

# Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting  
Wednesday 15 December 2021**



## OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 7 December 2021

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 15 December 2021 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, for the following purposes:

- 1 To receive apologies for absence
- 2 To order that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3rd November 2021 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 40)
- 3 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 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)*

### **Mental ill-health amongst young people**

Council recognises that poor, and declining, mental health has been identified by young people in the borough as one of the biggest issues they face, especially after the adverse impact upon their health caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the most recent annual Make Your Mark Ballot (a UK wide consultation of 11–18-year-olds), mental ill-health received 1,250 votes of the 8,700 cast, constituting the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest issue of concern to young people in Oldham. This was reinforced by the findings of an online survey by the Oldham Youth Service in July 2021.

Research by the Children's Society shows that 75% of young people with mental health problems are not getting the help they need and that 34% of those people referred to NHS services are not accepted.

Although the budget for mental health support rose from £4.5 billion in 2016 to £10.5 billion in 2021. As 75% of all mental health conditions manifest in young adults before the age of 24 we believe that more money needs to be invested in treating mental ill-health in young people.

Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, and to the Prime Minister, The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, to express the concerns of the young people of Oldham, and to seek an adequate share

of the £79M set aside for mental health care to meet the needs of our young people.

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 (Pages 41 - 52)

*(time limit 15 minutes)*

20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

18<sup>th</sup> October 2021

d Questions on Joint Arrangements (Pages 53 - 102)

*(time limit 15 minutes)*

GMCA	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
Police, Fire and Crime Panel	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021
National Peak Park Authority	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021
Health and Wellbeing Board	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Commissioning Partnership Board	29 <sup>th</sup> April 2021

9 Notice of Administration Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

Motion 1

Councillor Hulme to MOVE and Councillor Briggs to SECOND:

***Levelling down transport in Greater Manchester***

This Council notes:

1. The recently published Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) scales back the Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) project to such an extent it has effectively been scrapped. The lack of a dedicated highspeed line between Liverpool and Leeds will impact the service at Greenfield and other towns and villages on the Huddersfield Line. The lack of any funding for electrification on the Rochdale line reduces capacity and reliability.
2. That the promise of an underground station at Manchester Piccadilly has been scrapped by the Government, potentially cutting billions from the local economy. This also raises concerns about the route of the new line running from Manchester to Marsden and how it may impact Oldham.
3. The difference in transport costs between London and Greater Manchester. In London, someone can make as many bus journeys as they like in an hour

for only £1.55 whereas a single bus journey in Oldham can cost at least double that.

4. The excellent work of Mayor Andy Burnham in taking back control of our buses in Greater Manchester. The Government has shown support for The Mayor's vision for travel in Greater Manchester with a £1bn package, however this does not make up for the billions now cut from transport in GM in the IRP.

This Council believes that the Government has reneged on its pledge to level up the economies of the north and the south: the difference in transport investment between London and the North is stark. Figures from the IPPR show the North has an £86bn deficit in Treasury transport spending compared to London. The North has received just £349 per person in transport spending since 2009/10 compared with £864 in London. The IPPR has also stated that to meet the challenge of the climate crisis, an extra £12bn a year must be invested. The Government promised repeatedly that they would build NPR and HS2 in full. This promise has been broken and the people of the north betrayed.

This Council resolves to ask the Chief Executive to write to

1. Mayor Andy Burnham supporting his efforts to secure the future of Northern Powerhouse Rail and the additional investment needed to provide a modern, efficient and integrated public transport system in Greater Manchester
2. Secretary of State for Transport Grant Shapps demanding that the Government revisits the IRP to ensure that Oldham, Greater Manchester and the North West receive a fair share in transport spending in comparison to London and that key projects such as the underground station at Manchester Piccadilly, HS2 and rail electrification are reinstated.

