

Oldham Borough Council



Council Meeting
Wednesday, 13th December
2023

OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday, 5th December 2023

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday, 13th December 2023 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 1st November 2023 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)

There have been no Petitions received.

- 7 Youth Council

(time limit 20 minutes)

Unused Stationery Within the Council and its Partners

Oldham youth council put forward the motion with the aims to address the issue of access to stationery and educational resources, which has a significant impact on the educational opportunities of our young people.

Council recognises that since the COVID 19 pandemic Oldham Youth Council have made poverty and the cost of living as priority issues and have undertaken work to improve the lives of Oldham's Young People. This includes:

- Sitting on the Oldham Town Centre board to input on decisions around the town centre improvements.
- Working with the Council's post 16 team around employability and NEET young people
- 2022 motion to Council asking that the Chief Executive writes to Government to extend the offer of the Holiday Activities and Food programme to all young people not just those on free school meals.

Council notes:

- That according to the Times Educational Supplement survey, in partnership with

the National Education Union, 94% of surveyed teachers resort to using their personal funds to purchase necessary equipment for their students.

- That according to a UNISON survey, of 6,672 of its members, showed that even though they were worried their pay would not cover spiralling living costs, more than one in five (23%) have used their own money to pay for pens and pencils for their students.
- That energy bills and the pressures of inflation are continuing to burden schools' budgets with less money to support students financially.

Council recognises:

- The importance of quality education in shaping the future of our community, but that a significant number of pupils in Oldham face challenges in accessing essential stationery items required for school.
- With the Council departments currently looking to move to the spindles this is a prime opportunity to take stock of any unused stationery. With everyone having calculator apps on their laptops or mobile phones, and offices becoming paperless, the need for pens, rulers and physical calculator has reduced.

We propose that Oldham Council therefore resolves to:

- Ask the Chief Executive to write to all department heads asking that teams look at current stocks of pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, rubbers, rulers and calculators (including badged merchandise), and any items not required for the running of that department, to be donated and used to create packs that can be distributed to students most in need.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to partners (including Miocare, Greater Manchester Police, NHS, Action Together, positive steps, OCL, and Greater Manchester fire service) also donate any unused stationery.
- Work with Oldham Youth Council to create packs containing essential stationery items and help us distribute them to schools.

8 Public Questions

(time limit 15 Minutes)

To receive questions submitted by members of the public.

9 Reports of the Leader and Cabinet Members (Pages 41 - 86)

(Time limit 90 minutes)

Leader and Cabinet Members to present their reports

Non-executive members may ask questions.

- a. Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Reform and Regeneration – including the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held 16th October 2023; and the meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority held 29th September 2023 and 27th October 2023
- b. Deputy Leader and Housing and Licensing Portfolio
- c. Deputy Leader and Children and Young People's Portfolio
- d. Education and Skills Portfolio Holder

- e. Health and Social Care Portfolio Holder
- f. Communities and Culture Portfolio Holder
- g. Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder
- h. Business, Employment and Enterprise Portfolio Holder
- i. Finance and Corporate Resources Portfolio Holder

10 Notice of Administration Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

To be moved by Councillor Mushtaq

Seconded by: Councillor Charters

Delivering Children's Services in the community

The Sure Start programme, one of the greatest achievements of the last Labour government, ensured that millions of children received the best possible start in life, giving parents the ability to access childcare, early years learning, health services and family support. In doing so, child poverty was reduced, parents felt supported when returning to work, and thousands were able to become successful parents.

The government has introduced a new model to local authorities, known as Family Hubs, which focus on two areas: a universal 0-19s offer, ensuring that young people get the support they need throughout their childhood and adolescence; and a programme focused on the first 1001 days of a child's life, from pregnancy to age 2. This is a critical time for development, and the interventions made during this time period will help give a child the best start to life.

