communities across our four nations. The money that is spent will help deliver sustainable, inclusive growth based on our modern industrial strategy. We will consult widely on the design of the fund, including with the devolved administrations, local authorities, businesses and public bodies.'

- The Conservative Government promised to publish a UK Shared Prosperity Fund Consultation Paper in 2018.
- Successive Secretaries of State in the Department of Housing, Communities and Local Government when responding to several questions in Parliament in both 2018 and 2019 confirmed that a consultation would take place.
- The promised consultation is now three years late.
- In the last round of European funding (2014-2020), Greater Manchester received £322.75m, split across European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) (£176.78m) and European Social Funding (ESF) (£145.97m), equivalent to an annual allocation of £53.8m.
- The Conservative Party website claims that 'We will introduce the UK Shared Prosperity Fund when EU Structural Funds start to taper off from 2020-21...from April 2021'.

Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to:

- Write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government requesting the promised public consultation commence as soon as possible.
- Copy in our local Members of Parliament and the Mayor of Greater Manchester on this correspondence and ask for their assistance by making similar representations to the Government.

Motion 3

Councillor Harkness to MOVE and Councillor H Gloster to SECOND:

Thanking our Schools and Education Staff

Council shares the delight of children, parents and guardians that pupils and students have finally been able to return to their schools and colleges during the week commencing 8 March. Children and young people will be glad to be back with their teachers and their friends after a year of home schooling and distance learning that has been very difficult for everyone involved.

Council recognises that teachers and other school and college staff across the whole of the United Kingdom, whether employed at primary, secondary or tertiary level, have demonstrated extraordinary professional commitment and dedication in continuing to deliver an excellent education, whether at the chalk-face or online, to our children and young people in the face of great uncertainty and despite the most adverse conditions faced by such professionals since 1945.

Council further recognises that in schooling the children of other 'key workers' teachers and other school staff have enabled their parents to carry on doing their essential duties that have saved our lives, supplied us with our daily bread and kept our nation functioning, all the while knowing that their children are safe and being nurtured and cared for.

Council recognises that Oldham has sadly been very hard hit by the COVID-19

pandemic and operational difficulties in education have been especially challenging. Consequently, Council wishes particularly to praise those school and college staff who have been working at schools, academies and colleges across the Borough of Oldham. Such staff include teachers, teaching assistants, catering, cleaning, and caretaking staff, midday supervisors, office support staff, head teachers, child care club staff, volunteers, and anybody else who has helped to keep our educational establishments open for key workers or who has supported distance learning. Council believes that parents, guardians and siblings involved in supporting their children and young people in their distance learning will have developed a deeper appreciation of the work that our professional educators do on a day-to-day basis, particularly in these challenging times.

Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the local representatives of the professional bodies and trades unions for the teaching and ancillary professions to pass on these sentiments and our thanks for a job well done after one year of Lockdown.

- 12 Oldham's COVID-19 Response - Update (Pages 203 - 216)
- 13 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 217 - 248)
- 14 Warding Arrangements (Pages 249 - 318)
- 15 Constitutional Amendments (Pages 319 - 332)
- 16 Consequential Amendments (Pages 333 - 336)
- 17 Member Annual Reports 2020 (Pages 337 - 420)
- 18 Adoption of Revised Licensing Act 2003 Policy (Pages 421 - 474)
- 19 Arrangements for the preparation of 'Places for Everyone': A proposed Joint Development Plan Document on behalf of nine Greater Manchester districts (Pages 475 - 492)

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



**Carolyn Wilkins
Chief Executive**

PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS
NO AMENDMENT

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE



MOTION – Secunder of the Motion to SECOND – May reserve right to speak



DEBATE ON THE MOTION: Include Timings



MOVER of Motion – Right of Reply



VOTE – For/Against/Abstain



Declare outcome of the VOTE

RULE ON TIMINGS

(a) No Member shall speak longer than four minutes on any **Motion or Amendment**, or by way of question, observation or reply, unless by consent of the Members of the Council present, he/she is allowed an extension, in which case only one extension of 30 seconds shall be allowed.

(b) A Member replying to more than one question will have up to six minutes to reply to each question with an extension of 30 seconds

WITH AMENDMENT