### Motion 2

Councillor Moores to MOVE and Councillor Mushtaq to SECOND:

#### ***Supporting Oldham's children with SEND***

This Council acknowledges the incredible work done by teachers, parents, and carers in supporting and nurturing children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

SEND comes in many forms, early identification and intervention are vital in ensuring we deliver the best possible outcomes for children with SEND. In Oldham we work tremendously hard to ensure that children with SEND are offered the best opportunities to thrive and develop in our education system. This is not easy task when schools are required to fund the at least first £6,000 of support for a child with SEND in the face of cuts to schools General Budgets, local authorities are also struggling with increasing demand, increasing cost and a failure by Central Government to adequately fund SEND provision.

One area of particular concern is the lack of investment) Speech Language and Communications (SLC) needs, this is just one of the many classification categories and children can be identified as having SLC needs as a primary SEND need, but we know that children in the majority of the other SEND categories will have associated SLC need.

This Council notes:

- There are around 7800 children and young people in Oldham who have Special

Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

- 2634 children and young people have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP).
- Demand for SEND services is increasing rapidly and services are also responding to more complex needs. During 2020 - 2021 we saw a 100% increase in the number of EHC needs assessment requests between May and September.
- Oldham received Government SEND funding of £33,043,000 in 2019/20, but it spent more than £37m on services and in 2020/21 it received £39,189,000 and spent in excess of £40m
- The funding from Government has failed to keep pace with rapidly increasing costs, leaving big gaps in budgets for both the Council and schools.
- The Local Government Association estimated that councils in England would face a SEND funding gap of up to £1.6 billion by 2021.
- The requirement on schools to fund the at least first £6,000 of support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, making caring for children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities a financial burden on schools in the face of cuts to schools General Budgets.
- Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) services for children with SLC needs requires significant investment at a national level.

This Council believes:

1. We face a national crisis in high needs funding, but this crisis is hitting towns like Oldham harder than other parts of the country.
2. The Government have failed to invest in services to children at risk of not being able to speak or understand language at an age-appropriate level.
3. The Government is failing to fund SEND services properly and it's falling to local councils and schools to plug the gaps.
4. That while the additional £6,146m of Government funding is welcome, it doesn't even cover the gap we already face.
5. Children and young people with special needs and disabilities are some of the most vulnerable in our society and it's vital that the services that support them are funded fairly and properly.

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

1. The Secretary of State for Education urging him to urgently invest SEND services and ensure that Government funding keeps pace with rising demand complexity of need, including Speech and Language Therapy Services and to end the requirement on schools to fund at least the first £6,000.

## 10 Notice of Opposition Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

### Motion 1

Councillor Arnott to MOVE and Councillor Lancaster to SECOND:

#### ***Oldham's Roads Are Not Racetracks For Criminals.***

In 2020, close to 680m vehicle miles were travelled in Oldham. Given the sheer number of vehicle miles travelled, it is sadly inevitable that collisions and accidents will occur, even when drivers are law abiding and drive considerately.

On average 681 people are killed or seriously injured on the roads of Greater Manchester each year. Of all reported collisions, 58% involved a driver aged between 17 and 35 and a staggering 80% of all fatal incidents involved a male driver. However, there is a dangerous group, of mostly young men and women, who consider the roads of Oldham as their own personal racetrack, and routinely and recklessly speed on our roads with no regard for the safety of themselves or others, putting other drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians in real danger of serious injury or worse. A number of these vehicles are not taxed or insured and have been modified to increase speed and performance at the expense of safety and security. Speed cameras are sadly not enough as, our roads have become the plaything of these people with some using stolen vehicles and plates to race each other and then abandon those same vehicles also. Several vehicles are used in crimes such as burglaries, carjacking's, transportation of narcotics, get away driving, prostitution, and illegal street racing.