As we face another year of cuts from central government, the council has sought to improve the services we offer to families out in the districts, refurbishing centres and creating a service based on delivering outcomes in community settings, rather than being anchored to buildings. By creating an agile service, we can deliver the much needed family support in areas where families are, rather than expecting them to come to us.

This Council notes:

That since the ending of ringfenced funding for Sure Start centres in 2011, there has been a significant reduction in the availability of children's services across England, resulting in poorer starts for millions of children across the country.

That since the cuts to Sure Start were implemented, childhood obesity levels have risen and more children are starting school below expected development milestones.

Despite continued funding cuts from 13 years of Tory government, Oldham Council has continued to deliver services and support families.

That on Monday 4th December the Council began consulting on an improved model for delivering children's services in the community, recognising the need for an agile service that is delivered not from static sites, but through outreaching services based in hubs but delivered within a community setting.

This Council resolves to:

Continue supporting residents through the Family Hubs service, providing a 0-19s universal service across the borough, accessible to all families in Oldham at each hub. Work alongside partners in the NHS, Department for Education and VCFSE organisations to ensure a comprehensive offer across the borough, utilising council

owned assets, community assets and other suitable locations to ensure that families can access the support they need within their communities.

Thank council staff, NHS staff and school partners who have aided in the design and delivery of this new model.

This council further resolves to:

Instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Department for Education, Members of Parliament and the Mayor of Greater Manchester, highlighting the exceptional work done in designing and delivering this model of children's services despite austerity, and make representations for increased funding to ensure the continued roll out of these vital services are supported well into the future.

Motion 2

To be moved by Councillor Brownridge

Seconded by Councillor Arnott

Boys Need Bins

This Council notes:

- Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men. 1 in 8 men will be diagnosed, rising to 1 in 4 for Black men. As many as 69% of those treated with surgery may experience urinary incontinence as a result.
- 1 in 25 men aged over 40 will experience some form of urinary leakage every year.
- 1 in 20 men aged 60 or over will experience bowel incontinence in the UK.
- Men who need to dispose of their sanitary waste (including incontinence pads, pouches, stoma, catheter, colostomy, ileostomy waste by-products) often have no direct access to a sanitary bin in male toilets.
- A survey of men living with incontinence reveals that 95% feel anxiety due to a lack of sanitary bins in men's toilets for disposing of pads hygienically.
- Nearly one third of men surveyed have been forced to carry their own waste in a bag.

This Council believes:

- that men should be able to safely and hygienically dispose of incontinence products easily and with dignity wherever they go.
- that men who need to dispose of their sanitary waste should have direct access to a sanitary bin in male toilets.

This Council resolves:

- That the Cabinet Member for Reform and Regeneration should consider as soon as reasonably practicable the provision of at least one sanitary bin in all Council male toilets – both public and in council buildings.
- To encourage other providers of public and workplace toilets in our area to make male sanitary bins available in their facilities.
- To support Prostate Cancer UK's 'Boys need Bins' campaign.
- That the Leader should write on behalf of the Council to our three MPs asking them to support Prostate Cancer UK's 'Boys need Bins' campaign and their request for Government to update any necessary regulations to ensure that 'suitable means for the disposal of sanitary dressings' is provided in all toilets.

11 Notice of Opposition Business

(time limit 30 minutes)

Motion 1

To be moved by Councillor Kenyon

Seconded by Councillor Gloster

20 is Plenty

Council notes that:

- Speed limits on Britain's Roads are 60% higher than in Europe.
- More than half of all accident casualties occur on roads with 30mph limits.
- A pedestrian is 7 times more likely to die if they are hit by a vehicle travelling at 30mph than they are at 20mph, rising to 10 times more likely if aged 60 or older.
- Reducing speed limits on residential roads has been found to reduce air pollution, the incidents of accidents, and the numbers of fatalities and serious injuries that result.
- Over 20 million citizens live in local authorities in the UK which have adopted or are adopting a default speed limit of 20mph on residential roads.
- The default speed limit of 20mph has been adopted by other local authorities without the need for the implementation of physical calming measures.
- Road safety experts from 130 countries adopted the 'Stockholm Declaration' recommending 20mph as the preferred default speed limit on residential roads in February 2020, and this was endorsed by the UN General Assembly in August 2020.