This Council resolves :

- That the Chief Executive of Oldham Council, on behalf of the people of this Borough, write to the Division Commander of Oldham and Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to demand that they take these vehicles off the road and target these groups of "boy racers" who consciously and deliberately set out to drive at speed, with reckless abandon putting the lives of others at risk.
- That the Council work with and give full use and access to GMP of cameras, buildings, and offices in implementing a crackdown.
- That Oldham Council share its records with GMP on reports of incidents which residents have reported and look to build a database which they can then target criminals with.
- That the Chief Executive of Oldham Council recommend that GMP should look to seize and crush vehicles that partake in these dangerous acts of driving as well as cash fines and points on their licence.
- That the Chief Executive of Oldham Council recommend that GMP look to deploy a team to patrol some of the worst highways from the evening to the early hours of the morning when many of these crimes take place.
- That Oldham Council takes a zero-tolerance approach to all crimes that involve narcotics and will support GMP in their efforts to test and arrest those driving whilst under the influence of narcotics.

### Motion 2

Councillor Al-Hamdani to MOVE and Councillor Williamson to SECOND:

#### ***Time for the Fair Game manifesto in football***

Council believes that football, the national game in the UK, is currently in crisis. COVID-19 has devastated the revenue of many lower-league clubs, with the loss of some notables, and dozens more clubs teetering on the brink of survival. Frequently bad management has gone unnoticed or ignored and clubs are run unsustainably, putting at risk all the history, heritage, and economic benefit they bring to an area – often in pursuit of short-term gain.

Council believes that football clubs are not ordinary businesses; they are historic sporting institutions that are both a civic and community asset, and a source of pride and unity, in their hometown or city.

Council therefore supports Fair Game, a national campaign that seeks radical reform

of the way football is managed and run, specifically its call for:

- An independent regulator for the sport.
- A refocus on 'values' rather than profit.
- The establishment of a Sustainability Index, which will reallocate the payments made to clubs to reward those which are run well, respect equality standards and properly engage with their fans and their community.
- Fans to be given the final say on any proposed change to a club's 'crown jewels', including the club's name, nickname, colours, badge and the geographical location from where the club plays.

Council also notes that former Sports Minister Tracey Crouch MP is about to publish a Government-commissioned fan-led review into football governance and believes that some of its findings will mirror Fair Game's aspirations.

As a Co-operative Council, we would also like to see football clubs co-operatively owned by their fans, rather than owners with no connection to a town or with more interest in extracting profits from the club, rather than the team's on-pitch performance.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Declare its support for the Fair Game manifesto, 'Solutions for our National Game', and calls on other councils to join us in our support.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Sport, our local Members of Parliament, and the Chair of the Local Government Association Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, asking them to support and work towards implementing Fair Game's manifesto and the findings of the fan-led review led by Tracey Crouch MP.
- Ask the Council's representative to the Co-operative Council's Innovation Network to request the CCIN investigate how best member councils can support the registration of their local football clubs as Assets of Community Value and facilitate their future purchase and operation, when the opportunity arises, as fan-owned co-operatives.

### Motion 3

Councillor Woodvine to MOVE and Councillor Byrne to SECOND:

#### ***Earthshot Oldham.***

In 2020 H.R.H the Duke of Cambridge founded the Earthshot Prize, inspiring innovative ideas and incentivising change, across this country and around the world. It is ambitious and prestigious. A year on Oldham can also be inspired by the words and work of the Royal Family and these 'Earthshots' – simple but ambitious goals which, if achieved by 2030, will improve life for us all, and for generations to come.

Each Earthshot is underpinned by scientifically agreed targets including the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally recognised measures to help repair our planet. Together, they form a unique set of challenges rooted in science, which aim to generate new ways of thinking, as well as new technologies, systems, policies and solutions.

By bringing these five critical issues together this Council can recognise the interconnectivity between environmental challenges and the urgent need to tackle them together. Like the Prize, this Council can aim to turn the current pessimism surrounding environmental issues into optimism, by highlighting the ability of human ingenuity to bring about change, and inspiring collective action.

As it is a decade of action this Council notes that:



- Species face extinction as habitats are destroyed, but destroying nature threatens our lives too. Forests and natural land are vital to human health and happiness, helping to prevent global warming and producing oxygen that we breathe.
- Thousands of children in Oldham breathe toxic air every day, causing countless deaths that could be prevented. We refuse to accept this – clean air and healthy lives are within our reach.
- Warmer temperatures, pollution, plastic and harmful fishing practices are having devastating impacts on the ocean, putting life underwater in jeopardy but this decade we can choose to make our ocean healthy.
- The world we have built is not like this; we throw everything away, and this is harming our planet but we have the power to build something better.
- Carbon in the atmosphere is making our planet warmer, to levels which threaten all life on Earth but it is not too late; if we act now, we can make the world a better, more sustainable home for everyone.

By 2030 this Council chooses to:

- Repair and preserve the habitats that our animals need to live, from forests and grasslands, to wetlands, lakes and rivers.
- End outdated transport that emits toxic fumes, remove pollution from the air using both technology and nature, and eliminate the burning of fossil fuels, choosing 100% renewable energy for everyone – from our towns to villages.
- Bring forward a new era where everyone uses the ocean sustainably and to refuse to accept a world where turtles, dolphins and coral reefs vanish from our seas.
- Eliminate food waste, single-use packaging, and inspire a new generation of people, companies, and industries to reuse, repurpose, and recycle.
- Build a system that can work forever, where people in Oldham can live safe, healthy and happy lives, without waste.
- Fix our climate so that life everywhere can thrive for generations to come.

As we must act now to protect our future this Council resolves to:

- Protect and restore nature in Oldham, ensuring that for the first time in human history the natural world around us is growing and **not** shrinking.
- Clean our air, ensuring that everybody in Oldham breathes clean, healthy air – at the World Health Organisation standard, or better.
- Revive our oceans, repairing and preserving our oceans for future generations.
- Build a waste-free Oldham, and world, where nothing goes to waste and where the leftovers of one process become the raw materials of the next – just like they do in nature.
- Fix our climate by cutting out Carbon and building a Carbon-neutral economy that lets every culture and community in Oldham thrive.

#### Motion 4

Councillor H Gloster to MOVE and Councillor Murphy to SECOND:

#### **Increasing and promoting the Warm Home Discount**

This Council notes:

- The Warm Home Discount Scheme, a Government initiative administered by energy suppliers, provides eligible households with a £140 discount on their electricity bill between September and March each year which has remained fixed for over 9 years.
- Energy prices have increased significantly in recent years, with the costs of energy

increasing by 40% in the last year alone.

- Additionally, Ofgem has recently set an unprecedented price cap hike, a measure which the End Fuel Poverty Coalition has predicted will propel a further 1.2 million people into fuel poverty (up from 4.1 million to 5.3 million).
- Following a consultation earlier this year, the government has pledged to increase the rebate in England and Wales and to expand the scheme so that an additional 780,000 households become eligible.

Council believes:

- That the Warm Home Discount is vital in helping to tackle fuel poverty.
- The £10 increase is wholly inadequate given price inflation over the last nine years and the increases proposed in the future.
- That many eligible households are not aware of the discount or how to apply for it.

This Council resolves:

- To ask the Chief Executive to write to the Minister of State at the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy to urgently increase the value of the Warm Home Discount Scheme to reflect price inflation and future increases and to identify new ways to promote the rebate so many more eligible households are aware of it and apply for it.

11 Covid 19 Update

Report to follow.

12 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 103 - 118)

13 Public Speaking at Traffic Regulation Order Panel (Pages 119 - 124)

14 2020/21 Annual Statement of Accounts (Pages 125 - 412)

Please note due to the size of the appendices, a hard copy will be available in the Group Rooms and Civic Reception, Civic Centre, Oldham