Council further recognises that:

- Covid-19 and the challenges that have come with building back from it demonstrate that one of our key concerns must be to address all aspects of public health.
- This should include lowering the default speed of motor vehicles on residential roads to reduce the danger they pose to residents and the pollution they emit.
- Such a measure should be comprehensive and cover all residential roads in the Council Area – unless there are specific and unique exceptions that necessitate a faster speed limit.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Establish an all-group working party to seek to implement a Council-wide 20mph speed limit on residential roads as soon as possible. This should include identifying roads where the lower speed limit may not be appropriate and exploring enforcement measures such as average speed cameras and Community Speedwatch initiatives.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the leaders of all other Councils in the region that haven't already implemented 20mph speed limits as the default in their authority area, and to write to Highways England requesting that speeds are reduced on sections of the motorway network in our Council area to tackle pollution.

Motion 2

To be moved by Councillor Woodvine

Second by Councillor Lancaster

Community First Aid

St. John's Ambulance is the country's first aid and health response charity. From helping young people become the health care professionals of tomorrow, to their world

class training, St. John's empowers people of all ages with lifesaving skills. They deliver compassion and care as ambulance crews, at marathons and festivals, in hospitals, and through a range of inspiring youth programmes.

St. John's Ambulance has always supported NHS Trusts in periods of high demand. During the Covid pandemic, volunteers stepped forward to serve the nation in the biggest peace time deployment in 140 years delivering 1.7 million hours in local communities.

Communities have a vital role in the chain of survival and First Aid is at the heart of every community.

Whether it's a member of the public providing CPR after attending a workplace First Aid training course, a young person learning how to treat bleeding as a cadet, or a community first responder treating someone who has experienced a fall in their home. This is community First Aid saving lives.

As the nation's ambulance auxiliary, St. John's Ambulance adds resilience to ambulance trusts by treating and transporting patients, responding to emergency call outs whilst reducing waiting times. St. John's Ambulance also delivers community operations focussing on the health needs of communities treating over 4,000 patients in 2022. These services include:

- Falls Response Services: supporting the elderly in their homes, providing the best quality care to avoid hospital admissions.
- Night-Time Economy: offering safe spaces in town centres on Friday and Saturday nights when the impact of intoxication is prevalent. This service has a 19% reduction in ambulance responses required.

As a trusted auxiliary partner to the NHS and local communities, St. John's Ambulance is committed to working with Councillors to utilise the potential of volunteers to improve patient outcomes in communities and reduce NHS pressures.

In January 2023, the *Three Ways to Save a Life* campaign, run by SJA and BBC Radio Manchester, came to an end with a final figure of 16,120 people trained across the 10 Boroughs of Greater Manchester in life saving first aid skills.

Following the fifth anniversary of the Manchester Arena bombing, the two organisations teamed to take these skills across Greater Manchester to local people and organisations, through a mix of public training sessions and on-demand training including, delivering cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and using a defibrillator, treating severe bleeding and catastrophic haemorrhages, and treating someone who is choking.

This Council notes that St. John's Ambulance believes in empowering communities to respond to health emergencies and ensures everyone gets the help they need in a crisis by:

- Responding: as volunteers and a trusted auxiliary to the nation's health service.
- Educating: to inspire every generation to have confidence to provide First Aid.
- Discovering: through our services on how we lead standards in community First Aid.
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Therefore, this Council commits to support the vision for Community First Aid by:

1. Raising awareness of the importance of learning First Aid by sending a delegation of senior Elected Members and Officers of the Council to visit our local St. John's Ambulance Unit(s) and supporting / promoting the vision across social media and the local printed media platforms; particularly emphasising that anybody in Oldham