15 Procurement of the Council's External Auditors 2023/24 to 2027/28 (Pages 413 - 426)

16 Municipal Calendar 2022-2023 (Pages 427 - 444)

17 Council Gambling policy review (Pages 445 - 490)

18 Treasury Management Mid Year Review Report 2021/22 (Pages 491 - 516)

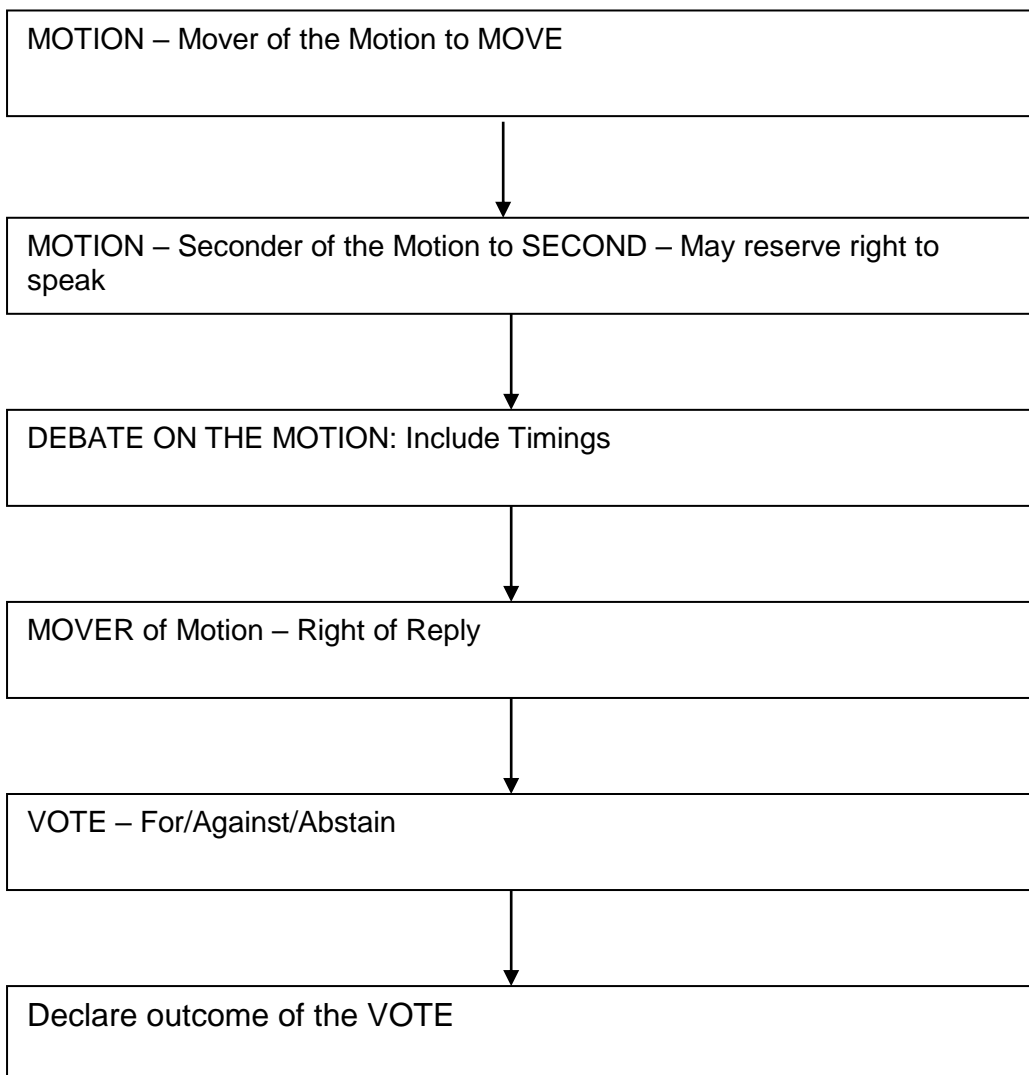
19 Adoption of the Public Health Act 1925 Concerning Naming of Streets (Pages 517 - 522)

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



**Harry Catherall**  
**Chief Executive**

**PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS**  
**NO AMENDMENT**



**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

**PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**WITH AMENDMENT**

## WITH AMENDMENT