- can access free First Aid training by SJA.
2. Recognising voluntary sector organisations such as St. John's Ambulance within local resilience arrangements to support emergency preparedness and crisis response by commissioning the Chief Executive Officer and Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care to survey and utilise the skills of Oldham's local and voluntary sector to support community response to local emergencies as recommended by the NHS Volunteering Taskforce. This can be done through supporting voluntary sector representation on local resilience forms and inclusion within emergency preparedness, resilience, and response exercises at local level.
 3. Engaging with auxiliary partners to utilise the potential of volunteers to respond to community health emergencies, improve patient outcomes and reduce NHS pressures; working with the voluntary sector to strengthen first aid resilience by empowering communities through access to first aid training and equipment to improve health outcomes and help save lives.
 4. Empowering young people to strengthen community resilience by supporting the expansion of St. John's Ambulance NHS Cadets and Young Responder programmes.
 5. Advocating for a **Statutory Right to Volunteer** by writing to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom calling on the Government to introduce legislation to enable volunteers of all ages to deploy at times of national and local emergency. An effective system would enable volunteers to request a set period of leave to deploy at times of crisis.
 6. Requesting the Leader of the Council, as the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Member for Equalities & Communities, to circulate this to her colleagues at GMCA so that they may seek to commit to these actions in their Local Authorities too.

Motion 3

Councillor Rea to Move

Councillor Hindle to Second

The Protection and Safeguarding of Children

The protection and safeguarding of our children should be a priority for all of us. Reviews on historical CSE have been in front of us before. Regular requests for independent Inquiries continue to be refused.

Whilst we continue to seek justice for survivors of historical CSE we cannot ignore the fact that it is still happening now, that grooming is still happening and that grooming gangs are active.

The Leader of the Council has previously stated that CSE has and in all probability will continue to occur in the Borough.

Council notes that:

Information and knowledge are the most powerful tools that we have. We need to educate our children of the signs of grooming and showing them who or where to go with any concerns. We need to give them the feeling that they can report anything in complete confidence. Being pro-active and highlighting this issue could prevent more children from becoming victims/survivors.

This issue is above any party-political leanings. Together we need to eradicate this corruption which lies within our society.

Council resolves to:

- Commit to facilitating relevant sessions across the Borough
- Bring together all departments within the Council and work with other external bodies to deliver specific sessions on CSE and grooming.
- Work with partners to formulate and develop a straight forward and clear package which will be delivered to all Year 7 students in the Borough every year as a matter of course.
- Work towards rolling sessions out to Year 6 students.
- Minute the meetings of the Elected Members cross-party steering group, make them available to all members and to the general public via the council website. Additionally provide a quarterly report detailing any actions and progress made.

12 Child Sexual Exploitation: Elected Member Steering Group - Annual Report 2022/23 (Pages 87 - 104)

To consider the Annual Report from the Elected Member Steering Group on Child Sexual Exploitation and to agree proposals to change the terms of reference for the Steering Group to include all constituted political groups and any elected members with portfolio or shadow portfolio responsibilities for children's services.

13 Review of political balance on committees (Pages 105 - 114)

To appoint to committees of the Council in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and give consideration to committees not allocated strictly in accordance with proportionality under the Act.

14 Calendar of Meetings 2024/25 (Pages 115 - 126)

To consider a calendar of meetings for 2024/25

15 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 127 - 152)

To update council on actions from the previous Council meeting held on 1st November 2023 and meetings earlier in this municipal year.

16 Treasury Management Half Year Review Report 2023-24 (Pages 153 - 172)

A report advising Council of the performance of the Treasury Management function of the Council for the first six months of 2023/24 and provides a comparison of performance against the 2023/24 Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators.

17 Code of Conduct Amendment (Pages 173 - 174)

Council is asked to consider and amendment to the Code of Conduct

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

Harry Catherall

**Harry Catherall
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

